PETERBOROUGH
CITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING
HELD AT 10:00AM, ON
MONDAY, 15 JULY 2019
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

Cabinet Members Present: Councillor Holdich (Chair), Councillor Allen, Councillor Ayres, Councillor Cereste, Councillor Farooq, Councillor Fitzgerald, Councillor Hiller

Cabinet Advisors Present: None

14.   APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bashir, Councillor Seaton and Councillor Walsh

15.   DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

16.   MINUTES OF CABINET MEETINGS HELD ON 17 JUNE 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record, subject to:

- The amendment of, "The school in Hampton Waters was to be a voluntary aided Roman Catholic school, and this required a stage of statutory consultation," to, "The school in Hampton Waters was to be a voluntary aided Roman Catholic school, and this required a stage of statutory consultation and representation."
- The amendment of, "Officers advised that the final decision to progress with the faith school," to, "Officers advised that the final decision to progress with the faith school lay with the Cabinet Member."

17.   PETITIONS PRESENTED TO CABINET

There were no petitions presented to Cabinet.

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

18.   REPORT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP TO REVIEW FLY TIPPING AND WASTE POLICY PHASE 2

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the phase two recommendations from the Task and Finish Group to Review Fly Tipping and Waste Policy.

The purpose of this report was to seek Cabinet approval to implement the findings of the report and produce business cases for those recommendations with financial implications.

Councillor Judy Fox, the Chair of the Task and Finish Group, addressed the Cabinet and advised that the Group had investigated the possibilities around web services,

bulky waste collections, reporting fly tipping, House Recycling Centre opening hours, electronic permit systems, and commercial waste. It was also considered that continued education around the subject in schools was important, along with increasing detection rates and increasing the value of fines levied.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- It was noted that in other areas a move to an online permit system had increased access to the service. This would also allow the Council to collate information about how the service was being used.
- Members were pleased with the cross party engagement within the Task and Finish Group.
- Due to other possible ramifications around using a 'secret shopper' style of information gathering, this was not used.
- Task and Finish Group Members hoped that the work undertaken by the group was the first step in a larger process in developing the service.
- It was noted that Aragon already had a recycling roadshow trader to provide education in schools and that this could be broadened to cover litter and fly-tipping.
- In relation to the cost of bulky waste in relation to enforcement costs, if was noted that most services were cash neutral in this respect. However, a more detailed business case may need to be brought to Cabinet in the future.
- Comment was made that the Task and Finish Group could consider issues around fly-tipping on private land and whether the Council could provide any service in this area.
- Discussion was had in relation to high top vans being let into the HRC facility and it was felt that admission should be based on the volume of items being disposed of, rather than the vehicle used to transport them.
- It was noted that during a trial of free bulky waste collection, there was no reduction in fly-tipping, however, all he available slots for collection were filled.
- It was considered that communication of services to the public was important.
- Suggestion was made, in relation to an electronic permit system, if this system could link a driver to an address, thereby allow the Council to see those disposing of items from their own household, or on a commercial basis.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Endorse the Task and Finish Group to Review Fly Tipping and Waste Policy report (Appendix 1 to the report) and recommendations for implementation.
2. For recommendations where financial implications have been identified agree that a business case be produced and brought back to Cabinet for approval.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Following the decision to extend the remit and work of the Task and Finish Group both by scrutiny and Cabinet, the recommendations in the report had been made to support the additional points that were asked of the Task and Finish Group.

Based on the considerable evidence gathered during the work of the Task and Finish Group a sound understanding and basis in evidence had been generated to support the specific recommendations.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

To not undertake the work of the Task and Finish Group and report back was considered as unsuitable as this would fail to action the desire to undertake said investigation into these challenging issues.

19. **IT STRATEGY FOR PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the IT Strategy for Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.

The purpose of this report was to advise Cabinet of the proposed IT and Digital Strategy for Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, including the proposal to share the Sand Martin House Data Centre with Cambridgeshire County Council.

The Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation addressed the Cabinet and advised that the work around this strategy over the past 12 months would stabilise and strengthen the Council's IT system. Relocating the data centre and investigating a shared business system would reduce the cost of IT management. Further detail on this would be brought to Cabinet in the autumn.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- It was considered that IT management would be more efficient within service areas, including case management and finance systems.
- The savings from this increased efficiency would support these services.
- The sharing of services would benefit Peterborough City Council specifically through lower operating costs, generation of an income stream and a reduction in duplicate systems.
- Resilience within the IT structure was considered to be of high importance and the strategic direction was to have a robust system in one location and a backup in another.
- Security within the cloud system was in built, particularly within the Microsoft 365 package.
- It was noted that following the transferal to Microsoft 365 from Google that total costs for license would be decreased.
- In terms of the public seeing the benefit of this change, services would be delivered more quickly, more easily and more intelligently. Decisions would also would be based on better data information.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

- Approve the IT and Digital Strategy.
- Approve the decision to share the Sand Martin House Data Centre with Cambridgeshire County Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The IT and Digital Strategy had been set out in response to the existing and planning sharing of services across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. It would enable staff to work more effectively across both organisations, and thereby deliver more effective services to citizens. It was essential that the IT provision supported and enabled secure, easy and robust sharing and collaboration. It was important that this was done on a cost effective basis with the minimum level of duplicate costs for equipment and licences.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

In terms of the IT and Digital Strategy, and the convergence of IT with Cambridgeshire, the alternative option was to retain the status quo and continue with separate systems that were not shared or converged with Cambridgeshire. This option had been rejected due to the overwhelming need for front line services, that were already shared between the councils' to move away from duplication of systems, logins, data entry and data analysis.

MONITORING ITEMS

20.   BUDGET CONTROL REPORT MAY 2019

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Budget Control Report for May 2019.

The purpose of this report was to provide Cabinet with an early indication of the forecast for 2019/20 at the May 2019 budgetary control position.

The Acting Corporate Director of Resources introduced the report and advised that the overspend position had improved slightly within the context of the overall budget gap. Savings had been seen within the highways and housing needs teams, with additional spending required on temporary accommodation. It was advised that additional spending approval processes had been put into place, including revised recruitment processes and the requirement of business cases for all spend over £10,000.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note:

1. The Budgetary Control position for 2019/20 at May 2019 included a projected overspend of £5.457m against budget.
2. The key variance analysis and explanations were contained in Appendix A to the report.
3. The estimated reserves position for 2019/20 outlined in Appendix B to the report.
4. In year budget risks were highlighted in Appendix C to the report.
5. The Asset Investment and Treasury Budget Report was contained in Appendix D to the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The report updated Cabinet on the May 2019 budgetary control position.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There had been no alternative options considered.

<div align="right">

Chairman
10:00am – 10:56am
15 July 2019

</div>