

# Minutes



To: All Members of the Cabinet,  
Chief Executive, Chief Officers

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services  
Ask for: Deborah Jeffery  
Ext: 25563

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## **CABINET 19 FEBRUARY 2018**

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

D A Ashley, T C Heritage, T W Hone, R Sangster, J D Williams (Leader of the Council),  
C B Wyatt-Lowe

#### Deputy Executive Members attending on behalf of an Executive Member

T R Hutchings (attending on behalf of T L F Douris)

#### Other Members in Attendance

D Andrews, N Bell, G McAndrew, R A C Thake, P M Zukowskyj

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Cabinet meeting on 19 February 2018 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below:

*Note: Interests declared by Members of the Cabinet in relation to the matters on which conclusions were reached at this meeting are recorded at item 4 below.*

### **PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS**

#### **1. MINUTES**

- 1.1 The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 January 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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**2. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

2.1 There were no questions from Members of the Council to Executive Members.

**3. PUBLIC PETITIONS**

3.1 There were no public petitions.

**4. INTEGRATED PLAN 2018/19 - 2021/22**

**4(i). Comments and Conclusions of the Council's Cabinet Panels on the Integrated Plan Proposals 2018/19 – 2021/22**

[Forward Plan Ref: A063/17]

**4(ii). Scrutiny of the Integrated Plan Proposals 2018/19 – 2021/22: Report of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

[Forward Plan Ref: A067/17]

**4(iii). INTEGRATED PLAN 2018/19 - 2021/22 (incorporating the Strategic Direction and Financial Consequences and the Treasury Management Strategy)**

[Forward Plan Ref: A065/17]

Disclosable Interests

4.1 Members were reminded that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 provides that if a Member is in arrears of council tax for two months or more and they are present at a meeting where the Council's budget or the precept is being considered then they should declare this and any such Member must not vote on any matter relating to the setting of the Council's budget or the precept. The provisions of S106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 apply even if there is an arrangement to pay off the arrears.

4.2 It was noted that all Members who had a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they had been appointed by the County Council, had received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

4.3 All Members had been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

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4.4 D A Ashley declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in item 4 as he received an allowance from the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority; the dispensation referred to in the first paragraph above applies to this interest.

4.5 The following Members declared Declarable Interests under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members:-

D A Ashley – as he is Chairman of Hitchin Educational Foundation, a charity which derives part of its income from leasing a property to the County Council; and a board member of Groundwork which derives part of its income from the County Council.

T L F Douris – as he is a trustee of the Hertfordshire Community Foundation which contracts with HCC for the delivery of training and also for the distribution of the Hertfordshire Community Funds scheme.

T C Heritage – as she is a member of the Oaklands Corporation (the Further Education College) which derives part of its income from funds received from the County Council.

4.6 Cabinet was informed of two typographical errors, one relating to the minutes from the Resources, Property & the Economy Cabinet Panel's consideration of the Integrated Plan where the reference to the additional funding made available by the Secretary of State should have been £2.584m, rather than the sum mentioned of £2.854m; the other relating to the Transition Fund within Table 2 on page 6 of the report which should have read £5.960m.

### **Decisions**

#### **4.7 Comments and Conclusions of the Council's Cabinet Panels**

Cabinet noted the comments and conclusions of the Council's Cabinet Panels on the Integrated Plan proposals 2018/19 – 2021/22.

#### **4.8 Scrutiny of the Integrated Plan Proposals**

Cabinet agreed:-

- (i) That the Council should proactively engage with contractors to monitor contracts and contractor resilience; further, that risks that impact on the Authority, including staff shortages should be identified; and contingency planning should be sufficient to achieve IP proposals;
- (ii) To prioritise working with district/borough councils to develop a more collaborative, co-ordinated and mutually beneficial approach to infrastructure planning for the medium and long term (e.g. waste disposal, a highways structure capable of accommodating driverless cars);
- (iii) To work with the district/boroughs to develop more holistic services, in

reference to the remodelling of YC Herts;

- (iv) To revisit and further develop the workforce strategy for both specialist job roles (e.g. planners, educational psychologists, mental health nurses and CAMHS support) and hard to recruit/retain posts (e.g. paid carers) via in-house training and apprenticeship programmes;
- (v) To progress and resolve the issues relating to capability, capacity and skills that impact on delivering quality and appropriate solutions related to the digital strategy;
- (vi) That the Highways savings identified will be realised; and that Highways will work with contractors to identify any additional savings during 2018/19.

