

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET
MONDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 2.00PM**

**COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2019 AT 10.00AM**

Cabinet
Agenda Item No.

4(i)

County Council
Agenda Item No.

6A(i)

**COMMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE COUNCIL'S CABINET PANELS ON
THE INTEGRATED PLAN 2019/20 – 2022/23**

Report of the Interim Director of Resources

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Executive Member: Ralph Sangster, Resources & Performance

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To inform Members of the comments and conclusions of the County Council's Cabinet Panels on the draft Integrated Plan 2019/20 – 2022/23.

2. Summary and Background

2.1.1 As part of the Integrated Planning Process each of the County Council's service Cabinet Panels met during early February 2019 to consider the integrated plan 2019/20 – 2022/23.

2.1.2 At its meeting on 15 February 2019, the Resources & Performance Cabinet Panel considered the Integrated Plan for 2019/20 – 2022/23, the comments of the service Cabinet Panels, and the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on its scrutiny of the IP proposals (the Committee's report is attached as item 4(ii) of the Cabinet agenda / item 6A(ii) of the Council agenda).

2.1.3 The relevant extracts from the minutes of the service cabinet panels' meetings, together with their conclusions, are attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1.1 That the report be noted and that the comments and conclusions of the Council's Cabinet Panels be taken into account by Cabinet and County Council in their consideration of the Integrated Plan 2019/20 – 2022/23.
- 3.1.2 Cabinet's recommendations to Council will be considered by County Council on 19 February 2019.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The financial implications of the Integrated Plan proposals are as set out in the report at item 4(iii) of the Cabinet agenda and item 5A(i) of the Council agenda.

Background Information

Minutes of:-

- Adult Care & Health Cabinet Panel
- Growth, Infrastructure, Planning & the Economy Cabinet Panel
- Education, Libraries & Localism Cabinet Panel
- Public Health & Prevention Cabinet Panel
- Highways & Environment Cabinet Panel
- Children's, Young People & Families Cabinet Panel
- Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel
- Resources & Performance Cabinet Panel

INTEGRATED PLANNING PROCESS 2019/20 - 2022/23: COMMENTS FROM SERVICE CABINET PANELS

1. Adult Care and Health Cabinet Panel (4 February 2019)

It was noted that all Members who had a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they have been appointed by the County Council, had received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members had been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

S Gordon - by virtue of her having a beneficial freehold interest in the premises of her former veterinary practice and contiguous land lying south of Tilekiln Farm, Standon Road, Little Hadham. She had been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee to participate, debate and vote in business in which this Disclosable Pecuniary Interest is mentioned provided that the business to be considered did not directly affect her financial position; which she considered it did not.

Declarable Interests:

The following Members declared Declarable Interests under the County Council's Code of Conduct for Members:-

E H Buckmaster – 1) as he is a Board Member of the Hailey Centre in Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth, which receives funding from Hertfordshire County Council towards its operational costs 2) his wife is Chairman of Bullfields, Sawbridgeworth Young Peoples Recreation Centre, which is booked by YC for sessions and she is a volunteer at Sawbridgeworth Library and 3) his daughter works at Bishops Stortford Library.

F Button as she is a trustee of Watford Workshop

D J Hewitt- as he is a trustee CHEXS Charity, Cheshunt

F R G Hill – as she is the Chairman of the Royston and Buntingford Children's Centre Group which receives funding from the County Council and she is the Council's representative on the Old Barn Day Centre which receives funding from the County Council.

T Howard as she is the Director of CAD (Community Action

Dacorum)

R M Roberts as he is a trustee of Community Action Dacorum.

R G Tindall as he is a trustee of the Hertfordshire Live Domestic Abuse Helpline and on the management committee of the Dacorum Educational Support Centre.

Members were presented with a brief overview of the full structure and detail of the council's Integrated Plan for 2019/20 -2022/23 (IP Plan) before discussing the detail of the section pertaining to Adult Care & Health.

The Panel were advised that the key priorities and programmes outlined in the Adult Care & Health Portfolio reflected discussions and papers that had been presented to panel in the previous year, including the risk presented by care provider failure, as most recently experienced with the collapse of Allied Healthcare.

It was highlighted to Members that the paper also detailed the one-off grants for Social Care including the Winter Pressures payment for 2019/20 received as a result of the government's Autumn budget, and it also acknowledged the level of uncertainty surrounding the outcomes of the government's green paper on the future of social care.

During discussion, Members discussed the charts outlining the comparative local authority expenditure for younger adults and older adults.

