

## **COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES**

**Date:** Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2004

**Time:** 10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.

**Place:** Shire Hall, Cambridge

**Present:** Councillors: P D Bailey, C M Ballard, R S G Barnwell, I C Bates, T J Bear, B S Bhalla, A J Bowen, S V Brinton, J Broadway, C Carter, R L Clarke, J E Coston, P J Downes, R Driver, J A P Eddy, M Farrar, H J Fitch, S A Giles, J L Gluza, P D Gooden, A Hansard, B Hardy, G F Harper, V A Hearne-Casapieri, G J Heathcock, W G M Hensley, J L Huppert, S F Johnstone, J D Jones, A C Kent, I C Kidman, S J E King, M L Leeke, V H Lucas, A R Mair, R B Martlew, L W McGuire, A K Melton, A S Milton, S B Normington, M K Ogden, L J Oliver, A G Orgee, D R Pegram, J A Powley, P A E Read, A A Reid, J E Reynolds, C E Shaw, P W Silby, R C Speechley, A B Stenner, P L Stroude, J M Tuck, J K Walters, R Wilkinson, L J Wilson and F H Yeulett

### **205. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL**

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters, seconded by Councillor J A P Eddy and resolved:

That Councillor R Driver be elected Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour, Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups abstained]

Councillor Driver signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, took the Chair and thanked the Council for his election.

### **206. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL**

It was moved by Councillor J A Powley, seconded by Councillor I C Bates and resolved:

That Councillor S B Normington be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour, Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups abstained]

Councillor Normington signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and thanked the County Council for her appointment.

### **207. MINUTES: 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2004**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2004 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **208. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### Death of former Councillor

The Chairman reported with sadness the death of former Councillor Beryl Robertson, who had represented Huntingdon North for the Conservatives from 1993 to 1997. Members observed a minute's silence in her memory.

### Appointments

Members noted two recent appointments: Claire Bruin to the new post of Assistant Director (Disability Services) in Social Services and Stephen Catchpole as Chief Executive of the Cambridgeshire Infrastructure Partnership.

### Inspections

The Chairman led members in congratulating all those staff involved in two recent inspections, both of which had commented favourably on the Council's performance: the LEA OfSTED inspection and the Audit Commission's inspection of the Best Value review of Highways Maintenance and Network Management.

### Beacon status

The Chairman reported that the Council had recently been awarded Beacon status in the category of Better Local Public Transport. Members congratulated all those who had contributed to this achievement.

## **209. REPORT OF THE COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER**

The Head of Democratic, Legal and Registration Services reported the resignation of Councillor S J Kime. The by-election for the resulting vacancy in the Fulbourn electoral division would be held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2004.

## **210. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following members declared personal interests under Paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct. The items to which the interests relate are shown in brackets.

- Councillors I C Bates, R L Clarke, P J Downes and J A P Eddy as members of Huntingdonshire District Council (Minute 217 (a), item 3)
- Councillor S A Giles and A Hansard as members of Huntingdonshire District Council (Minute 217 (a), item 3) and St Neots Town Council (Minute 217 (a), item 8)
- Councillors B Hardy, G F Harper, S J E King, R C Speechley, J M Tuck and F H Yeulett as members of Fenland District Council (Minute 217 (a), item 3)
- Councillor L W McGuire as Chairman and Councillors C Carter, J E Coston, H J Fitch, S A Giles, S B Normington, L J Oliver, D R Pegram and P L Stroude as members of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority (Minute 218, annual report of the Environment and Transport Scrutiny Committee re. Trading Standards premises at Hinchingsbrooke)
- Councillor G J Heathcock as a member of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority (Minute 218, annual report of the Environment

and Transport Scrutiny Committee) and a Trustee of Age Concern Cambridgeshire (Minute 217 (b), item 7 and Minute 218, annual report of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee)

- Councillor A B Stenner as a Trustee of CamSight (Minute 217 (b), item 7 and Minute 218, annual report of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee)
- Councillor A R Mair as a Governor of the City of Ely Community College (Minute 217 (a), item 6)
- Councillor J L Gluza as a Governor of Coleridge Community College and Councillor I C Kidman as a Governor of Chesterton Community College (Minute 217 (a), item 7).

Councillor A K Melton declared a prejudicial interest under Paragraph 10 of the Code of Conduct in item 3 under Minute 217 (a), as the Leader of Fenland District Council. He left the Council Chamber whilst this item was discussed.

## **211. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

It was proposed by Councillor J E Reynolds, seconded by Councillor V H Lucas and resolved:

That the Council appoints Councillor J K Walters as Leader of the Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour, Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups abstained]

## **212. OPPOSITION GROUP LEADERS**

The Council noted that Councillor S V Brinton had been appointed as the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and Councillor I C Kidman as the Leader of the Labour Group for the period to the next annual meeting of the Council.