#### 4.9 INTEGRATED PLAN 2018/19 - 2021/22

Cabinet:-

- (a) requested that a report is brought to its meeting in March 2018 so that it can consider amending the Charging Policy for community based adult social care to remove the requirement to include the higher rate of Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance when assessing the financial contribution for those with night time care and support needs
- (b) determined that the proposed increase in the cost of Hertfordshire SaverCard of £5 be deferred until 2019/20
- (c) approved the changes to the Integrated Plan [Parts A to D] as set out in the amended Table 2 below (this being a revised table for that included in section 4.7 of the report); noting that amendments to the budget may be required once any outstanding grants have been announced by the Government; and

**Table 2: Use of Additional Funding and Provisional Budgets, 2018/19 – 2021/22**

	<b>2018/19</b> <i>£m</i>	<b>2019/20</b> <i>£m</i>	<b>2020/21</b> <i>£m</i>	<b>2021/22</b> <i>£m</i>
<b>Adult Social Care</b>				
Additional ASC Support Grant will be used to help support local care markets, including funding the additional costs of paying Sleep In duties	2.584			

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	<b>2018/19 £m</b>	<b>2019/20 £m</b>	<b>2020/21 £m</b>	<b>2021/22 £m</b>
<b>Invest to Transform Fund (ITT)</b>  A major bid for Adult Social Care transformation is being considered (£4.9m over four years, elsewhere on this agenda). If approved, and no new money is added to ITT, the balance on ITT will fall to £10.66m by end of 2021/22. This is before any other new bids. Given the extent of budget gaps still outstanding, the wide range of uncertainties and risks that affect our funding after 2019/20 and the extent of change still expected in the future (eg responses to Adult Social Care green paper; new local government funding model; ongoing technological and digital change; continued demographic increases etc) retaining sufficient funding to support ongoing transformation is essential.	4.789			
<b>Transition Fund</b>  Creation of a new transition fund, ahead of the implementation of a new local government financing model, to be released between 2019/20 and 2021/22, to contribute to the closure of remaining savings gap in those years whilst continuing to minimise the requirement for front line service policy changes	5.960			
<b>Adult Social Care</b> Reduce budgeted income from revised charging policy	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.310
<b>Passenger Transport</b> Defer Savercard price increase	0.030	0.030		
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.673</b>	<b>0.340</b>	<b>0.310</b>	<b>0.310</b>

The two changes will be funded as follows:

- In 2018/19, by a reduction in the Transition reserve.
- For 2019/20 onwards, through the growth in council tax and business rates. As this had been factored into the IP, the savings gap will increase in those subsequent years.

(d) recommended to the County Council that the Integrated Plan for 2018/19 - 2021/22 (as amended in (c) above) be adopted, and specifically that:

In respect of all Parts:

- (i) the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property & the Economy portfolio), be authorised to make any necessary amendments to ensure the final plan is in line with decisions taken by the County Council before publication;

In respect of Parts A & B:

- (ii) a Revenue Budget of £844.793m and a Council Tax Requirement of £582.977m be agreed as per the updated Revenue Budget Statements included at Appendix 1 to 3 of the report.
- (iii) a Band D Council Tax of £1,224.67 plus a Band D Social Care precept of £95.79 be agreed for the County Council in 2018/19, and that the amount of tax calculated for all bands be as follows:

