

---

SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010

---

Present:

The Mayor, Councillor Mizon  
The Sheriff, Councillor Cunio  
Councillors Baillie, Ball, Barnes–Andrews, Baston, Beckett (items 63-78),  
Mrs Blatchford, Bogle, Burke (not present for item 75), Capozzoli (items  
68(c)-70, 72-80), Cooke, Mrs Damani, Daunt, Davis, Dean, Dick, Drake,  
Fitzgerald, Fitzhenry, Fuller, Galton (item 68 onwards), Hannides, Holmes,  
Jones, Letts, Marsh-Jenks, Matthews, Moulton, Norris, Odgers, Osmond,  
Parnell, Payne, Rayment, Samuels, Slade, Smith, Sollitt, Stevens, Thomas,  
Walker, Wells, White, Willacy, P. Williams and Dr R. Williams.

63. APOLOGIES

It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Councillor McEwing.

64. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009 be approved and signed as a correct record.

65. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Association of Public Service Excellence Award

The Mayor informed Members that in December 2009, the Council's Fleet Transport Service won the prestigious 'Most Improved Performer' Award from the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) at its Performance Networks awards ceremony held in Blackpool.

Twelve months after winning the 'Best Overall Performer' award, the Council's team emerged top of the Performance Networks 250 member councils for Vehicle Fleet Maintenance and is the fourth consecutive year that it has won one of the 2 top awards.

The Mayor presented a certificate and trophy to Dave Bone, the Council's Acting Fleet Manager.

2. Mayor's Charity Ball

The Mayor reminded Members that tickets were still available for her Charity Ball to be held on Thursday 28th January 2010. She also reminded Members that there were a number of auction prizes available

and that bids could be accepted on the prizes either prior to the Ball or at the Mayor's Charity Ball itself.

66. DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- (i) The Council received a deputation from Mrs Fox and Mr Mainwaring concerning the dangers of a specific stretch of Blackthorn Road, Merry Oak.
- (ii) The Council received the following public question from Mr Pope:  
“Does the Council prioritise procurement contracts to those who do not pay excessive remuneration packages for example, greater than £100k per annum, and who do not have reckless bonus cultures, for example, no more than 50% of salary?”

Answer

‘In conducting its procurements over the OJEU levels (recently revised but were £139,892 for supplies and services and £3,497,313 for works) it has to comply with the requirements of the EU Procurement Directives and the Public Contract Regulations 2006. As such contracts are awarded on the basis of either the most economically advantageous tender or lowest price. There are no other options allowed. The Council also has an obligation to deliver best value. The most economically advantageous tender award procedure requires criteria to be defined as part of the tender evaluation process. However, they have to be relevant to the contract. Remuneration packages could not be considered to be relevant as they do not affect the desired outcomes the Council may have from a contract. However, in order for a bidder to be successful there is a need for bidders to be competitive and it is therefore the bidder’s responsibility to ensure that they have a cost effective cost structure.

Remuneration for most organisations is based upon market rates and it would therefore be inappropriate for the Council to attempt to use its procurements to ‘drive down’ market rates. Any attempt to do this could have a negative effect on the service delivered by the Council, through its suppliers. Furthermore, the Council deals with a broad spectrum of suppliers from one person organisations through to Microsoft. We also have variable influence with our suppliers and as such many of our suppliers would choose not to deal with the Council if we tried to dictate their remuneration policy.

In conclusion, although I understand the sentiment behind your question, it would be illegal to select suppliers based upon their remuneration packages, and even if we could, it would be likely to have a detrimental effect upon the services we deliver.’

67. 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 Leader informed Members of a change to the Cabinet and the Cabinet scheme of Delegations in that there had been a re-organisation in Cabinet in relation to the Young People and Skills Portfolio, as Councillor Matthews had retired from the Cabinet. This portfolio had been divided between two portfolios which had been renamed, thus creating changes in their responsibility and functions. The Children's Services and Learning Portfolio would be held by Councillor Holmes and the Safeguarding Children and Youth Services Portfolio would be held by Councillor Walker.

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

1. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Walker

Has the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding Children and Youth Services confidence in the Council's ability to care for all young people eighteen or under in the City?

