



Democratic Services
County Hall
Northampton
NN1 1DN

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2016 at 2:00pm

Venue: The Blue Room, County Hall, Northampton (Meeting held in public)

PRESENT (FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING):

Cabinet Member

Councillor Heather Smith
Councillor Andre Gonzalez De Savage
Councillor Robin Brown
Councillor Matthew Golby
Councillor Sylvia Hughes
Councillor Ian Morris
Councillor Bill Parker

Portfolio

Leader of the Council
Deputy Leader & Public Protection
Finance
Children's Services
Public Health & Wellbeing
Transport, Highways & Environment
Adult Care Delivery

OTHER COUNCILLORS PRESENT (FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING):

Councillor Julie Brookfield
Councillor Adam Collyer
Councillor Brendan Glynane
Councillor Eileen Hales
Councillor Stan Heggs
Councillor Dudley Hughes
Councillor Malcolm Longley
Councillor Mick Scrimshaw
Councillor Ron Sawbridge
Councillor Michael Tye

Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Elizabeth Coombe
Councillor James Hakewill
Councillor Jim Harker
Councillor Jill Hope
Councillor Graham Lawman
Councillor Bob Scott
Councillor Judith Shephard
Councillor Danielle Stone

ALSO PRESENT (FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING):

Officer

Dr Akeem Ali
Josie Bateman
Dr Paul Blantern
Darren Dovy
Barbel Gale
Laurie Gould
Lesley Hagger
Paul Hanson
Dr Carolyn Kus

Role

Corporate Director People Commissioning
Flood and Water Management Project Manager
Chief Executive
Chief Fire Officer
Democracy Officer (Minutes)
Monitoring Officer
Director of Children, Families and Education
Democratic Services Manager
Director of Adult Social Services & Managing Director of Olympus Care Services Ltd
NCC Director of Finance

Damon Lawrenson

There were 4 members of the press and public in attendance.

149/16 Apologies for non attendance

Apologies were received from Councillor Suresh Patel, Cabinet Member for Corporate Parenting

150/16 Notification of requests from members of the public to address the meeting

Notifications were received for Item 10 – A422 Farthinghoe Bypass from:

- Farthinghoe Parish Councillor John Grant; and
- Farthinghoe Parish Councillor Mick Morris.

151/16 Minutes of the meeting held in public on 11 October 2016

RESOLVED: The minutes of meeting held in public on 11 October 2016 was agreed and signed as a true record.

152/16 Declarations of Interest by Councillors

There were none.

153/16 Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Hilary Scott a Senior Lecturer in Journalism and all the first year students from the University of Northampton.

The Chairman drew attention to the 4th Century pots on display in the Council Chamber, which had been discovered at Chester Farm during the excavation of a well. A drawing of the proposal for Castle House was also located in the Council Chamber.

The Chairman explained that the number of speakers would be reduced if necessary due to the large amount of business to be conducted.

The Chairman proposed to bring Item 10, A422 Farthinghoe Bypass forward because there were public speakers for this item.

154/16 A422 Farthinghoe Bypass

At the Chairman's invitation Farthinghoe Parish Councillor John Grant made the following points:

- It had been a long time coming and the Parish Council were delighted to reached the current stage in the process;
- The bypass for Farthinghoe had been programmed since 1992/93 but for various reasons had never been implemented;
- Farthinghoe was granted conservation status in 1978 but remained the only village on the A422, A421, between the M40 at Banbury and Milton Keynes without a bypass;
- Farthinghoe sate between Middleton Cheney and Brackley and Middleton Cheney was bypassed in 1991 and Brackley bypassed in 1992, this left Farthinghoe in the middle without a bypass and with a major pinch point for traffic;

- The pinch point frequently prevented 2 HGV's passing each other without mounting the pavements and as a result of this it was too dangerous for people to walk safely on the pavements along side the main road at that point;
- A traffic survey was performed by NCC in August 2014 and over 50,000 vehicles of which 7.5% were HGV's were recorded as travelling through the village;
- The Parish's major concern for the near and long term future was that HS2 traffic would divert through Farthinghoe instead;
- The proposed northern route was chosen by the majority of villagers; and
- It was the Parish's wish that the Council added the A422 to the Council's list of priority road schemes.