Band	Band 'D' Multiplier	2017/18 Council Tax	2018/19 Council Tax (2.99%+3.00%)		
		Total	General Expenditure	Adult Social Care Precept	Total
A	6/9	£830.55	£816.46	£63.85	£880.31
B	7/9	£968.98	£952.51	£74.51	£1,027.02
C	8/9	£1,107.40	£1,088.60	£85.14	£1,173.74
<b>D</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>£1,245.83</b>	<b>£1,224.67</b>	<b>£95.79</b>	<b>£1,320.46</b>
E	11/9	£1,522.68	£1,496.83	£117.07	£1,613.90
F	13/9	£1,799.53	£1,768.96	£138.37	£1,907.33
G	15/9	£2,076.38	£2,041.13	£159.64	£2,200.77
H	18/9	£2,491.66	£2,449.34	£191.58	£2,640.92

- (iv) the precept amount of £582,977,081.91 be required from the district and borough councils as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Precept Amount £</b>
Borough of Broxbourne	45,740,074.17
Dacorum Borough Council	74,927,654.06
East Hertfordshire District Council	78,703,113.29
Hertsmere Borough Council	53,736,978.00
North Hertfordshire District Council	64,859,014.51
St Albans District Council	81,388,004.61
Stevenage Borough Council	35,729,666.91
Three Rivers District Council	50,499,276.10
Watford Borough Council	42,774,849.19
Welwyn Hatfield Council	54,618,451.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>582,977,081.91</b>

- (v) a capital programme totalling £819.883m for the period 2018/19 to 2021/22 be agreed and financed as set out in the Integrated Plan Part A tables 4a and 4b (p16):
- (vi) the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property & the Economy portfolio), and the Executive Members for the relevant service, be authorised to vary the capital programme during the year to include additional schemes that are wholly funded by grants or third party contributions and to vary existing schemes to match any changes in funding from grants or third party contributions;
- (vii) the schools budget be agreed at the level of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) plus use of carry forward DSG (this is currently estimated at £944m less deductions in respect of academies and post 16 high needs places), and that the Director of Resources in consultation with the Director of Children's Services, the relevant Executive Members and the Schools Forum, be authorised to amend the schools budget to match any changes to the Dedicated Schools Grant and the planned approach to balancing the schools budget in future years of the Plan;
- (viii) the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property & the Economy portfolio), and the relevant service Executive Member and Chief Officer, be authorised to determine the allocation of Adult Social Care Support Grant to budgets within

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Adult Care Services; and the use of any other non-ringfenced grants not yet allocated to services;

- (ix) the Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property & the Economy portfolio), the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport, the Executive Member for Highways and the Director of Environment, be authorised to determine the allocation of budget from the £2m Infrastructure, Investment & Sustainable Transport Fund;
- (x) that, consistent with the approval in the 2017/18 IP of the transfer of one off savings from the revised Minimum Revenue Provision policy into the Investment Reserve set aside to support the capital financing, borrowing and investment plans, the £6.4m that will be realised from this policy in 2018/19 be transferred to the Investment Reserve, as outlined in paragraph 4.18;
- (xi) the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to issue the Council Tax Information in accordance with demand notice regulations;
- (xii) that, in the light of the requirement for delivery of further savings in future years, Chief Officers be commissioned to work with Executive Members and their Cabinet Panels to develop options at the earliest possible opportunity for the delivery of substantial additional savings;

In respect of Part C:

- (xiii) the Minimum Revenue Provision policy and capital expenditure prudential indicators be approved (IP Part C, Section 2); and
- (xiv) the Treasury Management Strategy, including the Borrowing, Lending and Financial Derivative policies, the introduction of the new financial instruments and the treasury management prudential indicators be approved (IP Part C, Sections 4-8).

#### **Reasons for the decision**

- 4.7 Cabinet's recommendation to Council was reached having considered feedback on the draft Integrated Plan from the Council's Cabinet Panels and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and the public engagement and consultation report (item 4(i) on the 22 January 2018 Cabinet agenda).
- 4.8 Council will consider Cabinet's recommendation and agree the budget 2018/19 – 2019/20 at its meeting on 20 February 2018.

#### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

- 4.9 The choices recommended by Cabinet to Council were made having taken into account the views expressed by Cabinet Panels and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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**5. SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN HERTFORDSHIRE**  
[Forward Plan Ref: A003/18]

**Decision**

- 5.1 Cabinet noted that the proposal set out in the report sought to:
- a) develop further the focus of YC Hertfordshire, on targeted prevention and early intervention with young people primarily aged 11-25 who face particular challenges, by delivering services within the areas described in the report. This will include work with individuals, their families and opportunities for informal education and learning within a group work setting.
  - b) increase the ability of YC Hertfordshire, working with partners including district and borough councils, to be flexible and innovative in addressing emerging needs such as the recent increase in gang association, youth violence, crime, child sexual exploitation and its impact on Hertfordshire young people.
  - c) undertake further work with stakeholders, specifically listening to young people’s voices, to develop the offer building on the initial feedback from partners and young people regarding areas for development and Service strengths.
- 5.2 Cabinet approved the proposed integrated approach by YC Hertfordshire to supporting young people in line with the Council’s and Children’s Services priorities.

**Reasons for the decision**

- 5.3 Hertfordshire County Council’s vision for young people is to take every opportunity to promote aspiration within their education, community and future working life. The Government’s report on Social Mobility in Great Britain, Social Mobility Commission 2017, clearly states that raising aspirations for disadvantaged young people is key to their future life. In the remodelling of YC Hertfordshire and the services it provides this is a key underlying principle.
- 5.4 The vision of the Local Government Association (LGA) was described in their recent paper Bright Futures, LGA, 2017: “For all young people to enjoy their lives, reach their full potential and make a good transition to adulthood. They should be able to achieve their ambitions, develop positive relationships and make worthwhile contributions to their communities.” The re-modelled Service will align with this strategy and its 6 principles: youth-led; inclusivity, equality and diversity; respect; quality, safety and well-being; empowerment; and positivity.
- 5.5 In order to deliver this vision and the clear priorities of the County Council, the primary purpose of the remodelled Service will be “Enabling Young People to Succeed” through the delivery of targeted prevention and early intervention to

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address emerging needs, improve life chances, and reduce escalation to more expensive and intensive services.

- 5.6 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the above, together with the responses to the initial brief consultation; the financial implications; the equalities implications; and the recommendations of the Children's Services Cabinet Panel.

**Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

**6. NEW RIVER BRIDGE (ESSEX ROAD, HODDESDON)**

[Forward Plan Ref: A086/17]

**Decision**

- 6.1 Cabinet authorised:-

- (i) the Chief Executive and Director of Environment, in consultation with the Executive Member for Highways, to proceed with all necessary statutory processes and to take all necessary steps, including the seeking of planning permission and Side Roads Orders to enable the delivery of the New River Bridge (Essex Road, Hoddesdon); and
- (ii) the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property & the Economy portfolio) to acquire the land interests necessary for delivery of the New River Bridge (Essex Road, Hoddesdon) and to make compulsory purchase orders should they be necessary.

**Reasons for the decision**

- 6.2 Hertfordshire County Council and Broxbourne Borough Council have been working in partnership for a number of years to identify and deliver a solution at this bridge which has resulted in the completion of the Essex Road Gateway Study in 2016 and a further technical study in 2017; of which the design options can be viewed from 4.9 of the report.
- 6.3 Essex Road is the main route that provides access to the principal road network from the Hoddesdon Business Park (The Business Park), which is a mix of industrial and warehouse units. The Business Park is a very important income generator in Hertfordshire and plays a significant economic role in the wider region.
- 6.4 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the above, together with financial implications that a successful bid was made to the Hertfordshire LEP which allocated £6.4m funding for the delivery of this scheme; the equality impact

assessment undertaken; and recommendations of the Highways Cabinet Panel.

**Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

**7. DETERMINATION OF HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2019/20**

[Forward Plan Ref: A091/17]

**Decision**

7.1 Cabinet agreed that:-

- (i) the definition of “nearest school” for use in rule 5 of the County Council’s primary oversubscription criteria is amended, as set out in paragraph 4.8 of the Report;
- (ii) reference to the Shared Anti-Fraud Service is added to the definitions section in the cases of fraudulent address verification;
- (iii) the published admission number at Watton-at-Stone Primary and Nursery School is reduced to 30; and
- (iv) the County Council’s admission arrangements and schemes of coordination are unchanged for 2019/20, save as mentioned above.

**Reasons for the decision**

7.2 The County Council must determine on an annual basis the admission arrangements and published admission number for all community and voluntary schools in Hertfordshire; and the coordinated schemes of admission to all maintained schools and academies in the county. Following a formal 6 week formal consultation between 1 October 2017 and 31 January 2018 consultation took place, to consult on amending the County Council’s existing admission arrangements for 2019/20, to which the admission arrangements were retained.

7.3 Public consultation was undertaken with all relevant consultees, as specified in the School Admissions Code, to reduce the PANs (Published Admission Numbers) at Watton-at-Stone Primary & Nursery School. The consultation concluded on 5 January 2018 with no objections being received to the reduction of PANs.

7.4 Cabinet considered the above, together with the outcome of the equalities impact assessment on the admission proposals and the recommendations of the Education, Libraries & Localism Cabinet Panel, in arriving at its decision above.

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### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

## **8. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF HERTFORDSHIRE MUSIC SERVICE** [Forward Plan Ref: A056/17]

### **Decision**

#### **8.1 Cabinet:**

- (i) confirmed the Council's commitment to supporting the purpose of the Music Service – namely the opportunities it can provide to young people to learn to sing and to play instruments, develop their skills and participate in and enjoy music, and its wider contribution to the cultural and social life of the county;
- (ii) supported the principle that Hertfordshire Music Service acquires a charitable or other appropriate status to allow it to operate outside the direct control of the Council; and
- (iii) requested that the Director of Children's Services produces a detailed analysis of appropriate business structures, financial plan and business case in support of (ii) above, together with any appropriate transition plan to be presented to Cabinet for consideration in 2018.

### **Reasons for the decision**

- 8.2 Hertfordshire Music Service (HMS) is one of the largest and most successful music services in the Country with a national reputation for excellence and opportunity. HMS has a presence in most major Hertfordshire towns, in the form of both school based tuition and music centres. The service is highly regarded within Hertfordshire for both the quality of service and the broader set of 'common good' activities that it undertakes which the wider private sector market alone does not provide.
- 8.3 In order to meet the substantial funding gap resulting from the withdrawal of Education Support Grant of £2m without significantly reducing HMS' services, there is a business case for acquiring charitable status and operating outside the direct management of the Council. This should now be explored further in detail and a report presented at a future Cabinet in 2018.
- 8.4 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the above, together with the financial implications; the equalities implications; and the recommendations of the Education, Libraries & Localism Cabinet Panel.

**Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

**9. ADULT COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES – JOINED-UP CARE PROPOSALS**

[Forward Plan Ref: A002/18]

**Decision**

- 9.1 Cabinet agreed that the Director of Adult Care Services undertake work with Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group to develop a joint specification for adult community health services to align delivery with the County Council's priorities.

**Reasons for the decision**

- 9.2 Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group (HVCCG) commissions a range of adult community health services to serve the population of West Hertfordshire. At its Board meeting on 14 September 2017, HVCCG formally agreed to recommission elements of the existing adult community health services in West Hertfordshire.
- 9.3 As a result of HVCCG's decision, initial activity has taken place within Adult Care Services to identify what opportunities exist to input to a future specification so that it delivers joined up health and social care and supports the delivery of the County Council's strategic priorities.
- 9.4 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the implications and opportunities for integration; the financial implications; the risk implications; the equalities implications; and the recommendations of the Adult Care & Health Cabinet Panel.

**Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

**10. INVEST TO TRANSFORM PROPOSALS TO SUPPORT DELIVERY OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE INTEGRATED PLAN PROPOSALS**

[Forward Plan Ref: A087/17]

**Decision**

- 10.1 Cabinet agreed the proposed Invest to Transform Programme for Adult Care Services, attached at Appendix A to the report, designed to support delivery of Integrated Plan Proposals.

### **Reasons for the decision**

- 10.2 Adult Care Services has put forward proposals in the 2018/19 to 2021/22 Integrated Plan to deliver significant efficiencies and savings which aim to deliver a department wide transformation. A new assessment methodology is rolling out across the service, which emphasises an enabling approach and support for independent living and ensures that financial resources are carefully deployed. New models of care and support for service users need to be developed and commissioned in response. Further strands of activity aim to secure a range of flexible accommodation for service users, maximise alternative sources of funding and develop technological solutions in line with people's expectations.
- 10.3 Delivery of these strategies can be secured and supported by time-limited investment in the necessary skills and capacity to design and deliver these new ways of working. The main element of the investment comprises the resources required to deliver this activity. This will create the strategic capacity required to deliver the transformational change required; it is not possible to free up existing resource to do this given the scale of the task and the need for operational teams to focus on day to day activity.
- 10.4 Cabinet considered the above in reaching its decision, together with the business case evaluation, attached at Appendix A to the Report; the financial implications; the equalities implications; and the recommendation of Adult Care & Health Cabinet Panel.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

## **11. ST ALBANS CITY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN CALL FOR SITES CONSULTATION (JAN/FEB 2018)** [Forward Plan Ref: A005/18]

### **Decision**

- 11.1 Cabinet agreed that:-
- i) the County Council support the promotion of the eight sites referred to in the report through the Local Plan process to assist St Albans City and District Council in achieving its housing and employment land requirements; and
  - ii) the inclusion of the Former Radlett Airfield in this process is authorised to enable the site to be considered by St Albans City and District Council for inclusion in the Local Plan for housing rather than a strategic rail freight interchange.

### **Reasons for the decision**

- 11.2 The County Council has been consulted on the St Albans City and District Council (SACDC) Issues and Options Local Plan consultation, which will show what can be built, and where, up to 2036. The draft Local Plan has an annual housing target of 913 homes. This will mean 9,000 to 10,000 homes will have to be built in the Green Belt. Growth for employment and other purposes is also proposed. The consultation includes a Call for Sites. It is clear from the consultation papers that SCADC will need to look for additional green belt land releases in order to accommodate the scale of growth now required.
- 11.3 In September 2017, in response to the Draft Brownfield Register and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment call for sites the County Council submitted 15 sites within its ownership. The sites are ones that are now, or may be expected to become within the period of the plan, surplus to the County Council's requirements.
- 11.4 This list has now been reviewed and officers are proposing to continue to promote a total of eight sites in the ownership of the County Council from the original 15 sites previously submitted through the current consultation for consideration by SACDC for inclusion in the Local Plan to assist the District Council in achieving its housing and employment land requirements. Attached at Appendix B to this report is a table showing what feasibility work has been undertaken to date and what needs to be carried out in respect of each site in order to confirm deliverability.
- 11.5 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered SACDC submission to Local Plan call for site consultation attached at Appendix A to the Report; the financial implications; the equality Implications; and the recommendations of the Resources, Property & the Economy Cabinet Panel.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

## **12. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF RURAL ESTATE LAND AT BALDOCK** [Forward Plan Ref: A009/18]

### **Decision**

- 12.1 Cabinet:-
- (i) agreed the land at Royston Road, East of Clothall Common, Baldock as shown on the plan (Site identification 101A), attached at Appendix A to the report, is surplus to County Council requirements and approved the proposed disposal of the land,
  - (ii) delegated to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of

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the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property and the Economy portfolio) and the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport Authority, to approve the terms of the sale of the land at Royston Road, Baldock.

