

CABINET

15 May 2008

Attendance:

Councillor Beckett – *Leader and Portfolio Holder for Economy and Tourism* (Chairman) (P)

Councillor Allgood – *Portfolio Holder for Finance and Efficiency*

Councillor Coates – *Portfolio Holder for Housing* (P)

Councillor Cooper – *Portfolio Holder for Communities and Safety* (P)

Councillor Godfrey – *Portfolio Holder for Performance and Organisational Development* (P)

Councillor Pearson – *Portfolio Holder for Environment* (P)

Councillor Stallard – *Portfolio Holder for Heritage, Culture and Sport* (P)

Councillor Wood – *Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access* (P)

Others in attendance who addressed the meeting:

Councillors Busher, Evans and Higgins

Others in attendance who did not address the meeting:

Councillors Barratt and Mitchell

1. **FUTURE MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

RESOLVED:

1. That the timetable of meetings for 2008/09 be agreed as set out on the agenda (and as contained in Report CAB1551, 14 November 2007).

2. That Cabinet meetings normally commence at 10.00am unless the Corporate Director (Governance), in consultation with the Leader, determines an earlier start is desirable due to the volume of business to be transacted.

2. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 April 2008, be approved and adopted.

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions asked or statements received.

4. **APPOINTMENT OF PORTFOLIOS FOR THE 2008/09 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

(Oral Report)

The Chairman proposed that the Portfolio Holders titles and responsibilities be amended to enable more focus on specific issues affecting the Council, especially

partnerships and working with communities. In addition, Portfolio Holders' redefinition would allow more focus on examining the Council's business and achieving efficiencies.

Cabinet agreed to make the Portfolio appointments set out below.

RESOLVED:

That the following arrangements for the allocation of Portfolios be agreed for 2008/09:

| Councillor | Portfolio Holder Title | Responsibilities |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Councillor Beckett | Leader | Responsibility for major projects, the Local Strategic Partnership/Local Area Agreement, economic development & tourism, the Local Development Framework and Communications |
| Councillor Cooper | Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Communities and Safety | Responsibility for Community Development, Public Health, Grants (across all areas, in liaison with relevant Portfolio Holders, and Community Safety) |
| Councillor Pearson | Environment | Responsibility for Environment & Sustainability, Neighbourhood Wardens, Waste Management & Cleansing, Grounds Maintenance, Emergency Planning and Environmental Health |
| Councillor Allgood | Finance and Efficiency | Responsibility for Finance, Efficiency, Estates and Revenues & Benefits |
| Councillor Stallard | Heritage, Culture and Sport | Responsibility for Sport & Recreation, Heritage & Museums, and Arts & Culture |
| Councillor Coates | Housing | Responsibility for Landlord Services and Strategic Housing |
| Councillor Godfrey | Performance and Organisational Development | Responsibility for Performance Management, Customer Service, Human Resources, Legal, Democratic Services and Information Technology |
| Councillor Wood | Planning and Access | Responsibility for Development Control, Building Control, Access & Infrastructure and Strategic Planning (along with the Leader on LDF matters) |

5. **LEADER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Leader welcomed the two new members of Cabinet, Councillors Cooper and Godfrey, to the meeting.

6. **ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET COMMITTEES AND INFORMAL MEMBER/OFFICER WORKING GROUPS ETC 2008/09**

(Report [CAB1666](#) refers)

Cabinet noted that since the publication of the Report, the following additional nominations had been received.

- Cabinet (Local Development Framework) Committee: Councillor Busher (as an observer)
- Supported Housing Informal Member/Officer Working Group: Councillors Hammerton and Tait
- Choice Based Lettings Informal Member/Officer Working Group: Councillors Hammerton and Tait
- Air Quality Informal Member/Officer Working Group (IMOWG): Councillor Sanders
- West of Waterlooville Forum: Councillor Chamberlain.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Evans confirmed that the Liberal Democrat Group did not wish to nominate any Members as observers on the Local Development Framework Committee. As Chairman of that Committee, Councillor Wood expressed his disappointment at this and emphasised the useful input of the Members from the Liberal Democrat Group at previous meetings.

In addition, apologies had been received from Mr A Rickman (TACT) who was unable to attend the meeting. Therefore TACT appointments would be submitted at a later date.