In response to Member challenge it was advised that although the chart detailed that Hertfordshire had very high spend in comparison to its peers in relation to expenditure on younger adults with learning disabilities, the data in the report had been produced in 2016, and since that time intensive work had been undertaken to reduce expenditure through initiatives such as the creation of the 0-25 team, and transformation and commissioning projects aimed to reduce spend. Members were further advised that the chart outlined budget rather than actual spend, and although the budget figures were lower for other authorities some had actually overspent in this area, so actual final spend was on more of a par with Hertfordshire than detailed.

In relation to low expenditure for older adults it was noted that this was an area where Hertfordshire had worked hard to reduce costs, and although the comparative report indicated that other authorities had higher budgets in this area, since the report was published it was likely that neighbouring authorities had been required to reduce their costs in this area, and would now also be on par with Hertfordshire.

Further to comments from the Panel it was agreed that consideration would be made to commissioning an updated comparison report prior to the IP discussions in 2020.

In response to a Member suggestion, it was also agreed that consideration would also be made to undertaking a direct comparative analysis and discussions with

Cambridgeshire council, who were unusual as a county council, in having relatively low expenditure on learning disabilities. The general pattern is that unitary councils which have increased influence over housing are able to achieve comparatively higher levels of value for money in this area.

Members were interested to learn about the council's plans to work with care providers to create a Nursing Associate Apprenticeship to attract a wider range of people into the workforce. It was noted that there was no indication from the NHS that the bursary scheme for Nurses was going to be re-introduced.

In response to Member concerns about nursing homes not accepting Local Authority rates for staffing, assurance was received that the strategy was to target financial support differentially towards nursing providers rather than providers of residential care which was somewhat easier for the council to procure. It was acknowledged that nursing homes increasingly required trained nursing staff due to the increased average age and level of physical and mental need of residents, and this was an area that the Director was highlighting at STP level.

It was highlighted that appropriate housing placements were one of the key priorities for the council in the forthcoming financial year, and that funding from the Invest to Transform budget was being used to drive forward the council's ambitions in this area, as set out in the Supported Accommodation Strategy.

Members noted that monies from the Improved Better Care Fund were in their final year of the funding stream, and in response to Member concern, assurance was received that provision was being made to ensure funding was available to continue essential projects, but also to conclude less essential projects should alternative funding not be sourced.

Further to discussion, the Panel received assurance that continued collaborative discussions and work would be undertaken with health commissioners and providers through forums such as the Health & Wellbeing Board to continue to provide options and solutions for the best outcomes for residents and patients within Hertfordshire.

On examining the savings outlined in the budget, Opposition Members expressed concerns with the budget proposals overall, but particularly the regarding the intent to make savings in the following areas: EE13- Reduce grants to voluntary organisations, and EE15- Reduction of central teams.

Members received explanation that in relation to EE13, the savings would be achieved through reducing the budget to meet the figure achieved by the underspend that had already occurred in this budget allocation.

Member challenge that the underspend should be reinvested into other projects instead of being cut completely was noted.

In relation to EE15, assurance was received that there would be no compulsory redundancies made to achieve the target. Instead as staff vacancies occurred,

careful consideration would be made on a case by case basis as to whether the vacant position should be readvertised, or if an essential post, could potentially be funded by grant funding.

Members discussed the risks associated variable grant income streams, and in response to a Member request, it was agreed that a summary of these would be provided to Members in order to enhance clarity and knowledge.

The Panel considered the Capital Programme and in response to Member challenge regarding the possibility of merging specific budgets in this area, the differences between A5 Community Transport and A6 Dial a Ride Vehicle Replacement Programme was explained and acknowledged.

Further to continued discussion and debate, the Chairman invited Members to a vote on the agreement of the budget proposals. The vote was proposed by E Buckmaster and seconded by S Gordon.

Further to a vote by a show of hands eight Members voted in favour of the budget and five Members abstained.

Conclusion:

Members commented to Cabinet on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Adult Care & Health portfolio.

The Panel identified issues that it felt that Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

Further to a vote by a show of hands five Opposition Members abstained from agreeing to the overall budget proposals, but particularly in relation to savings identified in EE13 and EE15.

Panel recommends to Cabinet that the Integrated Plan, in respect of Adult Care and Health, is approved noting the minuted comments from panel.