At the Chairman's invitation Farthinghoe Parish Councillor Mick Morris made the following points:

- He expressed his thanks for getting the Farthinghoe bypass to this stage and said all were truly grateful;
- Fear was a very strong emotion and it was felt by many in Farthinghoe;
- It was fear that made a father walk ¼ of a mile every day to walk his child to school rather than use that 50 yards of pavement;
- He highlighted the photograph's circulated to members of the Cabinet, which had been taken of a serious collision and he heard the drivers cries of pain as he was being cut from the cab and he had a fear that something similar may happen again; and
- He had no fear that the Council's sterling efforts to deliver a bypass would continue.

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Transport, Highways & Environment, Councillor Morris, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- He thanked the speakers and shared their concerns and agreed that now was the time to look at the proposal again;
- The results of the public consultation showed strong support for the bypass and in particular the northern route;
- The report proposed that the A422 Farthinghoe bypass was added to the Council's list of priority road schemes; and
- He clarified that funding for the scheme would need to be found before it could be delivered.

Councillors made the following points:

- Concern was expressed when considering some of the results of the consultation because the feedback to question 1 indicated that 1 in 5 people said a bypass was not needed and 44% has responded no to having a bypass; and
- It was queried if alternative provisions had been considered.

Councillor Morris explained that the scheme was at an early stage with further work to be carried out.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Agreed that the A422 Farthinghoe Bypass is added to the County Council's priority list of major road schemes.**

2. Noted the preference of the public consultation referred to in Section 4 of this report for a northern route and agrees that this should form the basis of further work to develop the scheme.

155/16 Monthly Financial Report as at the end of September for the financial year ending 31 March 2017 including review of Budget Delivery Proposals

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance, Councillor Brown, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- One of the recommendations included was to approve the drill down into earmarked reserves as detailed in section 8.1.3 in the main report;
- There had been significant movement in the way that services were proposing to deliver their budgets;
- Identification of further risks within Adult Social Services and Children's Services had been highlighted;
- In consultation with the NCC Group it had been agreed that the Corporate Services budget would have a further underspend of £9.5m;
- The current position for the year end showed a £12m pressure, which had increased significantly in Adult Social Services and Children's Services however the benefit was that the Council now fully understood what the outcomes would be within those services;
- He believed that the opportunity to use the £6.5m generated from the flexible use of capital receipts following the review of the efficiency plan, the balance sheet review which was identified £1m of unapplied receipts which will be utilised, a review of the in year redundancy requirement which released money that could be added towards the revenue and the release of the capital grant funding; and
- As a result of those measures he was confident that the Council was on target to deliver a balanced budget.

Councillors made the following points:

- Although the overall position had improved slightly, the Council was £8m worse off in Adult Social Services and while the reasons for that were understood it was still worrying that the original budget was out by so much;
- The wages of Assistant Directors from People Services were now treated the same way as Directors and showed as a cost to Chief Executive Services rather than as a cost shown in the relevant services budget which distorted the overall costs of providing those services;
- It was really difficult to understand where the £9.5m shown in table 1 of the report came from because previously report figures were included;
- It was suggested that all the savings and pressures reported in a particular month should be listed in an easy to read table going forward, showing the monthly total with any narrative being listed separately;
- The £800,000 pressure reported last month referred to a failure of integrated working with other public sector bodies, which appeared to relate to a breakdown in partnership working with others and information was requested on who the partners were;
- £2m had been included in the balance sheet which hadn't been accounted for and there was a concern that the money could get spent when it was actually required elsewhere;

- The risk relating to the delivery of non property savings from the move to Angel Square was noted and further information on the figures of the risk was requested;
- In Children's Services it was queried why the budget saving of £11.7m not delivered, in particular the £7.3m relating to the Northamptonshire Children's Trust proposal;
- Most Councillors would have received written correspondence from Lowdown about proposed savings in children's mental health support services and it was queried why it would not be deliverable;
- The language used within the report does not help people to understand it's contents;
- KPMG have indicated that there were risks regarding balancing the Council's budget;
- The theme of the report was that the required savings couldn't be made and it was frightening;
- The report indicated that making the required savings in this financial year would put the Council onto a sustainable footing however further savings are also required in future years;
- There was a lot of one off, adhoc measures being taken to balance the budget;
- Costs for the county's Looked after Children were adding £14.8m to the budget pressures, however it had previously been indicated that the number of Looked after Children was plateauing;
- There was not one specific area of the Council that was out of control, it was felt that the Council was overspending across the board and that day to day financial management had taken a backseat to the Next Generation Council programme.