In response to questions, Councillor Pearson (Chairman of the Air Quality IMOWG) stated that it might be more appropriate for the work of the Group to be undertaken by an Informal Scrutiny Group in the future. It was agreed that the IMOWG be reappointed, but its first meeting should examine whether its remit should be changed in the future.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following appointments be made for the 2008/09 Municipal Year (with terms of reference as set out in the report):

- (i) Cabinet (Traffic and Parking) Committee – Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access (Councillor Wood) plus any two other Cabinet Members to be selected by the Corporate Director (Governance) in alphabetical rotation.
- (ii) Cabinet (Local Development Framework) Committee - Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access (Councillor Wood) plus Councillors Beckett, Coates and Pearson.

In the event of any of the Standing Members not being available for a particular meeting, another member of Cabinet will be selected in alphabetical rotation by the Corporate Director (Governance) to substitute for the standing member.

In addition, the following standing list of Councillors be invited to attend and offer views at meetings of the Committee:

- (a) Chairman of the Planning Development Control Committee; and named members from the Independents (1) and Labour (1) as follows: Councillor Busher and Pines.
 - (b) Ward Councillors, where appropriate.
- (iii) Housing Options Appraisal Steering Group -
Councillors: Coates, Nelmes, Pines and Tait
TACT Representatives: Four representatives and two deputies (names to be advised)
Officers: R Botham, G Cole, H Bone, A Garlick/L Alexander and C Broomfield
 - (iv) Supported Housing Informal Member/Officer Working Group -
Councillors: Coates, Hammerton, Nelmes, Pines and Tait.
TACT Representatives: Three representatives (names to be advised)
Officers: R Botham, S Tong, A Crosskey, L Curtis, R Boardman and F Sutherland.
 - (v) Choice Based Lettings Informal Member/Officer Working Group -
Councillors: Coates, Hammerton, Love, Pines and Tait.
TACT Representatives: Two representatives plus one deputy (names to be advised)
Officers: A Palmer, D Cooper, O Fajuyitan
 - (v) Air Quality Informal Member/Officer Working Group –
Councillors: Higgins, Mitchell, Pearson, Sanders and Wright.
Officers: (City Council) R Heathcock, A Hickman, S Blazdell, P Tidridge, D Massey
(County Council) A Wren, P Fydall, K Travers and P Syddall
 - (vi) West of Waterlooville Forum –
Councillors: Hollingbery (Chairman), Chamberlain, Coates, Collin, Cooper and Stallard
Deputies: Clear (for any Councillor)

8. **LGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION – APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES**

(Oral Report)

RESOLVED:

That the Leader of the Council (Councillor Beckett), Deputy Leader (Councillor Cooper), the two other Group Leaders (Councillors Busher and Evans) and the Chief Executive be appointed as the Council's representatives to the 2008 LGA Annual Conference (to be held 1 to 3 July 2008).

9. **ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO EXTERNAL BODIES**

(Report [CAB1667](#) refers)

With regards to the Health for All Committee, Councillor Coates advised that its work had been taken over by the Health and Wellbeing Local Strategic Partnership

Strategic Outcome Group. It was therefore agreed that the Health for all Committee not be reappointed.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Busher requested that the Independent Group be kept informed regarding the work of the Project Integra Policy Review and Scrutiny Committee. The Chief Executive agreed to this request.

Councillor Beckett advised that he was currently in discussions about how communications and consultation with parish councils could best be undertaken. It was therefore agreed that appointments to the Winchester District Joint Consultative Committee be deferred pending the outcome of these discussions.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following appointments to external bodies be made for the 2008/09 Municipal Year (deputies in brackets):

