

Minutes



To: All Members of the Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel, Chief Executive, Chief Officers, All officers named for 'actions'
From: Legal, Democratic & Statutory Services
Ask for: Elaine Manzi
Ext: 28062

RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE CABINET PANEL

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2019 AT 9:30AM

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE PANEL

E H Buckmaster; F Button; H K Crofton; R C Deering (*Vice-Chairman*); S K Jarvis (*substituting for P T Williams*); A J S Mitchell; R Sangster (*Chairman*); R H Smith; S J Taylor; R G Tindall (*substituting for T J Williams*); A D Williams; P M Zukowskyj

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

D Andrews; T L F Douris; N A Hollinghurst

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel meeting 13 December 2019 as circulated, copy annexed, conclusions were reached and are recorded below.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

PART I ('OPEN') BUSINESS

		ACTION
1.	MINUTES	
1.1	The minutes of the Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel held on 24 October 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	
2.	PUBLIC PETITIONS	
2.1	There were no public petitions.	

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS

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3.	<p>CHANGES TO SERVICE MODEL FOR MENTAL HEALTH SOCIAL CARE</p> <p>Officer Contact: Helen Maneuf, Assistant Director Planning and Resources (Tel: 01438 845502)</p>	
3.1	<p>Members considered a report outlining changes to the accommodation service model for people with mental health related needs, proposing that this be delegated to the Hertfordshire Partnership Foundation Trust (HPFT), and that Invest to Transform funding be used to deliver this transformation.</p>	
3.2	<p>The Panel noted that this had also been considered by Adult Care & Health Cabinet Panel at its meeting on 6 November 2019.</p>	
3.3	<p>In response to a Member question, it was clarified that the £3.1m per annum savings would be to the benefit of the Council.</p>	
3.4	<p><u>CONCLUSION</u></p> <p>Members agreed to recommend to Cabinet that Cabinet should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • agree changes to the service model for care and support for people with mental health related needs to introduce the Connected Lives approach and deliver efficiencies of £3.6m per annum by 2023/24. • agree Invest to Transform funding of £1.654m over the three year period 2020/21 to 2022/23 to enable delivery of this transformation. 	
4.	<p>CHANGES TO ADULT CARE SERVICES PROPERTY STRATEGY - PRINCIPLES</p> <p>Officer Contact: Helen Maneuf, Assistant Director Planning and Resources (Tel: 01438 845502)</p>	
4.1	<p>Members considered a report outlining a proposal for transformations to accommodation support for people with mental health problems.</p>	
4.2	<p>The Panel noted that this item should be considered in parallel with the paper discussed at Item 3 of this agenda.</p>	

