



SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL
Municipal Year 2014/15

Thursday, 16 April 2015

**COUNCIL CHAMBER
CIVIC OFFICES
SWINDON**

8 April 2015

Dear Councillor,

Summons to attend Council Meeting

A MEETING of the **Council**, which you are requested to attend, is to be held at the CIVIC OFFICES, SWINDON, on **Thursday, 16 April 2015 at 7.00 p.m.**

The business to be transacted will be as follows:-

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Communications**
To receive any communications or letters which the Mayor or Chief Executive may have to bring before the Council.
- 3. Minutes** (Pages 5 - 10)
To receive the minutes of the previous meeting.
- 4. Declarations of Interest**
Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.

5. Public Question Time

See explanatory note below.

6. Minutes for Confirmation (Pages 11 - 12)

(1) To consider a Minute for Confirmation from the Health and Wellbeing Board.

- Minute 42(1) (Terms of Reference of the Board)

(2) To consider a Minute for Confirmation from the Licensing Committee.

- Minute 28(1) (Statement of Gambling Principles)

7. Motions

(a) **Motion - Voting Age**
Councillor Nicky Sewell will move:

“Swindon Borough Council notes:

1. That currently 1.5 million 16 and 17 year olds are denied the vote in public elections in the UK.

2. That the campaign to lower the voting age is supported by thousands of young people across the UK and that the Votes at 16 Coalition consists of a wide range of youth and democracy organisations.

This Council believes;

1. 16 and 17 year olds are knowledgeable and passionate about the world in which they live and are as capable of engaging in the democratic system as any other citizen;

2. Lowering the voting age to 16, combined with strong citizenship education, would empower young people to better engage in society and influence decisions that will define their future;

3. People who can consent to medical treatment, work full-time, pay taxes, get married or enter a civil partnership and join the armed forces should also have the right to vote.

This Council resolves:

1. To write to the incoming Prime Minister after the May 2015 election expressing the support of this Council for the lowering of the voting age to 16;

2. To write to the Swindon South and Swindon North MPs after the May 2015 election to encourage them to support the lowering of the voting age to 16;

3. To promote this policy through its communications.”

(b) **Motion - Cash in Transit Parking**
Councillor Jim Grant will move:

“This Council notes that:

- Cash-In-Transit drivers are made contractually liable by their employers for fines for parking on double yellow lines.
- Cash-In-Transit driver drivers are operate in a dangerous job where they need to park as close as possible to those institutions they are collecting the money from.
- Other highways authorities include an exemption for Cash-In-Transit vehicles (referred to as “bullion vehicles”) from receiving Fixed Penalty Notices whilst loading or unloading large quantities of money.

Council believes it is unfair for these drivers who are in low paid jobs to be potentially liable for such fines when they are just doing their jobs in a potentially dangerous environment and requests the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills to bring a report to Cabinet detailing how the Council could specifically exempt cash-in-transit drivers from Penalty Charge Notices when loading or unloading large quantities of money.”

8. Calendar of Meetings 2015/16 (Pages 13 - 16)

To consider and recommend to Annual Council the dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and other Swindon Borough Council Bodies for the Municipal Year, 2015/16.

9. Minutes of Cabinet and Decisions Delegated to Cabinet Members (Pages 17 - 42)

Members have the opportunity to raise questions with the relevant Cabinet Member in respect of Cabinet minutes (which are not reserved for Council for decision) and in respect of individual Cabinet Member delegated decisions.

10. Minutes of other Council Bodies

Members have the opportunity to raise questions with the relevant Chair in respect of all other Committee minutes (not reserved to Council for decision), as set out in the Minute Book circulated separately.

11. Councillors Question Time

Questions (if any) of which notice has been given by Councillors in accordance with Standing Order 15.

Yours faithfully

Director of Law and Democratic Services

Questions by Members of the Public in accordance with Standing Order 11

Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website

(<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

Access Arrangements - The venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you have any special requirements to enable you to attend the meeting or would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size, please contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 26 MARCH 2015

PRESENT:- The Worshipful The Mayor in the Chair; Councillors Junab Ali, Steve Allsopp, Abdul Amin, Paul Baker, Ray Ballman, Andrew Bennett, Alan Bishop, Michael Bray, Mark Dempsey, Oliver Donachie, Mark Edwards, Toby Elliott, Emma Faramarzi, Fionuala Foley, Brian Ford, Mary Friend, Jim Grant, John Haines, Neil Heavens, Dale Heenan, Russell Holland, Fay Howard, Richard Hurley, Colin Lovell, Mary Martin, Nick Martin, Cindy Matthews, Brian Mattock, Gemma McCracken, Des Moffatt, Derique Montaut, Stan Pajak, Kevin Parry, Maureen Penny, Garry Perkins, David Renard, Ann Richards, James Robbins, Nicky Sewell, Eric Shaw, Carol Shelley, Kevin Small, Timothy Swinyard, Vera Tomlinson, Joe Tray, Steve Wakefield, Nadine Watts, Peter Watts, Steve Weisinger, Keith Williams, David Wood, Robert Wright and Julie Wright.

89. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Ballman, Roderick Bluh and Wayne Crabbe.

90. Communications

The Chief Executive reported that no communications had been received.

91. Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972

The Mayor advised the meeting that she intended, in accordance with Section 100 B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to take an additional urgent item concerning Cabinet Minute 74(3) (Minute for Confirmation – Capital Programme Monitoring - Third Quarter 2014/15). The reason for the urgency was to prevent a delay in work involving the Witchelstowe Project that was likely to occur should the Minute for Confirmation not be considered until the meeting of Council on 16th April 2015.

With the consent of the Council it was agreed that the additional item would be considered as Agenda Item 9(a) (Minute 99 refers).

92. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2015, be confirmed and signed.

93. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

Councillor Dale Heenan made a personal and prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda item 7 (Minute 96) as he was employed by an organisation within the relevant technology industry.

Councillor Toby Elliott made a personal and non-prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda item 7 (Minute 96) as he submitted a petition to the Council concerning Broadband provision in North Swindon.

94. Public Question Time

Ms Sarah Bowles submitted a written question relating to the provision of Superfast Broadband in rural areas. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills tabled a written response.

Mr Richard Symmonds asked a public question relating to the provision of financial support to Thamesdown Transport. The Cabinet Member for Finance responded at the meeting.

Mr Richard Symmonds asked a supplemental question regarding the method of financial support. The Cabinet Member for Finance responded at the meeting.

Mr Richard Symmonds asked a public question relating to the maintenance of the Thamesdown Transport bus fleet and the mechanical reliability of those buses. Councillor Colin Lovell (Swindon Borough Council appointed Thamesdown Transport Board Member) responded at the meeting.

Mr Warman asked a public question regarding Councillor representation on the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting.

Mr Steve Hall asked a public question regarding the financing of Superfast Broadband and the technical life expectancy options of cable or Wifi. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting.

Mr Steve Hall asked a supplementary question regarding the tendering process used for the provision of Superfast Broadband. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting.

Mr Hebdem asked a public question regarding coverage of the Superfast Broadband being provided and how this provision would be maintained at market standards. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills and the Cabinet Member for Corporate and Leisure Services responded at the meeting.

Mr Hebdem asked a supplemental question regarding the provision and subscription to Superfast Broadband. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting.

Mr Mark Clifford asked a public question regarding the tendering process used in awarding the Superfast Broadband contract. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting.

Mr Mark Clifford asked a supplemental question regarding the finances of the company awarded the Superfast Broadband contract. The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting.

95. Appointment of Representatives to Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority

The Council considered a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services seeking approval for the appointment of five Councillors to represent the Council on the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority when it was constituted on 1st April 2015 for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2014/15.

Councillor David Renard moved and Councillor Brian Mattock seconded that Councillors Abdul Amin, Andrew Bennett, Nick Martin, Garry Perkins and Joe Tray be appointed to serve as representatives of this Council on the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2014/15.

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

96. Motion - Superfast Broadband

Councillor Bob Wright moved and Councillor Steve Wakefield seconded:

“This Council notes Cabinet’s proposals to spend Council-taxpayers money to commission UK Broadband to install new broadband infrastructure in parts of the borough that does not currently have Superfast Broadband.

This Council calls on Cabinet to reconsider its current approach to increasing the coverage of Superfast Broadband across the Borough and consider alternative ways of achieving this goal.”

Councillor Toby Elliott moved and Councillor Oliver Donachie moved that the Motion be amended to read:

“This Council notes:

- A competitive OJEU tender process has been undertaken by Officers to secure Superfast Broadband in Swindon's BDUK intervention areas.
- The recommendation to Cabinet on 18th March 2015 was to accept a 4G LTE proposal to ensure that 99.4% of Swindon can receive Superfast Broadband.
- A 4G system for rural areas is the most cost effective and time effective way of bringing Superfast Broadband to 12,000 additional households.

