

Minutes



To: All Members of the Enterprise,
Education and Skills Cabinet
Panel, Chief Executive, Chief
Officers, All officers named for
'actions'

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services
Ask for: Nicola Cahill
Ext: 25554

ENTERPRISE, EDUCATION AND SKILLS CABINET PANEL

13 FEBRUARY 2015

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

N Bell, M S Crawley, E M Gordon, C M Hayward (Chairman), S Johnson (substituting for A McKay) P V Mason, G Mc Andrew (substituting for T R Hutchings), R H Smith (substituting for A Stevenson), M A Watkin, P M Zukowskyj

PARENT GOVERNOR / CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE (VOTING)

J Reynolds

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

J D Williams

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Enterprise, Education and Skills Cabinet Panel meeting 13 February 2015 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below:

Note: No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the Cabinet Panel in relation to the matters on which conclusions were reached at this meeting.

PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS

ACTION

1. MINUTES

- 1.1 The consideration of the Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 9 February 2015 was deferred to the next meeting on 13 March 2015.

2. PUBLIC PETITIONS

- 2.1 The following petition was presented to the Cabinet Panel:-
David Cairns, on behalf of 'Right School Right Place'

'We, the undersigned, being residents, business taxpayers or other persons qualified to petition Hertfordshire County Council, ask Hertfordshire County Council to note our opinion that in the matter of the above proposal there has been a total lack of Community Involvement in the consideration of a major scheme affecting residents in the immediate localities, in the greater area of Harpenden (including surrounding villages) and visitors to the area. Given the prior history of much smaller proposals covering similar interests being routinely the subject of Herts CC Public Consultations during the formative periods, we are petitioning Hertfordshire County Council to:

- i) Organise at the earliest possibility and with appropriate notice a Public Consultation programme into all aspects of the current (or any replacement) proposal
- ii) Given the substantial and potentially irrevocable effects of instigating actions proposed in the above, that Hertfordshire County Council should further

EITHER Suspend all consideration of such proposals and related actions until such time as Consultation has been undertaken and Community Involvement can be demonstrated to have taken place

OR Treat any decision made as Provisional and Suspend any Herts CC actions or actions undertaken by others in relation to this project under Herts CC influence pending the Public Consultation and outcome as above.'

3. IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL SITE IN HARPENDEN SECONDARY PLANNING AREA

[Officer Contact: Andrew Simmons (01992 555088)]

- 3.1 The Cabinet Panel considered a report which provided Members with the outcome of work undertaken to identify a site suitable for a new secondary school in the Harpenden Secondary Education Planning Area.
- 3.2 The Cabinet Panel were advised as to the outcome of the final report received by the County Council from its appointed consultants 'Vincent and Gorbing'. The report, in consideration of all the supporting evidence, had identified site F as the preferred site. The outcome of Hertfordshire County Council's findings would be submitted to the Education Funding Agency, for its consideration.
- 3.3 In response to concerns raised regarding public consultation, Members were advised that extensive public discussions and

**CHAIRMAN'S
INITIALS**

.....

information sharing had taken place via public exhibitions in late 2013. The Cabinet Panel were advised that should a planning application be made in respect of site F, full public consultation would be undertaken.

Conclusion:

3.4 The Cabinet Panel noted that the report would be submitted to the Education Funding Agency.

4. PROPOSED PROVISION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITHIN BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH, BISHOP'S STORTFORD

[Officer Contact: Dick Bowler (01992 555 221)]

4.1 The Cabinet Panel considered a report which updated them as to the current position regarding the provision of primary school places to serve the housing development in the Bishop's Stortford North [BSN].

4.2 Members were advised that the report proposed an alternative configuration of primary school sites to those proposed by the Bishop's Stortford Consortium. The report sought to obtain authority to proceed with land transactions as per the strategy outlined in the report.

4.3 It was noted that local members were fully engaged with the process and were supportive of the negotiations.

Conclusion:

4.3 The Cabinet Panel recommended that Cabinet authorises the acquisition of additional land immediately adjacent to the s106 agreement 1 FE western primary school site at the Bishop's Stortford North development area, Bishop's Stortford, to enable the development of 2 FE primary school premises at that location.

