

Committee Manager : Jane Fulton (Ext 37611)

3 October 2018

## **CABINET**

A meeting of the Cabinet will be held in Committee Room 1 (Pink Room) at the Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, on the **15th October 2018 at 5.00 pm** and you are requested to attend.

Members : Councillors Mrs Brown (Chairman), Wensley (Vice-Chairman), Bence, Charles, Clayden, Haymes, and Wotherspoon.

## **A G E N D A**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members and Officers are reminded to make any declarations of pecuniary, personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have in relation to items on this agenda and are reminded that they should re-declare their interest before consideration of the item or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.

Members and officers should make their declaration by stating :

- a) the item they have the interest in
- b) whether it is a pecuniary, personal and/or prejudicial
- c) the nature of the interest
- d) if it is a pecuniary or prejudicial interest, whether they will be exercising their right to speak under Question time

3. QUESTION TIME
  - a) Questions from the public (for a period of up to 15 minutes).
  - b) Questions from Members with prejudicial interests (for a period of up to 15 minutes).

4. URGENT BUSINESS

The Cabinet may consider items of an urgent nature on functions falling within their responsibilities where special circumstances apply. Where the item relates to a key decision, the agreement of the Chairman of the Overview Select Committee must have been sought on both the subject of the decision and the reasons for the urgency. Such decisions shall not be subject to the call-in procedure as set out in the Scrutiny Procedure Rules at Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

5. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2018 (previously circulated).

6. BUDGET VARIATION REPORT

To consider any reports from the Head of Corporate Support.

7. THE FUTURE USE OF THE LOOK & SEA CENTRE, LITTLEHAMPTON

The Cabinet is asked to determine the future use of the Look & Sea Centre, Littlehampton, following the current operators entering into administration.

The report proposes that the whole building be operated as a café/restaurant/bar and that planning permission be sought for such uses on the upper floors. It is also proposed to not re-provide a Visitor Experience or Visitor Information Centre but instead commission (a) educational material based on the current curriculum to support school field trips bespoke for Littlehampton and (b) utilise a range of electronic promotional tools to promote 'the offer' of Littlehampton from a tourism and local interest point of view.

8. ARUN WELLBEING HEALTH PARTNERSHIP - 5 SEPTEMBER 2018

To receive and note the Minutes of the meeting of the Arun Wellbeing Health Partnership held on 5 September 2018 (attached).

**ITEMS PUT FORWARD BY THE OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUPS**

9. OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE 0- 18 SEPTEMBER 2018 - COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2019

To consider the recommendations to Cabinet detailed under Minute 188 [Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019] from the meeting of the Overview Select Committee held on 18 September 2018. An extract of the Minutes is attached.

Note : \*Indicates report is attached for all Members of the Council only and the press (excluding exempt items). Copies of reports can be obtained on request from the Committee Manager).

Note : Members are reminded that if they have any detailed questions would they please inform the Chairman and/or relevant Director in advance of the meeting.

# ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT TO AND DECISION OF CABINET ON 15 OCTOBER

### PART A : REPORT

<b>SUBJECT:</b> The Future Use of the Look & Sea Centre, Littlehampton
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<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b> Karl Roberts, Director of Place
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<b>DATE:</b> 20 September 2018
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<b>EXTN:</b> (01903) 737760
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<b>PORTFOLIO AREA:</b> Technical Services [Councillor Haymes]
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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

To determine the future use of the Littlehampton Look & Sea Centre following the current operators entering administration. The report proposes that the whole building be operated as a café/restaurant/bar and that planning permission be sought for such uses on the upper floors. It is also proposed to not re-provide a Visitor Experience or Visitor Information Centre but instead commission (a) educational material based on the current curriculum to support school field trips bespoke for Littlehampton and (b) utilise a range of electronic promotional tools to promote 'the offer' of Littlehampton from a tourism and local interest point of view.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Support the submission of a planning application to seek planning permission for the change of use of the upper floors into a café/restaurant/bar;
2. Agree that the Group Head of Technical Services be authorised to (a) seek conditional tenders/expressions of interest for an operator to run a café/restaurant/bar for the whole premises for a period of at least 25 years (unless a lesser period would represent best consideration) subject to planning permission any other legal issues; (b) negotiate suitable Heads of Terms for a new lease and (c) to enter into the agreed Lease with the selected operator following consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Technical Services;
3. Confirm that the building will no longer be used to provide a Visitor Experience or Visitor Information Centre; and
4. Approve the commissioning of (a) educational material based on the current curriculum to support school field trips bespoke for Littlehampton and (b) utilise a range of electronic promotional tools such as web and "app" guides to promote 'the offer' of Littlehampton from a tourism and local interest point of view.