Answer

Yes, given the measures the Administration has taken and the improvements that are being implemented.

2. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Walker

Who commissioned the report into Safeguarding in the City and why was it felt necessary for such a report to be commissioned?

Answer

The Director of Children's Services in conjunction with our statutory partners, to ensure inter-agency arrangements were as safe as possible.

3. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Walker

Why did the Cabinet Member not even mention the Independent Multi Agency Safeguarding Review and its findings at the Corporate Parenting committee?

Answer

The Corporate Parenting Committee focuses primarily on Children

Looked After. The 'Worlock' Review largely relates to Children in Need and the joint effectiveness of our safeguarding arrangements between agencies for those children.

4. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Walker

Why is the Corporate Parenting Committee not a statutory body considering the issues/concerns raised in the Independent Multi Agency Safeguarding Review about the lack of action or understanding by Council and Councillors?

Answer

The Review does not criticise the Council or Cabinet Members in relation to a lack of action or understanding of Safeguarding issues. The Corporate Parenting Committee is not a legal requirement and making the body a part of the Council's constitution would have no direct benefit to Children Looked After. In addition to this, briefings on Safeguarding have been offered and will continue to be in the future.

5. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Walker

When did the Cabinet Member know about the recommendations in the Independent Multi Agency Safeguarding Review?

Answer

In draft form, from the summer of 2009, but the report was not accepted with our statutory partners until the end of October 2009. It would not have been appropriate to comment on the recommendations until the report had been accepted.

6. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Samuels

Why did the Cabinet not release the Independent Multi Agency Safeguarding Review and its findings for six months after it was completed?

Answer

The draft report was not completed until the end of October and was then circulated in full to Group Leaders, Deputy Group Leaders and Spokespeople in November.

7. Question from Councillor Stevens to Councillor Samuels

What is the Council's response to the Independent Multi Agency Safeguarding Review recommendations and when will there be action?

Answer

The Council welcomes the report and is already working to implement its key recommendations, some of which were already in train.

8. Question from Councillor Drake to Councillor P Williams

Would the Cabinet Member please let me know when action will be taken to help prevent heat escaping through single glazed windows in Council properties by the installation of double glazing, which would also cut emissions?

Answer

This is an important issue for many tenants. There is an ongoing programme to replace people's windows. The Government currently takes millions of pounds of tenants' rents. If we had this money locally then we could allocate more money on tenants' priorities.

With the current spend (£2.786m) it is envisaged that by the end of 2013 the majority of all single glazed timber/metal framed windows will be replaced with PVCu double glazed units.

9. Question from Councillor Bogle to Councillor Hannides

Will the Council still be responsible for the maintenance costs of the leisure centres once they are privatised?

Answer

The Council is proposing to transfer responsibility for Repairs and Maintenance of the leisure centres to the preferred partner and bidders have been required to provide management fee proposals on this basis. The Council will retain responsibility only for the structure and latent defects in the buildings as it will remain freeholder on the property. General maintenance, replacement of major equipment and redecoration will be the responsibility of the partner.

10. Question from Councillor Drake to Councillor Dean

Would the Cabinet Member please let me know what is being done to prevent cycling on certain pavements on the Eastern side of the City, which is causing problems to some residents, in particular the elderly and disabled?

Answer

There have been several campaigns aimed at addressing cycling on pavements. We have supported the Police at various locations to highlight and address the issues of cycling on pavements.

The initial campaign started in Shirley in November 2008 and has moved to other districts.

In November 2009, in conjunction with the police and other partner agencies, the council went to different locations around the city to engage with cyclists. Each day we were at a different location so we could engage with as many different people as possible. In total 579 cyclists were stopped and spoken with. Advice was given about the use of lights and staying bright; many were given a free high visibility vest, rucksack covers or fluorescent snap bands to encourage them to cycle safely on cycle routes and roads.

I have written to Superintendent Matthew Greening who is responsible for operational policing matters in Southampton regarding cycling on pavements in December 2009 and as yet I am awaiting a reply to my letter.

I plan to meet him to discuss this and other issues in February 2010.

11. Question from Councillor Bogle to Councillor Smith

Does the Cabinet Member for Economic Development support the policy of an Alcohol Disorder Zone in areas with high levels of alcohol related violent crime?