The Leader of Council, Councillor J K Walters, the two Opposition Group Leaders, Councillors S V Brinton and I C Kidman and the Chairman, Councillor R Driver, all paid tribute to Councillor J D Jones, who had stood down as Leader of the Labour Group after 24 years.

## **213. APPROVAL OF CABINET ARRANGEMENTS**

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters and seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds:

That in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Constitution, the Council determines that for the period to the next annual meeting of Council:

- (i) The Leader of the Council shall be authorised to appoint members of Council to the Cabinet;
- (ii) The Cabinet shall comprise the Leader of the Council and nine other members of Council;

- (iii) Cabinet members be assigned portfolios by the Leader of the Council to ensure coverage of the Directorate and thematic portfolios set out in paragraph 7.04 of Article 7 of the Constitution and that the names of members so assigned and any subsequent changes thereto be notified to the Director of Resources as soon as practicable, who shall keep members of Council informed of the portfolio assignments and any changes thereto.

On being put to the vote the motion was carried.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour, Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups abstained]

The Leader of the Council tabled a paper listing the names of the members of the Cabinet and their portfolio assignments, as set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

#### **214. COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

A minor amendment to the Council's Constitution to update the Council's management structure as it related to Social Services was proposed by Councillor R Driver, seconded by Councillor S B Normington and agreed unanimously.

Members noted the impact of this amendment on the scheme of delegation to officers within Social Services.

#### **215. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

It was moved by Councillor J K Walters, seconded by Councillor J E Reynolds and agreed unanimously:

- (i) That the current size, terms of reference and political composition of the Council's committees as listed in paragraph 2.2 of the report be confirmed;
- (ii) That the membership of the Committees listed in paragraph 2.2 as detailed in the tabled paper be approved;
- (ii) That the current appointments to the outside organisations and bodies listed in paragraph 3.1 of the report and detailed in the tabled paper be confirmed.

The full details of appointments to Committees and to outside organisations are set out in Appendices B and C to these minutes. Members noted that the contact name and address for the Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils would be updated.

#### **216. APPROVAL OF CALENDAR OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

It was proposed by Councillor R Driver, seconded by Councillor S B Normington and resolved unanimously:

That the following calendar of meetings for the County Council be approved:

- 27<sup>th</sup> July 2004
- 19<sup>th</sup> October 2004
- 14<sup>th</sup> December 2004
- 15<sup>th</sup> February 2005
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2005 (reserve date)
- 29<sup>th</sup> March 2005
- 17<sup>th</sup> May 2005.

## **217. REPORTS OF THE CABINET**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, moved receipt of the reports of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2004 and 18<sup>th</sup> May 2004.

### **a) Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2004**

#### Key decision for determination

##### 1) Community Strategies

It was moved by the Lead Member for Community and Economic Development, Councillor A K Melton, and seconded by the Cabinet Member for Education, Libraries and Heritage, Councillor R Wilkinson,

That with the minor additions suggested at the Cabinet meetings, Council approves the Community Strategies for Cambridge, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire.

A vote was taken and the recommendation was agreed.

[Voting pattern: unanimous]

#### Key decisions for information

##### 2) Network Monitoring Report 2003, Network Management Plan 2004 and Additions to the Medium Size Traffic and Safety Schemes and Bridges Programme

A number of members welcomed the recent member briefings given by the Highways Agency on the proposed improvements to the A14. Some concern was expressed at the impact that the improvements would have on adjacent villages. Members asked how Parish Councils would be able to feed into the consultation process. The need to take into account the western section of the route between the Northamptonshire border and the A1, as well as the eastern section for which the improvements were proposed, was highlighted.

Responding to the speakers, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor S F Johnstone, welcomed the Highway Agency's willingness to engage with local authorities at this stage. She noted that Parish Councils would be able to submit their views via their District and

County Councillors and would also be able to respond directly during the formal consultation process in September 2004. She agreed that the upgrading of the eastern section would make the A14 more attractive as a long-distance route and that management of the western section would therefore need to be properly addressed.

3) Review of Arrangements with the District Councils to Deliver Highway Services

Councillor J L Huppert sought assurance that the review of the agency arrangements would not affect the operation of the Environment and Transport Area Joint Committees, which gave openness and accountability to the decision-making process. Councillors G J Heathcock and S J E King paid tribute to the colleagues in the District and City Councils who had operated the agency arrangements on the Council's behalf and asked how performance would be monitored under the new arrangements.

Responding to Councillor Huppert, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor S F Johnstone, confirmed that the Environment and Transport Area Joint Committees would not be affected by the changes. Responding to Councillors Heathcock and King, she noted that the new arrangements would help to improve consistency across the County, reduce bureaucracy and costs and provide a faster and better service. They would be monitored via the action plan resulting from the Best Value review of Highways Maintenance and Network Management. The Environment and Transport Scrutiny Committee would have an important role in this monitoring.

