

Minutes



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

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services
Ask for: Elaine Shell
Ext: 25565

MINUTES of the Meeting of the County Council held at County Hall, Hertford, on Tuesday, 18 July 2017.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

D Andrews	J M Graham	R G Parker
D A Ashley	F Guest	A Plancey
D J Barnard	J S Hale	S Quilty
S Bedford	D Hart	N A Quinton
N Bell	K M Hastrick	I M Reay
J Bennett Lovell	C M Hayward	R M Roberts
J Billing	M S Hearn	A F Rowlands
S N Bloxham	T C Heritage	R Sangster
S J Boulton	D J Hewitt	R H Smith
A P Brewster	F R G Hill	A Stevenson
M Bright	C K Hogg	S J Taylor
S Brown	N A Hollinghurst	R A C Thake (Chairman)
E H Buckmaster	T W Hone	R G Tindall
F Button	T Howard	A S B Walkington
L A Chesterman	T R Hutchings	M A Watkin
C Clapper	S K Jarvis	J A West
H K Crofton	J R Jones	C J White
T L F Douris	J S Kaye	J D Williams
D S Drury	A K Khan	T J Williams
M A Eames-Petersen	J G L King	C B Woodward
S J Featherstone	P V Mason	C B Wyatt-Lowe
B A Gibson	G McAndrew	W J Wyatt-Lowe
S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	M B J Mills-Bishop	J F Wyllie
R I N Gordon	M D M Muir	P M Zukowskyj
S Gordon		

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Annual Meeting of the County Council held on 18 July 2017, as circulated, action was taken or decisions were reached as follows:-

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1. MINUTES

- 1.1** The Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
- 1.2** The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

At the invitation of the Chairman the Council agreed to vary the order of business and take agenda items 3 'Public Questions' and 4 'Public Petitions' at this point in the meeting as a courtesy to members of the public attending for these items of business.

(The Minutes of these items of business are set out below in original agenda order).

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION (CIHT) NATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

The Chairman announced that the County Council and Ringway Infrastructure Services joint project to convert Hertfordshire's street lights to LED had won the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation National Sustainability Award.

The Sustainability Award recognised transportation projects or strategies that could demonstrate a contribution to sustainable working practices. The County was praised for its innovative approach to save energy by cutting carbon emissions and reducing light pollution whilst delivering value for money for residents.

Council congratulated those involved.

(b) HEALTH SERVICE JOURNAL: AWARD FOR WORKFORCE EFFICIENCY

Council was advised that Hertfordshire Care Providers Association, Hertfordshire County Council, and NHS East and North Hertfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group had won the Workforce efficiency Award

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at the 2017 HSJ Value in Health Awards. The award recognised and celebrated outstanding improvement in quality of care and efficiency throughout the NHS. Council congratulated all involved.

(c) MUNICIPAL JOURNAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2017

The Chairman advised Council that Hertfordshire had been a finalist for the Municipal Journal Local Government Achievement Awards in 2 categories:-

1. The 'Delivering Better Outcomes' category, which recognised councils delivering improved outcomes for residents in the challenging financial climate. The Council was 'highly commended' in this category for the development of its new online care home bed booking system 'Herts Care Search' which provided live information about care home bed availability in Hertfordshire; and
2. The Children's Services Learning & Impact category; the entry for which was also highly commended.

Council congratulated those involved.

(d) THE HERTFORDSHIRE PRIDE AWARDS

Council congratulated Hertfordshire County Council Public Health which had been awarded a "Pride Partner of the Year" Award in the Hertfordshire Pride Awards for being an organisation which had supported and contributed to Herts Pride and helped ensure its success.

(e) ANNUAL VOLUNTEER IN MANAGEMENT AWARDS: HERTS FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Council congratulated Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service on being awarded first place at the Annual Volunteer in Management Awards on 6 June 2017. This award was presented by the Volunteer Centres in Hertfordshire and recognised the commitment that organisations provided to support their volunteering staff.

(f) JIM McMANUS: GENERATION Q QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FELLOWSHIP

The Chairman advised Council that the Health Foundation, an independent health charity and think tank, had selected Jim McManus, Director of Public Health, as one of 18 senior health care professionals

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to become a Generation Q Quality Improvement Fellow, out of 400 candidates. Generation Q supported fellows' work on an improvement project in their own organisation. Jim McManus was the first Director of Public Health to be selected for a Generation Q Fellowship and would be using the Fellowship support to work on the Prevention programme approach for Hertfordshire. Council congratulated Jim on this achievement.

