
SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
14 SEPTEMBER 2011

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Matthews (minutes 39-44a only)
The Sheriff, Councillor Burke
Councillors Baillie, Ball, Barnes-Andrews, Mrs Blatchford, Bogle, Capozzoli, Claisse, Cunio, Daunt, Drake, Fitzgerald, Fuller, Furnell, Hannides, B Harris, L Harris, Holmes, Jones, Kaur, Kolker, Letts, Mead, Morrell, Moulton (minutes 39-43 and 44b onwards), Noon, Osmond, Dr Paffey, Parnell, Payne, Pope, Rayment (minutes 39-43 and 45-51), Smith, Stevens, Thomas, Thorpe (minutes 39-43 and 44b onwards), Turner, Vassiliou, Vinson, Walker, Wells, White, Willacy, P Williams and Dr R Williams (minutes 39-44a and 45 onwards)

39. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Fitzhenry and McEwing.

40. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 13th July 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record.

41. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND LEADER

The Mayor informed Members that Alan Spencer, one of the Council's Town Sergeants, had been instrumental in the production of the first edition of the "Mace-Bearer" magazine. The magazine included articles and information of interest to members of the Guild of Mace-Bearers and those involved in civic and corporate life. The Mayor's Office would support him in his endeavour and Members wished him well with the first edition of the magazine.

42. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(1) Fluoridisation

The Council received a deputation from Ms Dumaresq concerning the introduction of Fluoride into the water supply.

The Council received the following petition from Mr Peckham. As the petition contained 1,500 signatures, under the Council's Procedure Rules, the petition was a qualifying petition which must be debated at Council:

"We the undersigned petition the Council to reverse its endorsement of the Strategic Health Authority's scheme to fluoridate the City's water supply. We also ask that when it assumes responsibility for public health, the Council will not implement a fluoridation scheme."

The Council agreed to suspend Council Procedure Rules 14.4 - 14.9 to enable flexibility in debate.

Councillor Moulton moved and Councillor Smith seconded:

“Council welcomes the petition and thanks all those who have signed it for doing so. Council acknowledges that this is an issue of concern to many.

Council notes that there is no scope for reversal of the Council’s endorsement of “the SHA’s scheme. The consultation has been completed and there is no opportunity or requirement for continuing support or consultation. At the time the Council were supportive. The SHA made a decision and that decision has been upheld by the Court. There is now a legal obligation on the Water Undertaker to implement a fluoridation scheme in Southampton unless there is a change in the law.

Council further notes that the new public health role for the Council is subject to passage of the Health and Social Care Bill. If passed as currently drafted the Council will not be responsible for implementing the scheme. The responsibility continues to rest with the Water Company.

The Council does not have a specific role in the process of implementing the legal obligation placed on the Water Company to fluoridate the water in Southampton. Until the Bill receives Royal Assent, it is unclear what requirements would be placed on a Council in the future if it were minded to propose the termination of a scheme.

Council further notes that the Health and Social Care Bill is currently progressing through Parliament and is now in the House of Lords, and that those with strong views on fluoride might wish to make representations to Parliament on the Bill, as the wording will potentially impact on current and any future fluoridation schemes.

Finally Council resolves to urgently debate the issue of local fluoridation again should powers be granted to the Authority which give it any powers to influence the progression of a fluoridation scheme”.

Councillor Drake altered and moved and Councillor Turner seconded:

‘This Council now opposes the addition of fluoride to Southampton’s water supply and will use any future powers Southampton City Council may be given to prevent the implementation of a fluoridation scheme.’

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR MOULTON WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DRAKE WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motions as submitted be approved.

(2) Specialist education support for local deaf children

The Council received the following petition from Ms Pettit and Ms Champion concerning specialist education support for local deaf children. As the petition contained 1,500 signatures, under the Council's Procedure Rules, the petition was a qualifying petition which must be debated at Council:

"We the undersigned petition the Council to save specialist education services for deaf children; a post has been cut that will have a devastating impact on deaf children when they return to school this September. Deaf children are already among the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children in the UK today. Deafness is not a learning disability. Evidence shows that with the right support, deaf children can achieve as well as other children. Specialist support services offer a vital lifeline to deaf children and their families; by providing support to parents or carers, directly teaching deaf children, advising mainstream teachers and so much more. This is unfair and unacceptable. We the undersigned call on Southampton City to recruit to this post as a matter of urgency; protect services and ensure all deaf children in Southampton have a fair chance to achieve. Speak out for the 165 deaf children now supported by the equivalent of just one full time teacher."