This Council requests that the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills prepares a report for Cabinet within 6 months to consider the potential for use of funds leftover from the Superfast Broadband scheme, out of New Home Bonus monies, to enable urban intervention areas to be connected up to fibre optic Broadband, subject to state aid rules.

This Council also asks that the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills contact the new Secretary of State responsible for Superfast Broadband as soon as practicable after the General Election to see how Swindon could benefit from future rollout plans and that this is included in the report to Cabinet.”

The Amendment was put to the vote and declared carried becoming the Substantive Motion.

The Substantive Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

On completion of the voting for this item The Worshipful The Mayor left the meeting and the Deputy Mayor took the Chair.

97. Adoption of Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026

The Council considered (a) a report submitted to the Cabinet on 18th March 2015 in relation to the adoption of the Swindon Borough Council Local Plan 2026, and (b) Minute 76 of the Cabinet relating to this report.

Councillor Dale Heenan moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 76 of the Cabinet (Adoption of Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026) be confirmed and adopted.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared unanimously carried.

98. Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council considered (a) a report submitted to the Cabinet on 18th March 2015 in relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy, and (b) Minute 77 of the Cabinet relating to this report.

Councillor Dale Heenan moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 77 of the Cabinet (Community Infrastructure Levy) be confirmed and adopted.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared unanimously carried.

99. Minute for Confirmation

The Council considered (a) a report submitted to the Cabinet on 18th March 2015 in relation to the Capital Programme Monitoring – Third Quarter 2014/15 and in particular in respect of a proposed loan facility of up to £15 million to support house building in Wichelstowe through the Joint Venture arrangement, and (b) Minute 74(3) of the Cabinet relating to this report.

Councillor Russell Holland moved and Councillor David Renard seconded:

“That Minute 74(3) of the Cabinet (Capital Programme Monitoring – Third Quarter 2014/15) be confirmed and adopted.”

The Motion was put to the vote and declared carried.

100.

Councillors Question Time

The Director of Law and Democratic Services reported that Standing Order 15 questions had been received from Councillor Steve Allsopp.

Councillor Steve Allsopp asked a supplementary question seeking the agreement of the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport to brief Councillors upon receipt of the technical report referred to in his answer. The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport responded at the meeting.

Councillor Steve Allsopp asked a supplementary question of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety requesting she remain vigilant in respect of the issues raised in his question. The Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety responded at the meeting.

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COUNCIL

THURSDAY 16TH APRIL 2015

MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION

Health and Wellbeing Board

Wednesday, 11 March 2015

42. Terms of Reference of the Board

The Director of Public Health Submitted a report setting out updated Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Director of Public Health drew Members attention to paragraph 6 (Membership) of the revised Standing Orders and advised Members that in addition to the Membership listed and noted that it was proposed that Swindon Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Executive Nurse of the Clinical Commissioning Group should also be added to the Membership. The Director of Public Health also confirmed to the Board that Officers of Swindon Borough Council listed in Paragraph 6 of the Terms of Reference would become non-voting Members on the Board.

The Director of Public Health also brought to the Board's attention proposals to replace the Joint Commissioning Board with a newly formed Joint Commissioning Group which would feed into the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Councillor David Renard advised the Board that the proposed Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board had been discussed at a meeting of the Council's Corporate Governance Working Group. At this meeting the Council's Labour Group representatives had requested, that should the Cabinet member for Children's Services be appointed a Member of the Health and Wellbeing Board that the Health and Wellbeing Board also be requested to appoint the Shadow Cabinet Member for Children's Services.

Dr. Peter Crouch indicated that whilst he was content that the Cabinet Member for Children's Services be appointed to serve on the Health and Wellbeing Board he was concerned that not only was the Board Membership growing but that the clinical/non-clinical Membership was in danger of becoming unbalanced.

The Board discussed:

- Representation on the Board.
- How educational issues would be reported to the Board.
- The appointment of GP elected locality Chairs to rebalance the clinical/non-clinical Membership of the Board.

Resolved – (1) That, subject to the amendment of Paragraph 6 to include the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and the Executive Nurse of the Clinical Commissioning Group as Members of the Board, Swindon Borough Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group be recommended to approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board, as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report of the Director of Public Health.

(2) That, further to (1) above, the Director of Public Health be requested to submit a report to the Next meeting of this Board addressing (a) the request to appoint the Shadow Cabinet Member for Children’s Services as a Member serving on this Board, and (b) how the Clinical/Non-Clinical representation on this Board might be rebalanced.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 16 MARCH 2015

28. Statement of Gambling Principles - Adoption

The Committee considered a report of the Council’s Licensing Officer setting out (a) representations received on the draft Statement of Gambling Principles attached as Appendix 1 to the report, and (b) the amended Statement of Gambling Principles set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

Resolved – (1) That Council be recommended to adopt the revised Statement of Gambling Principles as set out in Appendix 2 to the Licensing manager’s report.

(2) That the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries be authorised, in consultation with the Chair of the Licensing Committee, to make any typographical changes to the Statement of Gambling Principles as may be required.

Calendar of Meetings 2015-16

Council

Date: 16 April 2015

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services
Wards: All
Locality Affected: All
Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To consider and agree dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and Other Swindon Borough Council bodies for the Municipal Year 2015/16.
- 1.2 The Council Constitution requires the formal confirmation of the dates of Council meetings by Full Council at its Annual Meeting. To enable appropriate planning of meetings and nominations to Committees of the Council to take place, the Council is asked to provisionally approve the full calendar of meetings for 2015/16 in advance of the Annual Council meeting.

2. Recommendations

The Council is recommended to:

- 2.1 Agree that the Timetable of Meetings for 2015/16 as set out in Appendix 1 be approved for formal adoption by Annual Council.
- 2.2 Agree that the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to vary the dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and Other Swindon Borough Council bodies should this prove necessary for the efficient discharge of Council business.

3. Detail

- 3.1 Proposed dates for meetings of Cabinet, Committees and other bodies are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 Dates are included in this Appendix for the One Swindon Board, Wiltshire Police and Crime Panel, Wiltshire Fire Authority and Safeguarding Boards for information only, as these meeting dates are arranged separately.
- 3.3 It is also proposed that the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, should be authorised to vary the meeting dates for meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, Committees and other Swindon Borough Council bodies as set out in the Appendix should this prove necessary for the efficient discharge of Council business.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 No alternative options are proposed.
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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Vicki Yull, 01793 463603, vyull@swindon.gov.uk

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human Rights considerations have been taken fully into account in compiling this report.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no specific implications that relate to staff, sustainability, health, rural, crime and disorder within this report.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 A Diversity Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report.

Risk Management

- 5.5 There are no risk management implications.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Board Director Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix 1 - Proposed Council timetable 2015/2016

Please note these are not all the meetings attended by Members - see the Committee Member Information Site Diary for a fuller set of dates

Draft Swindon Borough Council Calendar of Meetings 2015-2016

Meeting		time		2015												2016				
Cttee Officer	day	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June					
Executive & Regulatory	COUNCIL (normally preceded by Group meetings)	SB	Th	19:00	22 (A) (2.30)	23		24		12	21	25(B) 29(R)	14	20(A)						
	Cabinet agenda meetings	IW	Th	16:00	28	25	20		1	19	20	24	31							
	Cabinet briefing meetings (as required)	IW	M	17:00		15	13	7	19	7		8	14	18						
	CABINET (Open Forum at 18:00, Cabinet will start at the end of open forum)	IW	W	18:00		17	15	9	21	9		10	16	20						
	Standards Committee	SJ	M	17:00			6		12		25		14							
	Audit Committee	SJ	Tu	18:00		16		29		17		23		19						
	Planning Committee	IT	Tu	18:00		9	14	11	8	13	10	9	8	12	3					
	Joint Commissioning Board (Children / Adults)	IT	Tu	13:00		16		15		1			15							
	Appeals / Appointments Committee(s)	SB	-	-	Meetings arranged as required															
	Licensing Committee / Panel	SB	-	-	Meetings arranged as required															
Overview & Scrutiny	Cabinet Panel on School Organisation	IW	-	-	Meetings arranged as required															
	Scrutiny Committee	SJ	M	18:00		22	20	10	14	12,26	23	14	11	15	21	25				
	StreetSmart and Highways	VY	W	18:00		10		16		18		13		23						
	-Joint Great Western Ambulance	-	-	-	Meetings arranged as required															
	Health, Adults and Children's Services	RGG	W	18:00		24		2		11		27		2						
	Economy and Regeneration	SF	W	18:00			8		23		2			9						
	Resources	IT	Th	18:00			16		10		26			10						
	Tenants Scrutiny Panel	-	-	-	Meetings arranged as required															
	Wiltshire & Swindon Police & Crime Panel	-	Var	Var		18			3			2	21	4	3					
	Wiltshire Fire Authority	-	Th	10:30		11		24		10										
Other Formal Bodies	One Swindon Board (AD - away day)	CB/VY	Var	18:00		23	21(AD)		20		15(AD)	26		22						
	Swindon Children's Trust Board	RGG	Th	15:00		4		17			3		24							
	Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE)	SF	Tu	18:00		23			20				22							
	Schools Forum	RGG	Tu	16:00			7		6			12		15						
	Staff Joint Committee	SJ	Th	14:00			23			5				10						
	Council Joint Consultative Committee	SJ	Th	14:00				3				4								
	Joint Safety Committee	IT	Tu	13:00		23		22		3			2							
	Health & Wellbeing Board (*Chair's Advisory Group meeting)	VY	W	14:00	27	17*	8	2*	21	4*	9	10*	9	13*						
	Local Safeguarding Childrens Board (LSCB)	LB	Tu	13:30		9		8		8										
	Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB)	LB	Th	14:00	21		20			19										