Answer

Alcohol Disorder Zones (ADZ) were introduced by the Government as an additional tool to tackle crime and ASB linked to alcohol, in particular 'binge drinking' in the Night Time Economy. The guidance is that this is to be used as a last resort, and require agreement of the council and police who would have to show evidence that an ADZ would be proportionate and effective but there is no prescribed threshold of crime and disorder for an appropriate ADZ. The ultimate sanction is an additional 'levy' on licensed premises within the zone to help fund crime reduction costs including policing in the area.

There is no prescribed threshold of crime and disorder where an ADZ is considered appropriate. Currently there is no evidence that the city needs to use ADZ as 'last resort' action at this stage. It could stigmatise the city and have a negative effect on the local economy. Reducing alcohol-related crime and ASB is a high priority for the council and Safe City Partnership which is working hard to deliver a range of actions including:

- projects to reduce alcohol related crime in the night time economy
- more robust approach to holding licensed premises to account
- new ways to identify and tackle offenders
- maximum use of existing powers to increase the safety of visitors to the city at night.

12. Question from Councillor Sollitt to Councillor Smith

What effect did the closure of the Southampton Rail Tunnel and resulting increase in traffic flow into the City Centre have on the pre and post Christmas foot-fall into the City Centre?

Answer

The closure of the Rail Tunnel resulted in improvements made to bus services. There was an increase in foot-fall during the 2009 Christmas holiday period of 4.8% compared to the same period in 2008. There were 217,600 visitors to the city centre during 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> December 2009 compared to 207,500 for the same 3 days in 2008. This is an increase of 10,100 visitors for this period, which can only be good for the local economy.

13. Question from Councillor Rayment to Councillor Moulton

Question Withdrawn

14. Question from Councillor Slade to Councillor Dean

How many people have contacted the Council regarding claims for falls on icy pavements?

Answer

Please see the response to Council Question 20 for a full statement on gritting and the recent adverse weather conditions.

15. Question from Councillor Dr R Williams to Councillor Dean

What is the percentage of the concessionary fares budget used to pay for journeys that start and finish within the Southampton City boundaries?

Answer

The Council does not know these figures as passengers that travel on the longer services, such as the Winchester route, may be travelling within the city and it has never been practice for Southampton passengers to state their destination when boarding a bus using a concessionary fare pass. Swipe cards are available that can pair up the outward and return trips but this technology is not available in Southampton currently.

The Administration is currently undertaking a review of supported bus services: the focus of this study is to see if Council resources can be spent more effectively supporting the travelling public rather than making a budget saving.

16. Question from Councillor Baston to Councillor Dean

Could the Cabinet Member please clarify the Administration's policy on gritting roads in icy conditions, in particular as applied to bus routes and public car parks?

Answer

Please see the response to Council Question 20 for a full statement on gritting and the recent adverse weather conditions.

17. Question from Councillor Dr R Williams to Councillor Holmes

What is the Cabinet Member for Children's Services doing to address the dire problems at schools across Southampton?

Answer

The situation in our schools is not dire.

In fact, there is significant evidence that performance in Southampton schools is improving and the gap with the national average has been reduced at age 5, 7, 14 and 16.

At age 5 (Foundation Stage) the gap has reduced from 12% in 2006 to 4% in 2009.

At age 7 (Key Stage 1) the gap was reduced in 2009 from 4% to 2% in reading, from 4% to 3% in writing and from 2% to being in-line with the national average in mathematics.

At age 14 (Key Stage 3) results in 2009 improved by 10% in both English and science and by 5% in mathematics.

At age 16 (GCSE) – the gap with the national on 5+A\*-C including English and mathematics has reduced from 10% in 2006 to 7% in 2009.

In addition the latest Ofsted data confirms that there are a greater proportion of outstanding schools than the national average.

These highly successful schools are working in partnership with lower performing schools so that the excellence that already exists within Southampton influences more widely.

18. Question from Councillor Baston to Councillor Dean

Does the Cabinet Member intend to review the amount of gritting materials kept in stock by the Council in view of the recent emergency?