(g) TES SCHOOLS AWARDS: ALAN GRAY FROM SANDRINGHAM SCHOOL, ST ALBANS

Council congratulated Alan Gray from Sandringham School who had been named Headteacher of the Year in the TES Schools Awards. In making the award, the Judges said *"Alan Gray is an exceptional headteacher. He has led his own school to greatness and has found time to support other schools both locally and internationally. His exciting 'can do' approach to educational achievement is an inspiration"*.

(h) 'YOU'RE A STAR AWARDS' AND 'LONG SERVICE AWARDS'

The Chairman advised Council that he had had the pleasure of hosting the '40 Year Long Service Awards' to 10 members of staff on 12 June, and the 'You're a Star' Awards for a further 12 members of staff on 14 July. Council congratulated all of them for their service.

(i) ST JULIEN MEMORIAL TO THE HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

Council was advised that there would be some local events in the County connected with the unveiling of the memorial to the Hertfordshire Regiment and the centenary of the battle just outside Ypres on 31 July 1917. Council noted that County Councillor Eric Buckmaster would be travelling to St Julien to witness the unveiling and to take part in the wider international commemorations.

(j) COMIC RELIEF OUTSTANDING FUNDRAISING AWARD

The Chairman announced that Hertfordshire County Council had been selected as a winner of the Outstanding Fundraiser Award from Red Nose Day 2017. The award was in recognition of the fund raising efforts of the staff and members at Hertfordshire County Council for the last seventeen years who had taken part in book stalls, cake sales, red raffles, sweepstakes, coppers collections, wear red to work days, sponsored walks, health walks, quiz nights, bake offs, sweet stalls and the 'big red car wash'.

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(j) CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman reminded Council that representatives from the Children in Care Council would be presenting their annual report to Council at 2.00pm that afternoon in the Council Chamber.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – STANDING ORDER 8(10)

3A. 3.1 David Josephs asked Teresa Heritage, the Executive Member for Children’s Services, the following question:-

“In light of Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group’s decision to withdraw funding from Nascot Lawn from 31st October and, in light of the unrealistic timescale given to Herts County Council to make assessments and make alternative provision when at the time of writing, despite claims to the contrary, only 7 out of 22 families who responded had even been contacted to say an assessment would be arranged, that

- a) Herts County Council works with Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group and Herts Community Trust to ensure funding is maintained until at least 31st March 2018; and*
- b) for Herts County Council to consider use of part of its reserve/underspend to ease the risk of a serious health and safeguarding issue resulting from this threatened withdrawal of funding.”*

3.2 T C Heritage, Executive Member for Children’s Services provided the following response:-

“Officers from Hertfordshire County Council are working closely with colleagues from both Clinical Commissioning Groups and Hertfordshire Community Trust as well as with parents both individually and collectively in a sincere effort to find solutions in this very difficult situation. Notwithstanding the decisions by Herts Valleys CCG, the County Council will fully discharge its responsibility to provide short break services to ensure that the social care needs of children are met. As I say, the County Council will fully discharge its social care responsibilities around short breaks and will do so even should this lead to budgetary overspend. Joint assessments between health and social care colleagues will ensure the children’s needs continue to be met and all risks will be managed and addressed in partnerships with parents and carer’s. I will say more in my speech later.”

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- 3.3 David Joseph's** asked **Teresa Heritage**, the Executive Member for Children's Services, the following supplementary question:-

Mr Joseph preceded his supplementary question with a statement.

"Will you meet with Herts Valleys CCG this week and offer to go halves with them; please councillors I ask you to stop this emergency from becoming a senseless tragedy?"

- 3.4 Teresa Heritage**, the Executive Member for Children's Services, provided the following response:-

"I hear what you say, thank you very much for your passionate words I know we've spoken about your son a few times over the years as well. I do appreciate and understand the families' concern. As I have said, we will support these families but I will say more in my speech if that's ok. I don't want to repeat myself. I have it there all written down and when I respond to the motion around the petition I will say more then if I may?"

4. PUBLIC PETITIONS – STANDING ORDER 15

- 4A. 4.1 Nikki Lancaster** presented a petition with more than 1,000 signatures in the following terms:-

"SAVE NHS Nascot Lawn Children's Respite Services

On Friday 16th June, many families across Hertfordshire received the devastating news that due to NHS budget cuts funding for Nascot Lawn Children's Respite Service will be no more. Nascot Lawn will therefore close on 31st October 2017.

Nascot Lawn Respite Services provide regular overnight respite and care for children and young adults with severe learning and physical disabilities with additional complex medical needs. A day care service for children under 5 is also provided.