The Chairman clarified that the report being discussed was the Council's financial position at the half year period.

Councillor Golby made the following points in response:

- He clarified that Lowdown did fantastic work and the letter councillors received was regarding general mental health funding;
- He acknowledged that delivering the services remained challenging and all were working hard to minimise effects as a result of decisions the Council had to take;
- There had been 52 steps taken to control budget expenditure within the current financial year;
- The issues around agency staff could not be solved overnight and steps were being taken to resolve it; and
- He gave assurance that the whole directorate was working hard.

Councillor Parker made the following points in response;

- He highlighted that the Adult Social Services sections of the report were broken down into a number of sections and it was clear to understand;
- Weekly meetings were held to discuss achieving the savings targets and the service had achieved a £14m saving with good ideas on how to achieve the savings going forward; and
- Regarding the lack of working relationships, he clarified that the relationship with the Health Service in Northamptonshire was moving forward.

Councillor Brown made the following points in response:

- Any issues going forward in next years budget would be based on a zero based budget;
- The Council would balance the budget whilst continuing to deliver services to the most vulnerable in the county; and
- It was important that Councillors, through the scrutiny committees, had discussions about details if they would like to see things presented in a different way, however he felt that the way the information was set out gave everyone a clear indication of what was going on.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the Council's financial position; and**
- 2. Approved drawdown of earmarked reserves – see section 8.1.3 of the main report.**

156/16 Monthly Capital Report (MCR) as at the end of September 2016 (Period 6) for the financial year ending 31 March 2017

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance, Councillor Brown, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The capital report showed an increase over the previous month which was due, in part, to a change to how some of the priorities had been funded through the year;
- Regarding the Highways Asset Maintenance strategy and the £2m which would be utilised under capital for maintenance, would benefit the revenue budget, whilst ensuring that the Council delivered investment into it's highways; and
- The report identified discussions between Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership (NEP) and South East Midlands Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) regarding the Local Growth Fund loan to Moulton College.

Councillors noted that the £2m that was capitalised from the highways budget was a short term fix and it was queried if Cabinet were being asked to agree the capitalisation for future years, without it being scrutinised as part of the budget proposals.

Councillor Morris explained that the Superfast Broadband rollout was ahead of schedule and there was £1.5m in the Pothole fund for 2016/17.

Councillor Brown explained the capitalisation of highways maintenance had been used as a regular way to ensure that the Council was repairing road with a long term fix.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the current capital forecast expenditure outturn of £185m for the financial year 2016-17.**
- 2. Approved and recommended the inclusion of one new scheme with investment totalling £93,433 to enable entry into the Council's Committed Capital Programme:**
 - i. Parking Enforcement Equipment - £93,433**
- 3. Approved capital investment totalling £2,000,000 to promote one scheme included in the Capital Strategy 2016-17**

i. Highways Asset Maintenance Strategy - £2,000,000
(Further detail on all of the above schemes can be found in section 9 of the main report)

- 4. Noted the change in the route for scrutiny and recommendation of schemes from the Capital Investment Board (CIB) to the Major Projects and Capital Programme Board (CPB) following the implementation of the Place Directorate and Next Generation Council Model.**

157/16 The Council Efficiency Plan for 2016-17 through to 2019-20

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance, Councillor Brown, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- There had been a change to the strategy that was being proposed by central government and DCLG required to have sight of the Council's Efficiency Plan;
- The Efficiency plan had been presented to scrutiny and would be considered by Full Council at it's next meeting;
- The Efficiency Plan formalised the way in which the Council would use capital receipts; and
- The plan provided the opportunities to utilise assets in a way that would allow the changes to those services in the future.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the Council's Efficiency Plan and Capital Flexibility for Transformation;**

That Cabinet proposes to Full Council to approve:

- 2. The use of additional Capital receipts in line with the capitalisation flexibility of transformation costs as published within the Local Government Settlement December 2015.**

158/16 Quarterly Treasury Management Report

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance, Councillor Brown, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The report was for Cabinet to agree the strategy that was being followed to maximise the returns that could be achieved;
- The Council had no risk with any of it's long term loans;
- The benefits from the reduction of the bank base rate had been taken where possible;
- Capita had been re-appointed as the Treasury advisors for a further 2 years; and
- The treasury management team did a very good job.

