

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

Meetings held on 11 May 2017, 2 June 2017 and 21 June 2017

This is my report as the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet. It is an overview of the main items of business considered by the Cabinet at its meetings on 11 May 2017 and 21 June 2017 and its extraordinary meeting held on 2 June 2017.

Cabinet – 11 May 2017

1. Government Consultation on the Draft Airports National Policy Statement

- 1.1 We considered a report on the Government Consultation on the Draft Airports National Policy Statement.
- 1.2 We agreed to respond to the Draft Airports National Policy Statement as per Appendix 1 of the report and support the proposed formation of an Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise, in response to the UK Airspace Policy document.

2. Single Allocation Policy and Search Moves Partnership agreement - Key Decision

- 2.1 We considered an exempt report on the Single Allocation Policy and Search Moves Partnership agreement.
- 2.2 We agreed to:
 - 1. undertake a public consultation on proposed changes to Spelthorne's Housing Allocations Policy to reflect changes to the Search Moves partnership agreement;
 - 2. extend and revise the Search Moves Partnership agreement to July 2020; and
 - 3. extend the I.T. contract between Locata Housing Services and the Search Moves partnership to July 2020.

3. Update to Large-Scale Voluntary Transfer agreement - Key Decision

- 3.1 We considered an exempt report on an update to Large-Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) agreement.
- 3.2 We agreed to: delegate authority to the Housing Portfolio Holder and the Joint Heads of Community Wellbeing to commence negotiations with A2D, to vary the 1996 LSVT agreement between the Council and Spelthorne Housing Association (now A2D); and the recommendations in the report in relation to nomination rights for social housing vacancies.

4. Knowle Green Estates Ltd

4.1 We considered an exempt report on Knowle Green Estates Ltd.

4.2 We agreed to:

1. Note the incorporation and initial activities of Knowle Green Estates Ltd (“the Company”), as described in the report;
2. Note progress towards the first business plan;
3. Exercise the Shareholder function of the Council at Cabinet;
4. Exercise the Council’s shareholder rights to pass a special resolution of the Company to adopt the revised Articles of Association;
5. Delegate Reserved Matters under the Shareholder Agreement to the Leader of the Council, and where the Leader deems the matter of controversy or requiring further discussion, he may ask Cabinet to deal with the Reserved Matter;
6. Authorise the Head of Corporate Governance to finalise and document the following arrangements between the Council and the Company:
 - a. The draft Shareholder Agreement
 - b. The draft Loan and Drawdown Agreement
 - c. The draft Resourcing Agreement for the Company to use Council staff and facilities in furtherance of its business

Extraordinary Cabinet – 2 June 2017

1. Acquisition of an asset for investment

1.1 We considered an exempt report on the acquisition of an asset for investment.

1.2 We approved the acquisition of the investment asset and gave authority to:

1. the Chief Executive to undertake any necessary negotiations and complete the acquisition of the asset (in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Finance);
2. the Chief Finance Officer to decide the most financially advantageous funding arrangements for the purchase, the most tax efficient method of holding the asset and ensure the acquisition is prudentially affordable; and
3. the Head of Corporate Governance to enter into any legal documentation necessary to acquire the asset.

Cabinet – 21 June 2017

1. Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy

1.1 We agreed to adopt a new Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy which had been reviewed and updated to take account of changes in legislation and statutory guidance.

2. Telecare and SPAN funding

- 2.1 We considered a report on funding arrangements for Telecare and the Spelthorne Personal Alarm Network (SPAN) which explained the key changes between the previous agreement and new funding agreements with Surrey County Council.
- 2.2 We agreed:
 - 1. a 12 week free alarm service following an overnight hospital stay in the last 4 weeks;
 - 2. to use the money set aside from the Council Tax increase 2016-17 which was ring fenced for Independent Living services to support the telecare service (likely to be in the region of £34,518);
 - 3. to delegate authority to agree telecare pricing structure to the Group Heads for Community Wellbeing in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

3. Adoption of Spelthorne's Corporate Health and Safety Policy

- 3.1 We agreed to adopt the Spelthorne Corporate Health and Safety Policy which the Council is required to have in place to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of staff, the public and councillors.

4. Request for supplementary capital estimate to purchase grounds maintenance equipment – Key Decision

- 4.1 We agreed that following the mutual termination of the grounds maintenance contract that the service be brought in-house as the most efficient, effective and economic way of providing a service to the Borough's residents.
- 4.2 Cabinet recommended to Council agreement to a supplementary capital estimate of £500k for the purchase of machinery, plant & vehicles to be used for maintenance and servicing of parks and open spaces. Council agreed the recommendation at its extraordinary meeting held on 21 June 2017.

Councillor Ian Harvey

Leader of the Council

20 July 2017