Nascot Lawn allows parents and carers to take a much needed break, confident in the knowledge that their child is receiving the highest standard of care by familiar staff. The staff are made up of an experienced team of qualified Learning Disability and Sick Children Nurses and trained Health Care Support Workers. The staff strive to meet all children's and young adults emotional and physical care needs along provided them with activities that they enjoy. Many of the Parents and Carers see the staff as an extension of their families. Nascot Lawn is described as 'Home from Home'. It deeply saddens us

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that the well-loved staff face losing their jobs also.

Looking after a loved one can be enormously rewarding, But it can also be both utterly physically and mentally exhausting. Without vital breaks provided by Nascot Lawn Respite Services, carers can often reach breaking point where they can no longer continue and their own physical and mental health deteriorates as a result.

On the NHS Nascot Lawn website itself they quote “This care enables families to continue to look after children with very complex needs in their own home”.

What is more vital than that?

Trust us, we understand how strained the NHS is at the moment. We have first-hand experience of this. BUT how can it be right to cut vital services from the most vulnerable of society.”

4.2 The petition was received by **T C Heritage**, Executive Member for Children’s Services.

4.3 The Chairman reminded Council that the debate on the motion at 4.4 would be in accordance with Standing Orders 11(11) – 11(15).

4.4 The following motion was proposed by **N Bell** and duly seconded:-

“Council notes:

That on Friday 16th June, Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) informed families across Hertfordshire that they would no longer be funding their contribution of £600k towards Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust run Nascot Lawn Children’s Respite Service. Consequently Nascot Lawn will be forced to close on 31st October 2017.

Council further notes:

That Nascot Lawn Respite Centre provides regular overnight respite and care for a community of 60-80 children and young adults with severe learning and physical disabilities with additional complex medical needs. A day care service for children under 5 is also provided.

That Nascot Lawn is the only CCG funded respite centre in Hertfordshire, operated by Hertfordshire Community Trust.

That prior to 21st April Herts Valleys CCG had been actively working

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with officers from the County to provide a more co-ordinated health and social care service based, across respite centres in the county and there was a real expectation that such a service would have been deliverable by March 31st 2018.

That Nascot Lawn allows parents and carers to take a much needed break, confident in the knowledge that their child is receiving the highest standard of care by familiar staff.

That the CCG have been formally placed in 'financial turnaround' by NHS England and £45m savings must be made. Savings will be enforced centrally if the CCG are unable to carry out this level of spending reduction.

That since the General Election, ministers including the Chancellor have signalled that a relaxation of austerity measures could form part of the Government's agenda for the forthcoming Parliament.

Council believes:

- That the timescale set for removing services at Nascot Lawn will have a devastating effect on the families who are most in need of support, and that the CCG should reconsider their decision or at least defer the removal of funding until 31st March 2018 to enable suitable alternative provision to be found for these families and their children.*
- That providing support for the most vulnerable children in our society is a basic function of a health and care system, and that withdrawing this service will have a disproportionate, negative impact on those who need access to respite care the most.*
- That the £45m savings forced on the CCG by the Government are the reason for this decision and the need for this level of spending reductions should be reassessed by ministers.*
- That the £600k saving that the Herts Valleys CCG will achieve could be significantly less than the additional costs incurred by the County Council in providing replacement services for these families and young people.*
- In the event that the Herts Valleys CCG carry out their threat, that the County Council's Executive looks to use its wider powers to ensure the continuing operation of Nascot Lawn for a further year to enable it to complete its full review of all such services across the county with the aim of creating a service designed to meet both the social and healthcare needs of these children.*

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Council therefore requests:

That the Executive Member for Children's Services, as a matter of urgency, writes to the Chief Executive of the Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group to:

- Inform them that this Council strongly opposes the closure of the Nascot Lawn respite centre and asks them to reconsider their decision in the light of the harm it will do to some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our society.*
- If they are adamant about ceasing the funding, then to delay the cuts until at least April 2018 to give the County Council time to establish suitable alternative provision.*

Council further requests:

That the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to:

- Inform them that the decision to enforce £45m of savings on HVCCG is impacting severely on vital frontline services which cater for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people in our County. These enforced savings, combined with continuing reductions of £80m to Hertfordshire County Council's budget have created a situation where it is simply not possible to provide the level of care required to meet the needs of Hertfordshire patients.*
- Seek Government support to ensure HVCCG and this Council are able to adequately fund health and social care provision in accordance with patient need.*
- Ask that in the event of austerity measures being relaxed across the UK, Health and Social Care services are prioritised as areas which require immediate additional funding.*

That the Leader of the Council writes to all eleven Hertfordshire Members of Parliament to seek their assistance in persuading the Secretary of Health to support the above actions."