Councillors made the following points:

- It was noted that Capita had been awarded a new contract and was queried if that decision should have been taken by Cabinet and information on the contract value was sought; and
- The information provided on the Council's investment returns was meaningless unless it could be compared against other Councils.

Councillor Brown said that he was sure the correct procurement process had been followed for Capita's appointment.

RESOLVED That Cabinet noted the Treasury Management Report and Forward to Full Council for approval.

159/16 Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service draft Community Protection Plan (Integrated Risk Management Plan) 2017-2020

At the Chairman's invitation the Deputy Leader with responsibility for Public Protection, Councillor Gonzalez de Savage, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The document was updated on a regular basis and consultation was carried out;
- He thanked the team who produce the Community Protection Plan for their hard work; and
- It was important to understand that the plan was for the first time aligned with the Council's budgeting process.

Councillors made the following points:

- Scrutiny had received the opportunity to review the Community Protection Plan and noted the areas for investigation going forward;
- The Plan contained a certain amount of historical information; and
- It was felt that the Plan should include information about the budget restraints that were going to be imposed on the Fire Service.

Councillor Gonzalez de Savage explained that a delivery plan would be developed during the consultations process.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the findings of the Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) Service Review.**
- 2. Agreed that the NFRS draft Community Protection Plan 2017 – 2020 be approved for public consultation.**

160/16 Network Northamptonshire – Total Transport Project Business Case

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Transport, Highways & Environment, Councillor Morris, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The report was regarding bringing together the different transport provisions by different public sector providers to enable resources to be used more effectively;
- The June Cabinet meeting agreed that a full business case should be brought forward however in order for that to be achieved the Council needed to identify who its business partners were and in order to do that the Council needed to set up a shell company of which the Council would be an investor;
- Once the business case had been agreed the Council would move forward with the shell company and if the business case was not agreed then the Council could not continue with the principle of Total Transport; and
- The costs for the process had been met by the Government through a transformation grant, meaning that there were no costs to the Council.

Councillors made the following points:

- The report was welcomed;
- The 3rd largest claimant of bus subsidy was Wellibus and in the last 12 months they made 43700 bus journeys around the Wellingborough area and nearly 17000 patient transport visits were made however as part of the process they had not been consulted;
- It was suggested that the Wellibus be consulted with on the next phase as they also carried out school transport meaning they were in a very good position to know some of the efficiencies, some of the issues and some of the benefits they could provide through their demand responsive transport service;
- Increasing the accuracy of public transport was important because transport should be provided where it was needed;
- It was queried how the Bus Services Bill would affect the proposals and had representation been made;
- The idea of an integrated transport system was a good one however the report was saying what it needed to do rather than how it was going to do it;
- In October 2014 the a scrutiny report was presented which looked primarily at community bus services and it was felt that the types of services that Wellibus provided should be adopted;
- It was disappointing that it had taken so long to put some time in place following the recommendations made the in the scrutiny report in October 2014; and
- It was clarified that a meeting had already been arranged with KierWSP and Olympus Care Services to discuss this proposal.

Councillor Morris made the following points in response:

- He clarified that the Total Transport proposal was not a panacea for the public bus services, it was initially about public sector transport;
- The business case was being developed and a lot of data was being gathered to form it; and
- He highlighted County Connect which was a point to point service the Council provided for most areas of the County.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the progress made with the Total Transport project to date, and the Outline Business Case forming Appendix 1 of this report;**
- 2. Agreed in principal to participate in the social enterprise as a founding partner, as outlined in section 6 of this report, subject to confirmation when the Full Business Case is reported to Cabinet for consideration;**
- 3. Agreed the proposal to form the social enterprise as a 'shell' company, and delegates to the Corporate Director for Place Commissioning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and the Environment, and the Director of Finance and/or LGSS Director of Law, Property and Governance, authority to take all appropriate actions to give effect to this recommendation subject to the outcome of a detailed business case;**
- 4. Noted the need for early engagement with KierWSP and Olympus Care Services and other key stakeholders over the potential impacts of these proposals on services they currently deliver on behalf of the County Council;**