Councillor Moulton moved and Councillor Smith seconded:

"Council thanks the petitioner for presenting this petition today and acknowledges that this issue is important for those concerned. In recognising that concern Council would like to reassure the petitioner that levels of individual support for children with a hearing impairment have not decreased since last year. In the academic year 2010/11 children in Southampton had the equivalent of 1.1 Specialist Teacher Advisor (STA) support. Currently, and for the academic year 2011/12, there is 1.2 STA support available. The management of this service has changed but the level of STA support to individual children has not. In addition, our hearing impairment units at Tanner's Brook Infant and Junior and Redbridge Community School are supporting more children this year, than they did last year.

As is normal at the start of every academic year, the STAs are meeting to discuss and allocate caseloads and will be in touch with parents in the very near future to arrange visits and support. We will also, over the next few months, be examining closely how we can provide different/additional support to children with a hearing impairment through using the wide range of skills available in the city's workforce.

The city has developed quite unique Speech and Language support services through the employment of Speech and Language Assistants (SALSAs), who work alongside Speech Therapists to deliver recommended programmes on a weekly basis. We also employ Emotional Wellbeing Development Officers (EWDOS) who can support the development of emotional literacy skills such as social skills, friendship skills and self esteem. Research has shown that these are areas of particular difficulty for young people with hearing impairment and therefore we will be reviewing how we can provide support in this area.

In the meantime no changes will be made to the hearing impairment service provided to individual children unless and until an assessment shows that their needs have changed".

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as submitted be approved.

43. EXECUTIVE BUSINESS

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted, setting out the details of the business undertaken by the Executive (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

The Leader and the Cabinet made statements and responded to Questions.

The following questions were then submitted in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 11.1:

1. 20 mph Zones

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Fitzhenry

What plans does the Executive have to take advantage of the recently announced relaxation of conditions for the introduction of 20 mph zones?

Answer

The plans to relax the conditions for introduction of 20 mph schemes (zones and limits) were announced by the Department for Transport in a press release on the 9 June 2011. However the statutory introduction of these changes is not expected to take place until late 2011 as part of the Traffic Signs Policy Review.

The Executive will continue to consider the implementation of 20 mph schemes, where they are appropriate and where such schemes would have positive benefits, particularly in relation to road safety.

2. Shared Services

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Hannides

What possibilities are currently under consideration to expand the range of shared services with other councils or public bodies?

Answer

As an administration we are committed to meeting our statutory obligations and delivering the services valued the most by local residents and businesses in the most cost effective way.

This means that we are continually challenging all aspects of the council's activities to eliminate inefficiency and bureaucracy - as well as exploring other service delivery options if they provide better value for money than our existing arrangements.

As a result the Council has a number of shared services in place with neighbouring local authorities such as Eastleigh Borough Council (Licensing Services) and Fareham Borough Council (Legal Services). Work is also underway to develop a shared Internal Audit Service covering Hampshire, West Sussex and Southampton and a report on this will be presented to Cabinet.

Through our regular discussions with other public sector bodies we are continuing to explore all joint working opportunities where mutually beneficial for both parties to do so - particularly within the Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Environment areas.

3. City Centre Policing

Question from Councillor Vinson to Councillor Smith

Is the Cabinet Member concerned by the proposed reduction in the manning of Southampton Central Police Station, especially the projected closure of the front desk between 10.00pm and 8.00am?

Answer

It is not appropriate to comment on this at this time as I am aware that this review is still subject to formal internal consultation.

4. Secondary School Exclusions

Question from Councillor Turner to Councillor Moulton

What action is the Cabinet Member supporting to tackle Southampton's poor record on Secondary school exclusions?