Answer

Please see the response to Council Question 20 for a full statement on gritting and the recent adverse weather conditions.

19. Question from Councillor Burke to Councillor Hannides

Can the Cabinet Member inform the Council whether there is a break clause in the proposed privatisation of leisure facilities?

Answer

No break clause is proposed at specific dates in the Terms and Conditions to be agreed with the preferred bidder. However, the Council has the opportunity to terminate the agreement on the basis of Contractor default that cannot be resolved through the performance and default mechanism agreed with bidders.

20. Question from Councillor Cunio to Councillor Dean

What policy does the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport have towards the gritting of pavements in adverse weather conditions such as those experienced recently in the City?

Answer

The City Council has a Winter Maintenance Policy which includes an operations plan for dealing with adverse weather conditions. As part of this policy the Council has categorised the road and footway networks for salting treatment, based on the level of traffic (vehicles and pedestrians) and the strategic importance of the highway. Main bus routes are covered under A routes. The majority of other roads used by buses are covered under B routes. Public Car Parks are not salted as a priority, in line with many other authorities. Details of priority routes and times for salting treatment are available on Southampton Online (<http://www.southampton.gov.uk/s-environment/roadsandparking/roadsmaintenance/grittingandsnowclearance.aspx>)

The Council keeps a stock of salt at town depot which is sufficient for a week of bad weather under normal circumstances. We currently have over 100 tonnes of salt at the Town Depot which puts us in a better position than most other councils. This is considered appropriate as salt is usually available within 48 hours from the Council's suppliers. I have asked the officers to review their practices given the bad weather last February and in recent weeks; however, the storage of large quantities of corrosive salt is not environmentally sound and is relatively expensive to store. This matter will also be discussed with the new Highways Service Providers before next winter.

The salt stocks have been professionally managed by our operational officers, despite having to deal with many direct individual requests, some of which will have been the result of slips and falls. It would have been irresponsible to have responded outside our operating policy in an uncontrolled way. This would have resulted in a mixture of treated and untreated roads which would have been dangerous and could have placed the council at great risk from claims, particularly if we had compromised our ability to salt priority routes as a consequence. Currently there has been no increase in claims submitted as a result of falls on icy pavements. However, as people have three years to submit a claim it is too early to ascertain how many claims will be made, especially as the poor weather is so recent.

During the recent period of bad weather, the government issued advice to councils seeking a reduction in salt use by 25%. We responded by reducing our salting to A routes only and saving 20%. We also suspended filling grit bins. Despite reducing the salting activities in line with government advice, we were still able to respond to requests from the police, bus operators, and health authority for assistance. Our Open Spaces teams were able to apply grit to many busy footways in the City.

21. Question from Councillor Burke to Councillor Hannides

Can the Cabinet Member inform the Council whether the tender for leisure facilities will be acceptable even if it falls below the current level of income?

Answer

The Council currently subsidises the facilities to a significant extent. The new management arrangements will reduce the net subsidy required by the Council; this is one of the 3 key objectives of the project. With reference to income, bidders have accepted the risk on generating the income proposed in their management proposals.

22. Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Hannides

Can the Cabinet Member confirm that the current provision for 'free swimming' will remain available at Bitterne Leisure Centre and the Quays under the proposed private sector management arrangements?

Answer

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport originally committed the scheme to last for 2 years and its contributions for the free swimming programme is due to end at the end of March 2011. This was supplemented by additional funding from NHS Southampton City, local schools and the City Council. Bidders have committed to the programme while funding exists.

Should this funding not be available after March 2011, the Council will need to decide whether it wishes to work with the Contractor to continue the free swimming programme.

23. Question from Councillor Barnes-Andrews to Councillor Walker

Can the Cabinet Member provide a breakdown on what the £800k additional spending in Children's Services provided?

Answer

The additional budget from the Revenue Development Fund has been used to employ additional social workers within the Safeguarding Division.

24. Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Dean

Following comments made at the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee can the Cabinet Member confirm that it is your view that the terms and conditions of staff working for First Bus in Southampton are too good?

Answer

No.

25. Question from Councillor Letts to Councillor Smith

From what source is the proposed (up to £3,000,000) capital purchase of the land at Eastpoint to be funded?

