

MINUTES OF CABINET MEETING HELD 20 DECEMBER 2010,
CONTINUED FROM 13 DECEMBER 2010

PRESENT

Cabinet Members:

Councillor Cereste (chair), Councillor Hiller, Councillor Holdich, Councillor Lamb, Councillor Lee, Councillor Seaton and Councillor Walsh.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Dalton, Councillor Elsey, Councillor Scott and Councillor Benton.

URGENT ITEM

The Future of Peterborough Community Services (The Provider Arm of the Primary Care Trust)

The Leader of the Council announced that this item would be added to the agenda as an urgent item. Along with the report submitted for the Cabinet meeting held on 13 December, Cabinet received a report giving updated information on the final arrangements for the transfer of adult social care services from Peterborough Community Services to Cambridgeshire Community Services. The Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care introduced the additional information and requested the report be approved in order to ensure arrangements could be finalised before 1 April 2011.

Cabinet **RESOLVED** to:

Agree:

1. That adult social care services are part of a transfer of services from Peterborough Community Services to Cambridgeshire Community Services from 1 April 2011 as recommended by NHS Peterborough and that this is subject to: a) Peterborough City Council having a place on the Board of the new organisation as set out in this update. b) The contract containing a clause which allows the City Council to review the inclusion of adult social care after the first six months. c) NHS Peterborough ensuring that the contract allows for a break clause when the partnership agreement between the City Council and the PCT ends (as it will under proposals to abolish Primary Care Trusts, set out in the NHS White Paper)
2. That further exploration takes place regarding learning disability services with a view to these services transferring to the City Council with a fuller options appraisal for the longer term then to take place.

Note:

That children's community health services will be transferred from Peterborough Community Services to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Foundation Trust from 1 April 2011 with a continued direction of travel of integration with the City Council's children's services.

REASONS

The following matters have influenced the recommendations:

- NHS national policy – “Transforming Community Services”;
- Our local partnership context and the opportunities outlined in the White Paper for the future;
- The need to continue to focus on key aspects of performance improvement for adult social care particularly in relation to safeguarding;
- The transforming adult social care programme and the need to commission and provide services using a more personalised approach; and
- NHS Peterborough's financial position and the need for all public bodies to achieve savings.

The recommendations mean that there will be robust providers of services in place from April 2011 that afford the City Council safeguards in terms of adult social care and also flexibility to review the arrangements in the context of the White Paper changes. The recommendation in relation to learning disability services means that there are opportunities to think differently about how this service may be provided in the longer-term.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The City Council could choose to take back all social care services from NHS Peterborough however this requires giving 12 months notice on the partnership agreement and also puts the integration of health and social care at risk. Since a new model for integration in Peterborough will in any case need to be designed (Primary Care Trusts will not exist after the next two years in proposals set out in the White Paper), it is preferable to consider the future shape of services and integration as a whole in this wider context. The recommendations in this paper will allow this to take place.

ADJOURNED ITEM

10. Budget 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2015/16

The Leader of the Council advised that the meeting would adjourn for one hour for Cabinet Members to discuss the revised draft budget that it was being asked to approve.

The meeting reconvened at 11.15am.

Cabinet considered a report recommending agreement of the basis for the next stage of the budget consultation following updated budget proposals for 2010-12 through to 2015-16 following the provisional local government finance settlement.

CABINET RESOLVED TO:

1. Agree the following as the basis for the next stage of the budget consultation:
 - a) That the MTFP is set in the context of the sustainable community strategy;
 - b) The Budget monitoring report as the first draft of a probable outturn position for 2010/11, noting the actions planned to deliver a balanced budget;

- c) The draft revenue budget for 2011/12 and indicative figures for 2012/13 to 2015/16 (including the updated capacity bids and savings proposals);
 - d) The draft capital programme for 2011/12 to 2015/16, associated capital strategy, treasury strategy and asset management plan;
 - e) The draft medium term financial plan for 2011/12 to 2015/16;
 - f) The proposed council tax freeze for 2011/12 and indicative increases of 2.5% for 2012/13 to 2015/16;
 - g) To spend at the level of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2011/12 to 2015/16; and
 - h) The proposals for reserves and balances.
2. Respond to Government regarding the consultation of the provisional local government finance settlement

REASONS

The Council must set a lawful and balanced budget.

The Council is required to set a Council Tax for 2011/12 within statutory prescribed timescales.

Before setting the level of Council Tax, the Council must have agreed a balanced budget.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Alternative levels of Council Tax increase and areas for growth/savings can be considered but this must be seen in the context of the Corporate Plan and other constraints, along with the loss of council tax freeze grant that any increase would lead to.

Meeting closed at 11.25 a.m.

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