4.3	In response to a Member challenge the Panel were assured that the challenges outlined at point 5.5 of the report would be addressed through the strategy, and the success of the strategy would be monitored by the HPFT, and through the Policy & Resources Officer Group (PROG) and through regular updates to Executive Members.	
4.4	Further to discussion, Members were interested to learn of the plans to support individuals with dual diagnosis, forensic histories and co-morbid physical health issues, as outlined at the third bullet point at 3.1.2 of the report. Reassurance was received that Adult Care Services were working closely with colleagues in HPFT and other health providers to find an appropriate cross agency solution for individual cases.	
4.5	In response to a Member question, the Panel were advised that officers were also working with district councils in increase awareness of the need for mental health accommodation.	
4.6	A Member comment that funding from the Disabled Facilities Grant could be used to support the strategy was noted, but caution was expressed as to the rules surrounding the dissemination of grant monies.	
4.7	<p>The Panel considered a revised set of recommendations to consider. It was explained that the recommendations had been revised further to additional financial officer consideration.</p> <p>The revised recommendations can be found here: https://democracy.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=283&MId=1474&Ver=4</p>	
4.7	<p><u>CONCLUSION</u></p> <p>Members recommended to Cabinet that Cabinet agree to the revised recommendations as follows:</p> <p>Cabinet authorises officers to proceed with the disposal of mental health properties listed in the section 75 agreement between HPFT and the Council and which have been identified by Property as surplus to requirements, in line with the Council's standing orders;</p> <p>agrees priorities for an investment programme for the new Mental Health Accommodation Programme designed to better facilitate recovery and return to the community.</p> <p>The Mental Health Accommodation Programme would be prioritised as follows:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firstly, purchase of a 14-bed unit in the South West of the County to support the expansion of Intensive Enablement; • Secondly purchase or renovation of suitable properties in the East of the County for mental health provision, or make available grant funding to local housing associations to buy or build supported living in this area; • Thirdly purchase or renovation of suitable properties across the county to meet specific gaps in services for individuals with a dual diagnosis, forensic histories and co-morbid physical health issues; <p>Cabinet agrees that where a property can be re-assigned to other Council services rather than disposed of, that an equivalent allocation of resource back into the mental health property portfolio should be considered and made if necessary; and</p> <p>Cabinet delegates to the Director of Adult Care Services in consultation with the Executive Member for Adult Care and Health, the Director of Resources and the Executive Member for Resources and Performance, the authority to consider and implement this Programme, to approve the terms of acquisitions, grant conditions, grant agreements and tender processes, which offer greater flexibility, improved outcomes and better delivery in line with the Council's standing orders.</p> <p>Cabinet agrees that any surplus capital funds are returned to the council on completion of the investment programme</p>	
5.	<p>TO ADOPT A POLLINATOR STRATEGY AND RURAL ESTATE ACTION PLAN</p> <p>Officer Contact: Matt Roberts, Rural Estate Manager (Tel: 01992 556235)</p>	
5.1	Members considered a report outlining the proposed Hertfordshire Pollinator Strategy and Rural Estate Pollinator Action Plan.	
5.2	Members broadly expressed their support for the strategy and action plan.	
5.3	In response to a Member question, it was clarified that the strategy presented was an overarching strategy and individual departments would be responsible for creating and executing their own department action plans to meet the requirements of the strategy.	

5.4	Members were interested to learn that there were current trials of restricting grass cutting on verges by the Highways Department in more rural areas of the county. It was noted that following an assessment of the results a decision to roll this out across the county would be taken, however, Members noted that this may be more challenging to be implemented in urban areas given the different expectations of residents regarding the appearance of grass verges in a built-up area.	
5.5	Further to discussion, it was agreed that officers would consider methods of how to encourage departments communicate their individual strategies and plans more widely to Hertfordshire residents.	Matt Roberts
5.6	In response to a Member suggestion, officers confirmed that the Council were in contact with the bee keeping association, however did not have budget capacity to fund apiaries. It was suggested that Members interested in providing these in their areas consider using funding from their locality budgets to implement this.	All Members
5.7	In response to Member discussion regarding the varying species of plants, trees and bees were available and what would be the best to promote pollination, Members were advised that this should be for the consideration and decision of individual departments working in line with the objectives of the Council's current climate strategy and Sustainable Hertfordshire strategy.	
5.8	It was further noted that the task of reviewing the success of action plans would be the responsibility of the individual departments. Members were pleased to note that the need to review the plan was outlined in the Rural Estates department's own action plan.	
5.9	In response to a Member challenge regarding the removal of Ragwort from the council's highways, and ensuring that highway safety remained paramount, it was noted that these issues should be raised with Highways officers to ensure that these were included in the department's individual action plan.	Ken Crofton
5.10	<p>CONCLUSION:</p> <p>The Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel recommended to Cabinet that it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve the Hertfordshire Pollinator Strategy - Approve the Rural Estates Action Plan. 	