Meeting		Cttee Officer	day	time	2014												2015				
					May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June			
Localities	West	Lead	M	19:00	11		13		28		2		25		14		9				
	East	Lead	Th	17:00			16		10				14			13					
	Town Centre	Lead	Th	19:00																	
	South	Lead	Tu	19:00	19				1		24				1						
	North	Lead	Tu	19:00	20(W)				17(Th)				28(Th)			26					
	North Central	Lead	Tu	19:00		2		4			6		1		2	5					
Ad vis ory	North East	Lead	W	19:00																	
	Corporate Parenting Advisory	SB	M	17:00			13		7		30				17(Th)						
	Housing Advisory Forum	SB	W	18:00		3				14			20		9						
	Equalities Advisory Forum	SF	W	12:45		24			16		25			3		20					
	Benefits Monitoring Group	IT	Tu	17:00		2	7		1		24		19		1						
	Member Development Advisory Group	VY	-	17:30											15						
	Town Twinning Network	SF	W	18:00		3			30				16			27					
	Heritage Board	-	Tu	10:00		16			22				1		15						
	Archaeological Advisory Body	RGG	Th	15:00			9				26			11							
	Conservative Group Meetings	DC	M	18:00	12,18	29	21	3	7,21	19	9	7	7	18	1,22	7,29	11	10,16			
Gr ou p	Labour Group Meetings	MB	M	18:00	12,18	1	21	3	21	19	9	7	4,18	1,22	7	11	16				
	Lib Dem Group Meetings	Cllr SP	-	-	Meetings arranged as required																
	Member Training	VY	Var	Var	8,14,27	8,15	9		15	8	5	10	14	8	24	21					
	Bank Holidays	-			4,25			31					25,28	1		25,28		2,30			
Dates	Swindon School Holidays	-			25-29		23-31	1-28		22-30		21-31		15-19	29-31	1-8	31				
	Elections	-			7												5				

Key: (M)=Monday, (Tu)=Tuesday, (W)=Wednesday, (Th)=Thursday, (F)=Friday, (B)= budget meeting, (R)=reserve date, (A)=annual council. Contacts: IW=Ian Willcox, SJ=Steve Jones, SB=Shaun Banks, VY=Vicki Yull, IT=Iain Tucker, SF=Stuart Fignini, RGG = Rita Glen-Gallo, DC = Douglas Chanda-Campbell, MB = Matthew Bradley, Cllr SP = Cllr Stan Pajak. Locality Leads: Paula Harrison, Pam Gough / Andrea Barratt, Nazakat Ali, Mark Walker, Andy Reeves, Helena Robinson. Partnership: CB=Carmel Burton. Safeguarding: LB= Leslie Boorman, DP=Debbie Parmenter.

CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2015

PRESENT:- Councillors David Renard (Chair), Brian Mattock (Vice-Chair), Russell Holland, Emma Faramarzi, Brian Ford, Fionuala Foley, Dale Heenan, Richard Hurley and Garry Perkins.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Keith Williams.

Councillor Steve Allsopp attended the meeting in respect of Minute 67. Councillor Jim Grant attended the meeting in respect of Minutes 59, 61, 62 and 63. Councillor Des Moffatt attended the meeting in respect of Minutes 62 and 64. Councillor Stan Pajak attended the meeting in respect of Minute 59.

56. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

57. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

58. Public Question Time

The following questions were asked in accordance with Standing Order 28 –

Questioner

Mr Richard Symonds, Shaw, Swindon

Questions

Mr Symonds asked questions concerning the Council's proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2020 and its proposals for "Asset Rationalisation". Specifically, (a) the cost in terms of rent and rates of the property occupied by Forward Swindon Ltd, (b) Would this partner be located within the Council to save money, (c) What specifically had Forward Swindon Ltd. delivered in terms of economic development during the 2014/15 Financial Year and what was promised for 2015/16, and (d) What property assets were being considered for disposal that were not considered as needed for operational or investment purposes?

Response

The Chair thanked Mr Symonds for his questions and comments. Councillor, Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills and the Board Director, Resources responded at the meeting.

Councillor Garry Perkins advised that he would arrange for a written response to be provided to the question concerning the achievements of Forward Swindon Ltd. in the 2014/15 Financial Year and proposals for 2015/16.

Questioner

Mr Tim French, Cassan Road, Swindon

Questions

Mr French asked a question concerning the number of empty shops in Swindon Town Centre and whether it was possible for the Council to use Business Rates as a way of stimulating more interest from retailers in these properties.

Response

The Chair thanked Mr French for his question and comments. Councillor, Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, and Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, responded at the meeting to the question and comments.

59. Motion at Council - Use of Police Community Support Officers in Supporting Council Parking Enforcement (Minute for Council to Note)

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability and Transport, the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, the Board Director, Service Delivery and the Service Manager, Parking submitted a joint report setting out a response to a Council Motion of 18th September 2014 concerning parking enforcement and the involvement of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in this process (Council Minute 43 refers).

Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills, referred to the contents of the report and the problem of indiscriminate parking that occurred across the Borough and in particular in areas near schools. He drew attention to the response received from the Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Commissioner and the view of Wiltshire Police. He explained the statutory position regarding parking enforcement powers and their use, and the joint working being developed between Parking Services and the Police.

Councillor Stan Pajak, Leader of the Minority Group on the Council, referred to the problems of indiscriminate parking around schools and similar public buildings in his ward. He believed that the problems would really only be overcome if Police Community Support Officers had the power to act against individual perpetrators. He was supportive of the recommendation within the report to press against the Police and Crime Commissioner to consider the greater involvement of PCSOs in parking enforcement. He believed that with the establishment of the new Town Centre Hub on the Civic Campus, it was the right time for a joint approach to enforcement to be introduced.

Councillor Jim Grant, Leader of the Opposition, welcomed the Cabinet's support in seeking to encourage the Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Commissioner and Wiltshire Police to reconsider their approach to the involvement of PCSOs in parking enforcement. He believed that if PCSOs had additional powers enabling them to issue penalties, this would act as a deterrent to indiscriminate and often dangerous parking.

The Chair referred to the excellent work undertaken by PCSOs in many local communities across the Borough. He referred to the response of the Police and Crime Commissioner and of Wiltshire Police and that he would be happy to ask them to reconsider their position with regard to adopting a joint "One Swindon"

approach to enforcement in areas suffering significant problems.

Resolved – (1) That it be noted that the Leader of the Council wrote to the Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Commissioner on 11th September 2014 and that the response received from the Police and Crime Commissioner dated 1st October 2014, was circulated to all Councillors at the Council meeting on 6th November 2014.

(2) That the work undertaken to move Parking Enforcement officers and the Police to the former Plus One building on the Civic Campus to enable the teams to work more closely together on local priorities which are identified in local neighbourhoods, be noted.

(3) That the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, be requested to invite the members of the Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Panel to consider the issues highlighted in the Council's motion on 18th September 2014 and the subsequent response of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

(4) That the Leader of the Council be requested to again contact the Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the content of the letter dated 1st October 2014 to ask him to reconsider the issue of the involvement of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in parking enforcement in specific areas where it has been identified as a neighbourhood priority.

(5) That the Council be advised of the contents of this minute and report in response to the Motion at the Council meeting on 18th September 2014. (Council Minute 43 refers.)

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

60. Consultation on Proposals for a Combined Fire and Rescue Service

The Leader of the Council and the Director of Law and Democratic Services submitted a joint report setting out a proposed response from Swindon Borough Council to the consultation being undertaken by the Department for Communities and Local Government on the locally led proposals to create a Combined Fire and Rescue Authority covering the current Dorset Combined Fire Authority and the Wiltshire and Swindon Combined Fire Authority areas.

The Chair introduced the report and referred to the Council's response to the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority's consultation on the future of that service that supported a proposed merger subject to clarification of three issues. (Minute 27, 2014/15 refers).

The Director of Law and Democratic Services explained that the Department for Communities and Local Government had extended the closing date of the Consultation until the end of February 2015. He explained the process for establishing a combined Fire and Rescue Authority covering Bournemouth, Dorset, Poole, Swindon, and Wiltshire, and the requirement for a public inquiry should the proposal not be supported by all the constituent local authorities.

Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration and Skills, and a Council appointed representative on the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority, referred to the outcome of the consultation undertaken by the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority and the overwhelming support for the proposed merger option. He commented on the subsequent preparation of the

detailed proposal and business case submitted to the Secretary of State to create a Combined Fire Authority. He explained the action that had been taken by both the Wiltshire and Swindon and Dorset Combined Fire Authorities to respond to the issues raised by the Borough in its consultation response. He believed that the proposed merger was the only option that would enable the continued delivery of the standard and quality of service currently experienced by Swindon residents.

Resolved – That the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the political group leaders on the Council, finalise and submit the Council's response to the Department for Communities and Local Government in support of the locally-led proposal to create a combined Fire and Rescue Authority covering Bournemouth, Dorset, Poole, Swindon, and Wiltshire.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

61. Budget 2015/16 and Beyond (Minute for Confirmation)

The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Board Director, Resources submitted a joint report concerning (a) the context for the Council's Budget for 2015/16 and for the Medium Term Financial Plan, including revised funding assumptions for 2015/16, (b) the current forecast out-turn position of the Council's Revenue Budget 2014/15, (c) the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2015/16, (d) Council Tax 2015/16, (e) Business Rates Changes 2015/16, (f) New Homes Bonus 2015/16, (g) Public Power Solution Ltd. (formerly, Swindon Commercial Services Ltd.), (h) the proposed Council Budget for 2015/16, (i) the relationship between Revenue and Capital Budgets, (j) Members' Allowances, (k) Special Expenses, (l) Contingencies and Risk, (m) One-off Resources commitments, (n) Fees and Charges, (o) General Reserves, and (p) Budget consultations.

The Chair explained that two supplementary reports had been circulated at the Cabinet meeting. The first set out Appendix 6 to the joint report that detailed the outcome of the consultation process held with Non-Domestic ratepayers. The second referred to the Government's announcement on 3rd February 2015 of the Final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2015/16 and its implications for Swindon.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, introduced the report and detailed the Budget proposals for 2015/16. He commented on the national economic situation and the Council's commitment to providing quality services and protecting the most vulnerable. He explained the service pressures that the Council faced particularly in relation to demand in Adult Social Care and in services for Children and Families and that these were likely to continue for the foreseeable future. He referred to the hard work undertaken by Council officers and Cabinet colleagues to control budgets and make savings whilst maintaining the Council's commitment to offer quality services to the most vulnerable in Swindon. He commented on how the final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2015/16 affected Swindon and would enable it to continue to fund, in part, the Council's Emergency Assistance Fund. He explained that it would be necessary to consult on changes to the criteria associated with the use of this Fund given the reduced

funding available to it. However, he was grateful that the Government had listened to the representations made by this Council and other local authorities in respect of the proposed withdrawal of Welfare Funding.

Council Holland confirmed that the proposed Budget would enable there to be no increase in the level of Council Tax for 2015/16.

Councillor Jim Grant, Leader of the Opposition, welcomed the proposal to maintain an Emergency Assistance Fund but noted that there would be a significant shortfall in the funding available for 2015/16 in comparison with 2014/15. He sought clarification on whether the underspend in the Fund for the current year would be used to help support this shortfall. He asked whether more could be done to encourage take-up.

Councillor Holland explained why it was believed the funding allocation in the current year had not been fully taken up. He explained that consultation would take place on the criteria surrounding the future use of this emergency fund and consideration would be given to the way that the fund was promoted to those most in need.

Councillor Grant referred to the cost pressures surrounding the increased use of Agency Staff in Children's Services.

Councillor Fionuala Foley, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, and the Board, Director Commissioning, explained that this was a national trend but that there had been some recent success in the recruitment of social workers. The position was being very carefully monitored.

Councillor Holland reiterated his thanks to the Council's officers, financial teams, and Cabinet colleagues for their support for the Budget process that had enabled a robust Budget with a zero rise Council Tax to be recommended to the Council.

Resolved – (1) That the Cabinet notes:-

(a) The projected out-turn for 2014/15 and that savings arising from the early delivery of 2015/16 Budget Proposals will be used to partly finance one-off costs incurred in-year to deliver the 2015/16 Budget, thus helping to preserve the level of funding held in reserves for future years' transformation;

(b) The Council does not expect the need to replenish General Reserves as part of the 2015/16 Budget Setting process;

(c) That no further consultation feedback had been received in relation to the Budget proposals presented to the Cabinet in October and December 2014;

(d) The consultation undertaken with business representatives from Swindon, on behalf of non-domestic rate as set out in Appendix 6 circulated at the meeting;

(e) That in line with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003, the Board Director, Resources, in his Section 151 capacity, has confirmed the robustness of the estimates underlying the recommended Budget and having reviewed the financial risks being faced by the Council, has concluded that the proposed level of General Reserves (£6m) is adequate in the context of the earmarked reserves held, specific contingencies and the proposed general contingency of £0.5m.

(2) That the virements as set out in Appendix 5 to the joint report be approved.

(3) That the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy as set out in Appendix 9 to the joint report be endorsed.

(4) That there be no changes to the proposed fees and charges as set out in Appendix 1 to the report submitted to the Cabinet on 10th December 2014 (Minute 50(4) refers).

(5) That the Specific Reserves held in support of the 2015/16 Revenue Budget, as set out in Appendix 7, be agreed.

(6) That the Head of Revenues and Benefits be authorised to increase awards of Business Rates Retail Relief in accordance with the scheme approved in March 2014 to £1,500 per annum in 2015/16 and to award 'transitional relief' payments that limit increases in Business Rates payments to 15% for small businesses with rateable values up to £18,000 and 25% for medium sized business with a rateable value up to £50,000.

(7) That the key principles of the Public Power Solutions Ltd., (formerly Swindon Commercial Services Ltd (SCS)) Business Plan for 2015/16, be agreed on behalf of the Council in its shareholder capacity and that the Board Director Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to agree any future changes to the Business Plan on behalf of the Council in its shareholder capacity.

(8) That a consultation commences on reshaping the Council's Emergency Assistance Scheme within an on-going base Budget envelope of £186,000 (currently £321,000) using the existing £300,000 earmarked reserve to cashflow the transition and supplement the base Budget funding in 2015/16.

(9) That the Council be recommended that the level of Special Expenses for 2015/16 shall be £1,041,299 and the areas of land and services that will be charged as special and general expenses be as set out in Appendix 10 to the joint report.

(10) That the Council be recommended that:-

(a) The 2015/16 Budget be set at £136,740m and the Budget Requirement for tax setting purposes be set at £134,740m, recognising the £2m of funding from reserves;

(b) There be no increase in Council Tax for 2015/16, and

(c) It be determined that the proposed increase (that is no increase at all) in the basic amount of Council Tax for 2015/16 is not excessive in accordance with Schedule 5 of the Localism Act 2011.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

62. Capital Programme 2015/16 to 2017/18 (Minute for Confirmation)

The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Board Director, Resources submitted a joint report concerning new Capital Programme requirements for the period 2015/16 to 2017/18 and including schemes for (a) Highways and Transport, including strategic Highways projects funded through the Growth Deal secured by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership, (b) Children's Services, (c) Property and Assets, (d) Older People, (e) the County Ground Athletics Track, (f) the Council's Waterside Campus, (g) Kingsfarm Woodland, and (h) Superfast Broadband.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, referred to the contents and purpose of the report and, in particular, to the proposed changes to

the Capital Programme. He referred to the proposals regarding Superfast Broadband and to the actions taken by Councillor Elliott within his ward to promote this as an issue.

Councillor Jim Grant, Leader of the Opposition, referred to the increasing pressure for school places and to how these would be funded.

Councillor Holland explained that the provision of school places was a statutory requirement and required costs would be met from Borrowing.

Councillor Des Moffatt commented on the list of proposed property and assets related capital schemes and sought clarification on how these were identified. The Board Director, Resources explained the process adopted and that he was happy to provide information on the associated condition surveys to Councillor Moffatt.