4) Prospects for Learning: A Single Education Plan for Cambridgeshire

5) Policy Framework for Early Years

Councillor I C Kidman expressed disappointment at the fact that the County Council was unlikely to be able to afford to provide early years care and education beyond the statutory minimum requirement. He and Councillor A C Kent suggested that the Council should give greater priority to this important area of work.

Responding, the Lead Member for Lifelong Learning, Councillor V H Lucas, emphasised that early years services were being improved and developed in collaboration with partners. The Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, invited suggestions as to where resources to provide services beyond the statutory minimum requirement might be found.

6) Home to School/College Transport Policy and Operational Practice

Councillor C E Shaw suggested that a policy to extend charging for home to school transport could, in a rural area such as Cambridgeshire, increase the number of parents who chose to drive their children to school, increasing traffic congestion. He expressed concern that this possibility was not being taken adequately into account in discussion of changes to policy.

Councillor P D Bailey expressed concern at the recent decision to withdraw free home to school transport for pupils travelling from Little Downham to the City of Ely Community College. In his view, the decision was not appropriate as the route was still not safe to walk. He was also concerned that the decision had been poorly communicated to the schools involved. Councillor P A E Read shared Councillor Bailey's concern that the crossing of the A10 was dangerous.

Councillor A J Bowen drew attention to a recent appeal decision relating to the safety of the route from Fordham to Soham Village College. He expressed concern that the increasing numbers of redesignations of routes could lead to an increased number of appeals and possibly reversed decisions.

The Cabinet Member for Education, Libraries and Heritage emphasised that the review of home to school transport policy was being carried out in response both to emerging national legislation and local financial pressures. Responding to Councillors Bailey and Bowen, he noted that these routes had been redesignated as safe for children to walk following improvements and if accompanied by an adult. He agreed to investigate the communications problems at Little Downham and City of Ely and to write to Councillor Bailey.

7) Targeting Financial Support on Schools Experiencing Financial Difficulties

Councillor A J Bowen recognised the Council's achievement in reaching agreement with the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) that £556,000 of the £1.75 million advance be targeted to schools experiencing financial difficulties. However, he expressed concern that this still favoured schools that had gone into deficit over those that had worked hard to avoid deficit budgets. Councillor J L Gluza sought assurance that the £556,000 would be distributed to schools genuinely in deficit and would be recouped if subsequent audit of their accounts found that this not to be the case. Councillor A G Orgee expressed disappointment that the DfES had not taken into account the views of the Schools Forum on the distribution of the advance. Councillor I C Kidman welcomed the funding as part of the Government's strategy to lift all schools out of deficit.

The Lead Member for Education Resources, Councillor F H Yeulett, emphasised the need to ensure that all schools exercised financial prudence. He confirmed that targeted funding would be recouped if subsequent audit proved that it was not merited.

8) Youth Facility Provision in St Neots

Councillor R L Clarke reported that he would have preferred youth facilities in St Neots to have been provided at a single site. He thanked the Chairman of the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee, Councillor J L Gluza, for calling the Cabinet's decision in and hoped that the option now being pursued, services at two sites and a possible grant to St Neots Town Council for provision of a facility at

Eaton Socon, would prove successful. Councillor Gluza reported that the Scrutiny Committee had considered the issues and decided not to refer the decision back to Cabinet as provision at the two secondary schools was consistent with the Council's policy of supporting the concept of extended schools. Councillor S A Giles reported that the Town Council was currently preparing a business plan for provision at Eaton Socon. It would be seeking a one-off grant from the County Council, but no ongoing revenue support.

The Cabinet Member for Education, Libraries and Heritage, Councillor R Wilkinson, reported that considerable discussion had taken place on the most appropriate form of provision. The option now agreed was supported by the Heads of both Ernulf and Longsands and would help to serve the geographically dispersed population of St Neots. Councillor Wilkinson thanked the District and Town Councils for their commitment to ensuring that appropriate provision was made.

#### Other matters

9) Directorates' Summary Plans

10) Compacts

As the Council's representative on the Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service, Councillor C M Ballard welcomed the Cambridge City Compact between the statutory and voluntary sectors. He particularly welcomed the Compact's recognition of voluntary organisations' right to campaign on issues of public policy to further their organisational aims, which could on occasion bring them into conflict with the County Council.

The Lead Member for Community and Economic Development, Councillor A K Melton, drew attention to the Cabinet's concern to ensure that partnership working was effective and that resources were not spread too thinly.

11) Reshaping the Organisation

Councillor P J Downes sought clarification as to whether the organisational review had been initiated by the Chief Executive or the Leader of the Council. The Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, confirmed that he had initiated the process.

Councillor S V Brinton noted that her Group recognised the need for organisational change and welcomed the proposals for increased member involvement in the process that were now being made. She emphasised the importance of member input to ensure that management and democratic structures worked well together.

