

CABINET

Meeting held on Tuesday, 4th June, 2024 at the Council Offices, Farnborough at 7.00 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Gareth Williams, Leader of the Council and Finance Portfolio Holder
Cllr Sophie Porter, Deputy Leader and Community & Residents Portfolio Holder

Cllr Abe Allen, Enabling Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr Jules Crossley, Policy, Climate & Sustainability Portfolio Holder
Cllr Keith Dibble, Development & Economic Growth Portfolio Holder
Cllr Christine Guinness, Regeneration & Property Portfolio Holder
Cllr Becky Williams, Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder

The Cabinet considered the following matters at the above-mentioned meeting. All executive decisions of the Cabinet shall become effective, subject to the call-in procedure, from **17th June, 2024**.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

Having regard to the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors, no declarations of interest were made.

2. **MINUTES –**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 16th April, 2024 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3. **COUNCIL PLAN AND RISK REGISTER QUARTERLY UPDATE JANUARY TO MARCH 2023/24 –**

(Cllr Jules Crossley, Policy, Climate & Sustainability Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet received Report No. ACE2406, which set out progress in delivering the Council Plan projects during the fourth quarter of 2023/24. Members were informed that progress against key activities and projects was included in the Report, along with the Council's business performance monitoring information and the Council's Corporate Risk Register. It was reported that, at the end of the third quarter, 50% of projects/activities were on track, with 30% showing an amber status and 20% a red status.

In considering the Report, Members expressed disappointment that these performance figures showed a clear deterioration since the previous report, which had shown 90% of projects on track, with 10% on amber and no projects on red. Members confirmed a commitment to monitor these projects closely over the coming period. It was also confirmed that the Cabinet would be carrying out a fundamental review of the Council Plan to reflect the priorities of the new administration.

The Cabinet NOTED the progress made towards delivering the Council Plan and the changes highlighted in the Corporate Risk Register, as set out in Report No. ACE2406.

4. **SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES IN NORTH CAMP - BUSINESS RECOVERY RELIEF - LYNCHFORD ROAD –**

(Cllr Gareth Williams, Leader of the Council and Finance Portfolio Holder / Cllr Keith Dibble, Development & Economic Growth Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Report No. FIN2408, which set out a proposed local policy to enable the Council to award business rates relief to local businesses that had been adversely affected by Hampshire County Council's North Camp Accessibility Scheme, along with further measures to support the local business community.

Members were informed that the policy would allow for up to 100% business rate relief, for the period from 1st April, 2024 to 30th September, 2024, to those retail and hospitality businesses on Lynchford Road that had received the original Business Interruption Relief. It was also proposed that the existing free parking in the Peabody Road and Napier Gardens Car Parks should be extended for a further six months, up to 30th September, 2024 and that a package of measures should be implemented to encourage footfall and trade in the local area.

In discussing this, Members expressed support for the proposed approach and acknowledged that, although works were now completed, the considerable impacts of the disruption were still being felt by local businesses. The Cabinet was disappointed that Hampshire County Council had declined to provide any further support to local businesses in this respect and it was confirmed that the Development & Economic Growth Portfolio Holder would continue to discuss this with the County Council.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the establishment of a Business Recovery Relief Policy, to reduce by up to 100% the business rates payable by those retail and hospitality businesses on Lynchford Road that had received the original Business Interruption Relief, as set out in Report No. FIN2408, be approved;
- (ii) the extension until 30th September, 2024 of the amendments in car parking charges at Peabody Road and Napier Gardens Car Park, as set out in the Report, be approved; and
- (iii) the endorsement of further measures to boost footfall and trade in North Camp, as set out in the Report, be approved.

5. **APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET WORKING GROUPS 2024/25 –**

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- (i) the following Cabinet Working Groups be appointed for the 2024/25 Municipal Year based on the membership as set out below:

(1) Strategic Housing and Local Plan Working Group

Cabinet Member with responsibility for the Local Plan
(Cllr Keith Dibble)

Chairman of Development Management Committee
(Cllr Gaynor Austin)

Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Policy and Project Advisory Board
(Cllr M.J. Roberts)

Plus 1 Labour Group Member

2 Conservative Members

1 Liberal Democrat Member

(2) Member Development Group

Cabinet Member with responsibility for Member Development
(Cllr Sophie Porter)

Plus 3 Labour Members

2 Conservative Members

1 Liberal Democrat Member

(3) Capital Projects and Property Advisory Group

Leader of the Council and Finance Portfolio Holder
(Cllr Gareth Williams)

Two Cabinet Members

Two Conservative Members

(4) Farnborough Leisure and Cultural Hub Project Board

Regeneration & Property Portfolio Holder
(Cllr Christine Guinness)

Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder
(Cllr Becky Williams)

Leader of the Council and Finance Portfolio Holder
(Cllr Gareth Williams)

Two Conservative Members

(5) Union Yard Project Board

Leader of the Council and Finance Portfolio Holder
(Cllr Gareth Williams)

Regeneration & Property Portfolio Holder
(Cllr Christine Guinness)

Two Conservative Members
(Cllrs Martin Tennant and Paul Taylor)

- (ii) the Corporate Manager - Democracy, in consultation with Group Leaders, be authorised to finalise the appointments to the Groups as required.

The Meeting closed at 7.32 pm.

CLLR GARETH WILLIAMS, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND FINANCE
PORTFOLIO HOLDER