Resolved – That the Council be recommended to:-

(a) Include the Strategic Highways Projects set out in Appendix 5, funded through the Growth Deal secured by the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership, within the Council's Capital Programme, noting the related capacity funding the Council has secured from Government as detailed in Appendix 6 to the joint report;

(b) Note the current position and future budget requirement for the additional Children's Services schemes as referred to in paragraphs 3.5 to 3.8 and detailed in Appendix 1 to the joint report;

(c) Approve a budget of £500,000 for Condition Works, funded from Capital Maintenance Grant, as referred to in paragraph 3.9 and detailed in Appendix 1 to the joint report;

(d) Approve a total budget of £7.927m for the 2015/16 local priority Highways and Transport schemes referred to in paragraphs 3.10 and 3.11 and detailed in Appendix 2 to the joint report;

(e) Approve a total budget of £2m for 2015/16, funded from Borrowing, for Repairs and Maintenance on Corporate Property, as referred to in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.13 and detailed at Appendix 3 to the joint report;

(f) Approve a total budget requirement of £1,006,700 for Older People's and other Capital schemes, as referred to in paragraph 3.14 and detailed in Appendix 4 to the joint report;

(g) Approve a budget of £253,000, for refurbishment work to the County Ground Athletics Track, funded from Section 106 Planning Agreement income and referred to in paragraphs 3.15 to 3.17 of the joint report, subject to discussions with Swindon Town Football Club if required;

(h) Note the position around future investment requirements at the Council's Waterside site as detailed in paragraphs in 3.18 to 3.19 of the joint report;

(i) Approve the retention of £30,000 raised by Wroughton Parish Council in relation to the purchase of Kingsfarm Wood to be administered through a working party as detailed in paragraph 3.20 of the joint report;

(j) Authorise the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, in consultation with opposition spokespersons and the Board Director, Resources, to recommend a preferred bidder in relation to Superfast Broadband as detailed in paragraph 3.21 of the joint report;

(k) Approve a budget of £150,000 relating to feasibility work on Strategic Projects, forming part of the Strategic Economic Plan and funded from the balance of the £1m Regeneration Reserve previously approved by the Cabinet, as detailed

at paragraphs 3.22 to 3.24 of the joint report;

(l) Note the award of £787,500 of Department for Communities and Local Government capacity funding, as detailed at paragraph 3.4 of the joint report; and.

(m) Approve a Capital budget of £197,000 for Library IT equipment, as detailed in paragraphs 3.25 to 3.29 of the joint report.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

**63. Treasury Strategy Statement 2015/16
(Minute for Confirmation)**

The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Board Director, Resources submitted a joint report concerning the Council's proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/16 including the (i) Annual Investment Strategy, (ii) Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement, and (iii) Prudential Indicators for the Financial Years up to 2016/17.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, referred to the contents of the Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/16. He explained that the Statement was a statutory requirement. He commented on the background to the proposal to increase investment periods to a maximum of two years and the reasons for this action.

The Board Director, Resources referred to the progress made by the Council in moving its banking from the Co-op to the Lloyds Banking Group following the Co-op's withdrawal from the Local Government sector.

Councillor Jim Grant, Leader of the Opposition, noted the increasing amount of Council debt over the period to 2017/18 and the implications of this level of debt for the Council's Revenue Budget.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, referred to the need for the Council to borrow to ensure the essential delivery of the infrastructure that Swindon needed, such as schools. The Board Director, Resources, explained that this rise in the level of debt was a consequence of previous decisions associated with the Capital Programme rather than arising from new schemes.

Resolved – That the Council be recommended to:

(a) Approve the Treasury Management Strategy 2015/16, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy and Prudential Indicators, as set out in Appendix 1 to the joint report;

(b) Note the position with regard to the Council's Bankers, as detailed in paragraphs 3.11 and 3.12 of the joint report; and

(c) Note the position on investment returns as detailed in paragraphs 3.13 to 3.16 of the joint report, and the increased investment periods to a maximum of 2 years as detailed in the Treasury Management Strategy 2015/16.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

**64. Housing Revenue Account - Rents and Charges 2015/16
(Minute for Confirmation)**

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety and the Board Director, Commissioning submitted a joint report concerning the proposed budget for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2015/16, including proposals for rents, service charges and support charges for 2015/16.

Councillor Emma Famarzi, Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, presented the report and explained how the report set out the context and background to the proposed Housing Revenue Account Budget for 2015/16 and for rent levels and service charges. She referred to the outcome of the consultation that had taken place with tenants groups, the Housing Advisory Forum, and other stakeholders on the proposals for the HRA and rents and charges. She noted that there had been a better response to the consultation than in previous years and she thanked the officers for their efforts in encouraging more tenant involvement. She commented on the findings of the consultation and the view expressed by the Housing Advisory Forum. She highlighted the Government's changes to its Rent Policy Guidance and to the implications of this for the Council and its tenants. She emphasised the importance for tenants of the Council seeking to invest in its housing stock. She believed that the proposed recommendations offered the best outcomes for both the Council and its tenants.

Councillor Des Moffatt referred to the cost to the Council to repay Government debt on the HRA. He believed these figures were different from the costs originally quoted at the time of the proposed Housing Transfer Ballot. He asked for the position to be clarified.

Councillor Famarzi advised that she would arrange for Councillor Moffatt to be provided with the required information.

Resolved – That, subject to the confirmation of the Council –

(a) The proposed average rent for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) dwellings for 2015/16 of £81.34 per week (52 week basis), which is an increase of 2.2%, be approved (*This will be an average increase of £1.96 per week (52 week basis). The range of increases is shown in paragraph 3.15 of the joint report.*);

(b) The Board Director, Commissioning be authorised to seek authority from the Secretary of State to extend the permission for the use of the Housing Revenue Account for payments to the Council's tenants under the Discretionary Housing Payments scheme, and provide a budget of £300,000 in 2015/16 as detailed in paragraphs 3.23 of the joint report;

(c) The Housing related support charges for 2015/16 and service charges for 2015/16 as outlined in Appendix 2 to the joint report, be approved;

(d) Leaseholder service charges be set for 2015/16 as shown in Appendix 3 to the joint report;

(e) Based on the proposals set out within the joint report, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) proposed budget for 2015/16, as shown in Appendix 4, and the HRA Capital Budget and Funding as shown in Appendix 5 to the joint report, be approved;

(f) That a budget of £1m be approved to acquire properties as detailed in paragraph 3.39 of the joint report, and the Board Director, Commissioning in consultation with the Board Director, Resources be authorised to commit this expenditure;

(g) That the draft Three Year Capital Projects and Planned Maintenance Programme be approved at an indicative funding level of £16.8m (2015/16 prices) per annum for each of the years 2015/16 through to 2017/18 as shown in Appendix 6 to the joint report;

(h) Rents charged on General Fund properties be increased by an average increase of 2.2% and the service charges for Christopher House and David Murray John Apartments, as shown in Appendix 7 to the joint report, be approved;

(i) Rents charged for plots at the Hay Lane Residential Gypsy Site be increased by £1.07 per week (2.2%) to £49.81 per week (52 week basis) and the rents for workpens, as shown in Appendix 7 to the joint report, be approved;

(j) The charges for Private Sector Leased (PSL) accommodation for those accepted as homeless as outlined in Appendix 7 to the joint report, be approved; and

(k) That any underspend on the 2014/15 Housing Revenue Account be added to revenue reserves.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

65. Strategy to Prevent Child Sexual Exploitation (Minute for Confirmation)

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Head of Children, Families and Community Health submitted a joint report concerning a proposed Strategy to Prevent Child Sexual Exploitation and setting out an associated delivery plan and "Zero Tolerance Pledge".

Councillor Fionuala Foley, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, advised that Child Sexual Exploitation was among the most serious and challenging issues that any Council would face. The proposed strategy set out how the Council would further enhance its work in responding to this issue. She referred to reports of recent high profile cases across the Country and how she and senior Council officers and representatives of partner agencies, including the Police, had recently visited Rochdale to learn of their experiences in responding to Child Sexual Exploitation and developing new ways of preventing its occurrence. She stressed that the issue did not just affect "Looked after Children", as many nationally reported cases involved children not in local authority care. She highlighted the play "Chelsea's Choice" that highlighted the issue and that was being presented across Swindon's schools. She emphasised the importance of everyone remaining vigilant and acting to prevent all the various strands of Child Sexual Exploitation. She hoped that all Councillors would fully support the adoption of the Strategy and agree to sign-up to the "Zero Tolerance Pledge".

The Chair expressed his support for the strategy and the hope that all Councillors would sign the "Pledge". He stressed the need for all Swindon residents to be vigilant and to act to prevent Child Sexual Exploitation.

Resolved – That the Council is recommended to: -

(a) Approve the Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention Strategy for Swindon Borough Council as set out in Appendix 1 to the joint report;

(b) Note the associated Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention Delivery Plan that will be monitored and updated at regular intervals;

(c) Agree to support the introduction of a pledge: Zero Tolerance of Child

Sexual Exploitation in Swindon;

(d) Authorise the Cabinet Member for Children's Services to sign the Zero Tolerance of Child Sexual Exploitation in Swindon pledge on behalf of Swindon Borough Council and invite other Councillors to do so.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

**66. Swindon Pay Policy Statement
(Minute for Confirmation)**

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, and the Head of People and Change submitted a joint report concerning the proposed Swindon Borough Council Pay Policy Statement for 2015/16.

The Head of People and Change, in the absence of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, explained that the Council was required under Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 to agree and publish a Pay Policy Statement by 1st April each year. This was the Council's fourth Pay Policy Statement and was put forward for consideration prior to its submission to the Council for approval. She explained the further changes and additional information that would be required to be added to prepare the final Statement for publication on 1st April.