## 1. BACKGROUND:

On 31 August 2018 the Council was advised by Look & Sea Limited that they were unable to continue to operate the existing Café/Visitor Experience (VE) and Visitor Information Centre (VIC) (together comprising the premises) in a financially viable manner and had called in Administrators. Subsequent to this Officers of the Council have had several conversations with the Administrators to assist them with their statutory duties. The Council were made aware of a shortage of 'cash flow' in December 2017, and assisted the Trust (The Littlehampton Experience) with a grant of £20k in January 2018. At that time, the Trust assured the Council that with a good summer, the financial aspects of the premises would be more secure. Officers have also sought to address some of the issues that have arisen as a result of the sudden closure of the premises such as the disposal of rotting food.

The Council is the freehold owner of the site and was instrumental in developing the concept of a café and visitor experience as part of the overall development of the East Bank redevelopment approximately 20 years ago. The Council helped to create the Trust and leased the premises to the Trust in 2007. By operation of law, that Lease with the Trust and Look & Sea Limited's interest in the premises have been surrendered. This has been confirmed by the Council's Solicitor.

The Council is therefore, unexpectedly, now in a position where it can seek a new operator for the premises. Indeed since the closure of the premises the Council has received a number of enquiries from potential operators.

Currently, the premises have a café on the ground floor and a separate VIC. On the first floor is a room used as a meeting room and sometimes as additional dining facilities. On the second floor is the Visitor Experience and finally on the third floor is 'the look out'. The Council therefore needs to determine what uses the premises should be put to in the future to inform any tender. That part of the building complex which is occupied by the Youth Hostel is unaffected by this change of circumstances.

The Café is clearly the most popular use which is not surprising given the outstanding location it enjoys. The Visitor Experience was largely used by school parties, but as with all such facilities, it is important to refresh 'the offer' otherwise it becomes dated quickly. This does not appear to have happened. It is also understood that as part of the closure of the Visitor Experience some of the equipment/displays in the VE were removed. Finally, the VIC is a small standalone operation within the overall complex which the Council provided an annual subsidy of £16k. Again, trends are changing and the availability of social media and smartphone functions means that stand alone VICs are less well used than they once were, particularly in small towns such as Littlehampton. The Council withdrew its VIC's in both Arundel and Bognor Regis several years ago.

Therefore, this unexpected series of events opens up the opportunity to use the whole of the premises as a café/restaurant/bar. For this to happen, planning permission would need to be granted for the change of use of the upper floors. Also whilst Look & Sea Limited had a licence to sell alcohol, this was in fact in contravention of a restrictive covenant in favour of The Most Noble Bernard Marmaduke, Duke of Norfolk and his successors in title, whose estate is administered by the Angmering Park Estate (APE). APE has been approached and has agreed not to enforce the covenant whilst the Council retains the freehold.

## 2. PROPOSAL(S):

- Support the submission of a planning application to seek planning permission for the change of use of the upper floors into a café/restaurant/bar
- Agree that the Group Head of Technical Services be authorised to (a) seek conditional tenders/expressions of interest for an operator to run a café/restaurant/bar for the whole premises for a period of at least 25 years (unless a lesser period would represent best consideration) subject to planning permission any other legal issues; (b) negotiate suitable Heads of Terms for a new lease and (c) to enter into the agreed Lease with the selected operator following consultation with the Section 151 Officer and the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Technical Services.
- Confirm that the premises will no longer be used to provide a Visitor Experience or Visitor Information Centre.
- Approve the commissioning of (a) educational material based on the current curriculum to support school field trips bespoke for Littlehampton and (b) utilise a range of electronic promotional tools such as web and “app” guides to promote ‘the offer’ of Littlehampton from a tourism and local interest point of view.

