

CABINET– 16 FEBRUARY 2010
CHANGES IN DELEGATION TO CABINET MEMBERS
Report by the Leader of the Council

Introduction

1. In June 2009, the Cabinet considered a report on arrangements for the transport portfolios (CA5b, 23 June 2009) and agreed that the former Cabinet Member for Transport take on the role of Cabinet Member for Growth & Infrastructure, retaining within his portfolio responsibility for strategic transport policy. The responsibility for implementation of schemes for transport; highways; traffic and parking; road safety; and public passenger transport were delegated to Councillor Rodney Rose as a new Cabinet Member for Transport Implementation.
2. It was recognised that this new arrangement would take some time to ‘bed in’ and, in the short term, that it might prove difficult to separate the strategic transport policy element from other transport matters. In light of this, Cabinet confirmed arrangements for the creation of the ‘Transport Decisions Committee’, comprising the Cabinet Members for Growth & Infrastructure and Transport Implementation to discharge the executive functions in relation to their respective portfolios, to take effect from 24 June 2009.
3. It was agreed to review the working of the arrangements when they had been in operation for six months and the purpose of this report is to consider future arrangements following that review.

Proposals

4. Since June 2009, the Transport Decisions Committee has taken 23 decisions and the Cabinet Members concerned and officers have found no difficulty in practice in separating the respective elements of the portfolios.
5. I have therefore decided to wind up the Transport Decisions Committee with decisions in future being taken individually by the Cabinet Member for Transport (renamed from the Cabinet Member for Transport Implementation) and the Cabinet Member for Growth & Infrastructure.

Financial and Staff Implications

6. It is not expected that the proposal will lead to any change in officer time or expense, although there will be a modest saving overall in the time and expense of Members, because decisions on transport matters will now involve only one Cabinet Member.

RECOMMENDATION

7. **Cabinet is RECOMMENDED to:**
 - (a) note the Leader of the Council’s decision that the Cabinet Member for Transport Implementation be re-designated as Cabinet Member for Transport;
 - (b) note the Leader of the Council’s decision to wind up the Transport Decisions Committee with effect from 1 March 2010 and to authorise the discharge of its

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- functions to be exercised by the Cabinet Members for Transport and Growth & Infrastructure as set out in their respective portfolios; and
- (c) authorise the Assistant Head of Legal & Democratic Services to take all necessary steps to bring the arrangement at (b) into effect from that date, including:
1. the setting of provisional dates and venues for delegated decision sessions for the Cabinet Member for Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport and the Director for Environment & Economy; and
 2. making the arrangements known to other members and to officers.

Cllr Keith R Mitchell CBE
Leader of the Council