

CABINET MINUTES	<i>Gloucestershire County Council</i>
15 November 2017	

PRESENT

Cllr Mark Hawthorne MBE	-	Leader of Council
Cllr Richard Boyles	-	Children and Young People
Cllr Tim Harman	-	Public Health and communities
Cllr Nigel Moor	-	Fire, Planning and Infrastructure
Cllr Vernon Smith	-	Highways and Flood
Cllr Lynden Stowe	-	Economy, Skills and Growth
Cllr Ray Theodoulou	-	Finance and Change
Cllr Kathy Williams	-	Adult Social Care Commissioning
Cllr Roger Wilson	-	Adult Social care Delivery

1. Apologies

There were no apologies at the meeting.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2017 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

4. Questions at Cabinet Meetings

A total of 11 member questions were submitted in advance of the meeting.

The following supplementary questions were asked at the meeting.

Question 1: Cllr Iain Dobie

Agenda item 8: Financial Monitoring Report 2017-18 (pages 47 to 68 of the agenda pack)

Cllr Dobie asked whether 'consistently investing in supporting people with learning disabilities' meant cuts of £4 million in the last two years and £7 million since 2014-15?

Cllr Kathy Williams stated that the Council continued to invest in services for people with learning disabilities. She referred to the employment programme to get people with learning disabilities into work.

Question 2: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson

Agenda item 8: Financial Monitoring Report 2017-18 (pages 47 to 68 of the agenda pack)

Cllr Hodgkinson asked what contingencies were being built in to the budget if the Adult Social Care Support Grant of £1.541 million was a one-off?

Cllr Roger Wilson explained that the Council's budget for 2018-19 was currently being put together and careful consideration was being given to the level of funding required in future years.

Question 3: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson

Agenda item 8: Financial Monitoring Report 2017-18 (pages 47 to 68 of the agenda pack)

Cllr Hodgkinson asked what increase in funding the Cabinet Member thought was required for Adult Social Care given that demand was increasing year on year?

Cllr Roger Wilson stated that a great deal of work was being undertaken on demand management. Every area of the Adult Social Care budget was being examined to make sure that it was sufficient. He recognised that it was a challenging time and cost pressures would only increase moving forward.

Question 4: Cllr Paul Hodgkinson

Agenda item 8: Financial Monitoring Report 2017-18 (pages 47 to 68 of the agenda pack)

Cllr Hodgkinson asked how much the spend on consultants for 2017-18 so far compared with the same period for the previous financial year?

Cllr Ray Theodoulou advised that he did not have the information to hand but would provide it outside the meeting.

Question 5: Cllr Iain Dobie

Agenda item 8: Financial Monitoring Report 2017-18 (pages 47 to 68 of the agenda pack)

Cllr Dobie expressed concern that the percentage of the Council's Public Health budget spent on Mental Health had reduced from 2 % to 1.2%, compared to the national average of 1.6%. He asked the Cabinet Member whether he believed that the Council should be spending at least 2 % of its budget on Mental Health?

Cllr Tim Harman recognised that what we do about mental health was one of the great challenges facing the county and the country. He noted the importance of funding available from the Public Health budget and other budgets.

5. Tender and Award of Recyclate Services under the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) for Household Recycling

Cllr Nigel Moor, Cabinet Member for Fire, Planning and Infrastructure, sought approval to extend all current recyclate contracts (except for wood) for a further period of two months and to tender and award new recyclate contracts. He confirmed that the cost of implementing the recommendations would be met from within existing budgets so no additional costs would be incurred.

Having considered all of the information, including known proposals and the reasons for the recommendations, the Cabinet:

RESOLVED to authorise the Commissioning Director: Communities and Infrastructure to:

1) *Extend the duration of all the existing recyclate contracts:*

- (a) awarded using the dynamic purchasing system; and*
- (b) those awarded directly outside of the dynamic purchasing system*

as set out in paragraph 1.4 of the report (with the exception of the current contract for the recycling of wood) by two months in each case so each will terminate on 31 March 2018.