To compensate for the loss of VE and VIC it is also proposed to undertake the following using the £16k that would have otherwise been allocated to the VIC for 2019/20.

4(a) To commission educational material based on the current curriculum to support school field trips bespoke for Littlehampton. Topics that might be covered include the history of the river and its industries, the formation of sand dunes, flooding, long-shore drift. Similar work has been done in other authorities and has encouraged schools from out of the area to visit.

4(b) To utilise a range of electronic promotional tools to promote ‘the offer’ of Littlehampton. This might include an enhanced web material or an ‘App’.

Inevitably there will be a delay in getting a planning application submitted for consideration, therefore, on a without prejudice basis it is proposed to seek conditional tenders for an operator to run a café/restaurant/bar for the whole premises subject to planning permission and the resolution of any other legal issues.

Cabinet is asked to support the recommendations.

## 3. OPTIONS:

- a) To seek an operator to provide a café together with Visitor Experience and Visitor Information Centre.
- b) To seek an operator to provide a café/restaurant/bar for the whole of the building.
- c) To sell the premises on the open market

### Note:

Any lease of less than 25 years and a rent of less than £100,000 exclusive of rates can be entered into by Officers under the terms of the Scheme of Delegation in the Constitution and therefore authority is only sought for any potential lease outside of these terms.

<b>4. CONSULTATION:</b>		
Has consultation been undertaken with:	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		
<b>5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Financial	✓	
Legal	✓	
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land	✓	
Technology		✓
Other (please explain)		✓
<b>6. IMPLICATIONS:</b>		
<p>In the short term there may be some finance needed to undertake any remedial works to the building and repair any defects prior to completion of the procurement exercise. Where it is at all possible, this will be done from existing budgets, however, if the costs turn out to be substantial then it may be necessary to put a further report before Members to seek a supplementary estimate.</p>		

<b>7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:</b>
The lease on the premises has been surrendered and it currently stands unoccupied. It is important that the Council secures a new operator as soon as possible and the changes set out in the body of the report reflect the current context as opposed to the original rationale for the building.
<b>8. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE DECISION:</b> 23 October 2018

<b>9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>
None

## ARUN WELLBEING AND HEALTH PARTNERSHIP (AWHP) MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 5 September 2018  
 Time: 2 – 4 pm  
 Venue: Committee Room 1, Arun Civic Centre  
 Chair: Hilary Spencer, Chief Executive, VAAC

### Present:

**Hilary Spencer** (Chair of the AWHP and Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester), **Claire Dower** (Arun Wellbeing, Information Officer) **Joy Bradbury-Ball** (Senior Wellbeing Officer, Arun Wellbeing) **Holly Yandall** (Public Health Lead, West Sussex County Council), (**Sharon Cuerden** (Service Manager, Coastal West Sussex Mind), **Russell Tooley** (Wellbeing Services Manager, ADC), **Michaela Hawkes** (Regis LCN Development Manager, NHS Coastal West Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group), **Julie Budge** (CEO My Sisters' House), **Steve Hawes** (Fitness Manager, Freedom Leisure) **Kirsty Ware** (Team Manager, Peabody), **Jayne Haywood** (Co-ordinator, Peabody), **PCSO Julie Jones** (Sussex Police), **Michelle Ennis** (Nurse Adviser – PAT), **Jane Brown** (Carers Support Service), **Steve Cusack** (Arun Business Partnership), **Jo Cooke** (Partnership Officer Arun - WSCC), **Lydia Schilbach** (Locality Team Lead – WSCC), **Rev Martin Seymour** (Minister, Churches Together/Littlehampton Baptist Church), **Sarah Randall** (Family Support Lead – IPEH),

### Apologies:

**Carrie Reynolds** (Community Development Manager, Freedom Leisure), **Cllr Marian Ayres** (ADC), **Philippa Dart** (Director of Services, ADC)

Minuted by: **Claire Dower**

### 1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**Hilary Spencer** welcomed everyone to the meeting, gave the received apologies and members introduced themselves. It was noted that Nigel Lynn, Chief Executive of Arun District Council will no longer be attending these meetings.