Resolved – That the Council's proposed Pay Policy Statement for 2015/16, as set out in Appendix 1 to the joint report, be endorsed and submitted to the Council for approval.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

67. Sussex Square and the Affordable Development Programme

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety and the Head of Housing Management and Community Safety submitted a joint report concerning the Council's successful bid to the Homes and Communities Agency for funding to support the development of new housing schemes at "Affordable Rents", and setting out details of proposed schemes, in particular, for Sussex Square, Walcot, and for Hawthorns, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

Councillor Emma Famarzi, Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, introduced the report and highlighted the implications of the successful bid for the Council. She referred to the new homes that would now be built and the resulting regeneration of areas such as Sussex Square.

Councillor Steve Allsopp referred to the Sussex Square Scheme and noted the interconnection of the housing and retail elements of the development. He wondered if the delay in the project and the current uncertainties in the retail market could negatively affect the overall regeneration of the area and the delivery of community facilities and an improved environment for residents.

The Head of Housing Management and Community Safety referred to the timescales associated with the project and to the timings of the Housing and retail elements of the scheme. He believed that the proposed twelve-month gap between

the two elements could be shortened so as to avoid being effected by the unfortunate four month delay that had been experienced.

Councillor Faramarzi referred to the complexity of the Sussex Square development and to the reasons it had taken so long to move the development forward. However, she remained confident that the regeneration of the area would be completed to the benefit of existing residents and for those moving to the proposed new homes.

Resolved – (1) That the Head of Housing Management and Community Safety be authorised to proceed with development of the successful sites referred to in paragraph 3.7 of the joint report (Sussex Square, Walcot; Brookfield, Highworth; Townsend House, Bath Road; Royal British Legion, Penhill; Former Refuge Site, Cranmore Avenue, Park South; Hawthorns, Gorse Hill).

(2) That the Head of Housing Management and Community Safety be authorised to identify further sites for development, and seek additional grant funding to enable their development.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

68. Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Minute for Confirmation)

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety and the Board Director Commissioning submitted a joint report concerning the provisions of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and the implications and opportunities these provisions provided for the Council to work with partners to deal with day to day incidents of crime, nuisance and disorder that could have a substantial impact on local residents' lives and feeling of wellbeing.

Councillor Emma Faramarzi, Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, introduced the report and explained how the Council, through taking up the new powers and working with partners, could have a real impact to improve the lives of local residents effected by anti-social behaviour. She emphasised that the Council always attempted to exhaust all other options before taking legal action to resolve problems. However, the use of these powers would have a direct effect on the wellbeing of local residents.

Resolved – That the Council be recommended that:-

(a) The Head of Housing Management and Community Safety, Director of Public Health and the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries in consultation with the Director of Law and Democratic Services, each be authorised to serve Community Protection Notices in accordance with Part 4 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and in the event of a breach serve fixed penalty notices;

(b) The Director of Law and Democratic Services, at the request of the Head of Housing Management and Community Safety, be authorised to seek Civil Injunctions and where appropriate make applications for breach in accordance with Part 1 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014;

(c) The Head of Housing Management and Community Safety and the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries, in consultation with the Director of Law and Democratic Services each be authorised to make Public Space Protection Orders in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime

and Policing Act 2014 and in the event of a breach serve fixed penalty notices;

(d) The Head of Housing Management and Community Safety, in consultation with the Director of Law and Democratic Services, be authorised to issue Closure Notices and apply for Closure Orders in accordance with Chapter 3 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014;

(e) The Director of Law and Democratic Services be authorised to make the necessary changes to the Council's Constitution and Scheme of Delegations, as referred to in the joint report.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

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CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 18 MARCH 2015

PRESENT:- Councillors David Renard (Chair), Brian Mattock (Vice-Chair), Russell Holland, Emma Faramarzi, Brian Ford, Fionuala Foley, Dale Heenan, Richard Hurley and Garry Perkins.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Keith Williams.

Councillor Des Moffatt attended the meeting in respect of Minute 72. Councillor Stan Pajak attended the meeting in respect of Minutes 72 and 76. Councillor Steve Wakefield attended the meeting in respect of Minute 72.

69. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded Members of the need to declare any known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

Councillor Dale Heenan, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport made a personal and prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of Agenda item 5 (Minute 72) as he was employed by an organisation within the relevant technology industry.

70. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

71. Public Question Time

The following questions were asked in accordance with Standing Order 28 –

Questioner

Mr Paul Walton, Chiseldon Parish Council

Questions

Mr Walton asked questions regarding the proposed Superfast Broadband Extension Programme (Agenda Item 5), including on the Borough's alternatives should the proposals within the report on Superfast Broadband not be approved, and how long might any alternative approach take to implement within the rural areas of the Borough, such as Chiseldon.

Response

The Chair thanked Mr Walton for his question and comments. Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, responded at the meeting to the question and comments.

Questioner

Mr Richard Symonds, Shaw, Swindon

Questions

Mr Symonds asked questions concerning (a) the implications for traffic flow

of the pending closure of Fleming Way, Swindon, and how resulting traffic issues would be addressed by the Council, (b) the present congestion around Bruce Street Bridges, and (c) the link between traffic congestion and the loss of a direct bus service from West Swindon to the Great Western Hospital.

Response

The Chair thanked Mr Symonds for his questions and comments. Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, and Councillor Dale Heenan, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, responded at the meeting to the question and comments.

Questioner

Mr Terry Reynolds, Wheeler Avenue, Swindon

Questions

Mr Reynolds asked questions concerning (a) the areas in which the £250,000 allocated in the Council's Budget for 2015/16 for gully cleaning would be spent and on comments made in political leaflets, (b) Council Tax and Parish Precept Bills for 2015/16 and whether Coleview remained in the Stratton St Margaret Parish, (c) UK Broadband services in Swindon and difficulties in contacting UKB Networks and the performance of that company in London and Reading, and (d) the responsibility and financial and leasing arrangements for the Community Centre in Nythe/Coleview and for the Allotments site in that area.

Response

The Chair thanked Mr Reynolds for his questions and comments. He advised that a written answer had been provided and circulated at the meeting to his question (e), submitted prior to the meeting and concerning Coleview/Nythe.

Councillor Brian Ford, Cabinet Member for StreetSmart, and Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills responded at the meeting to the questions (a) to (d) and related comments.

72. Superfast Broadband Extension Programme

The Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills and the Board Director, Resources submitted a joint report concerning the Council's participation in the Superfast Broadband Extension Programme operated by the Government agency Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK), and on the outcome of an open procurement process undertaken to identify the best value for money solution that would secure the greatest possible Superfast Broadband coverage across the Borough within the funding available (Cabinet Minute 8, 2014/15 refers).

Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills, presented the report and referred to the procurement process that had been adopted and the analysis that had been undertaken in respect of the solution put forward. He commented on the coverage that would be available and the significant benefits of this to local communities and the economy, particularly, for the more rural areas of the Borough. He noted how savings to the Council, in terms of its level of contribution, would release funds to identify solutions for those estimated 600 properties that would remain without Superfast Broadband.

Councillor Fionuala Foley, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, referred

to how the proposal would provide Superfast Broadband to those areas, many of them rural, where such a network was not currently commercially viable. Councillor Foley drew attention to the joint report's appendices that clearly illustrated those places that would benefit. She reiterated the comments made by residents of Chiseldon at the Cabinet Open Forum held prior to the Cabinet meeting, on the benefits for those residents and businesses that were involved in a trial Superfast Broadband scheme undertaken by UK Broadband.

Councillor Stan Pajak, Leader of the Council's Minority Group, supported the intent behind the report and stressed the importance of Superfast Broadband for local residents and businesses. He sought clarification about the parent company involved, Hong Kong Telecoms (HKT).

Councillor Perkins explained that UKBroadband (UKBD) was a subsidiary of HKT that had operated in the UK for over a decade. A new "sister company" had been established to deliver Superfast Broadband on a commercial basis called UKB Networks. He referred to the open tender process that had been followed in which thirteen companies had made initial enquiries, although only one had eventually submitted a formal tender. This bid had been the subject of robust scrutiny and it was believed offered a viable solution to the delivery of Superfast Broadband.

Councillor Des Moffatt referred to the contents of the report and noted that the proposal and the approach to its approval was different from that involving Digital City UK Ltd. However, he was sure other Councillors also had concerns regarding the detail of the proposal and he suggested that a briefing for all Councillors should be arranged so that they could have a better understanding of all the issues prior to any signing of contracts.

Councillor Perkins advised that he would be happy to arrange for such a briefing to be held.

Councillor Steve Wakefield expressed his reservations regarding the proposal and its technical solution. He urged caution given previous Council experiences. He reminded the Cabinet that there were also parts of the urban area that lacked adequate Broadband provision.

