

To: All Members of the County Council
All Chief Officers

From COUNTY SECRETARY'S
DEPARTMENT

Ask for David Roberts
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**CABINET
28 OCTOBER 2002**

**MINUTES
ATTENDANCE**

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

D A Ashley, D Beatty, R J M Ellis (Chairman), G D Game, R I N Gordon, M H T Janes, D B Lloyd, J M Pitman, I E M Tarry.

Other Members present:

D Billing, N K Brook, P V Goggins, T G M Kent, I H Laidlaw-Dickson, R Mays, R J Smith, G F Wenham, B A York

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Cabinet meeting on 28 October 2002 as circulated, copy annexed, executive decisions were reached and are recorded below:

Note: No conflicts of interest were declared by any member of the Cabinet in relation to the matters on which decisions were made at this meeting and set out below.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet held on 16 September 2002 were confirmed as a correct record.

**2. SUPPORTING PEOPLE STRATEGY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF
COMMISSIONING BODY**
(Forward Plan Ref. A083/02)

Decision

1. That the formal establishment of a Supporting People Commissioning Body be approved (comprising representatives from the County Council, each Housing Authority, Primary Care Trusts, and the Probation Service).
2. The Director of Adult Care Services be nominated to represent the County Council on the Commissioning Body.

3. Key supporting people policies and decisions should continue to be matters for the Cabinet to determine for the County Council.
4. That the Shadow Supporting People Strategy for 2003/04 be approved.

Reasons for the decision

The Government's Supporting People programme changes the way supported housing is funded and will combine at least five streams of funding into one grant. This grant will be administered by the County Council in Hertfordshire (in partnership with the District Councils, the Probation Service and the Health Services) and will be used to fund organisations which provide supported housing or housing related support services.

The aim of the change was to:

- ensure that the new development of supported housing and housing related support services was in line with identified needs;
- that new developments contributed to other major community plans; and ensured that shared objectives were achieved.
- establish good quality supported housing by introducing single performance standards and quality assurance programme; and
- establish the true cost of service in this sector.

The County Council is required to put in place a Commissioning Body, which comprises representatives of all the partner organisations. In Hertfordshire, the Commissioning Body needs to comprise a representative of each Housing Authority, of PCTs and from Probation as well as from the County Council. The Supporting People Strategy and Plans and any policies associated with Supporting People have to be approved by the Commissioning Body, but also have to be endorsed by the elected members of partner organisations.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

3. **ANNUAL LIBRARY PLAN 2002 - 2005**
(Forward Plan Ref. A073/02)

Item deferred

4. **LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Decision

That officers continue to negotiate with Government on the details of the targets within the draft Local Public Services Agreement in line with the Council's overall plans and priorities.

Reasons for the decision

The County Council's draft Local Public Service Agreement had been submitted to Government in July and had since been the subject of detailed negotiation target by target with Government departments. A redrafted agreement had been submitted at the end of September and further negotiation was needed to move towards an Agreement.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

5. CONSULTATION ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED OPTIONS FOR AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH EAST
(Forward Plan Ref. A066/02)

Decision

That the Cabinet approves the following:

Interim Position Statement and Information Strategy:

1. That the County Council expresses its grave concern over the government's threatened attack upon Hertfordshire's environment and the quality of life of its residents that would inevitably result from increased noise, traffic, pollution and urbanisation associated with the grossly excessive proposals for the expansion of Luton, Stansted and Heathrow airports.
2. That without prejudice to its formal response to the government's SERAS consultation, the County Council indicates that it will object to any airport proposals which have an unacceptable impact upon residents in Hertfordshire'
3. That against this background, the County Council takes every opportunity to raise awareness of its concerns and to encourage public response to the SERAS consultation.
4. That the County Council works closely with Essex County Council and other local authorities, to raise the profile of Hertfordshire's concerns with Central Government and other appropriate agencies, and to influence the preparation and consideration of any legislation following the SERAS consultation.

Reasons for the decision

The potential development of, particularly, Luton and Stansted Airports will have enormous implications for Hertfordshire. If the public are to be better informed to respond to government it would assist if the Council took an interim position regarding the options and confirmed support for efforts to oppose them.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

6. **SOUTH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD - reduction in standard numbers**
(Forward Plan Ref. A084/02)

Decision

That a statutory notice be published seeking the reduction in standard number admitted to the Reception Year from 33 to 30 at South Hill Primary School, Hemel Hempstead from September 2003, and the Director of Children, Schools and Families be authorised to submit the proposal to the School Organisation Committee with comments on any objections that might be received.

Reasons for the decision

Following a request from the governing body consultation was carried out with parents and local primary schools on a proposal to reduce (from 33) to 30 the standard number of South Hill Primary School. No objections to the proposal were received.

There were sound educational reasons to avoid mixed-age classes and there were sufficient primary school places available in the area to respond to forecast future demand.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

7. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Decision

That under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

PART II (CLOSED) AGENDA

1. **PROPOSED NEW WINTER MAINTENANCE AND GENERAL HIGHWAYS DEPOT, MOTORWAY SERVICE AREA, SOUTH MIMMS**
(Forward Plan Ref. A046/02)

Decision

1. That, subject to planning permission and all other necessary consents being obtained, the self financing aspect of the scheme, and the sale of the existing highways depot to the Highways Agency, be approved
2. That the budgets for capital expenditure, and the timing of the investment in the new depot and the property sale decisions, be delegated to the Corporate Director (People and

minutes

Property) in consultation with the Executive Member (Resources) and the Executive Member (Environment).

Reasons for the decision

In February 2002 the Cabinet had approved the submission of a planning application for construction of a replacement winter maintenance depot on land in the County's ownership (close to the existing highways depot) at Charleston Paddocks within the Motorway Service Area at South Mimms.

Decisions on the above matters were required in order to enable the project to proceed.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

(Note: the above statement is the same as the statement set out in the separate Part II minutes.)