2) *Using the Household Recycling Centre Dynamic Purchasing System:*

- (a) Procure and award a new contract for the provision of wood recyclate services, the contract to have the term of three years and three months commencing on the 1 January 2018 with an option to extend for up to a further year and an estimated value of £2 million over its full term.*

(b) Procure and award a new contract for the provision of the remaining recycle services as set out in paragraph 1.4 of the report, the contracts in each case to have the term of three years commencing on the 1 April 2018 with an option to extend for up to a further year and an estimated value of £1.5 million over their full term for the new metal and cardboard contracts respectively.

3) Where under the Household Recycling Centre Dynamic Purchasing System no contractors are registered for a lot or where there is no bid or no viable bid is received in respect of a lot to procure and direct award a recycle contract in each case for those respective Lots with providers who are able to offer the Council best value for the provision of those respective services provided that the term of any such directly awarded contract.

6. Stonehouse A419 Improvement Scheme - Contract Procurement and Ancillary Orders

Cllr Nigel Moor, Cabinet Member for Fire, Planning and Infrastructure sought approval for the Commissioning Director: Communities and Infrastructure, to be authorised to conduct a compliant competitive tender process and to award a contract in respect of the A419 Improvement Scheme proposals.

Cllr Moor noted that the A419 was a key route into the Stroud valleys and the improvement scheme was important for the county's economy.

Cllr Vernon Smith, the Cabinet Member for Highways and Flood, welcomed the scheme which he believed would complement the wider investment in the local road network. He expected work to start on site in Autumn 2018.

Cllr Mark Hawthorne, the local member for Quedgeley, said that the scheme was particularly good news for residents of his division and those people living in Hardwicke.

Having considered all of the information, including known proposals and the reasons for the recommendations, the Cabinet:

RESOLVED to authorise the Commissioning Director: Communities and Infrastructure to:

- 1) Conduct a compliant competitive tender process for the award of a contract to a single supplier for the construction of the Stonehouse A419 Improvement Scheme.*

- 2) *Upon conclusion of the competitive tender process, and in consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member for Fire, Planning and Infrastructure, to enter into a contract with the preferred provider evaluated as offering the Council best value for money for delivery of the services. In the event that the preferred provider for the contract is either unable or unwilling to enter into that contract with the Council then the Director: Communities and Infrastructure, is authorised to enter into such contract with the next willing highest placed suitably qualified provider.*
- 3) *Make any other ancillary orders that might be required to successfully implement the scheme.*
- 4) *Use £0.52 million of existing Highways budget to fund the design works which will be recovered.*

7. Domiciliary Care - Urban Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS)

Cllr Kathy Williams, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, and Cllr Roger Wilson, Cabinet Member for Vulnerable Adults and Commissioning, sought approval for the establishment of a dynamic purchasing system (DPS) for the provision of care for vulnerable and older people in the urban zones of Cheltenham and Gloucester.

Cllr Wilson recognised that certainty of care was critically important for vulnerable people. He said that a dynamic purchasing system in Gloucester and Cheltenham would provide a similar approach to the rest of the county and allow the Council to purchase care services from alternative providers if necessary.

Cllr Williams stated that it was vitally important that continuity of care was in place going into the Winter months.

Having considered all the information, including known proposals and the reasons for the recommendations, the Cabinet:

RESOLVED *to delegate authority to the Commissioning Director: Adults (and Director of Adult Social Services) to*

- 1) *Ensure an EU compliant competitive process by establishing a dynamic purchasing system for the provision of care for vulnerable and older people in the urban zones of Cheltenham and Gloucester until 30 September 2023.*
- 2) *Throughout the term of the dynamic purchasing system, to admit or remove domiciliary providers to the system in accordance with the required selection criteria or any revised selection criteria set out in the system.*

- 3) *To award packages of care to domiciliary providers on the dynamic purchasing system where the lead providers are unable to meet the assessed demand from health and social care.*

8. Financial Monitoring Report 2017/18

Cllr Ray Theodoulou: Cabinet Member for Finance and Change, gave an update on the year-end forecast for the Council's Revenue and Capital Budgets 2017/18.