Answer

The high level of exclusions in Southampton Secondary schools is a matter of concern to the Council. Southampton's performance against this measure has been among the highest in England for many years. The Council is working with both local secondary and primary schools on a number of initiatives to address this. These include;

- Working closely with Headteachers and schools to agree arrangements that support the effective re-integration of pupils who have been excluded for fixed term periods and reduce their risk of further exclusions.
- Working closely with schools to encourage all schools to be inclusive in providing a school place for children who have been permanently excluded from school.
- Working with those schools which have particularly high levels of exclusions, as performance varies significantly between schools on this measure.
- Working closely with schools and other services to develop a range of alternative learning provision that will provide a stable and appropriate place of learning for children where we are struggling to find a place in another school.

5. Section 106 Money

Question from Councillor Drake to Councillor Fitzhenry

How much 106 money is being held by the Council and how long, on average, is this money held before being spent on projects?

Answer

The Council had £8.22 million in the Section 106 account as of 31st March 2011 and sampling has shown that on average it takes just over two years from receipt to spend.

6. Bin Collections

Question from Councillor Drake to Councillor Fitzhenry

Are the Executive considering bringing in alternative weekly bin collections in all or part of the City?

Answer

No

7. Public Health Funding

Question from Councillor Rayment to Councillor White

Does the Cabinet Member agree with the approach adopted by Tory-led government to cut the public health funding to poorer health areas like Portsmouth and Southampton in favour of giving more to better public health areas like Hampshire?

Answer

The Department of Health is going through an exercise to identify the money spent by PCTs on public health in 2010/11, to inform the decision as to the amount that will be in the “ring-fenced” PH budget. Such a budget has never been identified before. It will go eventually three ways – Public Health England, NHS Commissioning Board and Local Authorities, so that defined services are discharged and responsibilities delivered. The SoS has said that allocation of the budget will be on a capitation basis, adjusted for needs (i.e. high needs areas would get proportionally more per head). He has also said that some money “a health premium” will go to authorities who make good progress on delivering the improved health outcomes that they have set themselves (and presumably have been agreed). The allocation formula is still being developed, and is due to be announced in November. It is understood the SoS will decide the size of the budget (increased, reduced, staying the same) ... and any element of “overhead reduction”. He will also agree an allocation formula, and decide a pace of change – it could be very de-stabilizing for the change to be other than phased. The “shadow” budget for each local authority is expected to be known in December, and the money will flow through the local NHS for 12 months for the “shadow” public health year. In April 2013 the statutory responsibilities, pass to local authorities, subject to the passing of the legislation, and the budget will transfer to the local authority and other parts of the new public health system. Therefore as can be seen from the above there is no indication that we as a City will be less favoured than the rest of Hampshire and in fact there is even reason for some optimism with the approach of the Government.

8. Post-16 Education

Question from Councillor Bogle to Councillor Moulton

What are the current 2011 recruitment numbers for post-16 education in Southampton per institution and how many surplus places are there per institution?

Answer

It is currently too early to provide an answer to this question. FE colleges and schools with sixth forms returned the week commencing 5 September. There is always an amount of fluctuation in numbers as young people amend their choices during the first few weeks of the Autumn Term.

An activity survey, which takes place over September and October, will show where the young people of Southampton have gone since leaving secondary school; whether in Southampton or beyond. The colleges submit their enrolment lists and Council tracking officers then investigate those young people who appear not to be in college or training to get the full picture. The activity survey will be completed by the end of October; details will be available in November 2011.

We are also working with the Young People's Learning Agency to identify recruitment patterns of post 16 providers outside of Southampton so we have a better understanding of which Post 16 learners are studying at non-Southampton Post 16 colleges.

9. Former Town Depot Site

Question from Councillor Bogle to Councillor Smith

What are the current aspirations for the redevelopment of the Town Depot site?

Answer

The aspiration for the Town Depot site is for a leisure mixed use scheme that improves public access to the Itchen Waterfront. A 'sports village' of regional significance proposed incorporating a wet snow ski slope and other sport activities along with supporting retail and leisure activities. Existing water sport activities are to be retained and protected. Residential development is also proposed.

Proposed development has been the subject of an OJEU process and we are continuing to discuss progress with a potential developer, with a view to signing an exclusivity agreement in the near future. In the mean time we intend to demolish the existing depot site and seek temporary use.

10. Sea City

Question from Councillor Barnes-Andrews to Councillor Hannides

How much has the private sector now raised for Sea City since the last Council meeting?

