

Minutes

Cabinet

15th July 2013



These minutes principally record decisions taken and, where appropriate, the reasons for the decisions. A webcast of the meeting is available at www.braintree.gov.uk.

Present:

Portfolio	Cabinet Member	Present
Leader of the Council	Councillor G Butland (Chairman)	Yes
People and Participation	Councillor Mrs J Beavis	Yes
	Councillor P Tattersley	Yes
Performance and Efficiency	Councillor D L Bebb	Yes
	Councillor J T McKee	Apologies
Place	Councillor Mrs W Schmitt	Yes
	Councillor R G S Mitchell	Yes
Planning and Property	Councillor Lady Newton	Yes
	Councillor J O'Reilly-Cicconi	Yes
Prosperity and Growth	Councillor C Siddall (Deputy Leader of the Council)	Apologies

Councillor Barlow, Leader of the Labour Group, Councillor Abbott, Leader of the Green Group, Councillor Dr Evans, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Councillor Johnson, Chairman of the Governance Committee were also present as invitees of the Leader.

Clare Steward, Director of Strategy and Primary Care, Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (MECCG) and Sian Brand, Director of Nursing, MECGG, were also present for Agenda item 5e, Health and Wellbeing – to support the MECCG's Integrated Plan 2013/14 and the establishment of a District Health and Wellbeing Panel.

Councillors Horner, Mann and Ramage were also in attendance.

11. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

INFORMATION: The following interests were declared:

Councillor Butland declared a Non Pecuniary Interest in item 5a, as a recipient of a NHS pension from previous employment in the NHS in Essex and as CEO of a voluntary organisation.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, all Members remained in the meeting for all items, unless stated otherwise, and took part in the debate and decision thereon.

12. **QUESTION TIME**

INFORMATION: There were no statements made or questions asked.

13. **MINUTES**

DECISION: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 20th May 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

14. **HEALTH AND WELLBEING – TO SUPPORT THE MID ESSEX CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP’S INTEGRATED PLAN 2013/16 AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DISTRICT HEALTH AND WELLBEING PANEL.**

INFORMATION: Members received a presentation from Clare Steward, Director of Strategy, MECCG.

Issues considered with the MECCG representatives include:

- GPs not responding to patient needs;
- GP practices engaging with communities locally;
- Commissioning and involving the voluntary sector in public health activities;
- Improved health facilities in the Witham area;
- Differences in the funding level of the MECCG compared to the average level of funding for Clinical Commissioning Group in Essex;
- Queries on GP representations on the standards of care in Colchester General Hospital in the last 3 or 4 months;

The Leader thanked the MECCG representatives for attending the meeting and suggested that it would be helpful to Members to have the MECCG attend Cabinet meetings periodically to provide feedback or when major issues relevant to the district are being considered.

DECISION:

1. That the Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group’s Integrated Plan be supported.
2. That the establishment of a Braintree District Health and Wellbeing Panel be approved.

15. **LEADER'S UPDATE .**

The Leader of the Council reported on the following matters:-

- There has been national agreement on a 1% increase in the pay applicable from 1st April 2013, which can now be awarded to staff;
- A Peer Challenge of Braintree District Council will be undertaken from 8th to 10th October. The Peer Challenge is managed by the Local Government Association. Each Council determines the focus and scope of its review. The Leader and Chief Executive, in consultation with Cabinet members and Management Board, have agreed that the focus of the Peer Challenge for Braintree District Council will be:
 - **Financial challenge in 2015/16 and beyond** – how does the Council continue to deliver its priorities and good local services whilst providing value for money and being financially sustainable?
 - Does the Council now have the right skills, capacity and focus in place to deliver its **economic development priorities**?

The Peer Challenge team for this review is:

Jean Hunter, Chief Executive, South Cambridgeshire District Council;
Cllr Neil Clarke, Leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council;
Diane Hayward, Policy Manager (Economic and Community Strategy),
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council;
Marcus Coulson, Programme Manager, LGA

The team will be on site the three days which will involve interviews with Members, officers, key partners and stakeholders. The final report should be completed by November/early December and will be published.