2. Growth, Infrastructure, Planning & the Economy Cabinet Panel (6 February 2019)

All Members who have a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they have been appointed by the County Council, have received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members have been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial

interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

D A Ashley – 1) as he receives an allowance from the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority and 2) as he is Chairman of Hitchin Educational Foundation, a charity which derives part of its income from leasing a property to the County Council; and he is a Board member of Groundwork which derives part of its income from the County Council.

M A Watkin – by virtue of his wife being employed as a part-time teacher in the music service in Hertfordshire. He had been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee to participate, debate and vote in business in which this Disclosable Pecuniary Interest is mentioned provided that the business to be considered did not directly affect his financial position or that of his wife; which he considered it did not.

Declarable Interest

S Boulton as he is a Member of Welwyn Hatfield Council

The Panel received a report highlighting the areas of the Integrated Plan which related to Growth, Infrastructure, Planning & The Economy in order for Panel to consider these and provide comment on.

Members were informed of the proposed changes to the budgets which included funding for a new Growth & Infrastructure team, charging for planning advisory work and a £5 increase to the price of the Savercard. The Savercard charge was originally deferred from the proposed IP savings in 2018/19 until 2019/20. It was noted the proposed increase to the Savercard would bring income for the county council of £30k in 2019/20 and £60k thereafter.

Some Members believed that given the ambition for modal-shift, the Savercard should be free of charge or the proposed increase of £5 should be deferred as the income would be relatively small to the county council. It was noted the travel card in London was free to young people and pensioners. Some Members also believed that the county council should be looking at subsidies to bus companies and encouraging the use of bus services. It was also noted that the price of the Savercard had not been increased for a number of years and that charges the council makes should generally keep pace with inflation and even after any increase the Savercard offer was still very strong.

Members noted a report in relation to the draft Intalink Bus Strategy would be presented to the March meeting of the Cabinet Panel which would inform Members of the proposed improvements to bus services which hoped to encourage better usage.

Following discussion a motion was proposed by the Liberal Democrat Group to defer the increase of £5 to the Savercard. Following a vote by a show of hands seven Members voted in favour of the increase and five Members voted against the increase.

Therefore the vote was lost.

Following further discussion a motion was raised by the Labour Group to make the Savercard free of charge. Following a vote by show of hands five Members voted in favour of no charge to the Savercard and seven Members voted against no charge. Therefore the vote was lost.

The Chairman invited Members to a vote on the agreement of the budget proposals. Following a vote by a show of hands seven Members voted in favour of the budget proposals and five Members abstained.

Conclusions:

The Panel commented and supported the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy and identified any issues that it felt that Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

3. Education, Libraries & Localism Cabinet Panel (7 February 2019)

It was noted that all Members who had a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they have been appointed by the County Council, had received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members had been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

M A Watkin – by virtue of his wife being employed as a part-time teacher in the music service in Hertfordshire. He has been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee to participate, debate and vote in business in which this Disclosable Pecuniary Interest is mentioned provided that the business to be considered does not directly affect his financial position or that of his wife.

Declarable Interests:

T L F Douris – as he is a trustee of the Hertfordshire Community Foundation which contracts with the County Council for the delivery of training and also for the distribution of the Hertfordshire Community Funds scheme.

Members were presented with an overview of the full structure and detail of the County Council's Integrated Plan for 2019/20 -2022/23 before discussing the detail of the section relating to Education, Libraries and Localism. Members were provided with an updated copy of the Overview and Scrutiny Risk Manager which detailed a further risk for libraries: 'A successful bidder for the Library Service will need to meet the requirement for a £500k saving, as stated in the IP. An organisation with charitable status could achieve savings through avoidance of business rates, however an organisation without charitable status would need to find the savings through alternative mechanisms.

Members commented on the saving from the reduced demand on mainstream home to school transport as identified on page 116 of the integrated plan. Officers advised that this should be differentiated from Home to School Transport for Special Educational Needs (SEN) Students. Members heard that over recent years more local primary school spaces had opened up and therefore not as many pupils were placed remotely, in turn reducing the amount of transport required. Members queried if the reduction in transport was related to more parents driving their children to school and officers advised that whilst they could not confirm if this was the case, there was clear reduction in the number of children that were entitled to Home to School Transport. Officers also advised that a policy change to remove the entitlement for escorts for key stage 1 children created savings. Officers would provide a written summary of efficiencies to Members.

Members discussed SEN transport and whether there was a more economical way of providing the service. Officers advised that this was a shared area between Children's Services and Environment but that there was a new Integrated Transport Manager who would be reviewing the current service.