12) Performance Monitoring on Public Service Agreement and Key Performance Indicators



13) Issues Arising from Scrutiny Committees

- a) Historical Resource and Cultural Centre Call In: Report of the Meeting of the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2004

Councillor P D Gooden suggested that there might now be some uncertainty as to whether the Historical Resource and Cultural Centre could be situated on the Cambridge station site and asked what alternative options might be considered. The Lead Member for Lifelong Learning, Councillor V H Lucas, agreed to send him a written response. The Cabinet Member for Education, Libraries and Heritage, Councillor R Wilkinson, confirmed that no decision on a preferred bidder had yet been made.

- b) Member Led Review of LEA Provision of Support for Information and Communication Technology in Schools

14) Delegations to Officers and Cabinet Members

**b) Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2004**

Key decision for determination

- 1) Best Value Performance Plan 2004/05

It was proposed by the Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, and seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor J E Reynolds,

That the Council approves the Best Value Performance Plan for 2004/05, subject to any detailed changes agreed by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council following consideration by Cabinet and the Policy Scrutiny and Audit Committee and the updating of performance data.

Councillor J Broadway asked that the note relating to the indicator on violent crimes be checked, as it was thought that the Police Authority was still using this indicator. Councillor J K Walters agreed to review this and amend the report as appropriate.

A vote was taken and the recommendation was agreed.

[Voting pattern: unanimous]

Key decisions for information

- 2) Acquisition of Land for New Waste Management Facilities
- 3) Proposed Roundabout at the Junction of the A605 and B671, Elton: Compulsory Purchase Order

Speaking as the local member, Councillor L W McGuire welcomed the decision to proceed with a Compulsory Purchase Order, because the construction of a roundabout at this junction was strongly supported by

local people.

The Cabinet Member, Councillor S F Johnstone, reiterated Councillor McGuire's comments and expressed the hope that the landowner would now withdraw his opposition to the scheme, enabling the roundabout to be built as soon as possible.

#### Other decisions

- 4) Best Value Review of Highways Maintenance and Network Management
- 5) Cambridgeshire's Second Local Public Service Agreement

Councillor A C Kent expressed concern that it was not sensible to set a stretch target for young people's access to youth provision and services, given the highly critical report following the recent OfSTED report on the Council's Youth Service. The report had drawn attention to the chronic under-funding of the service and had also highlighted quality assurance issues. Councillor Kent noted that an action plan responding to the report was being prepared at present but, with no additional resources, there would be very limited scope to implement it. If these issues were not addressed, there was a serious risk that the service would fail its re-inspection and be withdrawn from the Council, together with the full £4 million the Government expected the Council to spend, rather than the £2 million actually spent.

Councillor I C Kidman shared Councillor Kent's concerns, highlighting the £2 million budget pressure that the withdrawal of the service from the Council would create. He also emphasised the need to clarify the nature of the £407,000 of corporate overheads that the service currently bore.

Councillor P J Downes emphasised the need to develop robust indicators to measure the effectiveness of the service, which made an essential contribution to young people's quality of life, especially in rural areas.

Responding, the Lead Member for Lifelong Learning, Councillor V H Lucas, noted that the OfSTED report had identified some positive examples of good practice, including partnership working, and had commended the Council's awareness of its situation. The Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, recognised that the service was under-funded and referred to the 40% reduction in funding for Community Education made in 1995. He challenged members to identify sources of additional funding, given that the Council had not itself received its full supporting grant from Government.

#### Other matters

- 6) Budget Monitoring 2003/04

Councillor J L Huppert expressed concern that Appendix 1 to the budget monitoring report to Cabinet had not presented the Education, Libraries and Heritage budget clearly, as it had suggested that despite forecast expenditure of £65 million and £72 million actual expenditure, a zero variation at year-end was reported.

Responding to Councillor Huppert, the Cabinet Member for Education, Libraries and Heritage, Councillor Wilkinson, noted that the adjustments made to achieve a break-even budget for Education, Libraries and Heritage in 2003/04 were explained in paragraph 3.1 of the Cabinet report.

Councillors Huppert and S V Brinton also expressed concern that the Learning Disability Partnership (LDP)'s overspend of £1.36 million in 2003/04 had been reported 'below the line' and had therefore not been included in the reported overspend for Social Services for 2003/04 of £4.85 million. The members expressed concern that the LDP's financial difficulties had not been reported in the discussions that had taken place during the year on the Social Services three-year recovery plan. Councillor Brinton asked to be advised whether members had been involved in the preparation of the Section 31 agreement for the LDP, what financial recovery arrangements were set out in the agreement and how it was proposed to deal with the current overspend. She asked whether the LDP would have to manage the overspend in the current financial year and if so, what services would be cut to achieve this. Following on from this, Councillor A C Kent requested a written explanation of the forecast overspend on the Social Services budget in each area and of what had actually been achieved.

Councillor T J Bear asked whether in future, any overspend on integrated older people's services would similarly be reported 'below the line'.

