

CABINET

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday, 22 June 2010 commencing at 2.00 pm and finishing at 3.50 pm.

Present:

Voting Members:

Councillor Keith R. Mitchell CBE – in the Chair
Councillor David Robertson (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Arash Fatemian
Councillor Ian Hudspeth
Councillor Jim Couchman
Councillor Kieron Mallon
Councillor Louise Chapman
Councillor Michael Waine
Councillor Rodney Rose
Councillor Mrs J. Heathcoat

Other Members in Attendance:

Councillor Armitage (Agenda Item 6)
Councillor Fooks (Agenda Item 8)
Councillor Patrick (Agenda Items 11 & 14)
Councillor Godden (Agenda Item 9)

Officers:

Whole of meeting Chief Executive, S. Whitehead (Corporate Core)

Part of meeting

Item

	Officer Attending
6	L. Baxter (Financial Planning)
7	L. Baxter (Financial Planning), K. Wilcox (Financial Planning)
8	Corporate Performance & Review Manager L. Fromings (Adult Services) S. Cullimore, S. Hicks (Adult Services)
9	Director of Public Health
10	N. Darlington (Admissions Team)
11	Director for Environment & Economy, I. Walker (Environment & Economy)
12	L. Fromings (Adult Services)
13	S. Cullimore, S. Hicks (Adult Services)

56/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(Agenda Item. 2)

Councillor Waine declared a personal interest in respect of item 10, Home to School Transport Policy as a member of the Catholic community in Bicester.

57/10 MINUTES

(Agenda Item. 3)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2010 were approved and signed.

58/10 QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

(Agenda Item. 4)

Councillor Jean Fooks had given notice of the following question to the Cabinet Member for Finance & Property.:

“Is the Cabinet satisfied with the security arrangements at County Hall since the reorganisation of the reception area? Is there a problem with tail-gating through the security screen?”

Councillor Waine:

‘No recorded "incidents" since the creation of the new Reception. Security for the building has been further enhanced by closing off the front doors to Old County Hall, off front car park, connected with recent upgrade to fire safety/replacement fire alarm system.

Staff are reminded each quarter at County Hall Users Group to display identity badges whilst they are on the premises and to be vigilant for potential tailgaters, particularly before and after opening hours.’

Supplementary Question:

Councillor Fooks commented that there were no recorded incidents because reception were not really able to see the doors; she was sure that many people were aware of this happening and asked whether it was a cause for concern?

Councillor Couchman replied that tail-gating was no worse than previously and had always happened. A mirror had been installed so that reception could see people going through the screen. It was incumbent on everyone to wear their identity badges. He was aware that many senior staff did ask that individuals put their badges on.

59/10 PETITIONS AND PUBLIC ADDRESS

(Agenda Item. 5)

The following requests to address the meeting had been agreed:

Speaker	Item
Councillor Armitage, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance & Property	Item 7 – Financial Monitoring
Councillor Fooks, Deputy Leader of the Opposition	Item 8 – Performance Management – 4 th Quarter Progress Report Against Priorities and Targets
Councillor Patrick, Leader of the Opposition	Item 9 – Director of Public Health Annual Report
Councillor Patrick, local member Councillor Godden, local member	Item 11 – Homes & Communities Agency Single Conversation: Local Investment Agreement
Councillor Patrick, Leader of the Opposition	Item 14 – Appointments to Outside Bodies

60/10 PROVISIONAL 2009/10 REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN

(Agenda Item. 6)

The Cabinet Member for Finance & Property stated that the report showed that it had been a satisfactory year with strategic measures better than expected.