6.	<p>TO ADOPT A POLICY BANNING THE RELEASE OF SKY LANTERNS AND BALLOONS FROM COUNTY COUNCIL LAND AND PROPERTY</p> <p>Officer Contact: Matt Roberts, Rural Estate Manager (Tel: 01992 556235)</p>	
6.1	Members considered a report outlining the proposed policy of banning the release of sky/floating lanterns and balloons from Council owned and controlled land.	
6.2	In response to a Member challenge, it was agreed that the equalities statement attached to the report should be updated to state that consideration had been given to religious or other groups within the community who traditionally used sky lanterns and balloons as part of their celebrations. Members were advised that during consultation such uses by these groups had not been identified as taking place on Council land or property.	
6.3	Further to a Member suggestion, it was agreed that consideration would be made to making the banning of sky lantern and balloon policy a condition for all new and renewed leases for council property.	Matt Roberts
6.4	In response to a Member question, it was confirmed that the policy would only apply to party style balloons and not hot air balloons, scientific or meteorological balloons.	
6.5	It was confirmed that the policy would mean the banning of balloon charity releases or races from council owned land or property.	
6.6	<p>CONCLUSION:</p> <p>Members recommended that Cabinet approve the policy to ban the intentional release of sky lanterns and balloons from land or property owned or controlled by the Council.</p>	
7.	<p>TO ENDORSE THE NEW ENERGY STRATEGY FOR HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</p> <p>Officer Contact: James Heslam Senior Facilities Manager (Hard FM & Energy), David O'Connor Energy Manager (Tel: 01992 556147)</p>	
7.1	Members received a report outlining the Council's new Energy Strategy.	

7.2	Further to a Member challenge, it was confirmed that the Council had been working closely with the District Councils within the county to formulate the strategy and work on methods for implementation. It was agreed that a section within the strategy should be added to reflect this.	James Heslem/David O'Connor
7.3	Further to discussion, it was agreed that consideration would be made to working with schools to encourage them to adopt and implement the Energy Strategy.	James Heslem/David O'Connor
7.4	Members also discussed the possibility of ensuring that new estates within the county were sustainably built. It was noted that this would be addressed through the Sustainable Herts strategy and each development would need a cost benefit analysis.	
7.5	Further to a Member comment, it was agreed that consideration would be made to rewording the text contained within 3.0 of the strategy to enhance clarity.	
7.6	CONCLUSION: Members noted the report and recommended that Cabinet approve the Energy Strategy as outlined at Appendix 1 of the report.	
8.	TO CONSIDER THE VIABILITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ENERGY GENERATION PROJECT IN HERTFORDSHIRE Officer Contact: James Heslam Senior Facilities Manager (Hard FM & Energy), David O'Connor Energy Manager (Tel: 01992 556147)	
8.1	Members considered a report outlining a proposal to install a 22-megawatt solar photovoltaic farm with battery storage at Small ford Pit. The proposal also included a prospective initial payment of £50,000 to the UK Power Network to secure grid availability.	
8.2	Further to discussion, Members queried the 13-year payback period, and whether this was reasonable. In response it was outlined that you should not look simply at payback period, but rather a detailed year by year model would be developed at the next stage. This would outline the net revenue generated for every year of the project.	
8.3	Members were assured that should the initial project viability be agreed by Cabinet, and the grid availability be secured, then a further paper including a detailed financial model, would be shared with Members.	James Heslam/David O'Connor