- (iii) agreed that the rural estate lands to the North and East of Baldock (as shown on the attached plan RE2842/F, attached as Appendix B to the report) are surplus to needs and can be released for disposal for the creation of urban extensions developments and authorised a programme of phased closure of the County Council's Rural Estate service in this location to achieve the required timetable of land releases and disposals for those developments, with the details to be agreed by the Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property and the Economy portfolio) and the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport; and
- (iv) agreed a scheme for rationalisation of the Baldock Estate be prepared by the Director of Resources and tenants consulted prior to its implementation, and that the Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property and the Economy portfolio) be authorised to agree the termination of tenancies and payment of appropriate compensation.

**Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

**13. WHEATSHEAF FARM, HIGH CANONS, BOREHAMWOOD – TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE FARMHOUSE AND FARM BUILDINGS**

[Forward Plan Ref: A007/18]

13.1 Discussion took place on this item in Part I.

**14. LAND AT FOXGROVE PATH, SOUTH OXHEY – TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE LAND**

[Forward Plan Ref: A008/18]

14.1 Prior to consideration of this item of business, the Chairman advised that communication from a member of the public in relation to this matter had been received and circulated to all Cabinet Members.

14.2 Discussion took place on this item in Part I.

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**15. ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PLACES - INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEXT PRIMARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME; APPROVALS TO THE NEXT SECONDARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME (IN ST. ALBANS; STEVENAGE AND FOR HATFIELD); ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION SCHEMES; S106 FUNDS; AND FOR PROJECTS IN BISHOPS STORTFORD.**  
[Forward Plan Ref: A004/18]

15.1 Discussion took place on this item in Part I.

**16. PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA  
EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

16.1 Cabinet then decided to move into Part II ('closed' session') and passed the decision at paragraph 16.2 below.

16.2 That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

16.3 Following discussion on the Part II Reports on the items referred to at 13, 14, and 15 above and Recommendations, Cabinet moved back into Part I (open session) and considered the Part I Recommendations and made the decisions at 17.1, 18.1 and 19.1 below.

**17. WHEATSHEAF FARM, HIGH CANONS, BOREHAMWOOD – TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE FARMHOUSE AND FARM BUILDINGS**  
[Forward Plan Ref: A007/18]

**Decision**

17.1 Cabinet:-

- i) agreed that the farmhouse block and farm buildings at Wheatsheaf Farm, as marked red and blue on the Site Location Plan (EM 14446) at Appendix 1 to the report are surplus to requirements and agreed should be disposed; and
- ii) delegated to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property and the Economy portfolio) and the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport authority to agree and approve the terms of the sale and disposal of the farmhouse block and farm buildings at Wheatsheaf Farm and take such other steps as are appropriate to secure disposal of the site.

### **Reasons for the decision**

- 17.2 The Council holds the freehold title to the farmhouse and farm buildings at Wheatsheaf Farm Borehamwood. The farm was held as part of the Council's Rural Estate and declared surplus to service needs in 2017. Wheatsheaf Farm is located within the Metropolitan Green Belt and the Farmhouse is Grade 2 listed. The farm also contains an identified County Wildlife Site (the pond). All of the buildings are in a poor state of repair and significant capital expenditure would be required to permit reoccupation.
- 17.3 The property was taken out of use by the Rural Estate and is now managed as part of the Council's Property Management Agreement contract whilst town planning issues and opportunities for future use of the listed building have been more fully investigated. Early discussions with Hertsmere Borough Council as Local Planning Authority have identified the potential for two/ three additional dwellings (as additions to that of the Farmhouse Block). The approval of the Secretary of State will also be required as the property is subject to the Green Belt Act 1938.
- 17.4 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the above, together with the information within the Part II report; the property implications; the financial implications; and the recommendations of the Resources, Property & the Economy Cabinet Panel.

### **Any alternative options considered and rejected**

None.

