

COUNTY COUNCIL – 21 MARCH 2017

REPORT OF THE CABINET

Cabinet Member: Leader

1. Senior Management Review

(Cabinet, 20 December 2016)

Cabinet had before them a report on the conclusions of the Senior Management Review and seeking approval of the proposed recommendations including a new structure. Cabinet also considered the views of members from an all Member Briefing, full Council and Audit & Governance Committee.

Cabinet endorsed the Senior Management Review recommendations and proposed structure; agreed in principle that the post of County Director should be made permanent and re-designated Chief Executive and pending a permanent appointment (decision taken at a meeting of full Council on 13 February 2017), Cabinet endorsed Peter Clark's re-designation from County Director to Interim Chief Executive.

2. Response to the NHS Consultation on the Oxfordshire Transformation Programme

(Cabinet, 21 February 2017)

The Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group had launched the first phase of its consultation on the future of Oxfordshire Health and Care Services on January 16th 2017. The County Council was a consultee in the process. Cabinet had before them a report providing an assessment by the Council Leadership Team on the potential impact the proposals and agreed that their views and the officer's assessment be reported to Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 March and that they be considered at this Council to gather further comment.

N.B. This matter is included on the full Council agenda for consideration.

Cabinet Member: Deputy Leader

3. Cabinet Business Monitoring Report for Quarter 2

(Cabinet, 24 January 2017)

Cabinet noted a report that provided details of performance for quarter two. The report is required so that the Cabinet can monitor the performance of the Council in key service areas and be assured that progress is being made to improve areas where performance is below the expected level.

4. Staffing Report, Quarter 3 2016/17

(Cabinet, 21 February 2017)

Cabinet agreed a report that gave an update on staffing numbers and related activity during the period 1 October 2016 to 31 December 2016.

Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care

5. Daytime Support Review

(Cabinet, 24 January 2017))

Cabinet considered a report that asked them to consider the results of the public consultation on the proposed model and options for daytime support in Oxfordshire, and the recommended way forward. Cabinet were asked to recommend the County Council's future funding of daytime support and approach to delivering this, for a final decision by Council on 14 February as part of the broader budget-setting process.

Cabinet agreed the proposals for community and voluntary support including the building based option for delivery of the Community Support Service. Cabinet further agreed charges for the Community Support Service and the method of charging.

6. Carers; Strategy and Carers' Personal Budgets.

(Cabinet, 24 January 2017))

In February 2016, the Council agreed savings against carers' services totalling £660,000. This included a suggestion that savings could be made by introducing charging for carers' services.

It was found following investigation that the introduction of charging for carers' services was not viable and would not produce the savings required. Proposals for releasing funding by redesigning carers' personal budgets were developed, and these proposals were the subject of a public consultation, alongside the refreshed and updated version of the Oxfordshire Carers' Strategy.

Cabinet considered a report on the outcome of the public consultation and seeking approval to the proposed way forward. Cabinet approved the revised carers' personal budget payment and to welcome the intention of Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group to fund an enhanced information and advice offer via direct GP referral in accordance with paragraphs 24 and 26 of the report.

7. Housing Related Support Pooled Budget Arrangements.

(Cabinet, 24 January 2017))

The County Council together with the five city/district councils and the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has developed under the Health Improvement Board umbrella a new commissioning plan for housing related

support services in light of the County Council's £1.5m budget reduction by 2019/20.

Cabinet had before them a report seeking approval to enter into this new partnering agreement. Cabinet agreed to contribute to a pooled budget for housing related support, under the terms of the proposed partnering agreement.

Cabinet Member: Education

8. Financial and Resource Contribution Towards the Swan School Project in Oxford

(Cabinet, 21 February 2017)

The Department for Education has approved a proposal to create a new secondary school in Oxford (to be known as The Swan School) providing 900 places for 11 - 16 year olds plus sixth form. Subject to the necessary planning consents, The Swan School will be located on the Harlow Centre site in Marston which is owned by the Council and currently leased (125 years) to the Radcliffe Academy Trust. Cabinet gave approval for a financial and resource contribution towards the project.

Cabinet Member: Environment

9. Proposed Amendments to Traffic and Access Restrictions - Queen Street, Oxford

(Cabinet, 20 December 2016)

A report on proposals for changes to access for buses, taxis and cyclists in Queen Street was considered by the Cabinet Member for Environment on 24th November 2016, seeking a delegated decision of the Cabinet Member.