**CHAIRMAN'S
INITIALS**

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8.4	The Panel were pleased to learn, that initial consultation responses indicated that local residents supported the project.	
	<p>CONCLUSION:</p> <p>Cabinet Panel noted the report and recommended to Cabinet that Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree that officers explore a 22 Mega Watt (MW) solar Photovoltaic (PV) farm with Battery Storage development at Small ford Pit and completion of Step 1 & 2 (as outlined in paragraphs 4.9 and 4.10); • approve the initial payment of £50,000 to UKPN by 24 December 2019 to secure grid offer; and • recommend that the Council continue to explore renewable and other distributed generation projects to support carbon mitigation and revenue generation opportunities across Hertfordshire. 	
9.	<p>FINANCE BUDGET MONITOR - QUARTER 2</p> <p>Officer Contact: Steven Pilsworth, Assistant Director – Finance (Tel: 01992 555737)</p>	
	<p>Admin note: In order to promote efficient management of the meeting, and at direction from the Chairman, Members considered this item after Items 10 and 11 on the agenda.</p>	
9.1	Members considered Quarter 2 Budget Monitor report which summarising the 2019/20 position against revenue and capital budgets and highlights key areas of risk to prompt the discussion for actions to be taken.	
9.2	<p>CONCLUSION:</p> <p>That the Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel recommended to Cabinet that it approve the proposed Capital Reprogramming of £7.092m outlined in Section 1.3 of the Budget Monitor Report and detailed further in Section 3 and Appendix B of the Budget Monitor Report.</p> <p>That the Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel recommended to Cabinet that an increase of £85k is approved to facilitate additional special school places at Colnbrook Special School as outlined in Section 3.7 of the Budget Monitor Report.</p>	

10.	<p>TO APPROPRIATE STRATEGIC GROWTH AND PLANNING SITES IN HERTFORDSHIRE TO BE HELD FOR PLANNING PURPOSES AND SURPLUS ASSETS</p> <p>Officer Contact: Sass Pledger - Assistant Director (Property) Emma Chapman Principal Rural Estates Officer</p>	
10.1	Members considered a report outlining a proposed change to the statutory purpose for which parts of the Smallholding Estate are held to Planning Purposes or Surplus Assets, pursuant to Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972.	
10.2	Prior to discussing the recommendations outlined in Part I, Members considered and discussed the Part II report providing more detailed information on the planned change before returning to the Part I report.	
	<p>CONCLUSION</p> <p>Panel recommended to Cabinet that Cabinet :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) approve that the Smallholdings assets listed at Appendix 1 are declared as no longer required to be held under the Smallholdings Act and appropriated to being held for Planning Purposes. ii) approve that the Smallholdings assets listed at Appendix 2 are declared as no longer required to be held under the Smallholdings Act and appropriated to being held as Surplus Assets. iii) Delegate to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Executive Member for Resources and Performance, authority to explore a policy of reinvestment in the remaining Estate and an acquisitions programme to seek to buy additional Smallholdings Land. 	
11.	<p>TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF LAND AT LONDON ROAD, BISHOPS STORTFORD</p> <p>Officer Contact: Dick Bowler, Special Projects Officer (01992 556223) Kate Ma, Senior School Planning Officer (01992 555858)</p>	
11.1	Members considered a report outlining proposals for the acquisition and disposal of land and the updated financial implications for the scheme relating to the relocation and expansion of Bishop's Stortford High School.	

11.2	Prior to discussing the recommendations outlined in Part I, Members considered and discussed the Part II report providing more detailed information on the proposals before returning to the Part I report.	
11.3	In response to a Member question, it was confirmed that the planning had been twin tracked with Bishop Stortford Town Council's own planning and development schemes.	
	<p>CONCLUSION</p> <p>Members recommend to Cabinet:</p> <p>That Cabinet authorise that land at The Bishop's Stortford High School, shown marked by red hatch and cross hatch on the plan at Appendix 1 be acquired and that the land shown by blue hatch at Thorley Hill Primary School on that plan be sold, both transactions on terms to be approved by the Director of Resources in consultation with the Executive Member for Resources and Performance;</p> <p>That Cabinet agree the revised estimates for the scheme, as contained within the Part II report;</p> <p>and</p> <p>That Cabinet recommend the County Council include in the Integrated Plan capital provision to enable construction and use of the off-site infrastructure within the Bishop's Stortford South development area to enable relocation and operation of The Bishop's Stortford High School.</p>	

QUENTIN BAKER
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

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