

Minutes



To: All Members of the Community
Safety & Waste Management
Cabinet Panel, Chief
Executive, Chief Officers, All
officers named for 'actions'

From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services
Ask for: Michelle Diprose
Ext: 25566

COMMUNITY SAFETY & WASTE MANAGEMENT CABINET PANEL FRIDAY, 28 JUNE 2019

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

J Bennett-Lovell, S N Bloxham, S J Featherstone, B A Gibson, J S Hale, F R G Hill,
T W Hone (*Chairman*), J G L King, P V Mason, T J Williams, C B Woodward (*Vice Chairman*),
J F Wyllie

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

D Andrews

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Community Safety & Waste Management meeting on Friday 28 June 2019 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below:

Note: Interests declared by Members of the Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel in relation to the matters on which conclusions were reached at this meeting are recorded at item 6 below.

PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS

1. MINUTES

- 1.1 The Minutes of the Cabinet Panel meeting held on 3 June 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. PUBLIC PETITIONS

- 2.1 There were no public petitions received.

ACTION

3. HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER UPDATE REPORT

[Officer Contact: Dr Amie Birkhamshaw, Director of Delivery & Commissioning (Tel: 01707 806154)]

- 3.1 The Panel considered the Police & Crime Commissioner report detailing the update in activity undertaken by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) since the last meeting of the Panel.
- 3.2 The PCC informed the panel of the recruitment of 34 additional Police officers during May and June following completion of their sixteen week training. He also stated that by the end of 2019/20 officer numbers would increase beyond 2000 with a net increase of 75 officers
- 3.3 Members heard the Annual Report had recently been presented to the Police and Crime Panel and the PCC was currently in the process of refreshing the Police and Crime Plan. The Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel would take place on 23 July 2019 at 9.30 a.m. at Nobel School, Stevenage. Discussions were taking place around the use of the 101 number and the PCC would like to see it used more broadly.
- 3.4 In relation to the numbers of new recruits a Member requested if a breakdown of where the newly appointed Police officers were placed in the county could be shared. The PCC advised the Panel the location of where new recruits were placed was normally rolled out with a press release; the PCC undertook to send a link to Members for future press released. The Panel were informed it was the Chief Constable that placed new recruits and not the PCC. *PCC to action*
- 3.5 A Member queried if the timing of the Stop and Search Scrutiny Panel on 23 July which started at 9.30 a.m. was appropriate as members of the public may not be able to attend. Following discussion if this meeting was a public meeting or a meeting in public the PCC agreed that he would confirm if members of the public were able to attend. In response to a Member question in relation to the diversity of the Stop and Search Panel, Members were informed that although the PCC had his concerns every attempt was being made to ensure the panel was as diverse as possible. *PCC to action*
- 3.6 In relation to the end of year impact on officer numbers a Member of the Panel reminded the PCC that he undertook to provide a breakdown of officer numbers over the past five years at the Panel meeting in May. The PCC provided this information as follows:
- 2014 - 1927 officers
 - 2015 - 1911 officers
 - 2016 - 1928 officers

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- 2017 1952 officers
- 2018 1952 officers
- 2019 2009 officers

The Panel were informed the recruitment of officers was good in Hertfordshire.

- 3.7 The PCC was congratulated on the OPCC's award of the Independent Custody Visiting Association Quality Assurance Silver Award. In response to a Member question he stated it was a good award and that he would be pushing forward to improve achieve a gold award but was not sure what the criteria was to achieve this. The awards were given for work that had been carried out and not for planned activities.
- 3.8 In relation to fly-tipping the PCC was asked if he was able to set aside more than the £20k from the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) to assist landowners in clearing fly tips from their land. He advised he was unable to commit to increasing the £20k from POCA. He advised that the proceeds of crime act money is given to victims of crime generally related to financial crime. He advised money could be provided for fly-tipping but it was a district/borough issue and most would not take the money from the PCC because of the risk of re-repeating.
- 3.9 The Chairman advised the Panel the Herts Waste Partnership was developing a fly-tipping protocol and it was waiting to be signed off by the ten districts and borough councils.

