

Report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet

This is my report as the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet. It is an overview of the main issues which the Cabinet discussed at its meeting on 28 September 2016.

1. Recommendations from the Local Plan Working Party

- 1.1 We considered the recommendations from the most recent meeting of the Local Plan Working Party.
- 1.2 We approved for public consultation: the draft Spelthorne Functional Economic Area Analysis; the Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and the Brief for the Green Belt Assessment and authorise myself as the Chairman to approve any appropriate alterations to the Brief arising from that consultation
- 1.3 We also approved: the Strategic Land Availability Assessment Methodology; the Planning Monitoring Report 2016 and a series of proposals on the Community Infrastructure Levy.

2. Off Street Parking Places Order 2016 – Key Decision

- 2.1 We considered a report on the implementation of the Spelthorne Borough Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2016.
- 2.2 We agreed to implement the Spelthorne Borough Council (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2016 subject to public consultation and authorised the Group Head for Commissioning and Transformation, in consultation with the Head of Corporate Governance, to consider and address any objections arising from the public consultation.

3. Outline Budget 2017-18 to 2020-21 – Key Decision

- 3.1 We considered a report on the Outline Budget for 2017-18 to 2020-21.
- 3.2 We agreed to:
 - Set the net budgeted expenditure (before investment and use of reserves) for 2017-18 at a maximum level of £13.9m.
 - Support the overall strategy set out in the report for addressing efficiencies and achieving medium term financial sustainability.
 - The proposed response, as appended to the report, to the Government's consultation papers on Fair Funding and 100% business rates retention;
 - The financial health indicators set out in paragraph 3.25 of the report; and
 - The Council accepting the Government offer of a 4 year funding settlement in order to protect the Council against risk of further increases in payments it is required to make in future years to the Government, but in so doing makes clear this is on the basis that it does not accept negative grant allocations for 2019-20.

4. Capital and Revenue Monitoring

- 4.1 We noted reports on capital and revenue expenditure covering the period April to July 2016.

5. Appointment to outside body

- 5.1 We agreed the appointment of Councillor Daxa Patel as the Council's representative and Councillor Sinead Mooney as deputy representative to the NHS North West Surrey Sustainability and Transformation Plan Stakeholder Reference Group for the period July 2016 to June 2017.

6. Disposal of the Ashford Multi Storey Car Park site

- 6.1 We agreed to the disposal of the Ashford multi-storey car park to the preferred bidder or to any other bidder subject to consultation with myself as the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Assets; the disposal being subject to the provision of 40% affordable housing (with 35% on site and the remainder in the form of a financial contribution).
- 6.2 We agreed to set aside a sum of £1m from any capital receipt received from the sale of the site to assist with more parking provision in Ashford.
- 6.3 We authorised the Group Head Regeneration and Growth to negotiate and finalise all terms for the sale of the site in consultation with myself.
- 6.4 We agreed to send a strong message to the affordable housing provider of the site that the Council wishes to see priority to nomination rights for the affordable housing given to local people.

7. Catering at Staines Community Centre

- 7.1 We considered a report on the future of catering provision at Staines Community Centre and agreed to the change of service provision of the café from a contractor run café to a volunteer run snack service.

8. Business Rates, Council Tax and Sundry Debt Write Offs.

- 8.1 We agreed to write-offs amounting to £23,639.36 for business rates, £ 24,436.76 for Council tax and £6,959.54 for sundry debt.