## **18. LAND AT FOXGROVE PATH, SOUTH OXHEY – TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF THE LAND**

[Forward Plan Ref: A008/18]

### **Decision**

- 18.1 Cabinet:-
- i) declared the land at Foxgrove Path, South Oxhey, as shown on the plan at Appendix 1 to the report, surplus to requirements and agreed that it should be disposed; and
  - iii) delegated to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for the Resources, Property and the Economy portfolio) and the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport the authority to agree the terms of the sale of the land and disposal of the land at Foxgrove Path, South Oxhey.

### **Reasons for the decision**

- 18.2 The Council holds the freehold title to the land at Foxgrove Path, South Oxhey, which comprises approximately 1.55 hectares of grazing land. The land was acquired as part of a portfolio of sites for new schools from the London County Council in 1958; originally acquired for education purposes; however, it has never been used for educational use.
- 18.3 The land is allocated within the Three Rivers District Council's local plan for housing and a planning application has been submitted by the County Council for 49 new dwellings (including affordable housing). A decision on the application is expected shortly.
- 18.4 In reaching its decision, Cabinet considered the above, together with the information within the Part II report; the property implications; the financial implications; and the recommendations of the Resources, Property & the Economy Cabinet Panel.
- 19. ADDITIONAL SCHOOL PLACES - INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEXT PRIMARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME; APPROVALS TO THE NEXT SECONDARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME (IN ST. ALBANS; STEVENAGE AND FOR HATFIELD); ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION SCHEMES; S106 FUNDS; AND FOR PROJECTS IN BISHOPS STORTFORD.**  
[Forward Plan Ref: A004/18]

### **Decision**

- 19.1 Cabinet noted:
- (i) that the Director of Children's Services is consulting on the proposed permanent school expansion by 1.0 f.e. of Belswains, Hemel Hempstead from September 2019 and St. Peter's, St. Albans, from September 2020;
  - (ii) the overall scale of the current estimated cost of that primary expansion programme; and
  - (iii) the latest position on developments in Bishop's Stortford;
- and approved:
- (iv) the Council entering into funding agreements with the secondary schools identified in paragraph 5.3 of the report and the accompanying Part II report; the terms of such funding agreements to be agreed by the Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism;
  - (v) the Council entering into a funding agreement with Samuel Ryder Academy, St Albans for additional accommodation as identified in the

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accompanying Part II report; the terms of such funding agreement to be agreed by the Director of Children’s Services in consultation with the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism.

- (vi) the Council entering into a funding agreement with Tewin Cowper Primary school, Tewin for a contribution of £0.31m towards its additional accommodation scheme; the terms of such funding agreement to be agreed by the Director of Children’s Services in consultation with the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism.
- (vii) the use of £2.0m additional funds for temporary expansions for September 2019, where required.
- (viii) the application of S106 funds identified in Appendix E subject to town planning approvals where appropriate.
- (ix) the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order for the acquisition of the freehold interest in all of the land demised under the 1564 lease, and now comprising the former East site of Barnwell School, Stevenage and the site of Ashtree Primary School, Stevenage and the costs outlined in the Part II report, and delegated to the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council (as responsible for Resources, Property and the Economy) and the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism authority to agree the detail of and to issue the Compulsory Purchase Order.
- (x) the revision to the agreed capital budget for the Bishops Stortford North schools schemes as mentioned in the report;
- (xi) the addition of the scheme for relocation and expansion of The Bishops Stortford High School within the terms set out in Part II of this report.
- (xii) a further contribution of £1.4m to The Herts & Essex High School towards its expansion.

**Reasons for the decision**

- 19.2 As set out above.
- 19.3 Cabinet’s decisions were reached following consideration of the Council’s statutory responsibilities, the financial implications of the proposals, the outcome of the equalities impact assessments undertaken, and the recommendations of the Education, Libraries & Localism Cabinet Panel.
- 19.4 Cabinet’s decisions will ensure that the Council continues to meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient primary and secondary school places as close as possible to the demand for them.

**KATHRYN PETTITT  
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_

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