Answer

The Southampton Cultural Development Trust is a charitable body which is seeking to assist the Council with funding Sea City and the New Arts Complex. Trustees are pursuing a number of potential opportunities, and an event will be held by the Trust during the Boat

Show. The outcome of an application to the DCMS / Wolfsen Foundation is due in January 2012.

11. General Fund Capital Programme

Question from Councillor Barnes-Andrews to Councillor Hannides

What are the Cabinet Member's plans to reduce borrowing on the General Fund Capital Programme?

Answer

The latest General Fund Capital Programme Update presented to Council on 14 September for approval totals £250.0M.

Of this £57.2M is to be funded from Unsupported Borrowing the costs for which are built into our Revenue Budget forecast. The current programme includes overprogramming of £8.1M which can be compared to the £9.2M deficit reported in February 2011. The deficit has reduced slightly due to a number of factors including a net increase in future capital receipts and a reduction in the use of Council Resources within the Children's Services & Learning capital programme.

We will continue to review the deficit and reduce it as new resources become available in future years. A review of possible disposals is being undertaken and these will be actively pursued where it is financially beneficial to the Authority.

In addition, given the deficit in the programme and the lack of available capital resources over the past three years, additions to the programme are only considered in very exceptional circumstances.

12. Portfolio Overspend

Question from Councillor Barnes-Andrews to Councillor Hannides

How does the Cabinet Member plan to reduce the £1.4m portfolio revenue forecast outturn overspend for this year?

Answer

The Portfolio forecast position as at the end of Quarter 1, which was presented to Cabinet on 5th September was a £1.4M over spend. This was then offset by a number of corporate items which were outlined in the report and the overall forecast position for 2011/12 as at the end of Quarter 1, was an over spend of £0.4M.

Portfolios plan to take remedial action to manage a number of the corporate and key issues which were highlighted in the report and further detail of this work and the financial impact will be included in the Quarter 2 report which will be presented on 21st November.

In 2010/11 and 2009/10 the forecast position at the end of Quarter 1 was adverse for Portfolios and in both years the final Outturn position was favourable as action plans were implemented and the financial benefits delivered, clearly demonstrating a track record of managing financial issues in year.

In 2010/11 specifically, the Portfolio forecast at the end of Quarter 1 was a £1.5M over spend and this reduced to a £0.1M forecast under spend by Quarter 3 and the actual year

end Portfolio position was a £2.5M under spend following the introduction of a moratorium on spend in the final Quarter of the financial year.

13. Vacancy Social Worker Posts

Question from Councillor Thorpe to Councillor White

How many vacancies for Social Workers are we currently carrying across the Council? Has this increased since last year?

Answer

We are currently carrying 5 vacancies for qualified Social Worker grade in Health & Adult Social Care. These posts are currently actively being recruited to. This is an increase to last year when there were 2 vacancies – both posts were recruited to.

14. Agency/Temporary Social Workers

Question from Councillor Thorpe to Councillor White

How many agency/temporary Social Workers do we currently employ? Has this number increased since this time last year?

Answer

20, an increase of 8 from September 2011.

15. Trends in staff leaving the authority

Question from Councillor Thorpe to Councillor Hannides

Assuming we run exit interviews to learn the lessons from those staff choosing to leave our organisation, can you confirm if the trend is for people to leave their profession or join a different local authority?

Answer

Exit questionnaires are issued at the point when a resignation is received, which the leaver has the option to complete and return or not. If the leaver wishes to attend a formal exit interview they may request this with either their line manager or HR.

Currently it is not possible to identify any trends in why people leave the organisation, or where they go. Obtaining exit information depends on the individual and if people chose not to give any details it will be necessary to look at other sources of information. However moving forward it may be possible to do more to encourage feedback and develop management information in this area. An Organisational Development Strategy is being developed and this is an area that could be included within the Action Plan.

16. Grow Your Own Scheme for Social Workers

Question from Councillor Thorpe to Councillor White

Can Members have an update on the 'grow your own scheme' for Social Workers?

Answer

Health and Adult Social Care currently has one worker seconded to training as a Social Worker.

17. Revisited Potholes

Question from Councillor Thorpe to Councillor Fitzhenry

Now that potholes have been eradicated from across our fair City can the Cabinet Member confirm when will the depths at which holes in the pavement and roads are revisited, to ensure all dangerous obstacles are dealt with as priority?

Answer

The intervention levels are in accordance with national standards and there are no proposals to move away from these standards.

