

## CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 15 July 2005 at 10.00 am at County Hall, Lewes.

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17. PRESENT - Councillor Jones (Chairman)  
Councillors Bentley, Glazier, Lock, Reid, Simmons, Mrs Stroude and B Tidy

The following members spoke on the items indicated:

Councillor Birch	-	item 22
Councillor Field	-	items 27, 28 and 29
Councillor Kramer	-	items 28, 29 and 30
Councillor Martin	-	item 28
Councillor Lacey	-	item 27
Councillor O'Keeffe	-	item 28
Councillor Rogers	-	item 22
Councillor St Pierre	-	item 30
Councillor Webb	-	items 27 and 28

Also present – Mr G Brown (Audit Commission) – for item 21

## 18 MINUTES

18.1 RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 8 June and 14 June 2005 as correct records

## 19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

19.1 Councillor Birch declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in item 6 as a member of Hastings Borough Council.

19.2 Councillor Glazier declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in items 10, 11 and 12 as a non executive director of the Bexhill and Rother Primary Care Trust.

19.3 Councillor Jones declared a personal, non prejudicial interest in item 5 as a Commissioner of the Audit Commission

19.4 Councillor Kramer declared a personal non prejudicial interest in item 13 as a member of Hastings Borough Council

19.5 Councillor Ost declared a personal non prejudicial interest in item 13 as a Director of the Newhaven Community Development Agency

19.6 Councillor Webb declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in items 11 and 12 as a member of the Mental Health Association in St Leonards.

## 20. REPORTS

20.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

21 EXTERNAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION PLANS 2005/06

21.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources.

21.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED - to approve the External Audit and Inspection Plan for 200/06.

Reason

21.3 To agree the Audit and Inspection Plan for 2005/06.

22 RECONCILING POLICY AND RESOURCES – STATE OF THE COUNTY 2005

22.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive and Chief Officers

22.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to note the report and supporting appendices;

(2) to recommend the County Council to agree the policy steers (Appendix 3) as the basis for the Reconciling Policy and Resources work for 2006/07 and beyond;

(3) to request portfolio holders and Chief Officers to develop their service plans and to model the consequent saving proposals, on the basis of the initial financial guidelines, set out in Annex 1 and summarised as follows:

a) presumption of Dedicated Schools Grant to reflect the schools passporting requirement;

b) currently assessed standstill less 2% for  
- Adult Social Care  
- Children's Services

c) currently assessed standstill less 3% for  
- Libraries  
- Highways maintenance

d) currently assessed standstill less 5% for  
- Chief Executive's Department (excluding Libraries)  
- Corporate Resources (excluding building maintenance)  
- Transport & Environment (excluding Highways and Waste)

e) currently assessed standstill less 0.5% for Waste;

(4) to ask portfolio holders and Chief Officers to maximise productivity and other efficiencies, ensuring at least 2% savings to contribute to the above guidelines, are delivered through this route by;

- challenging and understanding high unit cost areas.
- scoping further opportunities for efficiencies over the medium term.
- continuing to focus on the specific service quality improvement agenda.

(5) to note that the development of the guidelines will be monitored through the 2 by 2 process and any revisions to the guidelines will be considered during the year in the normal way;

(6) to authorise the Deputy Leader to begin the process of communication and consultation regarding Reconciling Policy and Resources for next year; and

(7) note that it is anticipated the Scrutiny involvement in the process will be in line with the successful approach adopted for 2005/06 and the Deputy Leader will consult on how best Scrutiny can assist in the review of productivity and efficiency.

Reason

22.3 To achieve the development of a sound medium term financial strategy..

### 23 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES: ANNUAL REPORT AND OPINION

23.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

23.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the Annual Internal Audit Report and Opinion

Reason

23.3 To note the Internal Audit Service opinion on the adequacy of the Council's control environment as a contribution to the proper, economic, efficient and effective use of resources.

### 24 INTERNAL AUDIT STRATEGY 2005/07 AND ANNUAL PLAN

24.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

24.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree the Council's Internal Audit Strategy 2005/07 and Annual Plan

Reason

24.3 To approve the Internal Audit Strategy and Annual Plan which set out how the Council will meet its statutory requirements for internal audit.