Responding, the Lead Member for Vulnerable Adults, Councillor D R Pegram, noted that since its inception the pooled budget for the LDP had been managed and reported separately from that of Social Services. This had meant in 2002/03 that the £400,000 underspend by the LDP had not been available to offset the Social Services overspend in that year. In the same way, the two budgets for 2003/04 were distinct. The Cabinet Member for Social Services, Councillor J A Powley, noted that the emerging overspend by the LDP in 2003/04 had been reported to the Adult Partnership Board, on which members were represented. He noted that the LDP would be addressing the overspend through a three-year recovery plan. The Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, agreed to send a written response to the questions raised by Councillors Brinton and Kent. He emphasised that officers should be congratulated on bringing the Social Services overspend in at below £5 million, which included £1 million of in-year savings successfully made.

7) Monitoring of the Recommendations of the Joint Review of Social Services

Councillor C M Ballard drew attention to the Council's continuing poor performance against a number of key performance indicators, including waiting times for assessment and care packages, delivery of equipment, emergency admissions to hospital and provision of carers' assessments. He highlighted the risk that poor performance in these areas could adversely affect both the Directorate's star rating and the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment score. He also expressed concern that these indicators measured how effectively the Council was

managing to shift its emphasis from acute to preventative services.

Responding, the Cabinet Member for Social Services noted that significant progress was being made in a number of areas, particularly through partnership working. He noted that Cambridgeshire's work to reduce delayed discharges from hospital had received national recognition.

8) Issues Arising from Scrutiny Committees

- a) Member Led Review of the Effects of Gender on Educational Performance: Year 7 Testing – Report of the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman of the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee, Councillor J L Gluza, and Councillor P J Downes expressed disappointment at the Cabinet's decision to carry out further consultation with schools before introducing standardised Year 7 testing across the County. They emphasised the need to establish baseline data in order to measure the effectiveness of initiatives to reduce the disparity between boys' and girls' performance.

Responding, the Cabinet Member for Education, Libraries and Heritage explained that the Cabinet welcomed the review team's work but wished to carry out further consultation with all schools before introducing standardised tests. The imposition of such tests without such consultation would be contrary to the LEA's policy to work collaboratively with schools.

- b) Process for Reshaping the Organisation Call In: Report of the Meeting of the Policy Scrutiny and Audit Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2004
- c) Provision of Youth Service in St Neots Call In: Report of the Meeting of the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2004

**218. ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman of the Education, Libraries and Heritage Scrutiny Committee, Councillor J L Gluza, presented its annual report.

Environment and Transport Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman of the Environment and Transport Scrutiny Committee, Councillor L W McGuire, presented its annual report. He congratulated officers in Environment and Transport on the outcome of the recent inspection by the Audit Commission of the Best Value review of Highways Maintenance and Network Management.

The Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor S F Johnstone, drew attention to the recent successful prosecution by Trading Standards of

defendants who had been altering the mileage on second-hand cars. She thanked all of the officers who had been involved in this case.

### Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee

The Chairman of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee, Councillor J M Tuck, presented its annual report, which incorporated the annual reports of the Social Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the now disbanded Area Health and Social Care Scrutiny Panels.

Councillors Tuck and C M Ballard both requested an update on progress against the recommendations made by the member led review of welfare benefits take-up, which had been accepted by Cabinet. Councillor Ballard emphasised the importance of promoting the take-up of benefits by those who were entitled to them, as this not only improved individuals' quality of life but also directly increased the Council's Formula Spend Share. The Cabinet Member for Social Services, Councillor J A Powley, noted that, in addition to working with partners who provided benefits advice, the Council was now providing advice to Social Services clients as part of the financial assessment process required by 'Fairer Charging'. This had led to increased take-up totalling £1.1 million in the past year. Councillor J D Jones welcomed this, but emphasised the importance of providing advice for non-Social Services clients as well as existing clients, particularly given the Council's high eligibility criteria.

Councillor Jones also stressed the need to keep mental health services under scrutiny, especially given the financial difficulties currently being experienced by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust. The Chairman of the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee, Councillor J M Tuck, confirmed that mental health services would continue to remain high on the Committee's list of priorities.

Councillor S V Brinton commented that experience during the year had shown that the effective scrutiny of complex issues was enhanced if written questions were circulated in advance of the meeting. With regard to the scrutiny of integrated services, she expressed concern that these had until recently been governed by the Adult Partnership Board, whose papers had not been publicly available. This had meant that Scrutiny members had been unaware of issues such as the growing overspend by the Learning Disability Partnership. She emphasised the importance of ensuring openness and accountability in the governance of integrated services.

### Policy Scrutiny and Audit Committee

The Chairman of the Policy Scrutiny and Audit Committee, Councillor P J Downes, presented its annual report. He noted that the Committee was currently reviewing its working style and was considering the establishment of smaller sub-groups to look at specific subjects in greater detail.

