

CABINET
Thursday 29 October 2020 at 5.00pm

AGENDA

Viewing this meeting on YouTube

The meeting of the Cabinet may be viewed on YouTube by opening the link below:

<https://youtu.be/-12AdmLBVTY>

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from Members including the terms(s) of the Grant of Dispensation (if any) by the Audit Board or Strategic Director (Internal Services).

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 September 2020 (Pages 1 - 8)

Summary:

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 24 September 2020.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 24 September 2020 be confirmed as an accurate record.

4. Urgent Items

The Chairman will announce his decision as to whether there are any urgent items and their position on the agenda.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PUBLIC

5. To receive the minutes of the Cabinet Advisory Panel held on 26 October 2020

To follow

6. References from Committees

None at this stage.

A - Strategies, Policies, Key Decisions, Consultations

7. Test and Trace Standard Support Payments and Discretionary Payments Scheme Policies (Pages 9 - 46)

Summary:

This report updates Members on the new Test and Trace Support Payments and Discretionary Payments Schemes and ancillary matters.

Recommendations:

1. That the implementation of measures by Government to ensure that those who are required to self-isolate on or after 28 September 2020, as a result of Test and Trace and if eligible, receive a payment, through either the Test and Trace Standard Support Payments Scheme or the Test and Trace Discretionary Payments Scheme, to assist with their finances, be noted;
2. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Internal Services) to agree the details of the Policies respectively, for the Test and Trace Standard Support Payments Scheme and the Test & Trace Discretionary Payments Scheme, as set out in Appendices A and B to the report; and
3. That in-year amendments to the Policy for the Test and Trace Discretionary Payments Scheme, be delegated to the Strategic Director (Internal Services), in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

8. White Paper Consultation: Planning for the Future (Pages 47 - 156)

Summary:

The Government launched a White Paper with proposals for restructuring the planning system, called "Planning for the Future". This report considers the Council's formal consultation response, and some of the likely key implications.

Recommendation:

That the responses to the questions, set out in Appendix B to the report, form the Council's response to the Government's Consultation on the White Paper: Planning for the Future.

9. **Formal Parking Consultation Responses: West Hill Ward - Shepherds Lane (Pages 157 - 164)**

Summary:

This report outlines the responses received from local residents following a formal statutory consultation undertaken between 10th September and 1st October 2020 as part of a Traffic Regulation Order process to implement a scheme to extend the days and hours of operation of the residents parking bays in Shepherds Lane between Nos.1a and 59.

Recommendations:

1. That the Cabinet considers the responses to the consultation outlined in paragraph 3.6 of the report; and
2. That the extension of the days and hours of operation, Monday – Sunday 9.30am to 8:00p.m, of the residents parking bays in Shepherds Lane, between Nos.1a and 59, as shown coloured pink on the plan at Appendix A to the report, be approved.

10. **Proposed London Resort and the Duty of the Applicant to Consult the Council on the Proposal (Pages 165 - 268)**

Summary:

The proposal for the London Resort leisure and entertainment complex is to be dealt with as a planning application to be determined by the Secretary of State as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). As such, it is subject to legislation under the Planning Act 2008, which is distinct to that for applications determined directly by the Council. The applicant, London Resort Company Holdings (LRCH), is required under section 42 of the 2008 Act to consult the Borough on its emerging proposal before being formally submitted to the Secretary of State, with the Council being a statutory consultee. The closing date for responses was 21 September 2020. The Council's response, agreed under delegated powers, was submitted in time to meet this deadline but this did not allow for the response to be presented to Cabinet in advance.

Recommendation:

That the Council's response to the consultation as set out in the letter and comments attached at Appendices A-C to the report, be noted.

11. **Draft Private Sector Discretionary Assistance Policy (Pages 269 - 290)**

Summary:

Central government allocates funding which allows discretionary financial assistance to be provided by a local authority to assist local residents to live independently and safely in their own homes. This report proposes a new draft Private Sector Discretionary Assistance Policy to replace the previous Better Care Fund Discretionary Assistance Policy.

Recommendations:

1. That the Hospital Discharge Grant be increased from £5,000 to £10,000;
2. That the Safe and Secure Grant be increased from £5,000 to £10,000;
3. That the Discretionary Assistance Grant be increased from £7,500 to £15,000; and
4. That a new Contribution Grant for mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants be approved with a maximum grant limit of £10,000.

12. **The Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy 2020 (Pages 291 - 330)**

Summary:

This report outlines the details of the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy.

Recommendations:

1. That the Council's commits to support for the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy; and
2. That a future report be submitted to Cabinet on the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy Implementation Plan, linking with future Council activities.

B - Non-Key Decisions, Monitoring Reports

13. Environmental Health Partnership and Proposed Disengagement by Sevenoaks District Council (Pages 331 - 334)

Summary:

This report informs Members of the decision of Sevenoaks District Council to disengage from the Environmental Health Partnership, the implications for the [Borough] Council and the steps to be taken to safeguard services to the Borough's residents and businesses.

Recommendations:

1. That the proposal by Sevenoaks District Council to disengage from the Environmental Health Partnership, be noted; and
2. That the actions proposed by Dartford Council, as set out in paras. 3.6 and 3.7 of the report, to mitigate the impact of the disengagement, be noted.

14. Review of the Management of the Housing Revenue Account Garage Portfolio (Pages 335 - 342)

Summary:

Following an audit recommendation to review the current performance of the Council's garage stock, this report explores the options that might best deliver the aims of improving the condition of the stock to ensure they are fit for purpose and to improve the occupancy rate and maximise potential rental income.

Recommendations:

1. That, for the reasons outlined in the body of the report, the outsourcing of the management service for the Council's garage stock, be endorsed in principle; and
2. That a further report will be presented following the tender process, seeking approval for the outsourcing to be in place, from 1 April 2021.

15. Capital Programme Monitoring 2020/21 (Pages 343 - 356)

Summary:

To inform Cabinet of the progress to date on the schemes in the approved Capital Programme, and to report the latest position on capital resources.

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet notes the progress made to date on the 2020/21 Programme;
2. That the current position on the Capital Prudential Indicators, as shown in Appendix C to the report, be noted;
3. That Cabinet approves the virements between housing revenue account budgets, as detailed in the report and in Appendix A; and
4. That Cabinet approves the virement of £900,000 from the Leisure and Open Spaces budget, to the Acacia Project budget.

16. **Street Naming and Numbering - Littlebrook Power Station Access Roads (Pages 357 - 360)**

Summary:

To approve two new road names for the Littlebrook Power Station redevelopment.

Recommendation:

That the names of Harris and Powerhouse be approved for the two access roads at the Littlebrook Power Station Development.

C - Items for Information, Noting, Endorsing

17. **Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020-21 (Pages 361 - 376)**

Summary:

To inform Cabinet of the investment performance of the Council's internally and externally managed funds to 30 September 2020 and to update the Treasury Indicators for the six months to 30 September 2020.

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet notes the investment performance of the Council's funds; and
2. That Cabinet notes the half-year position of the Council's Treasury Indicators.

18. **Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/21 (Pages 377 - 388)**

Summary:

To update Members on financial performance against the 2020/21 budget to date for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

Recommendation:

That Members note that the overall level of spend and income for the year is expected to be within the parameters of the budget.

19. **Minutes of the Policy Overview Committee on 8 September 2020 (Pages 389 - 396)**

Summary:

To receive and note the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Overview Committee held on 8 September 2020.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy Overview Committee held on 8 September 2020 be noted.