

**EXTRACT OF CABINET MINUTES****MONDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2017****20. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF CUFFLEY CAMP OUTDOOR CENTRE**

[Forward Plan Ref: A055/17]

**Decision**

20.1 Cabinet agreed that:-

- i. The County Council should withdraw from its lease at Cuffley Camp Outdoor Centre ('the Camp') and commit to further engage with the landlord in order to promote the site's continued use as an outdoor education centre serving young people;
- ii. The Director of Resources, in consultation with the Executive Member for Resources, Property and the Economy, be authorised to agree terms for the surrender of the County Council's lease of the premises used by the Camp; and
- iii. That the expenditure associated with the surrender of the lease for the premises be met from the Council's contingency budget.

**Reasons for the decision**

20.2 Cuffley Camp Outdoor Centre is located in Carbone Hill, Northaw and consists of an outdoor education centre for children and young people which is run by Hertfordshire Children's Services. The Camp is located upon land which the Council does not own. It was established in the immediate aftermath of the Second World War and the Council has held the property on a series of leases since then; the current lease is for 25 years from 2007 and, thus, has just over 14 years left to run.

20.3 The site comprises of a number of buildings, of which some can no longer be used as they require extensive work to be carried out, including asbestos works, and others are not fit for purpose. The landlord has stated that the Council has not maintained the site to an acceptable standard. In addition, the Council has not complied with year on year investment as stipulated in the terms of the lease. However, informal contact with the landlord indicates that, subject to terms, a surrender of the Council's lease would be accepted.

20.4 Cabinet, in reaching its decision, considered the information in the Part I and II Reports; the information in the supplementary report, including that there are 31 known activity and residential centres in and around Hertfordshire within a 30-90 minute drive of Cuffley Camp; the intention that the site was to be self-sufficient, but had incurred loss every year; Schools and Academies have the option to make their own extra-curriculum activity choices in a competitive

market; the revised equalities impact assessment that had been circulated; and the recommendations of the Children's Services and the Resources, Property and Economy Cabinet Panel.

## **PART II ('CLOSED') AGENDA**

- 1. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF CUFFLEY CAMP OUTDOOR CENTRE**  
[Forward Plan Ref: A055/17]

### **Decision**

- 1.1 The Part I decision reached on this item of business is recorded at item 20 above. The Part II decision reached on this item of business is recorded in the separate Part II Minutes.