5. Noted the need for the Full Business Case to be reported to Cabinet for consideration at a future date.

161/16 Utilising Block Residential Care Contracts - to Facilitate Greater Choice

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adult Care Delivery, Councillor Parker, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The Sure contract offered 152 beds in 3 specialist care centres which offered beds for step down from hospital or step up from community and this facility was being underused because more people were opting to be looked after at home;
- The vacancies on the Sure contract still had to be paid for as part of the PFI block contract which was agreed some 10 years ago and the contract still had several years to run;
- Following discussing with Sure commissioners and health colleagues it was felt that the beds could be better used as a first choice for people with dementia; and
- The report was proposing to conduct a 6 week consultation to make sure the beds were fully utilised by offering them as first choice for individuals with dementia providing them with somewhere special to go where they would be looked after extremely well.

Councillors made the following points:

- There sure be better use of beds were there was a 48% vacancy rate;
- It was felt that the report was not about facilitating greater choice but it was about meeting a saving in the service but the facilities the Council had should be used;
- The beds should be monitored given that there was a crisis in the County of beds in hospital being occupied by people who should be moved back into their homes or be cared for in interim accommodation;
- The Council should ensure that those beds were fully used and it was accepted that more capacity for people with dementia was also required;
- The report was welcomed because it proposed a genuine £1.7m saving to the budget; and
- The saving was being achieved from re-using the Sure contract beds of which there was a 48% vacancy rate however the report didn't mention if 100% of the beds were being used for longer term accommodation or just the 48%.

The Chief Executive explained that in terms of the utilisation of the Sure contract beds in the whole system, the Council had reviewed it and worked very closely with its healthcare colleagues. The Sure beds were not suitable for current system requirements and the Council realised that it needed high end specialist dementia care therefore it was working with Sure through the PFI contract to address this.

Councillor Parker felt that this was a very positive way forward and the Council was only proposing to use 48% of beds this way.

RESOLVED That the Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the contents of the report.**
- 2. Approved the commencement of a consultation process on the proposals set out in this report, and then further report the results of the**

consultation to a future meeting of Cabinet for consideration and decision.

- 3. Agreed to receive a further report to Cabinet on the proposals set out in this report once appropriate Financial and Legal Advice has been received.**

162/16 Paying for Care and Support When Eligible for Adult Social Care

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adult Care Delivery, Councillor Parker, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The Council was looking to try to prevent the aged debt from occurring in the first place and direct debit payments were now the preferred method for people going into care or having services provided for them;
- The Council also needed to ensure that if someone did stop paying that there was a process to enable the Council to respond quickly to address it; and
- This would begin a 6 week consultation period to ensure that the proposal was fit for purpose and people understood the proposal.

Councillors made the following points:

- Concerns were raised that by speeding up the process to 2 weeks rather than 4 weeks that it would add additional work and administration costs to the process; and
- The financial implications of this proposal was queried.

Councillor Brown made the following points:

- The proposal was supported and one of the historical beliefs had been that adult social care was free at the point of access however it was not and the proposals ensure that it was clear from the start for anyone accessing care services; and
- It ensured that everyone knew that a financial assessment was vital.

Councillor Parker made the following points in response:

- Assessment would be undertaken in 2 weeks rather than 6 weeks; and
- There was a need to stop the debt occurring and the Council would engage with people more positively to assist them and prevent debt.

RESOLVED That the Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the contents of the report.**
- 2. Approved the commencement of a consultation process on the proposals set out in this report, and then further report the results of the consultation to a future meeting of Cabinet for consideration and decision.**
- 3. Agreed to receive a further report to Cabinet on the proposals set out in this report once appropriate Financial and Legal Advice has been received.**

163/16 Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Update

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Transport, Highways & Environment, Councillor Morris, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- He praised the work of Josie Bateman for the work she carried out in this area;
- The report was an annual action plan for which the document size had been reduced by half and gave advice and guidance on how to use the flood tool kit;
- There were 89 separate actions across the county associated with the action plan; and
- The flood tool kit got 100 hits a day on the website and had won 2 national awards.