Members commented on the procurement of an alternative provider for Hertfordshire Libraries and it was noted that an update report was to be brought to Panel in Summer 2019.

The Panel commented on Heritage and Archives (page 116 of the integrated plan) and queried what other funding streams were being considered for efficiencies. Officers advised that it was anticipated that the efficiency would come from moving to a new archive building which would see some staff efficiencies and further digitalisation. Members noted that Heritage and Archives did not currently form part of the library service procurement.

Members expressed concern around becoming more reliant on business rates reduction and noted that should the concession be rescinded in the future it would cause challenges. Officers agreed that any future changes would be a cause for concern but noted that any change would also have an impact on other large organisations/charities.

The Panel considered the public engagement on the integrated plan and noted that it was good to see an increase in the amount of public engagement.

Conclusions:

The Panel commented on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Education, Libraries and Localism.

The Panel identified issues that it felt that the Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

4. Public Health & Prevention Cabinet Panel (8 February 2019)

The Panel received a report highlighting the areas of the Integrated Plan relating to Public Health and Prevention to enable Members to consider and comment upon these.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It was noted that all Members who had a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the county council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they had been appointed by the county council, had received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members had been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the county council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

The following Members declared Declarable Interests under the county council's Code of Conduct for Members:-

S Gordon - by virtue of her having a beneficial freehold interest in the premises of her former veterinary practice and contiguous land lying south of Tilekiln Farm, Standon Road, Little Hadham. She had been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee to participate, debate and vote in business in which this Disclosable Pecuniary Interest is mentioned provided that the business to be considered did not directly affect her financial position; which she considered it did not.

M B J Mills-Bishop – by virtue of his wife being employed as a teacher in Hertfordshire. He had been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee to participate, debate and vote in business in which this Disclosable Pecuniary Interest is mentioned provided that the business to be considered did not directly affect his financial position or that of his wife; which he considered it did not.

S Gordon and M B J Mills-Bishop remained in the room and participated in the vote.

Members heard that PH had factored into its proposals the government's anticipated reduction of £23.7m in government grants between 2018/19 and 2019/20, including cuts to the ring-fenced Public Health grant. Further to this,

scrutiny of the Integrated Plan in 2018 had identified the principle of savings and the priorities and methodology had subsequently come before the panel; this was due for updating and would be brought again before the panel. Officers highlighted the uncertainty on the funding expected after 2020 since all funding announcements were for one year only.

Members commented that scrutiny of NHS outcomes across Hertfordshire, in particular primary care, and outcomes between the NHS and PH would be a valuable exercise in highlighting both their mutual dependency for outcomes and the efficacy of Hertfordshire County Council's PH activities. It would also help to emphasise to the NHS and County Council the value of investment in Public Health and strengthen the case for maintaining it. The chairman agreed that a 2016 report demonstrating how Public Health priorities are determined would be updated and brought before the next panel.

Members suggested that, in view of the £1.253m in funding cuts to the net PH budget for 2019/20 and the benefits accruing to the NHS and Social Care from the county's PH Prevention Activities and outcomes, consideration should be given to injecting additional funding into PH from other sources. Further to this, as the PH grant was ring fenced only until 2021 the case for funding of health prevention must be made.

Noting that carers of elderly people with dementia saved the NHS and Social Services large amounts of money, Members requested a report on the issue as the carers themselves often developed mental health issues.

Conclusions:

1. The Panel commented to Cabinet, as per 4.4 and 4.5 above on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Public Health and Prevention.
2. The Panel identified, as per 4.4 and 4.5 above, issues that it felt Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

5. Highways & Environment Cabinet Panel (12 February 2019)

The Panel received a report which highlighted the areas of the Integrated Plan (IP) relating to the Highways and Environment (H&E) portfolio to enable Members to consider these and provide comment.

Members' attention was drawn to a typographical error i.e. 'Ref EE37 and Ref EE39' in relation to SaverCard savings in the table of Key Budget Movements 2019/20-2022/23 which should have been in the Growth, Infrastructure, Planning & the Economy portfolio.

Officers highlighted the savings from the ongoing programme of conversion of street lighting illumination to LED. These lights use much less energy and so contributed to significant savings.

In relation to review of the LED street lighting illumination strategy with respect to further potential savings by reduction of lighting levels between 05.00 and 06.00 to enable lighting to remain on until 02.00, Members heard that LED conversion was projected for completion in March 2020, after which it would be possible to consider feedback and review the PNL strategy.

Members who had concerns about lights in their division that hadn't been converted in the LED rollout were requested to contact officers.