Councillor Perkins noted the comments and reiterated that UKBD had conducted a trial independently of the Council to assess the deliverability of its technical solution. He confirmed that Councillors would have access to all relevant documents once contracts were signed.

Councillor Brian Ford, Cabinet Member for StreetSmart, referred to fibre-based solutions and the likely coverage available now and in the immediate future. He noted that the ward he represented was one of those with significant areas lacking access to Superfast Broadband and where residents were seeking such provision as soon as possible.

Councillor Emma Famarzi, Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, thanked Councillor Perkins and the officer team for their work in preparing the report. She noted that the proposed approach offered a practical solution for rural areas, but expressed reservations about how effective the technology proposed would be in highly developed areas of North Swindon, such as Priory Vale. She

referred to the petition by Councillor Toby Elliott that highlighted that 7,500 properties lacked access to Superfast Broadband.

Councillor Brian Mattock, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care welcomed the report and noted that the proposal both secured value for money for the tax payer and employed a technology that had been trialled successfully by both residential and business users.

Resolved – (1) That the appointment of UKB Networks as the preferred supplier of a network that will increase Superfast Broadband coverage from 80% to 99.4% of households in Swindon Borough by 2016, be approved.

(2) That, further to the decision in (1) above, the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills and the Board Director, Resources, be authorised to complete and enter into such agreements and associated documentation on such terms as he considers necessary to protect the Council's interests in this matter, subject to state aid and compliance being confirmed by Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK).

(3) That the Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills and the Board Director, Resources, continue discussions with parish and town councils and other stakeholders around the roll-out of the core UKB Networks proposal and in respect of further options to secure 100% Superfast Broadband coverage across the Borough of Swindon at the earliest possible opportunity.

(Councillor Dale Heenan, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport made a personal and prejudicial declaration of interest in respect of the above item and left the meeting taking no part in the discussion, as he was employed by an organisation within the relevant technology industry.)

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

73. Budget Management 2014/15

The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Board Director, Resources submitted a joint report setting out (a) the current forecast out-turn position of the Council's Revenue Budget as at the end of January 2015, (b) issues impacting on the Council's finances, (c) Public Power Solutions Ltd (PPS), and (d) the current forecast out-turn position for the Housing Revenue Account and the Dedicated Schools Grant.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, introduced the report and referred to the likely underspend at year-end. He welcomed the strategy that had been followed and the work that had been undertaken by the Council's officer team to enable budget savings to be delivered early in order to support the Council's Budget for the "new" Financial Year. He noted that the outcome of Planning Inquiry on the proposed Wroughton Solar Farm was still awaited, and that if approval was forthcoming, this would result in additional revenue income.

Resolved – (1) That the Cabinet notes the Projected Out-turn by Service 2014/15, as set out in Table 1 and Appendices 1 and 2 to the joint report.

(2) That the proposed Budget virements, as set out in Appendix 3 to the joint report, be approved.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

**74. Capital Programme Monitoring - Third Quarter 2014/15
(Minute for Confirmation - Minute 74(3))**

The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Board Director, Resources submitted a joint report concerning (a) the 2014/15 Capital Programme position as at the end of December 2014, (b) proposed changes to the Capital Programme, (c) Thamesdown Transport Ltd., and (d) Wichelstowe Joint Venture.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, referred to the report and explained that it addressed the projected out-turn position of the Council's Capital Budget for 2014/15, highlighted proposed changes to the current Capital Programme, including reference to proposed new lease arrangements with Thamesdown Transport Ltd., and a loan funding facility to support the Wichelstowe Joint Venture. He explained that both these proposals would be "low-risk" and beneficial to both the Council and the parties involved.

Resolved – (1) That the Capital Programme position for 2014/15, as set out in the joint report, be noted.

(2) That the changes to the Council's Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 3.4 to 3.8 of the joint report, be approved.

(3) That the Council be recommended that a loan facility of up to £15m be made available to support house building in Wichelstowe through the Joint Venture arrangement, as detailed in paragraphs 3.9 to 3.12 of the joint report, with the detailed terms to be agreed by the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Board Director Resources and the Lead Cabinet Members for Wichelstowe, that will best protect the Council's interests.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

75. Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety and the Board Director, Service Delivery submitted a joint report concerning the adoption of a Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan that had been developed from the priorities set out in the Council's draft Housing Strategy and that aimed to establish a business plan to set out the Council's overall aims and objectives for the Housing service over the next 30 years.

Councillor Emma Famarzi, Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety, explained the background to the preparation of the Medium Term Financial Plan and advised that it built on existing policies and the priorities set out in the Council's emerging Housing Strategy. It would provide the Council with a Housing financial medium-term Business Plan to cover the next 30 years. She referred to comments arising from the Housing Advisory Forum on 11th March 2015 and that it was her intention for further consultation to take place.

Resolved – (1) That the Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan, as set out in Appendix 1 to the joint report, be endorsed.

(2) That the Board Director, Service Delivery and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety commence consultations with the Housing Advisory

Forum and other stakeholders on the Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan and report back on the outcome to the Cabinet in the new Municipal Year.

(3) That it be noted that the Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan will be updated annually to take into account changing policies and updated survey information.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

76. Adoption of the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 (Minute for Confirmation)

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport and the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries submitted a joint report concerning the Council's formal adoption of the Swindon Borough Local Plan for the period to 2026.

Councillor Dale Heenan, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, explained that the Local Plan was the principal development plan document for the Borough, identifying how much new development would take place, and when, where and how it should occur. He referred to the all-party working that had assisted in the preparation of the Plan and to the consensus that had been achieved with local developers on its contents. He explained the procedure associated with the preparation and approval of the Plan, and the process that would be followed following its formal adoption by the Council. A special Council meeting was to be held on 26th March 2015 for this purpose.

Councillor Garry Perkins, Cabinet Member for the Economy, Regeneration, and Skills welcomed the report and referred to its significance for Swindon and its future development. He commented on the allocation within the Plan of employment land and the flexibility that existed in how this might be used to support and grow the local economy.

Councillor Stan Pajak, Leader of the Minority Group on the Council, expressed his support for the Plan and welcomed the all-party approach that had assisted its preparation. He noted the way in which the proposed 9,000 house Eastern Villages project had been dealt with involving the Borough, local parishes, residents and developers, and believed that this was a demonstration of the Council's One Swindon principles in action.

Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance, expressed his support for the Plan and referred to the collaborative working that had been undertaken to produce a Local Plan that had required few changes from the Planning Inspector.

Resolved – That the Council be recommended to –

(a) Adopt the 'Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026', as set out in Appendices 2b and 4 to the joint report.

(b) Authorise the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries to make the 'Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026' publically available, together with the Sustainability Appraisal report, as set out in Appendix 3 to the joint report, in accordance with the arrangements detailed at paragraph 3.15 of that joint

report.

(c) Authorise the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, and the Director of Law and Democratic Services, to make minor non-material changes to the content of the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026, prior to publication.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

77. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) (Minute for Confirmation)

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport and the Board Director, Service Delivery submitted a joint report concerning the Council's formal adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule and associated documents.

Councillor Dale Heenan, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, explained that the Community Infrastructure Levy was a mandatory charge on planning developments within the Borough. The income arising would support infrastructure improvements required by planned growth to 2026. It would also support the delivery of the overarching objectives of the Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026. He commented on the procedure associated with the preparation of CIL, and the process that would be followed following its formal adoption by the Council at a special meeting on 26th March 2015.

Councillor Heenan drew attention to the definition of the term "Retail" that appeared in the Charging Schedule in Appendix 1 to the joint report and explained that he wished to see this term clarified in the final documentation. He proposed the deletion of the second use of the word "retail" on page 94 of Appendix 1 of the report to read: "Retail: Is defined as any use falling within...". He also wished to include within the brackets on that line reference to the classes A1 to A5. He explained that these were minor changes that would help to avoid any possible ambiguity arising and could be undertaken by officers under delegated powers. However, he thought it appropriate that the Cabinet and Council be advised of the intention to amend this wording.

Councillor Heenan expressed his appreciation for the hard work and commitment of the officer team involved in the process to prepare the CIL Charging Schedule and its associated documentation.

Resolved –That the Council be recommended to –

(a) Subject to the deletion of the second use of the word "retail" under the definition on page 94 of Appendix 1 to read: "Retail: Is defined as any use falling within...", and the inclusion within the brackets on that line of reference to the classes A1 to A5, adopt the Swindon Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule, as modified in accordance with the requirements of the Examiner's Report, attached at Appendix 1 to the joint report, and that this be implemented from 6th April 2015.

(b) Adopt the Swindon Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulation 123 Infrastructure List, attached as Appendix 2, the Swindon Local Payment Instalment Policy, attached as Appendix 3, and the CIL Surcharges Policy, attached as

Appendix 4 to the joint report, and that these be published alongside the CIL Charging schedule.