- (a) Bishops Waltham Sports Committee – Councillor Huxstep (Chamberlain)
- (b) Carroll Youth Centre – Councillors Tait (Collin)
- (c) Friends of Hyde Abbey Gardens – Councillor Nelmes
- (d) Hampshire & Isle of Wight Association of Local Authorities (HIOWA) – Councillors Beckett and Cooper
- (e) Hampshire County Council Annual Meeting with Parish & District Councils regarding public transport issues – Councillor Wood
- (f) Live Theatre Winchester Trust Limited – Councillor Stallard
- (g) Local Government Association – Councillor Beckett (Cooper)
- (h) Local Government Association Rural Commission – Councillor Lipscomb (Humby)
- (i) Local Government Association Urban Commission – Councillor Huxstep (Biggs)
- (j) Meadowside Leisure Centre User Forum – Councillors Stallard and Anthony
- (k) National Parking Adjudication Joint Committee – Councillor Wood
- (l) Project Integra Management Board – Councillor Pearson (Coates)
- (m) Project Integra Policy Review and Scrutiny Committee – Councillor Wright (Higgins)
- (n) Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Joint Committee – Councillor Beckett (Cooper)
- (o) River Park Leisure Centre User Forum – Councillors Stallard and Stephens
- (p) Southampton, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Portsmouth Arts Forum – Councillor Stallard (Evans)
- (q) South Downs Joint Committee – Councillor Wood
- (r) South East Employers – Councillor Worrall (Cook)
- (s) South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) – Councillor Beckett (Cooper)
- (t) Stanmore Combined – Councillor Cooper
- (u) Strategic Planning Joint Advisory Committee – Councillor Wood
- (v) Tourism South East – Councillor Evans (Stallard)
- (w) Twyford Waterworks – Councillor Izard (Mason)
- (x) WCC/Serco Member Liaison Meeting – Councillors Allgood, Busher, Coates, Collin, Pearson and Wright

- (y) Winchester Allotment Holders' Society – Councillor Berry
- (z) Winchester and District Savers (WADS) – Councillor Tait (Johnston – Observer)
- (aa) Winchester District Board of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CLRE) – Councillor Pearson
- (bb) Winchester Hampshire Action Plan (HAT) – Highways Meeting – Portfolio Holder for Planning & Access (Wood) and Councillor Fall
- (cc) Winchester Housing Trust – Councillor Tait (Thompson – Observer)
- (dd) Winchester Inclusive Housing Forum – Councillors Love and Tait
- (ee) Winchester Indoor Sports Association (Lido Sports Club) – Councillor Sanders
- (ff) Winchester Road Safety Council Committee – Councillor Pearson (Verney)

2. (a). That the Health for All Committee not be reappointed for 2008/09.

(b) That the appointments to the Winchester District Joint Consultative Committee be deferred to a future date.

3. That the following appointments to external bodies be made for period stated (deputies in brackets):

- (a) Age Concern (until 31 May 2009) – Councillor Berry (Cooper)
- (b) Bishops Waltham Citizens Advice Bureau (until 15 May 2009) – Councillor Busher
- (c) Havant and District Citizens Advice Bureau (until 30 May 2009) – Councillor Stallard
- (d) Hospital of St Cross and Almshouse of Noble Poverty (until 30 May 2012) – Councillor Sanders
- (e) Knowle Community Buildings Association (until 30 May 2009) – Councillors Clear (Evans – Observer)
- (f) Relate (until 30 June 2009) – Councillor Tait (Love)
- (g) River Hamble Harbour Management Sub-Committee – Councillor Weston
- (h) Southampton University Court (until 31 May 2010) – Councillor Biggs
- (i) Swanmore Community Facilities Management Committee (until May 2009) – Councillor Weston (Pearson)
- (j) Trinity Centre Advisory Committee (until 30 June 2009) – Councillors Higgins, Tait and a Cabinet Member (name to be advised)
- (k) Whiteley Community Association (until 30 May 2009) – Councillor Anthony (Cooper)
- (l) Winchester City Centre Management Limited (until 30 June 2009) – Councillor Beckett
- (m) Winchester Welfare Charities (until 30 June 2012) – Councillor Mitchell

4. That the formal Agreement giving authority for the formation of a South Downs Joint Committee be renewed for a further period of three years.

5. That delegated authority be given to the Head of Strategic Planning, in consultation with the Head of Legal Services and Portfolio Holder for Planning and Access, to agree the terms and conditions in the renewed agreement.

10. **REVISIONS TO SUB-REGIONAL CHOICE BASED LETTINGS – COMMON SCHEME OF ALLOCATION**

(Report [CAB1668](#) refers)

SUB-REGIONAL CHOICE BASED LETTING – COMMON SCHEME OF ALLOCATION

(Report [CAB1658](#) refers)

Councillor Coates advised that the updated Report responded to some queries and concerns that were expressed with regard to the contents of the previous Report (CAB1658). He emphasised that under the proposed Scheme, higher priority would be given to residents of the three participating local authorities: Winchester City Council, Havant Borough Council and East Hants District Council.