### 2. REPORT BACK FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/MATTERS ARISING

**Holly Yandall** reported that the Physical Needs Assessment mentioned in the previous minutes, has not been published yet.

**Lydia Schilbach** the new Locality Team Lead at WSCC replacing Tracey Light, mentioned that the WSCC small funding pot has a total amount of £2000 in it for this financial year and that she is happy for it to be used towards joint partnership events.

**Russell Tooley** said the partnership can advertise in the Arun Times, but there is no guarantee they will go in, as other items may take priority.

**Hilary Spencer** said more thought needs to go in to the knowledge hub and VAAC will contribute to this work

All other actions completed.

Matters Arising – **Hilary Spencer** has a been working on the protocol for the proposed partnership supporting bid (*document attached in these minutes*) she would like this to be brought back to the next meeting to be discussed.

**Holly Yandall** said the Strategic Needs Assessment will be published in Autumn/Winter time – the partnership will discuss this at the next AWHP meeting in February.

**3. LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) – UPDATE**

**Michaela Hawkes** gave a brief update to the partnership on the LCN – (*written update to follow these minutes*)

**Holly Yandall** asked how the AWHP can help support the CCG.

**Michaela Hawkes** said she will share the report with the partnership so different members can see where they can fit in and provide support.

**Holly Yandall** commented that it would be useful to have the dates of the next LCN meetings and the agenda so the partnership can feed in.

**4. FEEDBACK FROM NEW PRIORITY SUB-GROUPS**

**Holly Yandall** gave an update on behalf of the preventing social isolation sub group to the partnership. The groups are trying to see where they should focus their efforts and are currently waiting for the county wide Loneliness Needs Assessment which they have been granted access to by Claire Toone. Once they have this information the sub group will meet again so they can identify any gaps and ensure they are not duplicating any services.

**Hilary Spencer** mentioned that there is a Building Communities Fund by the Co-Op available for social isolation services for young people but it has a time limit for applications.

**Michaela Hawkes** gave an update on the promoting physical activity sub group. Carrie Reynolds and Gary Hardley will be taking this forward and they have arranged an upcoming meeting to discuss.

**Hilary Spencer** would like to sit in when both the sub groups meet again and said if anyone in the partnership would like to be included in these sub groups to please email **Claire Dower** [Claire.dower@arun.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.dower@arun.gov.uk)

**5. WEST SUSSEX PATHFINDER ALLIANCE – UPDATE**

**Sharon Cuerden** gave a presentation to the partnership on the West Sussex Pathfinder Alliance – (*presentation attached with these minutes*)

**Hilary Spencer** commented that a number of individual organisations lead for the different areas and they are all at varying stages of development.

**Sharon Cuerden** said that although the main launch of Pathfinder has already taken place, other organisations may also do their own launches.

**Julie Budge** commented that Pathfinder shows great co-production and joint working with service users being involved.

**Sharon Cuerden** said if any of the partnership wants to be involved in Pathfinder to email Claire Dower [Claire.dower@arun.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.dower@arun.gov.uk)

**6. AWHP SMALL GRANT FUND 2018 – SUCCESSFUL GRANTS**

**Claire Dower** gave an update on the AWHP Small Grants Fund. The amount for this year was a total £5,500 and 10 applications were received and 7 were successful.

All information on the successful grants can be found on this link <https://www.arun.gov.uk/download.cfm?doc=docm93ijjm4n12715.docx&ver=12850>

The successful applications were asked to complete a case study as part of their evaluation form to show how the grant has been beneficial; the completed evaluations will be due 6 months after the funding was awarded.

**Claire Dower** also shared an article with the partnership, which was published in the Bognor Post from one of successful applicants, thanking the partnership for the funding for their project.



