

CABINET

Meeting held on Tuesday, 20th January, 2026 at the Council Offices, Farnborough at 5.30 pm.

Voting Members

Cllr Gareth Williams, Leader of the Council
Cllr Sophie Porter, Deputy Leader and Healthy Communities & Active Lives Portfolio Holder

Cllr Gaynor Austin, Finance & Resources Portfolio Holder
Cllr Keith Dibble, Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder
Cllr Christine Guinness, Pride in Place / Neighbourhood Services Portfolio Holder
Cllr Julie Hall, Economy, Skills & Regeneration 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 **2nd February, 2026**.

55. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –**

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

56. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC –**

RESOLVED: That, taking into account the public interest test, the public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion of the under mentioned item to avoid the disclosure of exempt information within the paragraph of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 indicated against the item:

Minute No.	Schedule 12A Para. No.	Category
57	3	Information relating to financial or business affairs

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC

57. **SECURING HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT SERVICES AT GROSVENOR ROAD, ALDERSHOT FROM 1ST APRIL, 2026 –** (Cllr Keith Dibble, Housing & Planning Portfolio Holder)

The Cabinet considered Exempt Report No. PG2601, which set out options for the continuation of homelessness support services at a premises in Aldershot.

Members were informed that the identity of the premises was considered to be confidential due to the vulnerability of the residents that lived there. The site provided accommodation with intensive support for up to twenty single adults with complex

needs. Support was currently funded by the Hampshire Council Council Social Exclusion Fund and delivered by Two Saints but Members were informed that this funding would end on 31st March, 2026 and that, without replacement funding, the service would close. The Exempt Report set out costed options to mitigate the risk of street homelessness from 1st April, 2026, including the Council covering the cost of the service ongoing, the closing of the service and placing of residents into B & B accommodation with outreach support or the closing of the service with the residents receiving accommodation and support through another provider.

In discussing the options, Members expressed strong support for the continuation of the service, preferably on the current site. It was explained that the existing service provider, Two Saints, was not able to deliver the service for the budget the Council had available therefore, should the Council take on the funding of the existing service, residents would remain in the same premises and existing staff would be transferred over to the new provider, Home Group, using TUPE provisions. Members felt this was the best option to continue to provide this important service to its vulnerable residents.

The Cabinet RESOLVED that

- i) the implementation of Option 1, to provide funding to secure a support service in the existing building, as set out in Exempt Report No. PG2601, be approved;
- ii) the provision of supplementary estimates for the sums set out in the Exempt Report be approved for the financial years 2026/27 and 2027/28, to be funded from the Council's Homelessness Prevention Fund (Legacy and Current allocation); and
- iii) the submitting of a request for an exemption under the Contract Procedure Rules for a support contract direct award, utilising the Council's form of contract, be approved.

The Meeting closed at 5.50 pm.

CLLR GARETH WILLIAMS, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