4.5 The following amendment was proposed by **T C Heritage** and duly seconded:-

"1st bullet point: Delete 'will' insert 'may', delete 'until 31st March 2018', insert 'until', delete 'to enable, delete 'to be' insert 'is', delete 'found' insert 'secured'

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2nd bullet point: Delete 'will' insert 'may'

3rd bullet point: Delete all

5th bullet point: Delete 'looks to use its wider powers to' insert 'seeks to', delete all after 'ensure' and replace with 'that the needs of the children and families continue to be met whilst the joint health and social care assessments are completed and new plans discussed with families.'

After 'Council therefore', delete 'requests' insert 'notes', insert as new start to sentence 'That the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive have been in communication with HertsValley Clinical Commissioning Group, however requests', after 'Chief Executive' insert 'and Chairman'

6th bullet point: Delete 'will' insert 'may'

8th bullet point: Delete all

9th bullet point: Delete 'HVCCG' insert 'the Hertfordshire CCGs'

Delete last sentence and replace with 'Council further notes that the Hertfordshire MPs have already received a briefing from the County Council and requests that the Executive Member for Children's Services writes to them to inform them of this Council's motion, to seek their continued help and support and undertake to keep them updated.'

The amended motion to read:-

"Council notes:

That on Friday 16th June, Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) informed families across Hertfordshire that they would no longer be funding their contribution of £600k towards Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust run Nascot Lawn Children's Respite Service. Consequently, Nascot Lawn will be forced to close on 31st October 2017.

Council further notes:

That Nascot Lawn Respite Centre provides regular overnight respite and care for a community of 60-80 children and young adults with severe learning and physical disabilities with additional complex medical needs. A day care service for children under 5 is also provided.

That Nascot Lawn is the only CCG funded respite centre in Hertfordshire, operated by Hertfordshire Community Trust.

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That prior to 21st April Herts Valleys CCG had been actively working with officers from the County to provide a more co-ordinated health and social care service based, across respite centres in the county and there was a real expectation that such a service would have been deliverable by March 31st 2018.

That Nascot Lawn allows parents and carers to take a much needed break, confident in the knowledge that their child is receiving the highest standard of care by familiar staff.

That the CCG have been formally placed in 'financial turnaround' by NHS England and £45m savings must be made. Savings will be enforced centrally if the CCG are unable to carry out this level of spending reduction.

That since the General Election, ministers including the Chancellor have signalled that a relaxation of austerity measures could form part of the Government's agenda for the forthcoming Parliament.

Council believes:

- That the timescale set for removing services at Nascot Lawn may have a devastating effect on the families who are most in need of support, and that the CCG should reconsider their decision or at least defer the removal of funding until suitable alternative provision is secured for these families and their children.*
- That providing support for the most vulnerable children in our society is a basic function of a health and care system, and that withdrawing this service may have a disproportionate, negative impact on those who need access to respite care the most.*
- That the £600k saving that the Herts Valleys CCG will achieve could be significantly less than the additional costs incurred by the County Council in providing replacement services for these families and young people.*
- In the event that the Herts Valleys CCG carry out their threat, that the County Council's Executive seeks to ensure that the needs of the children and families continue to be met whilst the joint health and social care assessments are completed and new plans discussed with families.*

Council therefore notes :

That the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive have been in communication with Herts Valley Clinical Commissioning Group, however requests that the Executive Member for Children's

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Services, as a matter of urgency, writes to the Chief Executive and Chairman of the Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group to:

- Inform them that this Council strongly opposes the closure of the Nascot Lawn respite centre and asks them to reconsider their decision in the light of the harm it may do to some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our society.*
- If they are adamant about ceasing the funding, then to delay the cuts until at least April 2018 to give the County Council time to establish suitable alternative provision.*

Council further requests:

That the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to:

- Seek Government support to ensure the Hertfordshire CCG's and this Council are able to adequately fund health and social care provision in accordance with patient need.*
- Ask that in the event of austerity measures being relaxed across the UK, Health and Social Care services are prioritised as areas which require immediate additional funding.*

Council further notes that the Hertfordshire MPs have already received a briefing from the County Council and requests that the Executive Member for Children's Services writes to them to inform them of this Council's motion, to seek their continued help and support and undertake to keep them updated. ””

4.6 The amendment at 4.5 was then voted upon and CARRIED.

4.7 The substantive motion as set out at 4.5 was then voted upon and CARRIED as follows:-

“Council notes:

That on Friday 16th June, Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) informed families across Hertfordshire that they would no longer be funding their contribution of £600k towards Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust run Nascot Lawn Children's Respite Service. Consequently, Nascot Lawn will be forced to close on 31st October 2017.