Councillors made the following points:

- It was a small team that was underfunded and it was felt that it was let down by the Highways department because of an insufficient drainage network, which should be more of a priority; and
- There was a need to look at the defences in Northampton again because the risk to the St James area was listed as 2nd.

The Chairman explained that investment had been made from the Environment Agency to reduce the risks following the 1998 floods.

Councillor Morris explained that the Highways department did act quickly to resolve drainage issues when required and the Environment Agency were responsible for a lot of the flood reduction in the county.

RESOLVED That the Cabinet:

- 1. To note the outcomes of the consultation on the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and associated action plan, and the changes made in response to comments received, including those described at the end of this report; and,**
- 2. To formally approve the revised Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy and associated documents as County Council policy.**

164/16 Developing a new delivery vehicle for Adult Social Care

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adult Care Delivery, Councillor Parker, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- He highlighted that the proposal was not outsourcing, the delivery vehicle would become a company limited by guarantee wholly owned by Northamptonshire County Council;
- The appendix discussed the various types of organisations that had been considered and the statutory roles;
- Thorough legal advice had been received on the proposal along with advice on taxation and VAT; and
- The final outline business case would be brought to the January Cabinet meeting for approval.

Councillors made the following points:

- It was queried if the suggested short term support team would replace the intermediate care team that was in place already;
- A scrutiny task and finish group had been set up to scrutinise the business case and report back to Cabinet;
- The report had been read in detail and it was questions how it could be cheaper than the current way of delivering the service; and
- It was queried why the Council could not have monitoring arrangements focusing on how outcomes were purchased.

Councillor Brown explained that this would ensure the services were provided for those who were eligible along with providing services for all who needed them.

Councillor Parker explained that the teams were not being got rid of but were being refocused and the target operating model would focus on early intervention and would mean there was less management and more available staff.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Noted the Outline Business Case relating to the formation of a new delivery vehicle, along with proposed governance arrangements, required due-diligence and consultation as part of the decision making process for the development of the operating model;**
- 2. Noted that the new delivery vehicle will focus primarily on services for eligible and vulnerable adults and their Carers/Families;**
- 3. Delegated to the Director of Adult Social Services and the Lead Member for Adults Social Care, in consultation with NCC Group commissioners, the authority to proceed with the development of the operating model for the proposed delivery vehicle;**
- 4. Delegated to the Director of Adult Social Services and NCC Group commissioners, and the Lead Member for Adults Social Care, the authority to develop such legal documents and agreements as necessary to support the establishment of the new delivery vehicle;**
- 5. As part of the financial decision making process noted the timescale for the presentation of a further report to Cabinet, including a full Business Case, the outcomes of the required consultation for final approval before the new delivery vehicle is operationalized;**
- 6. Noted that, whilst proposing to transfer staff and contracts, and possible assets, to the new delivery vehicle this arrangement will not transfer the accountability held by Northamptonshire County Council to delivery its statutory and regulated functions for Adults and their families;**
- 7. Noted that,**
 - a. No NCC assets, staff or contracts will be transferred at this stage;**
 - b. Services currently delivered by other partners and current external contracts may be transferred into the County Councils directorate for Adults prior to the transfer of staff and contracts into the new delivery vehicle;**
 - c. It is intended that staff currently in Olympus Care Services (OCS) will transfer into the new vehicle**
 - d. The new delivery vehicle will not be fully operational until after April 2017**

165/16 Proposed future arrangements for the supply of temporary agency workers

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance, Councillor Brown, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The would allow the Council to create a benefit on the basis of working with Suffolk County Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, and other LGSS partners to ensure that there was an opportunity to maximise the return from the money being spent on agency staff; and
- The new agency would continue to sign up people agency working who had been available for placement with in NCC and whilst it was planned to increase that percentage of agency workers that were secured directly the Council would still need to secure an extended supply chain from external agencies.

Councillors made the following points:

- The report was welcomed however there was a need to be cautious on the estimate of the achievable savings; and
- There needed to be national standards for agency workers and national pay and conditions.

Councillor Golby explained that the Council would continue to work hard to transform its ratio of agency to permanent staff.

