

CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 15 October 2014 at County Hall, Lewes

- 44 PRESENT – Councillor Glazier (Chair)
 Councillors Bennett, Bentley, Dowling, Elkin, Maynard, Simmons
 and Tidy

The following members spoke on the items indicated:

Councillor Barnes	-	item 6 (minute 49)
Councillor Birch	-	item 6 (minute 49)
Councillor Carstairs	-	items 5a, 5b and 6 (minutes 48 and 49)
Councillor Field	-	items 5a and 5b (minute 48)
Councillor Hodges	-	items 5a, 5b and 6 (minutes 48 and 49)
Councillor S Shing	-	item 6 (minute 49)
Councillor Tutt	-	item 6 (minute 49)
Councillor Ungar	-	item 6 (minute 49)
Councillor Webb	-	items 5a and 5b (minute 48)

45 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2014

45.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 16 September 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

46 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

46.1 Councillor Field declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in items 5a and 5b, as chair of Battle Pre-School group, and in item 7 as a member of Rother District Council.

46.2 Councillor Hodges declared a personal, non-prejudicial, interest in item 6 as a director of Let's Do Business.

46.3 Councillor Maynard declared a personal, non-prejudicial, interest in item 7 as Leader of Rother District Council.

46.4 Councillor Standley declared a personal, non-prejudicial, interest in item 7 as Leader of Wealden District Council.

46.5 Councillor Ungar declared a personal, non-prejudicial, interest in item 7 as a member of Eastbourne Borough Council.

47 REPORTS

47.1 Reports referred to in the minutes below are contained in the minute book.

48 SCRUTINY REVIEW OF EARLY YEARS ATTAINMENT

48.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee and a report by the Director of Children's Services with observations on the Scrutiny Committee's report.

48.2 It was RESOLVED to (1) note and welcome the report of the Scrutiny Committee; and
(2) recommend the County Council to welcome the main recommendations set out in the report and to approve the response of the Director of Children's Services to the recommendations and their implementation as set out in the action plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

Reason

48.3 The Scrutiny Review has provided a useful insight into Early Years Attainment in East Sussex. It recognizes the importance of Early Years outcomes as a platform for future achievements and aspirations.

49 EAST SUSSEX COUNCILS' "OPEN FOR GROWTH" PEER CHALLENGE UPDATE

49.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Communities, Economy and Transport.

49.2 It was RESOLVED to note the update.

Reason

49.3 The report highlights how the majority of the peer challenge recommendations are already being progressed or explains how they will be. Continued support from authorities in carrying through the recommendations independently and collectively will ensure the positive working relationships already well-established further enable growth.

50 EAST SUSSEX NATIONAL NON DOMESTIC RATES POOLING AGREEMENT

50.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer. Amended recommendations were circulated prior to the meeting.

50.2 It was RESOLVED: (1) to agree, subject to recommendation 2 below and the Chief Finance Officer being satisfied:

a) that no authority shall receive a lower level of funding than they would have received without the Pool; and

b) any resources gained on the basis of the levy amount saved by individual authorities be shared on the following basis: 40% to ESCC, 10% to the Fire Authority and the remaining 50% split amongst the District/Borough Councils;

to the Council's participation in an East Sussex National Non Domestic Rate Pool;

(2) to agree to delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to agree the terms of, and enter into the Memorandum of Understanding and to take any other action to give effect to recommendation 1 above; and

(3) agree that the Chief Finance Officer shall review the Council's membership of the Pool on an annual basis

Reason

50.3 Local authorities are free to come together to form pools for Non Domestic Rates (NDR) purposes. In such cases tariffs and top-ups can be combined and this can result in lower

payments being made to the government. Authorities within such arrangements need to agree how risks and benefits are shared. A pooling arrangement within East Sussex could result in additional resources being retained within East Sussex.

51 TREASURY MANAGEMENT: 2013/14 STEWARDSHIP/HALF YEAR 2014/15 REPORT

51.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Operating Officer.

51.2 It was RESOLVED to note the reports.

Reason

51.3 The report fulfils the requirement to submit an annual/half yearly report in the form prescribed in the Treasury Management Code of Practice.

52 TO AGREE WHICH ITEMS ARE TO BE REPORTED TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

52.1 The Cabinet agreed that items 5a and 5b should be reported to the County Council.
[Note: the items to be reported refer to minute 48]

The meeting ended at Time Not Specified.