Council further notes:

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That Nascot Lawn is the only CCG funded respite centre in Hertfordshire, operated by Hertfordshire Community Trust.

That prior to 21st April Herts Valleys CCG had been actively working with officers from the County to provide a more co-ordinated health and social care service based, across respite centres in the county and there was a real expectation that such a service would have been deliverable by March 31st 2018.

That Nascot Lawn allows parents and carers to take a much needed break, confident in the knowledge that their child is receiving the highest standard of care by familiar staff.

That the CCG have been formally placed in 'financial turnaround' by NHS England and £45m savings must be made. Savings will be enforced centrally if the CCG are unable to carry out this level of spending reduction.

That since the General Election, ministers including the Chancellor have signalled that a relaxation of austerity measures could form part of the Government's agenda for the forthcoming Parliament.

Council believes:

- That the timescale set for removing services at Nascot Lawn may have a devastating effect on the families who are most in need of support, and that the CCG should reconsider their decision or at least defer the removal of funding until suitable alternative provision is secured for these families and their children.*
- That providing support for the most vulnerable children in our society is a basic function of a health and care system, and that withdrawing this service may have a disproportionate, negative impact on those who need access to respite care the most.*
- That the £600k saving that the Herts Valleys CCG will achieve could be significantly less than the additional costs incurred by the County Council in providing replacement services for these families and young people.*
- In the event that the Herts Valleys CCG carry out their threat, that the County Council's Executive seeks to ensure that*

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the needs of the children and families continue to be met whilst the joint health and social care assessments are completed and new plans discussed with families.

Council therefore notes :

That the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive have been in communication with Herts Valley Clinical Commissioning Group, however requests that the Executive Member for Children's Services, as a matter of urgency, writes to the Chief Executive and Chairman of the Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group to:

- Inform them that this Council strongly opposes the closure of the Nascot Lawn respite centre and asks them to reconsider their decision in the light of the harm it may do to some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our society.*
- If they are adamant about ceasing the funding, then to delay the cuts until at least April 2018 to give the County Council time to establish suitable alternative provision.*

Council further requests:

That the Leader of the Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to:

- Seek Government support to ensure the Hertfordshire CCG's and this Council are able to adequately fund health and social care provision in accordance with patient need.*
- Ask that in the event of austerity measures being relaxed across the UK, Health and Social Care services are prioritised as areas which require immediate additional funding.*

Council further notes that the Hertfordshire MPs have already received a briefing from the County Council and requests that the Executive Member for Children's Services writes to them to inform them of this Council's motion, to seek their continued help and support and undertake to keep them updated."

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5. OFFICER REPORTS RELEVANT TO EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS

5A. COUNTY COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2017 - 2021

- 5.1** The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon** and duly seconded was CARRIED:-

“(1) That County Council endorses the Council’s Corporate Plan 2017-2021.”

- 5.2** The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon** and duly seconded was CARRIED:-

“(2) That the following actions (which are consistent with the values and priorities of the Plan) be endorsed as policies of County Council with it being noted that lead responsibility for their delivery will be allocated within the Executive primarily as indicated: -

RESOURCES, PROPERTY & THE ECONOMY

- 1. spend at the lowest level consistent with the provision of high quality, efficiently-run local services*
- 2. press central government to introduce a new, sustainable system for funding social care for the elderly*
- 3. continue to drive cost reduction through efficiency savings, new ways of working and reducing bureaucracy in order to protect front-line services*
- 4. make it easier for Hertfordshire businesses and voluntary & community organisations to win contracts with the Council*
- 5. continue to drive up our standards and efficiency by learning from the best, judging results by what is achieved, not just by the amount spent*
- 6. in developing Council-owned land, promote exemplar standards of design and environmental impact and consider the appropriate mix of housing types and tenure in each development to reflect Hertfordshire’s needs*
- 7. refresh the ground-breaking Skills Strategy to support Hertfordshire’s workforce to develop skills to contribute to a strong and dynamic economy, maximise their own potential to share in the County’s prosperity*
- 8. as a major local employer ourselves, be an exemplar in offering apprenticeships and work with partners to deliver a step change in the availability and breadth of opportunities offered across Hertfordshire*
- 9. support the Local Enterprise Partnership to refresh “Perfectly Placed for Business”, the Strategic Economic*