## **219. WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

Members noted that five written questions had been submitted under Rule 9 of the Council Procedure Rules:

- Councillor G J Heathcock had asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, Councillor S F Johnstone, whether the termination of the County Council's agency agreements with Cambridge City and Fenland and Huntingdonshire District Councils would result in any additional resources for the maintenance of footways. The response explained the basis on which funding was allocated for the resurfacing and reconstruction of footways.
- Councillor I C Kidman had asked the Lead Member for Lifelong Learning, Councillor V H Lucas, whether the Council's grants to the Fitzwilliam Museum and Kettle's Yard in Cambridge had been withdrawn and, if this was the case, which member meeting(s) had agreed the withdrawal. The response explained that revenue support to museums was administered by officers under delegated powers and that, due to pressures on the Heritage Services budget, annual revenue support of £5,000 and £3,000 respectively had been withdrawn. The wider Heritage Services budget had recently been considered by the Lifelong Learning Service Development Group.
- Councillor G J Heathcock and P J Downes had asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters about the current review of the Council's PRIEAF (Premature Retirement in the Interest of the Efficient Exercise of the Authority's Functions) scheme and the likely implementation date for any changes. The response stated that the review would be considered by Cabinet in June 2004 and that it was intended to implement changes with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005.
- Councillor M Farrar had asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor J K Walters, about the County Council's lease on the premises of the former Shire Hall Club. Both the question and response were confidential, as they contained exempt information as defined under paragraphs 7 and 9 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Copies of the questions and responses are available from Democratic Services.

## **220. ORAL QUESTIONS**

Two oral questions were asked under Rule 9 of the Council Procedure Rules:

- Councillor A G Orgee asked the Lead Member for Strategic Planning, Councillor J E Reynolds, about the recently published Buchanan report commissioned by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), which had suggested that an additional 18,000 houses might be accommodated in the Cambridge sub-region, possibly in a new town at Great Abington or in two smaller new settlements at Foxton and Waterbeach. Councillor Reynolds explained that the proposals were part of the ODPM's study of growth at Stansted and were not supported by the County Council. The County Council would be preparing a robust response jointly with Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils to the report and to the new Regional Planning Guidance note 14.
- Councillor J L Huppert asked the Lead Member for Strategic Planning, Councillor J E Reynolds, for his views on County Councils' role in strategic planning. Councillor Reynolds responded that the effectiveness of County Councils' contribution to strategic planning had been demonstrated and that this had been recognised in the Bill that had recently received Royal assent.

A full transcript of the questions and responses is available from the Democratic Services Division.

**221. MOTIONS**

Members noted that no motions had been submitted under Rule 10 of the Council Procedure Rules.

Chairman:

**CABINET AND PORTFOLIOS****THE CABINET**

Leader.....	J K Walters
Deputy Leader.....	J E Reynolds
Cabinet Member for Education Libraries and Heritage .....	R Wilkinson
Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport .....	S Johnstone
Cabinet Member for Social Services .....	J Powley
Cabinet Member for Resources and Chief Executive's Departments .....	J K Walters

Lead Member for School and Pupil Attainment.....	R Wilkinson
Lead Member for School Organisation .....	R Wilkinson
Lead Member for Education Resources.....	F Yeulett
Lead Member for Children in Need .....	J Powley
Lead Member for Vulnerable Adults .....	R Pegram
Lead Member for Transport and Waste .....	S Johnstone
Lead Member for Strategic Planning .....	J Reynolds
Lead Member for Resources .....	J K Walters
Lead Member for Lifelong Learning .....	V Lucas
Lead Member for Environment .....	L Oliver
Lead Member for Community and Economic Development .....	A K Melton

Additionally,

The following four Cabinet Members have responsibility on behalf of the Cabinet as follows:

<b>MEMBER:</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY FOR:</b>	<b>OFFICER LINK:</b>
Roy Pegram	Best Value	<i>Keren Mallinson</i>
Victor Lucas	Scrutiny Liaison	<i>Keren Mallinson</i>
Shona Johnstone	Children Services	<i>Eric Robinson</i>
	Integration Planning	
John Powley	Better Government for Older People	<i>Eric Robinson</i>



**COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP****POLICY SCRUTINY AND AUDIT  
COMMITTEE****7 Members**

Broadway, J		LD	<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Downes, P J	(Chairman)	LD	Bailey, P D	LD
Gooden, P D		L	Barnwell, R	C
King, S J		C	Clarke, R L	C
Mair, A R		C	Coston, J E	LD
Read, P E A		C	Farrar, M	LD
Stroude, P L		C	(Vacancy)	L
			McGuire, L W	C
			Shaw, C E	L
			Silby, P W	C

**EDUCATION, LIBRARIES AND  
HERITAGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****7 Members (plus 3 Parent  
Governor representatives and 3  
Church members)**