Councillor Coates confirmed that he would closely monitor the Scheme's operation at monthly meetings with appropriate officers. In addition, he would undertake a review after six months, in addition to the formal review proposed for after one year.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Higgins generally welcomed the proposed Scheme but expressed some concerns as summarised below:

- Concern about the effect of the Scheme on families housed in accommodation unsuitable for their needs (for example, those living in flats);
- Queries about the priority given to residents of Winchester District;
- Concern that unsuccessful applicants were not informed specifically notified.

In response, the Head of Strategic Housing advised that the new Scheme did not differ from the existing arrangements in that applicants were not given higher priority solely because they lived in a flat. Reasons for being entitled to different accommodation included a requirement for an additional bedroom or medical conditions causing difficulties of access.

With regard to priority for Winchester District residents, the Head of Strategic Housing emphasised that under the existing scheme, such residents were on an equal footing with people living anywhere in the country. Under the new scheme, residents of the three participating authorities were awarded higher priority, as detailed above.

The Head of Strategic Housing advised that the new system enabled applicants to immediately know their position in the housing queue and was therefore much more transparent than existing arrangements. He confirmed that an important part of the Scheme's implementation would involve ensuring the changes were clearly communicated to all those affected, particularly vulnerable groups.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Sub-Regional Common Allocations Framework, as set out in Appendix 1 of Report CAB1658, be adopted by the City Council, to commence when the sub-regional CBL scheme is launched.

2. That the Winchester City Council Scheme of Allocation, as set out in Appendix A to CAB1668, be adopted by the Council, to commence when the sub-regional CBL scheme is launched.

3. That a further report be brought back to Cabinet prior to the commencement of the sub-regional choice based scheme with recommendations for the implementation of Local Lettings Plans.

4. That the Head of Strategic Housing, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing, be authorised to make minor editing changes to the Framework and Scheme prior to it coming into force.

5. That a further report be brought back to Cabinet in due course to approve any subsequent changes (if required) to the Sub-Regional Common Allocations Framework and the Council's Scheme of Allocation.

11. **PARTNERSHIP FOR URBAN SOUTH HAMPSHIRE (PUSH) BUSINESS PLAN**
(Report [CAB1665](#) refers)

Under the Council's Constitution, Access to Information Procedure Rules (Rule 15.1 General Exception), this was a Key Decision, which had not been included in the Forward Plan. Under this procedure, the Chairman of Principal Scrutiny Committee had been informed.

In introducing the Report, Councillor Beckett emphasised the high priority PUSH gave to ensure the adequate infrastructure was in place at the outset. The Chief Executive also highlighted the importance afforded to developing sustainable communities.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Evans welcomed the emphasis on providing adequate infrastructure and requested that this be clearly stated in the Business Plan. In addition, she queried whether the Local Development Framework (LDF) timetable had been amended.

The Chairman stated that he would raise the request for a specific mention of the infrastructure as the main priority at the next PUSH meeting. With regard to the LDF timetable, it was likely to be delayed because of the volume of responses received under the 'Issues and Options' consultation.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Busher requested that the Business Plan acknowledge that the development proposals were likely also to have a negative impact on existing developments in the southern parishes. In particular, she mentioned the importance of ensuring adequate infrastructure was in place before construction traffic required access.

In response, the Chairman stated that he did not consider it appropriate for the Business Plan to acknowledge any negative impact, but the Council could acknowledge this and seek to minimise disruption.

Cabinet agreed to the following for the reasons set out above and outlined in the Report.

RESOLVED:

1. That the PUSH Business Plan be adopted as a basis for informing the Council's business planning and service delivery.

2. That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, be authorised to agree the PUSH Multi-Area Agreement.

12. **FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

RESOLVED:

That the list of future items, as set out in the Forward Plan for May 2008, be noted.

13. **DECISIONS TAKEN BY PORTFOLIO HOLDERS UNDER THEIR DELEGATED POWERS**

RESOLVED:

That the decisions taken by Portfolio Holders under their delegated powers since the last Cabinet meeting, as set out on the agenda sheet, be noted.

The meeting commenced at 10.00am and concluded at 11.50am

Chairman