5. STANDARDS AND QUALITY IN HERTFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS

[Officer Contact: Gillian Cawley, (01992 555789)]

5.1 The Cabinet Panel considered a report which provided Members with an overview of standards and quality in Hertfordshire Schools and other settings for the academic year September 2013 to July 2014.

5.2 Members were pleased to note the continued high performance of Hertfordshire schools despite significant changes to the examinations framework. Herts for Learning would prioritise supporting schools with improvements in relation to Free School Meal measures. Improvement work was underway with regards to

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

.....

one measure which placed Hertfordshire in the 5th quintile, this being the gap between the performance of free school meal pupils and their peers in achieving 5 A*- C GCSEs including English and Mathematics. Members were advised that Jan Payne from Herts for Learning would attend the next meeting of the Cabinet Panel to provide a more detailed briefing on the Pupil Premium strategy.

- 5.3 The Cabinet Panel requested data be provided regarding children with Special Educational Needs as well as the linkages between Free School Meals/Children Looked after and areas of deprivation.

Conclusion:

- 5.4 Members welcomed the overall figures which represented high standards and noted the work being undertaken to improve less well performing cohorts such as children eligible for free school meals and looked after children.

Name of officer to action if applicable

6. SCHOOL EXPANSIONS

[Officer Contact: Pauline Davis , (01992 555865)]

- 6.1 The Cabinet Panel considered an update report which sought comments from the Cabinet Panel on the formulation of a programme of primary expansions for September 2016 (PEP5) subject to consultation and further costings; and other accommodation requirements for September 2015.
- 6.2 The report sought endorsement from Cabinet to begin consultation where appropriate with regards to the proposed primary expansion programme for September 2016. Approval was also sought regarding funding for temporary accommodation for September 2015 and additional accommodation at Ardley Street, Lawrence School.
- 6.3 The Cabinet Panel received an updated version of appendix A, which may be viewed at http://www.hertsdirect.org/your-council/civic_calendar/enterpriseedskills/18319888.

Conclusion:

- 6.4 The Cabinet Panel made the following recommendations to Cabinet:
- (i) To approve the list of proposed permanent school expansions relating to 2016 (as set out in paragraph 4.4) and to endorse the Director of Children's Services's intention to consult on them.
 - (ii) To approve £1.8m additional funds for temporary

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

.....

expansions for September 2015, where required;

- (iii) To approve the allocation of £0.286m to provide additional accommodation at Ardeley St. Lawrence Primary School; and
- (iv) To approve in principle the application of S106 funds as identified in appendix A, subject to confirmation by Legal and Development Services.

7. LEP UPDATE

[Officer Contact: Neil Hayes (01707 358741)]

- 7.1 Members received a presentation in relation to the Local Enterprise Partnership which advised that Hertfordshire had been allocated £22.3 million in growth deals, in addition to the £221.5 million allocated to the county over the next 5 years.
- 7.2 Members welcomed progress made in relation to apprenticeships and the funding secured with regards to a design and innovation centre for small and medium sized enterprises.

CONCLUSIONS

- 7.3 Members welcomed the positive news provided as part of the LEP update.

8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Decision

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/s of business on the grounds that it/they involve/s 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.

PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA

1. PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITHIN BISHOP'S STORTFORD NORTH, BISHOP'S STORTFORD

[Officer Contact: Dick Bowler (01992 555 221)]

- 1.1 The Cabinet Panel considered a Part II report which provided confidential information regarding the proposed strategy for establishing the optimum provision of primary school places at

**CHAIRMAN'S
INITIALS**

.....

Bishop's Stortford North (BSN).

Conclusion:

- 1.3 The Cabinet Panel recommended that Cabinet authorises the acquisition of additional land immediately adjacent to the s106 agreement 1 FE western primary school site at the Bishop's Stortford North development area, Bishop's Stortford, to enable the development of 2 FE primary school premises at that location.

**KATHRYN PETTITT
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN _____

**CHAIRMAN'S
INITIALS**

.....