Bowen, A J		LD	<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Downes, P J		LD	Bailey, P D	LD
Gluza, J L	(Chairman)	L	Ballard, C M	L
King, S		C	Bhalla, B S	L
Silby, P W		C	Brinton, S V	LD
Wilson, L J		C	Farrar, M	LD
Mair A R			Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C
			Martlew, R B	LD
			Orgee, A G	C
			Read, P E A	C
			Stroude, P L	C

**ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT  
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE****7 Members**

Fitch, H J		LD	<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Gluza, J L		L	Ballard, C M	L
Hansard, A		C	Bowen, A J	LD
King, S J E		C	Clarke, R L	C
Mair, A R		C	Coston, J E	LD
McGuire, L W	(Chairman)	C	Eddy, J A P	C
Milton, A S		C	Hardy, B	C
		LD	Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C
			Heathcock, G J	LD
			(Vacancy)	L
			Martlew, R B	LD

## HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

11 County Members / 5 District Members

### County Councillors

Bailey, P D	LD	Heathcock, G J	LD
Bear, T J	LD	Mair, A R	C
Carter, C	L	Stroude, P L	C
Gooden, P D	L	Tuck, J M (Chairman)	C
Hansard, A	C	Wilson, L J	C
Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C		

### District Councillors

District Councils have been invited to nominate one Member and one Substitute member to the Committee and to notify the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee who will formally co-opt the nominees.

### Substitute Members

#### County Councillors

Broadway, J	LD	Harper, G	C
Bowen, A	LD	Hensley, W G M	C
Brinton, S V	LD	King, S J E	C
Downes, P J	LD	Silby, P W	C
<i>Vacancy</i>	L		
<i>Vacancy</i>	L		

## SOCIAL SERVICES SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

7 County members drawn from the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee

Gooden, P	L
Bear, T J	LD
Hansard, A	C
Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C
Heathcock, G J	LD
Stroude, P L	C
Tuck, J M (Chairman)	C

### Substitute Members

Substitutes will be the County Council members and substitutes for the Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee (as above).

**SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE****7 Members**

		<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Brinton, S V	LD	Ballard, M	L
Downes, P J	LD	Harper, G F	C
Gluza, J L	L	Huppert, J	LD
King, S	C	Stenner, A R	C
Mair, A R	C	Stroude, P L	C
McGuire, L W	C		
Tuck, J M	C		

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE****4 Members plus 2 independent members**

Bear, T J	LD
Eddy, J A P	C
Gluza, J L	L
Vice – Chairman of Council (Chairman)	C

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE****7 Members**

		<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Barnwell, R	C	Bhalla, B S	L
Broadway, J	LD	Coston, J E	LD
Farrar, M	LD	Eddy, J A P	C
Gluza, J L	L	Fitch, H J	LD
Hensley, W G M	C	Speechley, R C	C
Mair, A R	C	Stroude, P L	C
Read, P E A (Chairman)	C		

**APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE****7 Members**

Reynolds, J E	C
2 Cabinet nominees	C
Non-Cabinet nominee	C
Liberal Democrat Group Leader or nominee	LD
Relevant Liberal Democrat spokes	LD
Labour Group Leader or nominee	L

**SERVICE APPEALS COMMITTEE****2 Conservative and 1 Liberal Democrat****From:**

Barnwell, R	C	Bowen, A J	LD
Hansard, A	C	Coston, J E	LD
Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C	Giles, S	LD
King, S J	C	Martlew, R B	LD
Normington, S	C		
Speechley, R C	C		

**STAFF APPEALS COMMITTEE****2 Conservative and 1 Labour****From:**

Bates, I C	C	Bhalla, B S	L
Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C	Carter, C M	L
Hensley, W G M	C	Gluzza, J L	L
Mair, A R	C	Gooden, P D	L
Ogden, M K	C	Jones, J D	L
Silby, W	C		
Tuck, J	C		

**ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT AREA JOINT COMMITTEES****Cambridge City****6 Members**

		<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Gluzza, J L	L	Ballard, C M	L
Huppert, J L	LD	Bowen, A J	LD
Kent, A C	LD	Carter, C M	L
Reid, A A	LD	Heathcock, G L	LD
Reynolds, J E	C	Jones, J	L
Shaw, C E	L	Brinton, S V	LD

**East Cambridgeshire****5 Members**

		<u>Substitute Members</u>	
Bailey, P D	LD	Broadway, J	LD
Fitch, H J	LD	Mair, A R	C
Hearne-Casapieri, V A	C		
Powley, J A	C		
Read, P E A	C		

**Fenland****5 Members**

		<u>Substitute Members</u>	
King, S J E	C	Barnwell, R S G	C
Ogden, M K	C	Hardy, B	C
Speechley, R C	C	Melton, A K	C
Tuck, J M	C		
Yeulett, F H	C		

**Huntingdonshire**

Eddy, J A P C  
Downes, P J LD  
Hensley, W G M C  
Lucas, V H C  
McGuire, L W C  
Stenner, A B C