The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement referred to pages 36 and 37 and commented that school deficits had reduced but that carry forwards had not reduced as much as expected. The Schools Forum had been advised that he would be continuing his rigorous analysis of those schools with carry forward.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the provisional revenue and capital outturn set out in the report and schedule of addenda including the updated Annex 1, 3b, and 4 to the report;
- (b) approve the carry-forward and virements as set out in Annex 2;
- (c) recommend Council to approve the virements greater than £0.5m for Children, Young People & Families and Social & Community Services Directorates as set out in Annex 2b;t

- (d) approve the changes to balances as set out in the table at paragraph 122 of the report and the updated position as set out in the schedule of addenda and updated Annex 5;
- (e) agree that the surplus in the On-Street Parking account at the end of the 2009/10 financial year, so far as not applied to particular eligible purposes in accordance with Section 55(4) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, be carried forward in the account to the 2010/11 financial year (paragraph 137); and
- (f) approve the creation of new reserves as set out in Annex 4 and paragraphs 125, 135, 136, 140 and 144.

61/10 FINANCIAL MONITORING - JUNE 2010

(Agenda Item. 7)

Councillor Alan Armitage, Shadow Cabinet Member for Finance & Property commented that in addition to this report he had previously indicated a desire to speak on the preceding report but would make his comments at the Council meeting in July. With regard to financial monitoring he referred to the carbon reduction management which had been redefined to exclude schools. He stated that he had asked for written confirmation from officers which he had not yet received. He felt that the process had not been very transparent.

Cabinet noted the amended annexes as set out in the addenda.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) note the report;
- (b) approve the virement requests as set out in Annex 1a;
- (c) approve the transfer of £0.087m from the Carry Forward Reserve to the Efficiency Savings Reserve and the release of £0.020m to Social & Community Services as set out in paragraphs 57 and 58;
- (d) approve the transfer of £1.4m Council funding not required for Personal Care at Home to the Efficiencies Reserve as set out in paragraph 15.

62/10 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT: 4TH QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT AGAINST PRIORITIES AND TARGETS

(Agenda Item. 8)

Cabinet considered a report setting out the council's performance in the four key areas of: customer, projects, finance, and people. Progress against targets is shown by directorate, including a summary of what is going well, what needs to develop, and what requires attention.

Councillor Fooks, Deputy Leader of the Opposition commented that there was some good news reported. She hoped that the temporary resources for climate change adaptation could be made permanent. She suggested that the presentation of the figures be reviewed as the annual information gave a misleading picture. She highlighted the areas of concern that included safeguarding and child protection plans. The Chief Executive replied that this would be the last report in the current format and the new format picked up the annual targets issue. She reassured Members that safeguarding was receiving appropriate attention.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

63/10 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

(Agenda Item. 9)

Cabinet considered the fourth Annual Report by a Director of Public Health for Oxfordshire (jointly appointed by the NHS and the County Council). The recommendations are made for all organisations in Oxfordshire and for the public.

Councillor Patrick, Leader of the Opposition, asked that the phrase 'demographic time bomb' be replaced. She was pleased to see that alcohol abuse was being taken seriously and that caring for our carers was receiving attention. For the future there was an issue around food additives that she would wish to see addressed. She also welcomed the work around 'breaking the cycle of deprivation' and hoped that it would not be affected by decreases in funding. Particularly important was work to address inequalities in education. The Cabinet Member for Police and Policy Coordination replied that in terms of funding appropriate targeting was most important.

The Director for Public Health reported on progress made in the last year and future challenges; highlighted and urged action on the main threats to the future health, wellbeing and prosperity of Oxfordshire; and emphasised The threat posed by dementia and alcohol abuse.

Cabinet Members commented on the report as it affected their portfolios and generally welcomed the report and supported the recommendations contained within it.

RESOLVED: to recommend the Council to approve and adopt the recommendations in the report.

64/10 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY

(Agenda Item. 10)

Cabinet considered a report setting out a proposed updated Home to School Transport Policy.

The Cabinet Member for Schools Improvement in introducing the report referred to an additional recommendation contained in the addenda that aimed to reduce the financial hardship of the proposed changes.

RESOLVED: to approve the proposed new Home to School Transport Policy set out in Annex A to the attached report subject to the inclusion of the following provision:

'In recognition of the financial implications for larger families, the cost of concessionary fares on home to school transport will be waived for the third and subsequent children of families where they have more than two children using the same home to school transport service. This is in addition to the circumstances where, due to low income, concessionary fares are already waived'.

