

4 SEPTEMBER 2013

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Wednesday, 4 September 2013.

- p Cllr B Rickman (Chairman)
- p Cllr E J Heron (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

- p Mrs D M Brooks
- p Mrs J L Cleary

Councillors:

- p F P Vickers
- p C A Wise

In Attendance:

Councillors:

Mrs D E Andrews
Mrs S Bennison
S Clarke
A T Glass
C J Harrison
Mrs A J Hoare
Mrs P Jackman

Councillors:

Mrs M E Lewis
J Penwarden
W S Rippon-Swaine
Mrs A M Rostand
Miss A Sevier
Mrs C Ward
J G Ward

Also In Attendance:

Mr M Ackerman, Housing Policy and Report Focus Group Representative.

Officers Attending:

D Yates, R Jackson, Miss J Debnam, C Elliott, Mrs L Evans and Miss G O'Rourke.

21. MINUTES.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2013 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest made in respect of any agenda item.

23. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

No issues were raised during the public participation period.

24. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT (REPORT A).

The Cabinet was advised that the Council's strategy of strict financial management was continuing to achieve significant savings, with the net total savings against the General Fund now anticipated to be £511,000 in 2013/14, £344,00 of which were continuing savings into the future. A detailed analysis of the variations to the budget was set out in the report.

There had been an increase against the Capital Programme, which now amounted to £19.549 million. This had arisen from a number of causes, including the allocation of Developers' contributions to open space projects, and the rephrasing of the purchase of 2 vehicles for the kerbside collection of glass for recycling.

Financial performance in the Housing Revenue Account was broadly in line with the budget targets.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the revised outturn forecasts and their potential impact on the Authority's revenue, capital and Housing Revenue Account budgets be noted; and
- (b) That the detailed variations set out in Report A to the Cabinet be noted.

25. RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER (REPORT B).

The Cabinet considered a revised Risk Management Strategy and Strategic Risk Register, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to Report B to the Cabinet. These formed part of the Council's risk management framework, which also included work place health and safety, business continuity planning and other strategies. The revised documents updated the framework and strategy adopted in 2009 (minute 122 of 6 May 2009 refers) in shortened and more accessible form. The Cabinet was satisfied that the revised documents represented a pragmatic and realistic approach to the management of risk within the organisation.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) *That the revised Risk Management Strategy, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report B to the Cabinet, be approved; and*
- (b) *That the summary Strategic Risk Register, as set out in Appendix 2 to Report B to the Cabinet, be approved.*

Action: Rebecca Drummond

26. LOCAL PLAN PART 2 – SITES AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT – FURTHER CHANGES (REPORT C).

The Cabinet was addressed by Mr Tillyer who raised a number of points of detail in respect of the proposed modifications. Mr Tillyer was advised that his points had been recorded and he would be sent a written response in respect of each point raised.

The Cabinet considered further proposed modifications to the Local Plan Part 2 in response to matters that had arisen during the Public Examination process. The Inspector had adjourned the Hearing from 24 April 2013 until 11 October 2013 to allow the Council to carry out further work and develop further modifications which he considered were necessary to make the Plan “sound” so that it could be adopted. The Inspector’s Post Hearing Note 4, which set out the required changes, was attached as Appendix 2 to Report C. The Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications was set out as Appendix 3 to the Report. The Cabinet was pleased to note that the required changes did not involve any fundamental amendment to the overall strategy set out in the Plan or to the site allocations proposed by the Council. The only significant change was the inclusion of 2 new allocations of land for residential development in New Milton, where the Inspector considered there was a shortfall in the short term.

The Inspector had also required further work to be undertaken on the mitigation of the impacts of development on areas that were subject to European nature conservation designations, an issue that had become increasingly important during the preparation of the Plan. The report commissioned from consultants and a revised mitigation strategy were set out as Appendices 4 and 5 to the Report, together with a sustainability appraisal at Appendix 6. Members noted that the proposed changes would have significant funding implications for the use of money collected under S106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy once adopted.

The Cabinet was advised that the Inspector had been consulted on the proposed changes and his initial response was favourable.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Schedule of Proposed Changes to the submitted Local Plan Part 2, as set out in Appendix 3 to Report C to the Cabinet, be published for a six week public consultation period, after which the Proposed Changes and representations received be submitted to the Public Examination Inspector for his consideration in the re-opening of the Public Examination following its adjournment;
- (b) That the draft Supplementary Planning Document, Mitigation Strategy, as set out as Appendix 5 to Report C to the Cabinet, be published for a six week public consultation period;
- (c) That the Policy Planning Manager (in consultation with the Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder) be authorised to make clarification and editing changes in preparing the Schedule of Proposed Changes to the Local Plan Part 2 for consultation and subsequent submission to the Inspector, and in finalising the draft Mitigation Strategy SPD for public consultation.

Action: Graham Ashworth and Louise Evans

27. SENIOR MANAGEMENT REVIEW (REPORT D).

The Cabinet recalled that on 5 June 2013 (Minute 6 refers) they had approved the flexible early retirement of the Head of Housing, Mr Brown, with him retiring fully in February 2014. Members considered a revised senior management structure to cover the responsibilities undertaken by this post.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed management changes set out in Report D to the Cabinet, including the creation of a new post of Head of Housing and Customer Services, be approved.

Action: Manjit Sandhu

28. PARTNERSHIP FOR URBAN SOUTH HAMPSHIRE (PUSH).

The Cabinet considered an invitation from the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) for this Council to rejoin the organisation. In view of the creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships, and the consequent increase in the role of PUSH, who would be taking the lead on a number of issues for the Solent LEP area, the Cabinet concluded that the invitation should be accepted. It was noted that there were no financial implications for the current financial year. Full details of the joint arrangements and any delegation arrangements would be submitted to a future meeting.

It was necessary to appoint an Executive Member to serve on the Joint Committee and also a non-executive Member to serve on the PUSH Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) That the invitation to rejoin the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) be accepted;**
- (b) That the Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder be appointed as the Council's representative on the Joint Committee; and**
- (c) That the Council also appoint a non-executive Member to serve on the PUSH Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

29. MEETING DATES FOR THE 2014/15 MUNICIPAL YEAR.**RESOLVED:**

That the following dates of meetings of the Cabinet in 2014/15 be agreed, all Wednesdays at 10.00 a.m.

4 June 2014	3 December 2014
2 July 2014	7 January 2015
6 August 2014	4 February 2015
3 September 2014	4 March 2015
1 October 2014	1 April 2015
5 November 2014	6 May 2015

CHAIRMAN