During discussion of key pressures and challenges, officers clarified that there is an on-going risk to income currently received from driver offender retraining (mainly speed awareness) courses. Members noted that reduction in this income could impact road safety preventative activity.

Members requested that officers bring a report back to panel if external factors impacted this area of service provision.

During discussion of key budget movements ('Ref NE7'-Road Safety) officers clarified that a minor review of the teams had identified efficiencies and enabled staff numbers to be reduced by one without impacting services.

Conclusion:

1. The Panel commented to Cabinet on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Highways and Environment.
2. As outlined above, the Panel identified issues that it felt that Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

6. Children, Young People & Families Cabinet Panel (13 February 2019)

All Members who have a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body to whom they have been appointed by the County Council, have received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members have been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

M A Watkin – by virtue of his wife being employed as a part-time teacher in the music service in Hertfordshire. He had been granted a dispensation by the Standards Committee to participate, debate and vote in business in which this Disclosable

Pecuniary Interest is mentioned provided that the business to be considered did not directly affect his financial position or that of his wife; which he considered it did not.

Declarable Interest

T C Heritage – as she is a member of the Oaklands Corporation (the Further Education College) which derives part of its income from funds received from the County Council.

The Panel received a report highlighting the areas of the Integrated Plan which related to Children, Young People & Families order for Panel to consider these and provide comment on.

Members noted that Children's Services had not been asked to make any major savings this year given the 2 year savings programme introduced to YC Herts in 18/19. Members were also informed of the demographic pressure in relation to Children Looked After.

In response to a question about capacity within Hertfordshire for the Council to provide more residential care for young people, the Panel was informed that a former children's residential home was being recommissioned for older young people with learning difficulties and was to be run by an external provider. The Panel was also informed that the service was considering the development of a further two children's homes in the County, which would be commissioned by the Council.

In relation to the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Transformation Members noted that it was early days for the project and the Council was working closely with partners including schools, families, carers and health colleagues in the development of work going forward.

In response to a Member query officers confirmed that the savings relating to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children could be met.

Conclusion:

The Panel:

- 1 commented to Cabinet on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Children, Young People and Families.
- 2 identified issues that it felt that the Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

7. Community Safety & Waste Management Cabinet Panel (14 February 2019)

It was noted that all Members who had a disclosable pecuniary interest arising from an allowance from the County Council, another local authority in Hertfordshire, or a body

to whom they have been appointed by the County Council, had received a dispensation to allow them to participate in debate and vote on the Integrated Plan.

All Members had been granted a dispensation to participate in debate and vote in any business of the County Council relating to setting the council tax or precept when they would otherwise be prevented from doing so in consequence of having a beneficial interest in land which is within the administrative area of Hertfordshire or a licence (alone or jointly) to occupy such land.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

No Member disclosed a pecuniary interest.

Declarable Interests:

F R G Hill – as she is the Chairman of the Royston and Buntingford Children’s Centre Group which receives funding from the County Council and she is the Council’s representative on the Old Barn Day Centre which receives funding from the County Council

Members were presented with a brief overview of the Integrated Plan for 2019/20 - 2022/23 (IP Plan) and were invited to consider the section pertaining to Community Safety and Waste Management.

The Panel were reminded that the IP Plan had been discussed in detail at the recent Overview & Scrutiny Committee, where two recommendations had been identified as follows:

1. That the function of the Alternative Financial Model is kept under review to ensure that it incentivises the district and borough councils to invest in waste management services that support the government’s environmental aspirations and that is used for that purpose.
2. Issues with on-call staff need to be addressed as a priority if the Community Protection Fire & Rescue Service is to maintain attendance and budget targets. Members perceived plans to target stay-at-home parents for recruitment as on call staff as ‘optimistic’.

Members received assurance that strategies and options were being considered, or already being undertaken, by the relevant teams to address the requirements identified in the recommendations.

The Chairman confirmed with Members that any individual queries arising as a result of the discussions at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee had been discussed and satisfactorily answered outside of the formal meeting setting.

In response to the Chairman’s invitation, Members confirmed that they had no further comment to make on the proposals outlined in the Integrated Plan in relation to Community Safety and Waste Management.

Conclusion:

Panel were invited to note and comment on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Community Safety and Waste Management. Panel made no further comment.

Panel were invited to identify any issues it felt Cabinet Panel should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals. Panel raised no issues.

Panel recommended to Cabinet that the Integrated Plan, in respect of Community Safety & Waste Management, was approved.