## 7. PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD - UPDATE

**Holly Yandall** gave an update to the partnership on the West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board. The board is going through a re-refresh and instead of holding meetings in one place they are rotating meetings in different areas. The most recent meeting was held in Arun and the following questions were put to the board:

- *How can we further develop our joined up vision for the health and wellbeing of the local communities of Arun, and capture this within our revised HWB strategy?*
- *What are the opportunities for greater joined up working between the Health and Well-Being Board and Arun's Well-being Partnership Group; could we for example, use existing resources in a different way, or seek external funding for specific projects to address local need which can then be reported back to the Board?*
- *Does the Board consider that there is adequate direction to ensure that the work of the Wellbeing Partnerships and the LCN's are aligned?*
- *What are the opportunities for more joined up work across the County Council, Arun District Council and the NHS on our joint public health agenda?*

**Hilary Spencer** was concerned about the influence the AWHP will have on the board's decisions and asked what the partnerships route in to the board will be.

**Russell Tooley** commented that Nigel Lynn sits on the board and could be a gateway to communication

**Michaela Hawkes** said that she will find out who sits on the board from the CCG.

It was agreed by the partnership that **Hilary Spencer** should write to the board as chair of the AWHP, for the board to consider its link to the AWHP and what the mechanism is for contributing, ensuring information travels in both ways.

The Health and Wellbeing Board's response to Hilary's letter and the questions that Arun put to them will be brought back to the next AWHP meeting in February.

**ACTION: Michaela Hawkes**

**ACTION: Hilary Spencer**

## 8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

**8.1** – Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – what the data looks like for Arun

**8.2** – Update on the answers to the questions that were put to the West Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board

**8.3** – Government County Funding – Supported People Grants, is possibly being cut. Once definite decision has been made – take to next meeting to discuss possible impacts.

**Lydia Schilbach** added that changes to funding are in forward plan so no decision has been formally made yet. (*Link to report*)- <http://www2.westsussex.gov.uk/ds/fp/forwardplan.pdf> where the partnership and other organisations that will be effected can get in touch via the email in the report to make representation. A decision will be made on these cuts in November.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**9.1 – Hilary Spencer** commented on the recent closure of the Community Transport Service and how this is having a significant impact on a large population of the district. VAAC are working with a provider to get things moving forward in the next month; however this service will be Littlehampton based and will leave a gap in other areas of the district.

**9.2 - Jane Brown** mentioned the Carers Support Event – which is part of the National Carers Rights Day will be taking place at Dove Lodge in Littlehampton on Friday 30 November, 10am-12pm.

**9.3 – Julie Budge** announced that My Sisters’ House has received £80,000 worth of funding from the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner to be part of the ‘Safe Space’ provider supporting domestic abuse victims. They also received funding from Health Watch to fund a service called ‘Mothers Apart’ which is a support service for mothers who have lost a child through fostering or adoption.

**9.4 - Sharon Cuerden** Announced that this will be her last meeting as she will be leaving Coastal West Sussex Mind and starting a new job working for Carers’ Support Service. **Hilary Spencer** thanked Sharon on behalf of all the partnership for all her in-put.

**9.5 - Lydia Schilbach** said that she will be more up to speed at the next meeting as she will have settled in to her new role as locality lead. She is more than happy for other members of the partnership to meet up with her to discuss what they do.

**9.6 – Michaela Hawkes** said LCN’s and the REAL patients facing group will be holding a public event on 20<sup>th</sup> October at the Windmill Theatre.

**9.7 – Hilary Spencer** announced that the new VAAC website is now live and for members to please visit it and give their feedback. The VAAC Flourishing or Floundering survey is now closed and they are working on collating a report.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

February 2018 – Date and venue TBC

'Subject to Approval at the Next Committee Meeting'

140

Overview Select  
Committee – 18.09.18

- ~~• No reference had been made in the Strategy in terms of the use of special constables and the role that they played. They could be a great way to supplement the work of PCSOs.~~

~~Response — the work of Special Constables was valued enormously, however, they were volunteers and had not been featured in the Strategy as they could not be used to replace PCSOs who were paid staff. As specials were voluntary it could not be guaranteed when they would be working. They also undertook other duties such as manning police counters etc.~~

~~Finally, the Chairman thanked Divisional Commander Jerry Westerman for attending the meeting and for providing a very informative presentation.~~

#### 188. LOCAL COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2019

The Group Head of Corporate Support presented a report in the absence of the Revenues and Benefits Manager setting out options for the Committee to consider in adopting the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) for year 7, from April 2019.

