

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Mid Sussex District
Council Cabinet held on Monday, 27 March 2017
from 4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: Jonathan Ash-Edwards, Andrew MacNaughton, Gary Marsh, Garry Wall (Leader), Mandy Thomas-Atkin and Norman Webster.

Also present: Councillors: Pete Bradbury, Rod Clarke, Ginny Heard, and Peter Reed.

Officers: Kathryn Hall, Tom Clark, Judy Holmes, Peter Stuart, Simon Hughes, Terry Stanley and Mark Bristow.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

4. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

5. PERFORMANCE MONITORING FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2016/17

Peter Stuart, Head of Corporate Resources introduced the report stating that the direction of travel is encouraging. He confirmed that key performance indicators had been considered by the Scrutiny Committee for Customer Services and Service Delivery and that the Performance Indicator Review Working Group had agreed changes to the performance indicators for 2017/18. He further reported that a summary update on flagship activities associated with the revised set of Council priorities would be taken to Committee quarterly.

The Leader, welcomed the report and confirmed that the Scrutiny Committees had been thorough in undertaking due diligence. The Direction of travel outlined in the Report is welcome and shows continued improvement, despite the challenges the Council faces.

The Cabinet Member for Service Delivery stated that the percentage of waste recycled was measured in tonnage which is not an ideal indicator as the weight of recycling is reducing, volume is increasing. The West Sussex Waste Partnership are lobbying Government along with other Councils to change this indicator.

The Cabinet Member for Community noted the year on year improvement in performance across many service areas. He highlighted that Disabled Facilities Grant performance is affected by the complexity of cases that are received. In relation to the "Weight Off" initiative additional workshops are being added to the programme as

demand has been higher than expected and feedback from service users has been good.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning noted that the use of temporary accommodation is higher than the target. Affinity Sutton has been working to reduce the amount of time properties are void. This will continue to be monitored. Whilst the number of households accepted as homeless is higher than the target, considering the geographical context of the District this is not as it could otherwise be. The Council is continuing to work to deliver affordable housing and the number of completions is currently significantly above target.

The Cabinet Member for Customer Services noted paragraph 42 of the Report in relation to the ICT Helpdesk and stated that the service level is now back on track.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Economic Growth noted the performance of the Council. The reasons for the Benefits and Council Tax indicators being below target are well understood. He welcomed the new performance indicators that have arisen from the Working Group and noted that these are more focused on outcomes rather than processes.

The Leader welcomed the report and thanked the Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning for his informative statement in relation to affordable housing. This was a particular work stream which residents really needed and benefitted from the Council's input. He was particularly pleased to see the performance of the leisure centres which generate savings for other services such as health. He then took Members to the recommendations which were agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

Cabinet resolved to:

- i) note the Council's performance in the third quarter of the year and identify any areas where further reporting or information is required; and
- ii) note the changes to the bundle of performance indicators and flagship activities to be monitored in 2017/18.

6. STRATEGIC RISKS 2017/18

Peter Stuart, Head of Corporate Resources introduced the report confirming that the themes were broadly similar to the previous year, with some carefully considered revisions.

The Leader welcomed the report and noted that all risks have reduced in their assessment over the past few years and this was thanks to the work the Council has done to mitigate the risks and the tried and tested method that the council had adopted in assessing risks.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning noted the risk associated with the District Plan and stated that it will be interesting to see how this develops.

The Leader then took Members to the recommendations which were agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

Cabinet resolved to:

- (i) Agree the strategic risks for 2017/18 and management plans set out at appendices A and B of the Report; and
- (ii) Agree the existing Strategic Risk Management Policy, as set out at Appendix C.

7. WASTE MANAGEMENT, RECYCLING AND STREET CLEANSING SERVICES CONTRACT & WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY UPDATE REVIEW

Judy Holmes, Assistant Chief Executive, introduced the report and drew attention to the amount of background work that had been undertaken bringing this report forward. The Scrutiny Committee for Customer Service and Service Delivery had considered this work at its meeting on the 8th February and 14th March 2017 and made recommendations to the Cabinet regarding the Council's waste contract and strategy. The key work streams that will be taken forward are outlined at paragraph 19 of the report.

The Cabinet Member for Service Delivery confirmed that the Scrutiny Committee had asked searching questions and recommended extending the Contract. He further noted that work to clear the A23 road and slip roads had begun which he fully supported.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Economic Growth noted that this was a key service affecting all residents. There are opportunities to improve customer service, however, the relationship the Council has with Serco has been positive.

The Leader agreed that it was a key service for residents and value for money and customer service was important. He also recognised that work along the A23 is constrained owing to safety considerations. He then took Members to the recommendations which were agreed.

RESOLVED

Cabinet resolved to:

- a) Retain the services of Serco Ltd for the remaining term of the Waste Management, Recycling and Street Cleansing Services Contract to 31st July 2028.
- b) Retain the existing comingled dry recycling service and frequency.
- c) Instruct Serco to re-procure the fleet on the basis of current service provision.

- d) Develop the business case for other work strands including waste reduction initiatives to enhance recycling and composting collections.

The meeting was closed at 4.30 p.m.

Chairman.