Cllr Theodoulou stated that there continued to be major pressures around the Adult Social Care and Children's budgets. He noted that all of the savings' programmes in Adult Social Care had been brought together under the Adults' Single Programme. He said that the Children's budget had risks associated with it as the number of children in care was continuing to rise in common with other local authority areas. There were significant costs associated with the improvement plan following the Ofsted inspection.

He explained that adjustments had been made to the Communities and Infrastructure budget and it was no longer in a deficit position. Reductions in the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme had allowed £4 million to be released into the Revenue Budget on a 'one-off' basis. He noted that 86% of savings planned through the Meeting the Challenge 2 (MtC2) Programme had now been achieved.

He advised that a number of proposals had been put forward to increase the Capital Programme in recognition of the slippage with some other projects. He said that the Council had put forward a bid with the District Councils to participate in the Government's Business Rates Retention Pilot. If successful, the Council could gain additional one-off revenue of as much as £5 million.

In noting the report, the Cabinet:

RESOLVED to

- 1 *Note the forecast revenue year end position as at the end of September 2017 for the 2017/18 financial year of a net £0.087 million underspend.*
- 2 *Agree the following revenue contributions to capital of:*
 - 2.1 *£0.100 million from Support Services to the ICT capital programme to provide Wi-Fi in Children's Services office accommodation.*
 - 2.2 *£0.258 million from Highways to support the Highways Capital Programme.*

3 *Approve the following budget virements:*

3.1 *The 2016/17 unallocated Adults Social Care Levy of £2.5 million be permanently allocated to Learning Disabilities.*

3.2 *The one off Adult Social Care Support Grant of £1.541 million is allocated to support Older People/Physical Disabilities and Mental Health pressures in the current year.*

4 *Approve the transfer of £5 million from one off savings in the Corporate and Technical budget to the Transformation Reserve.*

5 *Approve £0.71 million from the Transformation Reserve to support costs relating to the implementation of the Ofsted Improvement Plan.*

6 *Approve a £10 million pre-payment to the Gloucestershire LGPS Fund to generate revenue savings as outlined in the report.*

7 *Note the forecast capital year end position for 2017/18 of £9.815 million slippage.*

8 *Approve the following changes to the Capital Programme:-*

8.1 *A transfer of £2.521 million of existing C&I unallocated capital funding (made up of £1.727 million of Highways, £0.478 million of Structural Maintenance and £0.316 million of Integrated Transport) to fund the additional works costs on phase one of Cinderford Northern Quarter Spine Road following on from the July 2015 Cabinet decision to proceed with the project.*

8.2 *An increase of £3.014 million to the Highways Capital budget, funded by £2.700 million DfT Grant for the Cross Keys Roundabout £0.258 million of revenue contributions from Highways revenue budgets and £0.056 million from external contributions.*

8.3 *An increase of £0.198 million to the Infrastructure Capital budget of the Saturn Multi Modal Transport model, funded from the Transformation Reserve.*

8.4 *An increase of £0.100 million in the ICT Capital programme budget to provide Wi-Fi in Children's Services office accommodation. This will be funded by a revenue contribution from Support Services.*

- 8.5 A new capital scheme at Bourton-on-the-Water Primary, funded by £0.754 million developer s106 contributions.*
- 8.6 Note transfer of £0.360 million from the ‘Sandford Park House Dilapidation Costs’ scheme in the Adults Capital Programme to the AMPS Capital Programme to reflect the current management and reporting of these works.*
- 8.7 Note the transfer of £0.375 million from the ‘Locality Solutions’ scheme in Children & Families Capital Programme to the AMPS Capital Programme to reflect the current management and reporting of these works.*
- 9. Note the risks and opportunities associated with entering into a Gloucestershire 100% Business Rate Retention pilot and:-*
- 9.1 Continues to support the application to the Government to pilot 100% Business Rates Retention in 2018/2019 for Gloucestershire.*
- 9.2 Authorise the Director: Strategic Finance, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Change, to commit Gloucestershire County Council to entering into the pilot for 100% Business Rates Retention in 2018/2019 for Gloucestershire in the event the bid to DCLG is successful.*
- 9.3 Notes that in the event the pilot bid is unsuccessful then the Council will remain in the Gloucestershire Business Rates Pool for 2018/2019.*

Leader of Council