18. Refuse collection

Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Fitzhenry

Why has the refuse collection not returned to normal despite a month without industrial action?

Answer

The industrial action is on-going with the refuse collectors taking 'action short of a strike'. This is preventing the waste collection service returning to normal despite the introduction of measures to reduce the disruption.

19. GCSE Exam Success

Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Moulton

What is the Cabinet Members' preferred measure of GCSE exam success?

Answer

The standard recognised national measure records the percentage of pupils achieving 5+ A*-C (including English and Maths).

44. MOTIONS

(a) Police and Crime Commissioners

Councillor Dr. R. Williams moved and Councillor Letts seconded:-

"Following the serious disturbances across many English cities Council calls on the Executive to write to the City's MPs, Prime Minister and the Home Secretary to call

for a stop in the implementation of Police and Crime Commissioners which would cost, in Hampshire and the IOW alone, nearly £2,000,000 for the election of such an individual”.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST

RESOLVED that the motion be **not** approved.

NOTE: Councillors Moulton and Rayment declared personal and prejudicial interests in the above matter, in view of their appointment as Members of the Police Authority and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter. Councillor Thorpe declared a personal and prejudicial interest as an employee of Hampshire Constabulary and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter.

(COUNCILLOR BURKE IN THE CHAIR)

(b) Students in Private Accommodation

Councillor Vinson moved and Councillor Turner seconded:-

“This Council urges the Executive, in discussion with Southampton’s two universities, to explore the adoption of a threshold for the numbers of students living in private accommodation in the community, linking future expansion in student numbers to the provision of additional purpose-built accommodation through the planning process, along the lines in force in Oxford.”

Amendment moved by Councillor Hannides and seconded by Councillor Claisse:

Third line, after the word ‘community’ delete the remaining paragraph.

Replace with ‘and other multi occupancy homes in the city (HMOs), for inclusion into a new planning policy to sit along side the planned Article 4 Directive, and for implementation in March 2012. Council notes that there is an existing policy H13 in place under the Local Plan in 2006, which requires that where universities propose new development that will increase student numbers, then residential accommodation is required to be agreed with the council, and that this policy is broadly in line with Oxford’s policy and Council further notes that a change to the policy would take approximately three years. Finally Council welcomes the positive dialogue that has taken place between the Executive and the University of Southampton and welcomes the recent OJEU notice to look to supply a further 1,000 student bed places in dedicated student accommodation.’

Amended Motion to read:

“This Council urges the Executive, in discussion with Southampton’s two universities to explore the adoption of a threshold for the numbers of students living in private accommodation in the community and other multi occupancy homes in the city (HMOs), for inclusion into a new planning policy to sit along side the planned Article 4 Directive, and for implementation in March 2012. Council notes that there is an existing policy H13 in place under the Local Plan in 2006, which requires that where

universities propose new development that will increase student numbers, then residential accommodation is required to be agreed with the council, and that this policy is broadly in line with Oxford's policy and Council further notes that a change to the policy would take approximately three years. Finally Council welcomes the positive dialogue that has taken place between the Executive and the University of Southampton and welcomes the recent OJEU notice to look to supply a further 1,000 student bed places in dedicated student accommodation."

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION AS AMENDED WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the motion as amended be approved.

NOTE: Councillor Dr. R. Williams declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the above matter as a private sector landlord and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter.

45. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS TO THE CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES OR THE MAYOR

It was noted that no questions to the Chairs of Committees or the Mayor had been received.

46. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES AND OTHER BODIES

It was noted that Councillor Beryl Harris had replaced Councillor Ball on the Licensing Committee.

47. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME

The report of the Acting Head of Legal and Democratic Services was submitted concerning the Independent Remuneration Panel recommendations following its review of the Members' Allowance Scheme (copy of report circulated with the agenda and appended to signed minutes).

It was noted that the Standards and Governance Committee had considered the report at its meeting held on 8th September 2011 and expressed their concern that some of the recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel could effectively discourage many people from becoming councillors, and thus lead to a reduction in the Council's current broad base of membership.

Denise Barlow, Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel was in attendance and with the consent of the Chair addressed the Meeting.