The Cabinet Member for Environment decided at that meeting to refer the matter to full Cabinet on 20 December. Cabinet had before them the original report to the cabinet Member for Environment together with a further report that highlighted a number of issues the Cabinet needed to be aware of in considering this matter.

Cabinet agreed to instruct officers to report to a future Cabinet meeting on a proposal for an experimental closure of Queen Street to buses and taxis which address the concerns about conditions in St Aldates and High Street raised during the recent consultation and which does not rely on the bus turning facility at Worcester Street. They further agreed that the report should include consideration of banning cyclists for the experimental period.

10. Oxfordshire Minerals & Waste Local Plan – Core Strategy

(Cabinet, 24 January 2017)

The County Council has a statutory duty to prepare a new Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan, to provide an effective planning strategy and policies for the supply of minerals and management of waste in the county, consistent with environmental, social and economic needs. The Oxfordshire

Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy (the Plan) was approved by the County Council in March 2015 and submitted for independent examination by a planning inspector in December 2015. Following a hearing held in September 2016, the Inspector has issued an Interim Report requiring further work. That work has been undertaken, and Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to publish for consultation proposed modifications to the Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) of reasonable alternatives. Cabinet agreed the modifications for publication for public consultation.

Cabinet Member: Finance

11. 2016/17 Financial Monitoring & Business Strategy Report - *(Cabinet, 20 December 2016 and 21 February 2017)*

Cabinet considered two financial monitoring reports for 2016/17 that focused on the delivery of the Directorate Business Strategies that were agreed as part of the Service and Resource Planning Process for 2016/17 – 2019/20.

In December Parts 1 and 2 included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of October 2016. Capital Programme monitoring was included at Part 3. In February the report included projections for revenue, reserves and balances as at the end of December 2016 and Capital Programme monitoring.

In December Cabinet approved a request for the creation of OXSIT traded service Reserve; approved debt write off; approved changes to the Capital Programme and noted the settlement of a debt and noted the Treasury Management lending list.

In February Cabinet approved virements, a supplementary estimate, debt write off, the creation of an Investment Reserve the use of the High Needs Strategic Planning grant and the increase to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reserve for 2017/18. Cabinet also approved the release of £3.2m of development funding for the A40 Science Transit Scheme and the increase of £1.0m on the Milton Interchange scheme to enable the payment of the final account. Cabinet noted the Treasury management lending list and the changes to the Capital Programme.

12. Concluding Report of the Income Generation Cabinet Advisory Group *(Cabinet, 20 December 2016)*

Cabinet considered and agreed a report seeking the conclusion of the work of the Income Generation Cabinet Advisory Group (CAG) which had explored options for income generation.

13. Transition Fund for Community Initiatives for Open Access Children's Services - February 2017

(Cabinet, 21 February 2017)

In February 2016 the Council had agreed to set aside £1m for creating a 'one off' fund to provide pump priming to support Children's Centres. It was agreed that a cross party group of county councillors would consider maximum benefit of this fund and bring proposals back to Cabinet for decision.

Cabinet approved the recommendations of the working group that had considered the applications under the first round of bids against the agreed criteria outlined in the guidance notes. Ten bids were agreed plus a further two interim awards at a total cost of £305,883. Cabinet further agreed to delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Finance in consultation with the Director for Children's Services to approve bids following the transition fund meeting on 26 April 2017.

Cabinet Member: Property, Cultural and Community Services

14. Rents for Asset Transfer of Children's Centre

(Cabinet, 20 December 2016)

Cabinet had before them a report on the implications of the current asset transfer policy in supporting community groups to develop self-financing, sustainable proposals to take on responsibility for a children's centre. In particular it set out the financial implications of different possible approaches, and the additional support that could be offered to community groups in developing viable proposals.

Cabinet agreed: to extend additional support beyond 1st April to help community groups develop a viable business case fully; that a deadline is set for these cases to be brought forward to be considered at a 3rd and final round of the Transition Fund and to offer a defined, short-term rent-free period of up to a maximum of 12 months to support mobilisation, where the business case would otherwise not be viable with a review after 6 months to consider progress. After this initial period the rent would increase in line with the asset transfer policy, to 50% of the commercial rent level for the property.

IAN HUDSPETH

Leader of the Council

March 2017