16. ****BRAINTREE DISTRICT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTUS 2013/2026 (CONSULTATION DRAFT)**

DECISION:

Minutes Published: 26 th July 2013 Call-in Expires: 5 th August 2013

1. That the draft Braintree District Economic Development Prospectus 2013/2026 as outlined in the report and Appendix 1 be approved as a basis for consultation with the business community and key stakeholders.
2. That responsibility be delegated to the Cabinet Member, Prosperity and Growth, in consultation with the Prosperity Project Board, to sign off the Prospectus following consultation.

REASON FOR DECISION: To seek Member approval of the draft Braintree District Economic Development Prospectus 2013/2026 as a basis for consultation with the business community and key stakeholders and to delegate responsibility to the Cabinet Member, Prosperity and Growth, in consultation with the Prosperity Project Board, to sign off the Prospectus following consultation.

17. **FOURTH QUARTER AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT 2012/13 (INCLUDING PRESENTATION ON CUSTOMER SATISFACTION RESULTS)**

INFORMATION: Members asked that the Chief Executive conveys to staff their appreciation of the performance of staff in the delivery of the results in the Annual Performance Report and Customer Satisfaction.

DECISION:

1. That Fourth Quarter and Annual Performance Management report 2012/13 be noted and endorsed.
2. That the customer satisfaction results for 2102/13 be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: To inform the Cabinet of the performance of the Council.

18. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT - INVESTMENT POLICY AMENDMENT TO POLICY FOR 2013-14**

INFORMATION: Councillor Bebb, Cabinet Member, Performance and Efficiency, agreed to consider the investment policy in relation to property with the Council's financial advisers.

DECISION: That it be **recommended to Council:**

That the proposed changes to the Council's Investment Policy as detailed in Appendix B to the report be approved.

REASON FOR DECISION: To recommend amendments to the Council's Investment Policy which will enable a wider diversification of the Council's investments and extend the period over which the investment of core monies can be invested.

19. **MEMBER REVIEW OF RECYCLING – TO CONSIDER THE REPORT OF THE INFORMAL WORKING GROUP**

DECISION: That the work undertaken by the Member Working Group and their conclusions and recommendations be noted and that the Cabinet Member, Place, brings a full response to the meeting of Cabinet in September.

REASON FOR DECISION: To consider the outcome of the Member Working Group's Review of Recycling.

20 **CABINET MEMBERS' UPDATES**

INFORMATION: Councillor Schmitt, Cabinet Member, Place, said she had challenged the trivialisation of a press report on a Court case related to noise abatement of Cockerels on a chicken farm and had corrected inaccuracies in the report.

21 **EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON PARTNERSHIPS, PANELS AND BOARDS**

DECISION: That the following nominations be agreed:

Group	Nominee for 2013-14	Reason for Appointment
Essex Flood Partnership	Cllr Schmitt	Strategic
Essex County Council, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Beavis	Strategic

REASON FOR DECISION: To develop and promote the public services agenda through effective partnership working with other public sector organisations.

22. **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 26TH JUNE 2013 – ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2012/2013**

INFORMATION: Councillor Johnson, Chairman of the Governance Committee presented the recommendations of the Governance Committee.

DECISION:

1. That the Annual Governance Statement for 2012/13 as detailed in Appendix A be approved for signing by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive;
2. That the updated Local Code of Corporate Governance as detailed in Appendix B be agreed.

REASON FOR DECISION: To evidence that the Council has conducted a review of the effectiveness of its system of internal control for 2012/13, ensure that the Annual Governance Statement for 2012/13 is correct and in order for Cabinet approval and for the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to sign.

23. **MINUTES FROM CABINET SUB GROUPS**

DECISION: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Local Development Framework Sub-Committee held on 30th May, 13th June and 17th June 2013, and the Developing Democracy Group held on 10th June 2013; be noted.

24. **DELEGATED DECISIONS**

DECISION: That the delegated decisions set out in the report be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: The reasons for each decision can be found in the individual delegated decisions.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 9.11pm.

G BUTLAND
(Leader)