### 25 BUDGET MONITORING 2005/06

25.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

25.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the report

Reason

25.3 Management action is being taken to address area of concern.

## 26 ADULT SOCIAL CARE GREEN PAPER

26.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care

26.2 On the motion of Councillor Bentley (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to approve the Council’s response to the Adult Social Care Green Paper as attached at appendix 1 to the report

Reason

26.3 To agree the Council’s response to the Green Paper on Adult Social Care for submission by 28 July.

## 27 SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MENTAL HEALTH, LEARNING DISABILITY AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES IN SUSSEX

27.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care

27.2 On the motion of Councillor Bentley (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree the response to the ‘Shaping the Future of Mental Health, Learning Disability and Substance Misuse Services in Sussex’ consultation document as attached at appendix 1 to the report

Reason

27.3 The response sets out a position where the Council can best ensure that the needs of the local community continue to be met

## 28 COMMISSIONING REVIEW – ADULT SOCIAL CARE

28.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Adult Social Care

28.2 On the motion of Councillor Bentley (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to agree to a review of the services provided at the Gilda Crescent Resource Centre, Polegate;

(2) to agree to the review of all the ‘stand alone’ day centres for older people, providing an option appraisal for each unit; and

(3) to agree that reports of the findings and recommendations following both reviews be submitted to the Cabinet in January 2006.

Reason

28.3 To reviews will help to ensure that there is good quality and cost effective care services being provided.

## 29 CHILDREN’S TRUST ARRANGEMENTS

29.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children’s Services

29.2 On the motion of Councillor Glazier (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to agree the proposals set out in Annex A of the report for a new governance structure to drive the implementation of Children’s Trust arrangements in East Sussex, subject to any modifications which the Lead Member for Children’s and

Adults' Services judges to be appropriate in the light of continuing detailed discussions with stakeholders over the coming months; and

(2) to request the Lead Member for Children and Families to establish appropriate arrangements for the participation in Children's Trust governance arrangements of children and young people, and parents and carers.

Reason

29.3 The development of detailed arrangements for inter-agency cooperation in relation to children's services is a key responsibility of the County Council as a Children's Services Authority. The arrangements for Children's Trust governance are supported by a wide range of partners as an effective means of discharging that responsibility.

### 30 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY FOR 0 – 5 YEAR OLDS

30.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Children's Services

30.2 On the motion of Councillor Simmons (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to recommend the County Council to approve the Early Years Strategy 2005 – 2007 for publication;

(2) to note the Government's announcement of the second wave of Children's Centres (2006/08) and the specific targets and resource allocation for East Sussex; and

(3) to note the Government's new Ten Year Childcare Strategy, and the possible implications for East Sussex.

Reason

30.3 To approve the Early Years Strategy for publication following a wide ranging process of consultation

### 31 YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2005/06

31.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive

31.2 On the motion of Councillor Jones (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to recommend the County Council to approve the Youth Justice Plan 2005/06.

Reason

31.3 To approve the Plan which sets out the progress made against the national targets for Youth Offending Teams and sets priorities for 2005/06.

### 32 EAST SUSSEX LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2006/11

32.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment

32.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to agree to the submission of the provisional second Local Transport Plan (2006/11) to the Government Office for the South East by 29 July 2005; and

(2) to authorise the Director of Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Transport and Environment and the Local Transport Plan Panel, to make any appropriate detailed amendments to the draft Local Transport Plan prior to its submission.

Reason

32.3 The Council, as the local transport authority, is required by statute to produce a Local Transport Plan. The Plan provides a framework for investment in the County's transport infrastructure and services, contributing to delivering the regional and corporate objectives for raising economic performance in Sussex

### 33 SOUTH EAST PLAN

33.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment

33.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree to delegate to the Lead Member for Corporate Resources and the Lead Member for Transport and Environment the authority to approve for public consultation draft proposals on future levels of housing provision in each of the county's districts.

Reason

33.3 County Councils have a statutory duty to advise the South East England Regional Assembly on sub regional aspects of the South East Plan and have agreed to conduct public consultations to inform their advice to the Assembly on district housing figures. There is no Cabinet meeting before the consultation is due to start and authority to approve the draft district figures for consultation has therefore been delegated to lead members.

### 34 SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE: A NEW APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

34.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment

34.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED -

(1) to approve the updated information on stress areas and contribution costs as set out in Appendix A of the report; and

(2) to recommend the updated information on stress areas and contribution costs to the District and Borough Councils in the County

Reason

34.3 The revisions to the adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance are necessary to ensure the Guidance continues to be current.

35 ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST

35.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

35.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the report and the Trust's Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for 2004/05.

Reason

35.3 To note the final accounts of the Trust for 2004/05

36 BEST VALUE REVIEW PROGRAMME 2005 – 2007

36.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Law and Performance Management

36.2 On the motion of Councillor Jones (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED - to agree the Best Value review programme for 2005/07

Reason

36.3 The programme of Best Value reviews aims to support the Council's priorities for improvement

37 ITEMS TO REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

37.1 The Cabinet agreed that items 5, 6, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 20 should be reported to the County Council.

*[Note: The items being reported to the County Council refer to minute numbers 21, 22, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 36]*