CONCLUSION:

- 3.10 The report of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire was noted.

4. POLICE AND CRIME PANEL UPDATE

[Colin Woodward – Vice-Chairman of the Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel and Police & Crime Panel Representative]

- 4.1 The Panel were advised the Police and Crime Panel (P&C Panel) last met on 13 June 2019 and there were five new members. Councillor Siobhan Monaghan from Broxbourne was proposed as the new Chairman. Eight members of the public attended, (2 County Councillors) A number of reports were presented and can be found on [Police & Crime Panel](#) website. The PCC and four supporting officers attended.
- 4.2 Questions from the panel and the public were asked and responded to in relation to One Public Estate, The Blue light MOU, Fly-tipping strategy, Out of Area Transfers, knife crime, CHiPS and Rural Riders collaboration, reviewing of police establishments and increase in Police

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officers.

- 4.3 The Panel were informed there was a greater visibility of police officers in Broxbourne.

CONCLUSION:

- 4.4 That the Cabinet Panel noted the update

5. FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

[Officer Contact: Steven Pilsworth, Assistant Director Finance
Tel: 01992 555737, Faisal Mir, Assistant Director Finance and
Business Support Tel: 01992 555143]

- 5.1 The Panel received a report which updated the Panel on the overall financial outlook for the Council, and to seek the Panel's views on areas where further work should be done as part of the forthcoming Integrated Planning.
- 5.2 The Assistant Director of Finance and Business Support gave Members an overview of the financial challenges ahead for the County Council and advised in the four years from 2019 the costs of delivering Council services would increase by £140m and the expected income would grow by £50m which meant there would be a £90m savings gap which needed to be potentially identified. The Assistant Director reiterated it was becoming more difficult to find efficiency savings in future years. It was noted that Cabinet wanted to share the challenges with Cabinet Panels and would look to a steer from Panels on where or what areas it could focus on to deliver these savings.
- 5.3 The Chairman reminded the panel that the extra homes being planned across the county and increases in adult life span particularly put pressure on the Adult Care Services and Children's Services budgets. He also mentioned that the Council's reserves were relatively low to other authorities, and that reserves were not a solution for annual savings gaps. In relation to waste management it was noted that inter-authority savings, relating to a reduction in the Alternative Financial Model (AFM), were currently being consulted on.
- 5.4 A Member enquired if moving to a joint waste collection service in collaboration with district and borough councils would be beneficial. In response the Chairman advised that all district and borough councils were actively encouraged to work together and even though some district and borough councils used the same waste collection provider they had different contract arrangements.
- 5.5 In relation to the inter-authority savings in relation to the AFM and the suggestion of the full budget being reduced immediately, the Panel were informed it was not advisable to reduce this budget in one go as

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this would have an impact on the disposal of recycling for the county.

- 5.6 A Member raised a concern that the Council had set the budget for 2019/20 onwards and only a couple of months later Members have been informed that more savings need to be found. He believed that residents did not want reduced services and therefore the Council should be turning to Government for further grants. The Chairman assured the Panel that the Leadership was constantly liaising with Government to seek extra funding.
- 5.7 A suggestion was for the Council to research how much in contributions were received from developers and enforce more collection from the section 106 agreements as it was not sufficient for the Council's needs. A suggestion was for the County Council to challenge the district and borough council's on the amount of money it received from them in relation to section 106 agreements or through the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 5.8 Another suggestion was for the County Council to review those schools and buildings that had been sitting empty for numerous years and to sell them on or reuse them for new schools etc.

Conclusions:

- 5.9 Members noted and commented upon the financial position and options outlined within the report, as detailed above.

6. INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP) – EVALUATION REPORT AND AMENDED DRAFT IRMP

[Officer Contact: Darryl Keen, Director of Community Protection and Chief Fire Officer Tel:01992 507500]

- 6.1 The Panel received a report requesting it to consider and make comment on the IRMP Evaluation Report, which had been compiled in order to capture the key themes emerging from the formal IRMP consultation process. The Panel were also asked to consider and make comment on the subsequent changes made to the draft IRMP in preparation for submission to Cabinet for final approval.
- 6.2 Members noted that through the consultation process three recommendations were made for improving consultation processes and six recommendations to be considered for the final IRMP.
- 6.3 Members heard although responses to the consultation were supportive, two proposals attracted more attention than the others. These were the crewing of wholetime appliances with a maximum of four firefighters and the proposed trial of alternative vehicles. Officers reiterated they were confident and were content the services would

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remain a good service.

- 6.4 A Member of the opposition group was disappointed that the alternative vehicles and the reduction of fire crews was still within the IRMP as he did not believe it could be achieved without compromising safety. He also raised concern that the Fire Brigades Union has stated there were many fire fighters that were not content with the proposals. He informed the Panel for these reasons he would not be able to support the IRMP. Officers reiterated that crewing with four was common place and with the proposed trial of alternative vehicles there would be additional crewing at Watford for the duration of the trial. The Panel were also informed that the data shows that 80% of incidents could be dealt with by a smaller vehicle but whilst this reinforced the case officers also stated that the service must be prepared for the 20% of occasions when a larger vehicle was required hence the position of having a mixed fleet.
- 6.5 Some Members of the Panel were pleased to see the alternative smaller vehicles would be an addition to the fleet and not a replacement. A Member stated that everyone was concerned about the safety of fire fighters but requested that once the trial had been completed that a report be presented back to Panel to show the impact, if any. Members noted the trial was expected to be for a twelve month period and if significant concerns arose throughout the trial then officers would consider ceasing the trial.
- 6.6 A vote on recommendation 3.2 as detailed in the report was taken, 9 Members voted in favour, 2 Members voted against.

CONCLUSION:

- 6.8 The Cabinet Panel:
1. noted the content of the Evaluation Report and that the recommendations made have now been incorporated into the final draft IRMP.
 2. recommended to Cabinet that Cabinet approve the final draft of the IRMP. Note: 2 Members voted against the recommendation

7. REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS (RIPA): ANNUAL REPORT

[Officer Contact: Judith Gower, Solicitor, Telephone: 01992 556242]

- 7.1 The Panel received a report informing Members of the use of RIPA within the County Council over the past year and to highlight any deviations from policy. The report also informed Members of the changes to the Acquisition and Disclosure of Communications Data from communication service providers brought in by the Investigatory

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Powers Act 2016. The Panel were asked to consider the Council's policies on:

- (a) Directed Surveillance and Covert Human Intelligence Sources;
- (b) The Acquisition and Disclosure of Communications Data from communication service providers and proposed amendments to them; and
- (c) The Use of Social Media in Investigations.

7.2 The report set out details of the use of RIPA in the Council during the period 1 April – 2018 to 31 March 2019. Members were informed of the use of RIPA for Covert Surveillance and also for the Acquisition and disclosure of Communications Data. Members were also informed that the access to information on the content of mobile and internet communication was not allowed to be accessed only to pin point times of use and location.

7.3 The Panel were informed there would be a slight amendment to the Annual Report to reflect the new title of the Senior Authorising Officer within the County Council.

CONCLUSION:

7.4 The Community Safety and Waste Management Cabinet Panel recommended to Cabinet that Cabinet approves the policies on:

- (a) Directed Surveillance and Covert Human Intelligence Sources, attached as Appendix A to the report;
- (b) Acquisition and Disclosure of Communications Data from communication service providers, attached as Appendix B to the report; and
- (c) Use of Social Media in Investigations, attached as Appendix C to the report.

8. HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE CONTRACT UPDATE

[Officer Contact: James Holt, Team Leader Waste Operations & Strategy Tel: 01992 556318]

8.1 The Panel received a report providing an update on the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) service contract further to the 10 September 2018 meeting of this Panel.

8.2 Members noted that the services provided by Amey for the operation of HWRC service was still excellent value for money, being significantly cheaper than comparable services whilst still providing a good level of

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service. However, increased service and recycling performance would require greater investment.

