

To: All Members of the County Council
All Chief Officers

From COUNTY SECRETARY'S
DEPARTMENT

Ask for David Roberts
Ext. 25562
Minicom 26611
My Ref. DR/
Your Ref.

CABINET
11 OCTOBER 2004

MINUTES
ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

D Beatty, R J M Ellis (Chairman), R I N Gordon, M H T Janes, D E Lloyd,
J M Pitman, A M R Searing, I E M Tarry

Other Members present:

S A Batson, A D Dodd, M Downing, K F Emsall, T G M Kent,
D B Lloyd, R Mays, J T Metcalf, R M Roberts, D Royall, R H Smith, R J Smith,
P A Webb, B A York.

Upon consideration of the agenda for the Cabinet meeting on 11 October 2004 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 13 September 2004 were confirmed as a correct record.

2. STEVENAGE PRIMARY REVIEW
(Forward Plan Ref. A041/04)

Decision

(A) Central Stevenage

1. That a statutory notice be published to close Pin Green Primary School & Nursery on 31 August 2005.
2. That, recognising the issues over the next two and a half terms, a

commitment be given to support those pupils who remain at the school.

3. That if there are no statutory objections to the closure, following the publication of the notice, the Director of Children, Schools and Families be authorised to confirm the closure.

(B) South Stevenage

That Cabinet:

1. is persuaded that the establishment of a new 3fe primary school on the Burydale/ Longmeadow site is the best long term solution for removing surplus primary places thereby providing a sustainable pattern of schools which should help to enhance the capacity to raise educational standards.
2. recognises that the LEA has not been able to persuade stakeholders that this is the best way forward.
3. agrees to further discussions with parents, schools and the community to try to identify an approach that has greater support. This discussion will include the Council's preferred solution and other alternatives and will involve the Leader of the Council, the Executive Member and appropriate elected members.
4. receive a further report following the actions in paragraph 3.

Reasons for the decision

As set out above and in the report of the Director of Children, Schools and Families.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

3. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE IN 2003/04 BY THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL CARE INSPECTION
(Forward Plan Ref. A036/04)

James Parnell, Business Relationship Manager - CSCI, was present at the meeting and addressed Cabinet on the main findings of the review.

Decision

That Cabinet accept the letter and report of the Commission for Social Care Inspection.

Reasons for the decision

The CSCI Annual review report recognised continuing developments and improvement being made by the County Council's Children, Schools and Families and Adult Care Departments to services in Hertfordshire. Both Departments were aware of the areas for development noted in the report and all the issues are covered in their service plans.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

4. WILBURY ROAD CHILDREN'S HOME: CAPITAL FUNDING REALLOCATION

Decision

That,

1. a £315,000 new project be added to the 2004/5 capital programme to refurbish the Wilbury Road Children's Home to become a Home for Children with Disabilities.
2. the project be funded by £170,000 from an underspend elsewhere in the CSF capital programme and 'top-up' funding of a £145,000 from the 2005/6 programme.
3. the funding for two primary autism bases be considered amongst the priority calls on the 2005/6 capital programme.

Reasons for the decision

To achieve the refurbishment and reuse of the Wilbury Road premises as soon as possible.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

5. **FOSTERING SERVICE - KEEPING SAFE POLICY:
BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT IN FOSTER CARE**

Decision

That the Keeping Safe Policy be adopted.

Reasons for the decision

The Fostering Services National Minimum Standards and Regulations require the fostering service to prepare and implement a written policy on acceptable measures of control, restraint and discipline of children placed with foster carers.

The policy seeks to reassure Hertfordshire County Council foster carers that they will be supported in the exercise of appropriate control of children and young people in their care, as set out within the policy and training.

Any alternative options considered and rejected

None

**Andrew Laycock
County Secretary**