(c) Authorise the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, and the Director of Law and Democratic Services, to make minor non-material changes to the content of the documents listed in (a) and (b) above if required prior to publication.

(d) Authorise the Head of Planning, Regulatory Services, Heritage and Libraries, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member and Board Director, and the Director of Law and Democratic Services, to -

(i) Exercise the powers of the Council in relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule and its accompanying documents: the Swindon CIL Regulation 123 Infrastructure List, attached as Appendix 2, the Swindon Local Payment Instalment Policy, attached as Appendix 3, and the CIL Surcharges Policy, attached as Appendix 4 to the joint report, and

(ii) Implement Discretionary Relief for Exceptional Circumstances and for Social Housing and Charities, as set out under paragraph 3.12 of this report.

(e) Authorise the Director of Law and Democratic Services to amend the Council's Scheme of Delegations accordingly.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

78. School Admission Arrangements 2016/17

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Board Director, Commissioning submitted a joint report concerning the proposed School Admission Arrangements for 2016/17, including, the co-ordinated admission arrangements for the normal point of entry (Reception, Year 3, Year 7 and Year 10 University Technical College (UTC)), In-year admission arrangements for all Swindon Schools, and Published Admission Numbers (PAN) for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools in Swindon for September 2016.

Councillor Fionuala Foley, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, introduced the report and explained that the policies for 2016/17 remained similar to those adopted for the current year. She commented on the proposed minor changes and on the reasons why these had been required.

Resolved – (1) That the Co-ordinated Scheme of Admission Arrangements for the normal point of entry (Reception, Year 3, Year 7 and Year 10 University Technical College (UTC)) and In Year admissions for all primary schools and secondary schools in Swindon from September 2016 be approved.

(2) That the admission numbers for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools from September 2016 as set out in the joint report, be approved.

(3) That it be noted that the proposals referred to in (1) and (2) above were determined by 15th April 2015 and will be implemented by the Board Director, Commissioning for school admission for September 2016 for all new applicants.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

79. Strategic Transport Infrastructure and Transport Strategy

The Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, the Chief Executive and the Board Director, Service Delivery submitted a joint report concerning major transport infrastructure projects to be delivered in Swindon between 2015/16 and 2020/21 through the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP), and proposals for the Council to establish an effective internal operating structure and resource plan to provide the means of delivering the required programme of works.

Councillor Dale Heenan, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, advised that the Government had awarded significant capital funding from the Local Growth Fund for major transport infrastructure projects in Swindon between 2015/16 and 2020/21. It was essential that the Borough was able to deliver these key infrastructure projects and also that it had a robust and up-to-date Transport and Highways Strategy in place to support this. He believed that the proposals for a new dedicated team adopting a commissioning-based approach to securing outcomes would help to ensure that these key projects were delivered. He referred to the proposal to extend the existing contract to CH2MHill (formerly Halcrow) and to how this would enable the Council to address how it could make the best use of specialist technical advisers in the future.

Resolved – (1) That the creation of a Strategic Transport function, led by a senior manager and supported by a team of dedicated officers, reporting to the Head of Economy, Skills and Property Development, to support delivery of an existing programme of strategic schemes and develop a Transport Strategy to inform new investment and future bidding activity be approved.

(2) That the Head of Economy, Skills and Property Development be authorised to make the necessary arrangements to put the new team referred to in (1) above in place.

(3) That up to £270,000 of funding be made available from the Infrastructure and Regeneration Reserve to resource the team for a three year period, noting that opportunities will be sought for match funding through the Local Growth Fund.

(4) That the contract with CH2MHill be extended for up to a maximum of a further 12 months from June 2015, and that a procurement strategy for the period beyond the extension be brought back to the Cabinet for consideration in June 2015.

(5) That the Board Director, Service Delivery, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Sustainability, and Transport, be authorised to enter into and conclude negotiations with CH2MHill, the current provider of Highways and Transport Consultancy services to the Council, for the extension of the existing contract for these services for a period of up to twelve months beyond the current contract expiry date of June 2015, in accordance with Standing Order 21 of the Council's Standing Orders Relating to Contracts, and that the Director of Law and Democratic Services be authorised to enter into any relevant agreement or documentation on such terms and conditions as he considers necessary to protect the Council's interests.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

80. Capacity Building, Community Action and Volunteering

The Cabinet Member for Communities and Volunteering and the Head of Localities, Community Involvement and Volunteering submitted a joint report concerning the adoption of a proposed Community Capacity Building Action Plan to enable a more focused and targeted approach to be developed for encouraging and supporting community action, and setting out proposed changes to the way Delivery and Localities teams work in support of Cabinet, Ward Members and communities.

Councillor Richard Hurley, Cabinet Member for Communities and Volunteering, introduced the report and expressed his support for the proposed Action Plan and the changes in the way that Delivery and Localities teams would support councillors and communities. He explained how the changes proposed would align capacity building to those communities that needed most assistance. He referred to the Swindon Circles scheme linked to every Swindon GP's surgery to help people managing long-term conditions to access community-based support. He commented on the creation of two full time equivalent posts to support Ward Councillors and devolved decision-making in localities.

Resolved – (1) That the Community Capacity Building Action Plan 2015/2016, as set out in Appendix 1 to the joint report be approved.

(2) That the Head of Localities, Community Involvement and Volunteering, in consultation with relevant Board Directors, be authorised to implement the Community Capacity Building Action Plan.

(3) That the proposed review, and subsequent implementation of any changes, by the Head of Localities, Community Involvement and Volunteering to the structure of the Localities Team, as set out in paragraphs 3.6 to 3.11 of the joint report, be endorsed.

(4) That the Board Director, Service Delivery, the Head of Streetsmart, the Head of Infrastructure Assets, and the Head of Localities, Community Involvement and Volunteering be authorised to recruit the two additional full time equivalent staff as referred to in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.14 of the joint report.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

Notice of Decisions Made

Decision Maker: Councillor Russell Holland, Cabinet Member for Finance

Subject Universal Credits Delivery Partnership Agreement

Decision(s): - The Council's Chief Executive be authorised to sign the Universal Credit Delivery Partnership Agreement with the Department for Works and Pensions as referred to in the Decision Note, and any potential extension to this in the future.

Consultation: The Shadow / Group Spokespersons - Councillor Steve Allsopp (Labour) and Councillor Stan Pajak (Liberal Democrat) were consulted on the contents of the Decision Note. Councillors Allsopp and Pajak supported the recommendation. Comments received are set out in the Decision Note. No other adverse comments or requests for Cabinet consideration were received.

Date of Publication: Thursday 29th January 2015

Date for Receipt of Requests for Call-in Thursday 5th February 2015

For more details on the subject of the Decision or for a copy of the Decision Note (report) please contact: - Andy Stevens, on (01793) 464661 or by email at AnStevens@swindon.gov.uk.

Or from Ian Willcox, Committee and Member Services Manager, Direct Dial: 01793 463601 or Email iwillcox@swindon.gov.uk

The Decision Note (report) sets out the background to, and reasons for, the decisions referred to in the Notice above. Details of the alternative options put forward for consideration (if any) are also recorded in the Decision Note (report). Any alternative options considered that did not appear in the initial report will be recorded as part of the above Notice of Decisions. The Decision Note is available via the following link on the Council's website =

<http://www5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=440&RP=285&J=3>

Notice of Decisions Made

Decision Maker:	Councillor Emma Faramarzi, Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety
Subject	Options for the Future Use of 10 Langstone Way, Westlea, West Swindon
Decision(s): -	<p>The Board Director Commissioning in conjunction with Board Director Resources be authorised to appropriate the property known as 10 Langstone Way, Shaw, Swindon, into the Housing Revenue Account and for it to be subsequently managed by the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).</p> <p>The Board Director Commissioning be authorised to make the property available for up to 4 clients with learning disability with rents based on Local Housing Allowance rates (Option C).</p>
Consultation:	<p>The Shadow / Group Spokespersons - Councillor Bob Wright (Labour) and Councillor David Wood (Liberal Democrat) and Shaw Ward Councillors were consulted on the contents of the Decision Note. Comments received are set out in the Decision Note. No other adverse comments or requests for Cabinet consideration were received.</p>
Date of Publication:	Thursday 26 th March 2015
Date for Receipt of Requests for Call-in	Thursday 2 nd April 2015

For more details on the subject of the Decision or for a copy of the Decision Note (report) please contact: - Ian Burbidge, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 464384, iburbidge@swindon.gov.uk.

Or from Ian Willcox, Committee and Member Services Manager, Direct Dial: 01793 463601 or Email iwillcox@swindon.gov.uk

The Decision Note (report) sets out the background to, and reasons for, the decisions referred to in the Notice above. Details of the alternative options put forward for consideration (if any) are also recorded in the Decision Note (report). Any alternative options considered that did not appear in the initial report will be recorded as part of the above Notice of Decisions. The Decision Note is available via the following link on the Council's website =

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