RESOLVED That Cabinet:

- 1. Agreed that delegated authority be given to the LGSS Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and the Chief Finance Officer to negotiate a longer term agreement with Suffolk County Council (via Opus People Solutions) whereby NCC and potentially other LGSS partners join a new publically owned Joint Venture Company to provide temporary agency workers into NCC. These arrangements would apply from the end of the current contract arrangements with Guidant that are due to expire on 31 July 2017.**
- 2. Agreed that delegated authority be given to the LGSS Managing Director, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Finance and the Chief Finance Officer to negotiate and execute all the necessary documents to set up all the joint arrangements and appropriate company structures with Opus People Solutions including procuring and setting up an extended supply chain to ensure the continuity of supply of agency workers in the future.**
- 3. Agreed that delegated authority be given to the LGSS Managing Director, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Chief Finance Officer to extend the existing contract arrangements for a further period of up to 2 months in the event of an unforeseen delay in the implementation of the new proposed arrangements.**

166/16 Supporting Northamptonshire's Heritage

At the Chairman's invitation the Deputy Leader with responsibility for Public Protection, Councillor Gonzalez de Savage, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The Northants Heritage Strategy was an important document and gave all the opportunity to understand just what the Council did in terms of heritage and how it engaged with many bodies around the county;
- In some of the areas that the Council controlled there were over 10,000 years of history and heritage including such sites as Chester Farm; and
- Going forward the sites needed the opportunity to move forward and to leverage income.

Councillors made the following points:

- There was a lot of history in Northampton in the Delapre ward such as the War of the Roses battle and the Queen Eleanor Cross;
- There was also lots of history in Northampton's Delapre Abbey;
- It was felt that Northampton should have celebrated the magna carter;
- It was queried how people would access the resources being installed at Chester Farm given it's location;
- It was felt that the Council should be represented on the Board discussed in section 6.4 of the report;
- It was felt the income listed in the report was speculative;
- Chester Farm was not under immediate threat, it was a 'nice to have' attraction;
- The Council was congratulated on recognising the national importance of Chester Farm and future generations would benefit enormously from the investment being made now;
- The key to the success of the project would be to recruit the best people to represent the project going forward;
- It was felt that the 5 years mentioned in paragraph 6.3 of the report start from the completion of the construction contract;
- Did the transfer of the asset mean it was a freehold transfer or a long lease and if it was a lease the length of time it would run for was queried;
- The report highlighted the needs of the young people and it was queried if employment opportunities and apprenticeships could be looked at; and
- There was a need to consider how to make connections with people regarding heritage.

Councillor Smith explained after a catastrophic fire at Chester Farm the Council had obligations to restore the buildings because if it wasn't restored the heritage grant would be lost. It would be hard to exploit the funding opportunities as a Council however this was easier as a trust with charitable status. The Council's vision was not the same as the Friends of Castle House which was what lead to the difficulties in that relationship. She explained that a second well was being excavated at Chester Farm.

Councillor Gonzalez de Savage made the following points:

- Castle House was a critical site and the Council was providing development opportunities for the area;
- The investment in the Castle House area would improve the economy;

- He was pleased that people were appreciating the Chester Farm site which would include community and learning opportunities on the site; and
- The Council would work with the trust going forward and would look at the type of structure such as a 99 year lease.

167/16 Youth Offending Service – Youth Justice Plan 2016/17

At the Chairman's invitation the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Councillor Golby, introduced the report (copies of which had previously been circulated) and made the following points:

- The report was the annual plan and progress against all of the key performance indicators had been maintained or improved throughout the year;
- Looked after Children represented a high level of offenders however work continued to address this; and
- There was still much work to be done however he felt it was an excellent service.

Councillors made the following points:

- It was queried if the level of reduction of funding impact on the service;
- It was important to target young people to stop them from getting into the system in the first place;
- There was a lot to be commended in the report along with the work done with all its partners; and
- It was important for all to know that restorative justice was better than incarceration.

Councillor Golby said that everyone did their best to ensure that every part of the public sector played its part.

RESOLVED That Cabinet agreed the Youth Justice Plan 2016/17 and recommend it for approval by full Council.

The Chairman advised that the next meeting of the Cabinet was scheduled for Tuesday 13 December 2016 and thanked the journalism students for staying for the whole meeting.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 3.55PM

Barbel Gale
Democratic Services

Signed: _____ Dated: _____