It was explained to Members that normally options for the following year's scheme would be presented to the Council Tax Support Working Party. However, the meeting scheduled for 29 August 2018 had been cancelled as it would not have been quorate. Due to the tight timescales in place in have a scheme approved by Full Council before the Government's deadline of 31 January 2019, the Chairman had given his authority for consideration of this report to be brought direct to this meeting of the Committee.

The background explaining why local authorities had to create their own local council tax reduction scheme was explained. The Government legislated that people of a pensionable age would continue to receive support based on national rules.

‘Subject to Approval at the Next Committee Meeting’

141

Overview Select  
Committee – 18.09.18

Change was necessary due to the introduction of Universal Credit (UC), its roll-out at Arun had commenced on 4 July 2018. This applied to all new working age claimants (with certain exceptions). It was anticipated that there would be an increased number of claimants moving from Housing Benefit over to UC. The number of changes in circumstances as a result of this was explained which meant that if no change was made to the existing scheme, the UC customer would receive numerous Council Tax bills through the year with each one amending their instalments making this confusing for the customer and a costly administrative process for the Council.

The introduction of a banded scheme would reduce the number of Council Tax demands that would be issued as a new bill would only be sent when a customer's income would change resulting in them moving to a new income band. The proposed Option 2 also offered more support to lower-income families providing more stability to those whose wages fluctuated each month.

In discussing the report, the Committee quickly came to the view that Option 2 seemed the most sensible way forward as this would be simpler to administer and would be easier for customers to understand.

It was accepted that some residents would be adversely affected but overall more would benefit. Option 2 would give people a helping hand maintaining their employment and allowing them to know where they stood within the benefits system.

In discussing this point, the Committee asked if it could be provided with an indication of the numbers that would be impacted by Option 2. As this information could not be provided at the meeting, it was agreed that the information would be circulated to the Committee.

The Benefits Team Leader then confirmed that around 4,112 residents would gain financially and for those that would not the average loss would be around £13.13 pounds per week. It was confirmed that those on the lowest income would receive a 90% discount award.

The Committee also asked if the likely cost to the Council, if Option 2 was adopted, could be confirmed. The Group Head of Corporate Support stated that Option 2 would be cost neutral compared to the previous scheme. Again, it was agreed that this information would be circulated to the Committee.

'Subject to Approval at the Next Committee Meeting'

142

Overview Select  
Committee – 18.09.18

The Committee

RECOMMEND TO CABINET [ON 15 OCTOBER 2018] – That

- (1) That Option 2 [to change the scheme to an income-banded scheme] be the proposed Option to take forward for Year 7 (2019); and
- (2) Subject to a full public consultation exercise being undertaken with the results of this consultation being fed back to the Overview Select Committee; then Cabinet and then to Full Council on 9 January 2019 for final approval.

~~189. CABINET MEMBER QUESTIONS AND UPDATES~~

~~The Cabinet Member for Technical Services, Councillor Haymes, was asked if the Council would consider reinstating the provision of hand towels in all of its cloakrooms within the Civic Centre due to the recently expressed concerns by scientists about the dangers to health associated with mechanical hand dryers.~~

~~The Cabinet Member for Technical Services, Councillor Haymes, responded confirming that the provision of hand towels would not be reintroduced. Although he was aware of the recent publicity he outlined that there was nothing wrong with hand dryers and that jet dryers were better than those with the slower speed. He confirmed that the amenities within the Civic Centre were perfectly adequate.~~

~~A supplementary question was asked stating that this decision had been taken without any consultation. Concerns were expressed over the location of waste bins around mechanical dryers which was a health risk and perhaps contributed to sickness levels in the Civic Centre amongst staff.~~

~~———— Councillor Haymes outlined that the decision made was not a Cabinet Member decision but an operational matter.~~

~~The Chairman asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Mrs Brown, if she could comment on West Sussex County Council's (WSCC) proposed decision to cut housing related support contracts from April 2019.~~