

## Executive Report 25 November 2015

Councillor Paul Bettison  
Leader of the Council



## Executive Meetings

22 September

20 October

17 November (supplementary report)



## Council Strategy

Council Plan 2015 – 19

- Separate item on agenda
- Translates Conservative manifesto to coherent policy framework
- Recognises clear national (and local) vote for reduced public expenditure
- Introduces new narrative focussing on:
  - individual choice and responsibility
  - clear prioritisation
  - living within our means



## Children, Young People & Learning

Process to appoint school providers agreed for:

- Binfield Learning Village
- Amen Corner North

Proposals for MASH agreed:

- Prompted by neighbouring authority
- Multi agency team in Easthampstead House

Examination and test results noted



## Planning & Transport (1)

Draft Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) – Consultation

- Existing policies 8 years old
- New document builds on this and looks to address
  - school pick up
  - garage provision
  - lower car ownership areas
  - balance between on street and off street parking costs
- 6 week consultation until 30 November



## Planning & Transport (2)

LED Lighting

- Invest to save proposal to replace all street lights with LED
- £7.3m investment delivers minimum £8m savings over 20 years
- Savings higher if fuel prices increase
- 2857 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> to be saved each year
- **Supplementary capital spend recommended to Council**



## Planning & Transport (3)

Local Enforcement Plan agreed

- Sets out clear standards and processes to be applied

Highways Infrastructure Asset Management Plan

- Sets out maintenance policies
- Focus on priorities identified by Department for Transport
- Sets framework but not level of spending



## Finance & Transformation (1)

Medium Term Financial Strategy

- Government looking to reduce public expenditure to address deficit
- Assume 25% - 40% reduction in Government support over next 4 years
- Translates to savings of £20 – 25M
- Council Plan sets framework for addressing this gap



## Finance & Transformation (2)

Garden Waste Collections – 2016/17

- Household refuse collection is statutory requirement funded by Council Tax and free at point of delivery for all residents
- Garden waste collection is a discretionary service
- Current charge = £30 introduced in 2012 – free year initially given to “buy-back” bins
- Cost of services is £53 per household using it
- Reduction in subsidy by increasing charge to £40



## Finance & Transformation (3)

Council Tax Penalties

- Consultation on £70 fixed penalty for intentionally/knowingly failing to notify changes affecting Council Tax liability

Council Tax & Business Rates recover

- Revised debt collection policies agreed



## Adult Social Care, Health & Housing (1)

Future Provision of Services

- Consultation on re-commissioning Heathlands Residential Care Home and Day Care Centre in private sector
- Current 1970's building does not meet modern standards or future resident expectation
- Current occupancy <50%
- Very close liaison with residents and families essential



## Adult Social Care, Health & Housing (2)

Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report reviewed

Pan Berkshire Smoking Cessation Contract agreed



## Adult Social Care, Health & Housing (3)

Care Act Implementation: Outcome of consultation considered

- Council to charge for residential and nursing care (as now)
- Financial assessment of couples will change
  - Joint assessments no longer allowed by Act so Bracknell Forest Council obliged to assess individuals
- Changes for Universal or Discretionary Deferred Payments agreed
- No charges for any support to carers



## Culture, Corporate Services & Public Protection (1)

Control of Horses Act 2015

- New policy approved to deal with horses grazing in public places
- Only applies to Council land (including Town & Parish Councils)
- 96 hours notice for removal to owner
- Disposal options increased



## Culture, Corporate Services & Public Protection (2)

**Statement of Licencing Policy – recommended to Council**

**Statement of Gambling Principles – recommended to Council**



THANK YOU

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul".

[paul.bettison@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:paul.bettison@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)