Answer

The Council will continue to meet the cost of the land until the sale is agreed and therefore borrowing cannot be ruled out. However, once the residual land is sold, the capital receipt will be ring fenced to the Eastpoint Redevelopment.

68. MOTIONS

- (a) Concessionary Bus Travel

Councillor Dr R Williams moved and Councillor Letts seconded:-

“This Council supports free concessionary bus travel for the over 60's enjoyed by 8 million people and calls on all three major political parties on social and environmental grounds to pledge its continuation without changing the criteria for eligibility.”

Amendment moved by Councillor Dean and seconded by Councillor Moulton :

In the third line, delete the words:

“without changing the criteria for eligibility.”

and replace with:

“but deplores the underfunding by Central Government of the scheme.”

AMENDED MOTION TO READ:

“This Council supports free concessionary bus travel for the over 60's enjoyed by 8 million people and calls on all three major political parties on social and environmental grounds to pledge its continuation but deplores the underfunding by Central Government of the scheme.”

Further amendment moved by Councillor Dr R. Williams and seconded by Councillor Letts:

In the third line, delete the words:

“but deplores the underfunding” and delete the word “of”

and replace with:

“and welcomes all party support for increased funding by Central Government for the scheme”.

FURTHER AMENDED MOTION TO READ:

“This Council supports free concessionary bus travel for the over 60's enjoyed by 8 million people and calls on all three major political parties on social and environmental grounds to pledge its continuation and welcomes all party support for increased funding by Central Government for the scheme”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DR R. WILLIAMS WAS DECLARED LOST

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE AMENDMENT IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DEAN WAS DECLARED CARRIED

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

RESOLVED that the motion as amended by Councillor Dean be approved.

(b) Privatisation of Leisure Facilities

Councillor Burke moved and Councillor Bogle seconded:-

“Council calls on the Executive to abandon its plans to privatise the management of council leisure facilities.”

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE MOTION WAS DECLARED LOST

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

(c) Corporate Parenting Committee

With the consent of the meeting, Councillor Stevens altered and moved his motion and Councillor Walker seconded:-

“In the first paragraph, delete the words:

“seriousness of the recommendations in the Warnock Report and in light of the very real concerns shared by all councils and councillors, calls upon Southampton City Council to follow the approach adopted by other authorities and increase the status of the Corporate Parenting Group and its ability to make recommendations within either the scrutiny or Local Safeguarding Children’s Board structure and become a politically proportionate body within the constitution of the authority.”

and replace with:

“importance of the Safeguarding Agenda and in particular, the rightful focus on outcomes for Children Looked After. As such, Council welcomes the measures taken to develop the Corporate Parenting Committee such as scrutinising outcomes for Children Looked After, ensuring the Corporate Parenting Committee remains a prominent and effective vehicle for improving the opportunities and outcomes for Children Looked After, in Southampton.”

ALTERED MOTION TO READ:

Council notes importance of the Safeguarding Agenda and in particular, the rightful focus on outcomes for Children Looked After. As such, Council welcomes the measures taken to develop the Corporate Parenting Committee such as scrutinising outcomes for Children Looked After, ensuring the Corporate Parenting Committee remains a prominent and effective vehicle for improving the opportunities and outcomes for Children Looked After, in Southampton.

UPON BEING PUT TO THE VOTE THE ALTERED MOTION WAS

DECLARED CARRIED

RESOLVED that the altered motion be approved.

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

It was noted that no questions had been received.

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

It was noted that no changes to the appointments had been made.

71. ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2008/09 AND COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT

The report of the Leader of the Council was submitted formally receiving the 2009 Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Area Assessment. (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the 2009 Audit Commission's Annual Audit and Inspection Letter and the Audit Commission's CAA Assessment - Organisational Assessment of the City Council and Southampton's Area Assessment, be formally received.

72. ADOPTION OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CORE STRATEGY

The report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport seeking approval for the adoption of the Core Strategy, following amendments in accordance with the Inspector's recommendations, and the endorsement of the list of additional Local Plan Review policies, was submitted. (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the Core Strategy which has been amended in accordance with the Inspector's recommendations be adopted; and
- (ii) That the list of additional Local Plan Review policies (attached as Appendix 1 to the report), that will be replaced in part or in full by the Core Strategy, be endorsed.

73. TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF GAMBLING ACT 2005 POLICY

The report of the Solicitor to the Council seeking the adoption of a revised Gambling Act Policy was submitted (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that the draft revised Gambling Act policy be adopted.

74. 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 appendix to item no. 75.

Confidential appendix 2 contains information deemed to be exempt from general publication based on Category 3 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. It is not considered to be in the public interest to disclose this information because this appendix contains confidential and commercially sensitive information relating to the property interests potentially involved in this matter.

75. EASTPOINT REDEVELOPMENT

The report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Development seeking approval, subject to certain conditions, for the addition of £3,000,000 to be added to the Economic Development Portfolio Capital Programme, was submitted (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the addition of up to £3,000,000 to the Economic Development Portfolio Capital Programme for the surrender of the current Eastpoint Lease be approved; and
- (ii) That the addition of £130,000 to the Economic Development Capital Programme for the demolition of the old Eastpoint Centre following the construction of the new Eastpoint building and services, and the vacation of the old Eastpoint Centre, be approved.

NOTE: Councillor Burke declared a personal interest in the above matter, in view of his status as Chair of Governors at Itchen College, and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter.

76. 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 appendix to item no. 77.

Appendix 1 to the report contains information deemed to be exempt from general publication 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 it comprises financial and business information that if made public would prejudice the Council's ability to operate in a commercial environment and obtain best value during acquisition negotiations.

77. PURCHASE & INSTALLATION OF NEW CREMATORS, MERCURY ABATEMENT & OTHER ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT FOR SOUTHAMPTON CREMATORIUM

The report of the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport seeking approval for the addition of the sum set out in the confidential appendix to the Environment and Transport Capital Programme for the Crematorium, was submitted (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED that in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, the addition of the sum set out in the confidential appendix to the Environment & Transport Capital Programme for the Crematorium - New Cremators scheme, to be funded from a combination of direct revenue financing and unsupported borrowing, be approved.

78. 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 appendix to item no. 79.

Appendix 1 to the report contains information deemed to be exempt from general publication 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 prejudice the Council's commercial position in relation to future procurement activities supporting the BSF project and could affect the Council's ability to deliver best value in the procurement of services for the benefit of the public.



BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE (BSF): SUBMISSION OF  
OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

The report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services seeking approval for capital and revenue contributions to be added to future years' budget proposals and £4 million to be added to the Children's Services Capital programme, was submitted. (Copy of report circulated with agenda and appended to signed minutes).

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the proposed capital and revenue contributions as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report be added to budget proposals in future years;
- (ii) That in accordance with Financial Procedure Rules, a sum of £5.147 million be vired to the Children's Services Capital programme for BSF Wave 6a, funded from 14-19 Diplomas, SEN and Disabilities Targeted Capital Fund Grant;
- (iii) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Resources to certify the Council's affordability position (the Section 151 letter) as required for the submission of the Outline Business Case (OBC) or any other stage of the BSF procurement process subject to the project remaining within the overall affordability envelope approved by the Council;
- (iv) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Resources to determine the actual Capital and Revenue sources of funding to be used to support the Council's required financial contributions (see indicative funding model in appendix 1) to BSF, subject to the project remaining within the overall affordability envelope approved by the Council; and
- (v) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Children's Services and Learning and the Executive Director of Resources, following consultation with the Solicitor to the Council and the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, to do anything necessary to give effect to the recommendations in the report and/or to enable the Council to submit the OBC, subject to the project remaining within the overall affordability envelope approved by the Council.

NOTE: Councillors Beckett, Mrs Blatchford, Capozzoli, Cooke, Cunio, Matthews and Slade, declared personal interests in the above matter, in view of their status as School Governors, and remained in the meeting during the consideration of the matter, except for Councillor Beckett, who left the meeting.

80. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY: SUMMARY OF CALL-IN ACTIVITY

RESOLVED that the report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy), summarising the use of the Call-In procedure over the last three months be noted.

NOTE: Councillor Beckett declared a personal interest in the above matter, in view of his status as a School Governor, and left the meeting during the consideration of the matter.