**Substitute Members**

Clarke, R L C  
Hansard, A C  
Pegram, D R C  
Walters, K C

**6 Members****South Cambridgeshire**

Bear, T J LD  
Coston, J E LD  
Gooden, P D L  
Johnstone, S F C  
Reynolds, J E C

**Substitute Members**

Milton, A LD  
Driver, R C  
Farrar, M LD  
Martlew, R B LD  
Oliver, L J C  
Stroude, P L C  
Wilson, L J C

**5 Members**

# CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

June 2001 – May 2005

## COUNTY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	REPRESENTATIVES	CONTACT DETAILS
<b>Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils District Committees:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Cambs</li> <li>• Fenland</li> <li>• Hunts</li> <li>• South Cambs</li> </ul>	4	1 to each	Cllr J Fitch Cllr B Hardy Cllr R Wilkinson Cllr R Driver	Ms C Rogers-Jones CALC Secretary The Primrose Centre Primrose Lane Huntingdon Cambs PE29 1WG
<b>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority</b>	3	13	Cllrs: C Carter J E Coston J Fitch S A Giles G J Heathcock J D Jones L W McGuire S B Normington L J Oliver D R Pegram R C Speechley P Stroude A Stenner	Fiona Fowler Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority Hinchingsbrooke House Huntingdon Cambs

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	REPRESENTATIVES	CONTACT DETAILS
<p><b>Cambridgeshire Police Authority - Joint Committee Responsible for Making Appointments to the Police Authority</b></p> <p><i>Representatives appointed to the Cambridgeshire Police Authority</i></p>	<p>As Req</p> <p>6</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Cllrs: S Johnstone J L Huppert C Shaw</p> <p>Cllrs: J Broadway J Coston J D Jones J E Reynolds J M Tuck J K Walters R Wilkinson</p>	<p>Chris Harding Cambs Police Authority Attleborough Police Station London Road Attleborough Norfolk NR17 2DR</p>
<p><b>East of England Regional Assembly</b></p> <p>Europe Panel</p>	<p>1 minimum</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Cllr J K Walters</p> <p>Cllrs: J K Walters J Gluza (*)</p>	<p>Claire Hardy East of England Regional Assembly Flempton House Flempton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP28 6EG</p>
<p><b>ESPO Management Committee</b></p>		<p>3</p>	<p>Cllrs: R Mair J D Jones J L Huppert</p>	<p>Mr Steve Martin Clerk to ESPO Management Committee Leicestershire County Council Glenfield Leicester LE3 8RA</p>
<p><b>Local Government Association</b></p>	<p>8 – 10</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Cllrs: S V Brinton J D Jones S F Johnstone J K Walters</p>	<p>Chief Executive Local Government Association Local Government House Smith Square London SW1P 3HZ</p>

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	REPRESENTATIVES	CONTACT DETAILS
<b>LGA Commissions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural</li> <li>• Urban</li> </ul>		<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p>Cllrs: J Gluza A Melton</p> <p>Cllrs J A Powley A A Reid</p>	
<b>County Councils' Network Council</b>  CCN Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive</li> <li>• Social Services Task Group</li> </ul>	8-10	4	<p>Cllrs: S V Brinton J D Jones S F Johnstone J K Walters</p> <p>Cllr J K Walters Cllr J K Walters</p>	Director County Councils Network Local Government House Smith Square London SW1P 3HZ
<b>Link Disability Foster Panel</b>		1	Cllr V Hearne-Casapieri	John Saunders Practice Manager – Disabled Children's Services
<b>Police Local Consultation Groups:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cambridge City (N)</li> <li>• Cambridge City (S)</li> <li>• Ely</li> <li>• Wisbech</li> <li>• March</li> <li>• Huntingdon</li> <li>• South Cambs/Histon</li> <li>• South Cambs/Sawston</li> <li>• St Neots</li> <li>• St Ives</li> </ul>	3-4	1 to each	<p>Cllr I Kidman Cllr G Heathcock Cllr P Read Cllr S King Cllr G Harper Cllr W Hensley Cllr P D Gooden Cllr M Farrar</p> <p>Cllr R Clarke Cllr D Pegram</p>	Chris Harding Cambs Police Authority Attleborough Police Station London Road Attleborough Norfolk NR17 2DR



NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	REPRESENTATIVES	CONTACT DETAILS
<b>Resource, Regional Employers Organisation (East of England)</b>	4	4	Cllrs: H Fitch J Jones L Oliver Vacancy	Mike Moyers Employers Secretary East of England Local Government Conference Flempton House Flempton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP38 6EG
<b>Reserve Forces and Cadets Assoc. for East Anglia</b>	2	1	Cllr V Lucas	Reserve Forces and cadets Association for East Anglia' Springfield Tyrells 205 Springfield Road Chelmsford Essex CM2 6BU pssec@reserve-forces-anglia.org

\* = Member appointment made by the Labour Group on the LGA.