65/10 HOMES & COMMUNITIES AGENCY SINGLE CONVERSATION: LOCAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENT

(Agenda Item. 11)

Councillor Patrick, as the local Member for Grove & Wantage spoke in support of the report. In the past Grove had been allowed to grow without the provision of proper additional infrastructure such as schools. The planned figures for Grove should not be taken forward unless the secondary school was delivered. The Cabinet member for Growth & Infrastructure replied that it was his understanding that under new arrangements housing numbers would be determined by the District Councils.

Councillor Godden, as the local Member for North Hinksey & Wytham expressed concern that local housing schemes were in the 2010-2015 group when they were on hold pending infrastructure works. She also suggested that it would be a good idea to have a member of the PCT or public health on the board.*

The Cabinet Member for Growth & Infrastructure thanked officers for producing a good and useful document that would continue to develop and would be reviewed. It was clear that there was no additional funding from Government for the infrastructure needs identified and the document would provide a useful framework for negotiation across the County to determine priorities.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) agree that the County Council enters into the proposed Oxfordshire Local Investment Agreement (LIA); and
- (b) delegate authority to finalise the wording of the LIA to the Head of Sustainable Development, to be exercised after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Growth and Infrastructure.

** Paragraph amended at Cabinet on 20 July 2010.*

66/10 NEW CONTRACT FOR SPECIALIST HEALTH SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

(Agenda Item. 12)

Cabinet considered a report for the provision of community health and inpatient services to meet the specialist health needs of adults with learning disabilities in the County.

RESOLVED: to approve the signing of a contract with Ridgeway Partnership to provide specialist health services for people with Learning Disabilities.

67/10 REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM TENDERING UNDER CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES - LSC CONTRACTS

(Agenda Item. 13)

Cabinet considered a report that sought approval for exemption from tendering requirements for contracts for the 2010/11 academic year, for seven 16-19 education contracts passed to the Council from the former Learning and Skills Council (LSC) as part of the Council's new statutory responsibilities for 14-19 education from April 1st 2010, as specified within the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act, 2009.

RESOLVED: to approve exemption from the Council's Contract Procedure Rules (under rule 5.4.2) for the 2010/11 academic year.

68/10 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

(Agenda Item. 14)

Cabinet considered a report seeking member appointments to a variety of bodies which in different ways support the discharge of the Council's executive functions and to create two new 'Member Champion' positions

Councillor Patrick, Leader of the Opposition commented that no other groups had been offered posts as Champions. She queried why reports were not available on the activities of the Champions and suggested other areas that could replace the vacant Older Persons Champion such as Champion for Libraries or Excluded Children.

The Leader replied that it was the decision of the administration that the posts be filled as set down. He proposed that Councillor Peter Jones be appointed to the vacant position of Older People's Champion.

RESOLVED: to:

- (a) appoint Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale to the position of 'Heritage Champion' (in place of Councillor Don Seale);

- (b) create the new position of 'Motorcycle Champion' and appoint Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale to that position;
- (c) create the new position of 'Efficiencies Champion' and appoint Councillor CH Shouler to that position; and
- (d) agree the remaining appointments as set out in the Annex to this report subject to the amendment to page 2 of the Annex replacing Councillor Heathcoat with Councillor Mallon as the relevant Cabinet Member on the Thames Valley Police and showing Councillor Mallon as the person to respond to questions at Council on S90 Police Act 1996 and to the appointment of Councillor Peter Jones to the role of Older People's Champion.

69/10 FORWARD PLAN AND FUTURE BUSINESS

(Agenda Item. 15)

The Cabinet considered a list of items (CA15) for the immediately forthcoming meetings of the Cabinet together with changes and additions set out in the schedule of addenda.

RESOLVED: to note the items currently identified for forthcoming meetings.

..... in the Chair

Date of signing