Members heard that meetings had taken place with Amey since September 2018 including a meeting with senior Amey management on 22 May 2019 where officers were informed that the contract was making a loss of approx. £1.4 million per annum. Amey have reiterated their commitment to delivery of the contract but have requested serious consideration and implementation of options to reduce their losses. Members were informed a further update detailing options would be presented to the Panel in November.

- 8.3 Some Members raised concerns regarding the diversion of wood waste from recycling to biomass as, although this would reduce Amey's costs for managing this type of material, it would reduce the overall recycling rate.
- 8.4 Members were made aware that Amey had agreed a managed exit from a number of other contracts and if measures could not be agreed to reduce their costs Amey may seek to do the same with this contract. Members were re-assured that if Amey decided to cease the contract there were a number of options to ensure that the service continued to operate.
- 8.5 Members noted that work with independent consultants on the viability and financial impact of alternative methods of service provision, as detailed in the report, suggested that implementing alternative options would be a pressure of at least £500k per annum on the Council's budget. However, a cross-department project team has been set up to review these costings and identify the difference between the £500k and the £1.4 million losses asserted by Amey.

CONCLUSION:

- 8.6 That the Panel
1. noted the progress to date and endorsed continued work on the easement measures with Amey.
 2. endorsed the parallel work to explore alternative options should negotiations with Amey not reach a mutually agreeable position and/or that any agreement on proposed changes are found to be unlawful.

9. TRADING STANDARDS PARTNERSHIP WITH WHICH? TRUSTED TRADERS

[Officer Contact: Russell Reeder, Community Protection Manager Tel: 01707 292674]

- 9.1 The Panel received a report providing an update on Hertfordshire County Council's trader approval scheme administered by Trading Standards and Which? Trusted Traders.
- 9.2 Members heard there were 277 members in the scheme and it was important for consumers in Hertfordshire to be able to obtain quotes from traders that have been approved. It was noted that schemes such as this raises standards in trades.
- 9.3 A Member agreed it was a great scheme but would like to see more trades involved and more promotion of the scheme. The Chairman agreed there should be more promotion with Members for example cards that can be given out to residents.

CONCLUSION:

- 9.4 That the Cabinet Panel noted the content of the report and the achievements to date in the establishment of the trusted trader scheme in partnership with Which?

10. COMMUNITY PROTECTION DIRECTORATE END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2018/19

[Officer Contact: Darryl Keen, Director of Community Protection and Chief Fire Officer Tel:01992 507500]

- 10.1 The Panel received an end of year report for the financial year 2018/19 for the Community Protection Directorate.
- 10.2 Members heard there had been a slight increase in fires, some of which was linked to the hot and dry weather, and this had impacted on some performances indicators. However, in spite of a national upturn in fires Hertfordshire was tracking below the national average and had seen a fall in the primary and deliberate fire compared to 2017/18. There was an increase in Road Traffic Collisions (RTC's) which contributed to a 18.7% increase in RTC's attended over the past five years. It was noted the Directorate were working to mitigate and reduce these figures alongside road safety partners. Members noted there had been an increase in Safe & Well visits and there was a quick response to calls in relation to Trading Standards Rogue Traders team.
- 10.3 Members agreed it was good to see an increase in performance of

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some indicators but requested that data is presented consistently. A five year trend analysis should be shown where the data exists. Two further requests were received for data to be included in future reports these were:

- the fire attendance times to be broken down by stations
- data on Health & Safety incidents.

Officers explained that the fire attendance data is already reported at district level via the Community Safety Plans which should satisfy the first request. Health and Safety data will be added to future performance reports to the Panel.

CONCLUSION:

- 10.4 That the Cabinet Panel noted the content of the Community Protection Directorate End of Year Performance Report 2018/19 which would be published on the County Council's website.

11. OTHER PART I BUSINESS

- 11.1 None.

*Chris Bigland to
action all*

**QUENTIN BAKER
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER**

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