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Plan for Hertfordshire

10. *work with 'Visit Herts' partners to grow the significance of the tourism sector to the Hertfordshire economy in terms of trips made, employment and economic value*
11. *extend our multi million pound investment in superfast broadband which has now reached 95% of premises with firm plans for 98% by June 2018 and our goal of 100% coverage as soon as possible thereafter.*

ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING & TRANSPORT

12. *work with others to provide appropriate infrastructure to address the wider impact of developments approved by local planning authorities and/or on appeal*
13. *continue to develop our Local Transport Plan recognising the impact of technology especially in vehicle design whilst planning for the future growth of transport and our highways network, especially East-West links.*
14. *continue to be a strong voice for the interests of Hertfordshire's residents as Luton and Stansted airports deliver their planned growth and, in particular, seek to limit the impact of night flights on residential areas*
15. *help residents travel conveniently within and beyond Hertfordshire, by providing more attractive walking and cycling routes, safer roads and encouraging more reliable bus and train services*
16. *continue to lobby Highways England to improve the two lane section of the A1(M) and to include all lane running as part of their Smart Motorways Programme*

COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT

17. *work ever more closely with the waste collection authorities to provide better value for money in collecting and disposing of household waste, including high levels of recycling and re-use and the further reduction of landfill as a means of final disposal*

ADULT CARE & HEALTH

18. *work with the police, probation service and other agencies to reduce domestic abuse*
19. *continue to work in improving partnership with local NHS agencies to secure seamless provision for residents needing health and social care*
20. *press central government for a long-term, sustainable solution to the funding of social care*
21. *work with care homes to create more nursing and intermediate beds to help people leave hospital as soon as*

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they are ready

- 22. expand the provision of assistive technologies to help allow elderly and vulnerable people to live safe and secure in their own homes*
- 23. support initiatives to combat isolation, particularly among single, elderly residents*
- 24. continue to support more vulnerable residents to lead independent lives by allowing them to make choices over personal budgets and direct payments*
- 25. respect and value the contribution of voluntary and family carers*
- 26. working with district councils and housing associations to provide better value home improvements and more supported housing*
- 27. deliver even more support and assistance through a combined Money Advice Unit and Work Solutions Team*
- 28. continue to lead the way nationally in achieving parity of access for those suffering from poor mental health*

PUBLIC HEALTH, PREVENTION & PERFORMANCE

- 29. reduce demand on local taxpayer-funded services through preventative strategies, early intervention and by promoting behavioural change*
- 30. continue to promote and support healthy and active lifestyles*

EDUCATION, LIBRARIES & LOCALISM

- 31. offer people greater influence over decisions that affect them*
- 32. continue to create opportunities for volunteers, community involvement and neighbourliness.*
- 33. continue to support the County's military personnel and veterans by championing the Armed Forces Covenant and 'Hertfordshire Heroes'.*
- 34. maintain a library service fit for the 21st century with buildings able to fulfil a wider community role; and to create opportunities for voluntary contributions by users*
- 35. recognise the role of County Councillors as community activists, making them indispensable in helping residents achieve their objectives*

HIGHWAYS

- 36. work with local planning authorities and developers to reduce damage to verges and footpaths from construction traffic*
- 37. renew the remainder of Hertfordshire's street lights with LED lights, increasing reliability while reducing fuel costs and carbon emissions*
- 38. use the central control system for LED lights to enable more*

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- variable arrangements for part-night lighting and dimming*
- 39. *continue to facilitate new 20mph limits and zones where appropriate and supported locally*
- 40. *work in partnership with the Police & Crime Commissioner to change drivers' attitudes to speeding*
- 41. *encourage the creation of a network of electrical charging points for vehicles to build the infrastructure for the future*

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- 42. *drive the new Family First programme to support struggling families before problems become critical and continue with our successful family safeguarding programme to ensure that more children can flourish with their own families*
- 43. *recognise that foster carers are the backbone of support for children in care and continue to invest in their recruitment, training and development*
- 44. *work with the courts to build on the faster and less stressful route into a permanent loving home for a child in care through adoption or special guardianship*
- 45. *continue to invest in our new integrated service for disabled children and their families; planning for life, not just childhood*
- 46. *support our record number of children in care attending university*
- 47. *invest in a new offer for teenagers which will give them every chance to make the right choices as they transition into adulthood*
- 48. *recognise the contribution of local members of the Youth Parliament and of youth councils and to encourage more young people to make a positive contribution to their local communities"*

6. THE EXECUTIVE REPORT

6A. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL – EXECUTIVE REPORT

6.1 The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon** was CARRIED:-

"That the report of the Executive (being the report under Standing Order 7) be received and that the position of Key Decisions in the decision-making process shown in the current edition of the Forward Plan referred to in the report be noted."