Amendment moved by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Dr. R. Williams:

Delete recommendation (i) to Council and insert new recommendation (i)

- (i) That after having regard to the IRP's report, the members' allowance scheme as currently set at the 2009 Minimum Wage Rate, be reaffirmed to take effect on 1st October 2011 and that the rate remain at the 2009 Minimum Wage Rate until a further review is requested by the Council or is required in accordance with the Regulations, which would be by September 2015.

Insert new recommendation (iv)

- (iv) That all other elements of the existing scheme remain unchanged.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT WAS DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED:

- (i) That after having regard to the IRP's report, the members' allowance scheme as currently set at the 2009 Minimum Wage Rate, be reaffirmed to take effect on 1st October 2011 and that the rate remain at the 2009 Minimum Wage Rate until a further review is requested by the Council or is required in accordance with the Regulations, which would be by September 2015;
- (ii) to make any amendment to the Council's Constitution accordingly;
- (iii) that the Panel be thanked for its work in producing the report; and
- (iv) that all other elements of the existing scheme remain unchanged.

48. CITY PLAN

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted seeking approval for the City Plan (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the draft City Plan 2011 – 2014 prepared by Southampton Connect be endorsed;
- (ii) that it be agreed that the Council would prioritise the necessary resources to lead the delivery of 3 priority projects (out of 10 projects) as the lead partner; and
- (iii) that the approval process by all key partners and subsequent formal launch of the City Plan in October 2011 be noted.

49. THE GENERAL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11 TO 2013/14

The report of the Cabinet Member for Resources, Leisure and Culture was submitted updating the Council on any major changes in the overall General Fund Capital Programme (copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the revised General Fund Capital Programme (which totals £250.0M as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report) together with the associated use of resources be approved;

- (ii) that the over programming of £8.1M as detailed in paragraph 11 of the report, which is within the previously approved tolerances be approved;
- (iii) that approval for £3.9M to be added to the Environment & Transport capital programme in 2011/12 for the following works to be funded by government grants (LTP Settlement) be granted:
 - Highways Maintenance - £1,845,000
 - Integrated Transport - £2,027,000
- (iv) that it be noted that £1.6M had been transferred from the scheme for Repairs & Maintenance to the Accommodation Strategy (ASAP scheme) within Resources capital programme under powers delegated by Council;
- (v) that approval for £2.9M to be added to the Resources capital programme, to be phased £1.6M in 2011/12 and £1.3M in 2012/13, for the Accommodation Strategy (ASAP scheme) to be funded by revenue be granted;
- (vi) that approval for £550,000 to be added to the Resources capital programme, to be phased £250,000 in 2011/12 and £300,000 in 2012/13, for the demolition of surplus redundant buildings at the old Town Depot to be funded by revenue be granted;
- (vii) that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Financial Officer, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, Leisure & Culture to add a further £100,000 to the Resources capital programme for the demolition of surplus redundant buildings at the old Town Depot if required to be funded from revenue, bringing the total scheme up to a maximum of £650,000;
- (viii) that approval to add £250,000 to the Leader's capital programme in 2011/12 for the demolition of the Eastpoint Centre to be funded by revenue be granted;
- (ix) that delegated authority be granted to the Chief Financial Officer, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to add a further £100,000 to the Leader's capital programme for the demolition of the Eastpoint Centre if required to be funded from revenue, bringing the total scheme up to a maximum of £350,000; and
- (x) that it be noted that the revised General Fund Capital Programme takes into account the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) for 2011/12 and 2012/13.

50. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the confidential appendices to the report referred to at item 13 on the agenda.

Appendices 1 and 2 of the report are considered to be confidential, the confidentiality of which is based on category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. It is not in the public interest to disclose this information because doing so would impact on the integrity of a commercial procurement process and the Council's ability to achieve 'Best value' in line with its statutory duties.

51. MEETING THE CARE QUALITY COMMISSION'S STANDARDS IN COUNCIL CARE HOMES

The report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health was submitted regarding the expenditure required to meet the Care Quality Commission's Standards in Council Care Homes (copy of report circulated with the agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that approval to the sum detailed in confidential appendix 1 to the report be added to the Adult Social Care and Health Capital Programme for expenditure on improvements to the fabric and furnishings of the Council owned residential homes, to be funded from Council resources made available through the Department of Health Personal Social Services Capital Grant allocation for 2011/12.