8. Resources & Performance Cabinet Panel (15 February 2019)

The Panel received the County Council's draft Integrated Plan (IP) for 2019/20 – 2022/23 and was invited to comment to Cabinet on its content and proposals, including the areas which related specifically to Resources and Performance portfolio. Prior to the meeting Members had received and considered the following documents: (i) a report containing the headline outcomes of public engagement and consultation in relation to the Plan; (ii) the Integrated Plan, including a report on those areas specifically related to Resources and Performance functions; (iii) comments from service Cabinet Panels, where those aspects of the Plan relating to individual services had been considered and discussed; (iv) comments from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, following scrutiny of the Plan on 23 January 2019, where evidence was gathered, and on 31 January 2019 when it agreed its comments and suggestions for Cabinet's consideration.

Public Engagement and Consultation

Members noted the Public Consultation Document, which outlined the results of the public engagement and consultation regarding the Council's budget and spending priorities for 2019/20 and beyond.

Integrated Plan 2019/20 – 2022/23

Members considered the reports published in relation to the Integrated Plan and officers provided a headline overview.

Members noted that paragraph 4.10 of item 3, which detailed the outcomes of the Overview and Scrutiny for the Resources and Performance portfolio, should have read the same as paragraph 3.12 of item 3 (iv) as detailed below:

Portfolios need to invest in workforce skills and expertise to ensure:

1. That the future savings required can be achieved through the necessary transformational work and
2. Strong governance of all the trading companies is in place

Members noted that confirmed final positions would be provided by update to Cabinet.

The Panel noted they key priorities for the Resources and Performance Portfolio as set out at 4.6 alongside additional important issues detailed at 4.8 of the report.

INTEGRATED PLANNING PROCESS 2019/20 - 2022/23: COMMENTS FROM SERVICE CABINET PANELS

The Cabinet Panel considered a report which outlined comments from each of the service Cabinet Panels.

Opposition Members noted the following concerns with regards to the service Cabinet Panels comments and the Integrated Plan:

Adult Care and Health Portfolio:

- The vulnerability of care providers in Hertfordshire
- Recruitment, retention and pay of Adult Care Staff
- The impact that the historic withdrawal of supporting people funding and associated activity was continuing to have on districts/boroughs in Hertfordshire.

- Growth, Infrastructure, Planning and the Economy Portfolio:
- The apparent inconsistency of the aims of policies against budget proposals e.g. LTP4 supporting modal shift versus and an increased cost in the Savercard.

Public Health and Prevention Portfolio:

- The reduction in budget and the effect this would have on intervention services although it was also noted that the budget reduction was a reflection of the reduced funding for public health to be received from government.

Highways and Environment Portfolio:

- The IP did not expand the use of Highways Locality Budget to manage localised issues e.g. street lighting at night.

Children, Young People and Families Portfolio:

- The IP did not exempt Care Leavers from Council Tax payments as had been previously raised.
- More investment into Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) would be beneficial.

Community Safety and Waste Management Portfolio:

- The closure of Household Waste Recycling Centres and the increase in fly tipping.
- The consideration of recruiting stay-at-home parents as on call staff for the fire service.

Officers advised that the Executive Member for Community Safety and Waste Management provided a response around fire service recruitment and that this could be provided to Members for clarity. It was noted that stay-at-home parents was only one area being considered to diversify recruits.

SCRUTINY OF THE INTEGRATED PLAN PROPOSALS 2019/20 – 2022/23

The Panel acknowledged a report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which detailed the evidence gathered by the eight portfolio groups with recommendations to Cabinet on the draft Integrated Plan.

Members commented on the concern listed for older people in the Adult Care and Health Portfolio observation. Officers advised that a written response would confirm if the concern was regarding the proportion of self-funders or whether the concern was that this figure may fluctuate.

Members commented on the Resources and Performance portfolio observation and advised that Members were not concerned about the growing number of incorporated entities but that Members were interested in these and ensuring that the correct robust governance arrangements were in place.

Members noted that the IP recommendation for Highways detailed at 3.9 of 3(iv), did not fully cover the discussion which had taken place at the scrutiny. Members felt that a change of policy to allow for local flexibility in suitable locations should be considered.

Conclusion

The Panel commented to Cabinet on the proposals relating to the Integrated Plan in respect of Resources and Performance.

The Panel is also asked to identify any issues that it feels that the Cabinet should consider in finalising the Integrated Plan proposals.

It was noted that the Liberal Democrat group and the Labour group abstained from the vote on the recommendations set out in the paper.