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6B. MOTIONS ARISING FROM THE EXECUTIVE REPORT IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY WERE RECEIVED

- 6B(i) 6.2** The following motion was proposed by **M A Watkin** and duly seconded:-

“This Council notes that Headteachers in Hertfordshire were amongst the 4000 across England who recently wrote to parents highlighting the growing crisis in school funding and that the Government’s current proposals will lead to a real terms cut in per pupil funding over the next five years. It supports these efforts by Hertfordshire Headteachers to secure adequate funding for their schools and resolves that the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism write to the Secretary of State for Education expressing this view.”

- 6.3** With the consent of the seconder, **T L F Douris** moved an amendment in a revised form which was duly seconded as follows:-

“after ‘highlighting’ replace ‘the’ with ‘their concern regarding’, remove ‘growing crisis in’, remove ‘in’ before ‘school funding’, remove ‘and that the Government’s current proposals will lead to a real terms cut in per pupil funding over the next five years’, add to end of the paragraph ‘but having due regard to the contents of the Secretary of State’s statement of 18 July 2017.’

The amended motion to read:-

“This Council notes that Headteachers in Hertfordshire were amongst the 4000 across England who recently wrote to parents highlighting their concern regarding school funding. It supports these efforts by Hertfordshire Headteachers to secure adequate funding for their schools and resolves that the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism write to the Secretary of State for Education expressing this view but having due regard to the contents of the Secretary of State’s statement of 18 July 2017.”

- 6.4** The amendment at 6.3 was then voted on and CARRIED.

- 6.5** The substantive motion as set out at 6.3 was then voted on and CARRIED as follows:-

“This Council notes that Headteachers in Hertfordshire were amongst the 4000 across England who recently wrote to parents highlighting their concern regarding school funding. It supports these efforts by

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Hertfordshire Headteachers to secure adequate funding for their schools and resolves that the Executive Member for Education, Libraries and Localism write to the Secretary of State for Education expressing this view but having due regard to the contents of the Secretary of State's statement of 18 July 2017."

6B(ii) 6.6 The following motion was proposed by **S J Taylor** and duly seconded:-

"Council notes the progress made regarding the setting up of a wholly owned development company and welcomes the opportunities it presents.

On completion of this process the Council requests the Executive Member for Resources, Property and the Economy to look, as a matter of urgency, at the compelling need for the provision of social housing for rent across the County and hold discussions with the development company, other developers and local planning authorities to address this pressing need."

6.7 The following amendment was proposed by **J D Williams** and duly seconded:-

"In paragraph 2, line 2: Delete as a matter of urgency at the compelling need for the provision of social housing for rent across the County' and replace with 'at the role that the supply of housing to address specific needs and across a variety of tenure types, including social and private rented, can play in supporting the Council's prevention agenda', delete 'this pressing need' insert 'opportunities to expand supply and hasten delivery'

The amended motion to read:-

"Council notes the progress made regarding the setting up of a wholly owned development company and welcomes the opportunities it presents.

On completion of this process the Council requests the Executive Member for Resources, Property and the Economy to look at the role that the supply of housing to address specific needs and across a variety of tenure types, including social and private rented, can play in supporting the Council's prevention agenda and hold discussions with the development company, other developers and local planning authorities to address opportunities to expand supply and hasten delivery.'"

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6.8 The amendment at 6.7 was then voted on and CARRIED.

6.9 The substantive motion as set out at 6.7 was then voted on and CARRIED as follows:-

“Council notes the progress made regarding the setting up of a wholly owned development company and welcomes the opportunities it presents.

On completion of this process the Council requests the Executive Member for Resources, Property and the Economy to look at the role that the supply of housing to address specific needs and across a variety of tenure types, including social and private rented, can play in supporting the Council’s prevention agenda and hold discussions with the development company, other developers and local planning authorities to address opportunities to expand supply and hasten delivery.”

6B(iii) 6.10 The following motion proposed by **T W Hone** and duly seconded was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:-

“County Council endorses the recommendations of the Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel regarding the potential transfer of governance of Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service and requests Cabinet to resolve accordingly.”*

**Note: The recommendations of the Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel were tabled at the Council meeting and can be viewed here*

<http://cmis.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertfordshire/Calendarofcouncilmeetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/519/Committee/4/Default.aspx>

7. QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

7.1 During the period for questions to Executive Members under SO(8)(7)(c) the following Members asked questions (and, where indicated, supplementary questions) of the Executive Member or their Deputy as stated [the audio recording of this item of business can be found here [Questions to Executive Members](#)].
[Questions are listed by portfolio].

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Executive Member	Questioner	Subject
Leader of the Council	J Billing	Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government's speech at the Local Government Association Conference ¹
Adult Care & Health	R G Tindall	'Sign off' of the Better Care Fund by the Health and Wellbeing Board
	N Bell	Arrangements for the permanent re-provision of accommodation for St Albans and Hertsmere women's refuge users and their children previously housed by Hightown Housing Association, St Albans ¹
	R G Tindall	Funding for Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
Children's Services	M A Watkin	Reassurance that abuse reported in national press in both private and local authority children's homes have never occurred in Hertfordshire ²
	N Bell	Consultation on health visiting and children's centres' recommissioning proposals
	A F Rowlands	Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) ¹
	N Bell	The future of Children's Centres following the consultation currently being undertaken
Community Safety & Waste Management	P M Zukowskyj	Progress on future waste management and disposal proposals including the procurement of the proposed energy from waste facility ¹
	N A Quinton	Waste management and disposal proposals including whether there are intentions to revisit those proposals ¹
	M A Eames-Petersen	Conversations with Herts Waste Partnership regarding Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's decision to charge for bins for collecting food waste and the

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		negative impact on recycling rates
	C B Wyatt-Lowe	Positive impact on recycling rates and waste collection of the initiative by Dacorum Borough Council encouraging residents not to waste food
Education, Libraries and Localism	M A Watkin	Underspend on Special Educational Needs services ¹
	J Billing	Help and supported provided to parents with children with special educational needs and provision of affordable services ¹
Environment, Planning and Transport	S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	Extension of the Metropolitan Line to Watford Junction and action taken by the Council to expedite progress on the project ^{1 2}
	A K Khan	Use of the court case between Islington Council and First Space Ltd (developer) in informing Council planning
Highways	S B A F H Giles-Medhurst	Use of the findings of the survey conducted by Highway View in informing and assisting the Council's Integrated Works and asset management programmes ¹
	J G L King	Instructions to and action taken by Ringway staff of appropriate action where highways faults reported cannot be found ¹
Public Health, Prevention and Performance	L A Chesterman	Smoking cessation services for those with poor mental health
Resources, Property and the Economy	S K Jarvis	Non-financial objectives of the Property Development Company and proposals for the monitoring of the Company's performance ¹
	J Billing	Representations being made by the County Council to central government seeking clarity over future Local Government Funding ¹

Notes: 1 - denotes that a supplementary question was also asked
2 – denotes that a written reply will be given

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7.2 Written questions to Executive Members – Standing Order 8(9)

- 7.2.1** Written questions to Executive Members and responses are set out in the attached Annex.

8. REPORT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 8.1** The following motion proposed by **D Andrews** and duly seconded was CARRIED:-

“That the report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received.”

9. REPORT FROM THE HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

- 9.1** The following motion proposed by **S Quilty** and duly seconded was CARRIED:-

“That the report from the Health Scrutiny Committee be received.”

10. MEMBERS’ ALLOWANCES 2017/18 – Report of the Independent Panel on Members’ Allowances

- 10.1** The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon** and duly seconded was CARRIED:-

“(1.) That the Council approves amendments to the Scheme for Members’ Allowances for 2017/18 which adopts all the recommendations of the Independent Allowances Panel on 1 June 2017.

(2.) That the Chief Legal Officer be authorised to amend the Scheme in accordance with (1.) above, to be applicable from 4 May 2017.”

11. CHANGES TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL’S CONSTITUTION

- 11.1** The following motion proposed by **R I N Gordon** and duly seconded was CARRIED:-

“That Council:

(a) agrees the changes to the Council’s Constitution as set out in paragraph 2.3 the Report;

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- (b) *notes the changes made to the Council's Constitution by the Chief Legal Officer as set out in paragraph 2.2 of the Report;*
- (c) *adopts the revised Whistleblowing Procedure attached to the report for inclusion in the Constitution; and*
- (d) *authorises the Chief Legal Officer to make any consequential amendments as may be necessary to the Constitution to give effect to the decisions at (a), (b) and (c) above."*

12. NOTICES OF MOTION – STANDING ORDER 9(6)

12A. 12.1 The motion submitted under SO 9(6) was accepted under SO 9(3) and is recorded at item 6B(i) above.

**KATHRYN PETTITT
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

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