

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 16th May 2006

Time: 10.30 a.m. – 1.20 p.m.

Place: Shire Hall, Cambridge

Present: Councillors P D Bailey, D Baldwin, C M Ballard, J Batchelor, I C Bates, B Bean, B Boddington, M Bradney, J Broadway, P Brown, T Butcher, C Carter, M Curtis, A Douglas, P J Downes, J Dutton, J A P Eddy, S A Giles, G Griffiths, B Hardy, G F Harper, N Harrison, D Harty, G J Heathcock, W G M Hensley, P E Hughes, W Hunt, J L Huppert, C Hyams, J D Jenkins, S F Johnstone, E Kadić, G Kenney, A C Kent, S J E King, S Lee, V H Lucas, D McCraith, L W McGuire, A K Melton, R Moss-Eccardt, S B Normington, M K Ogden, L J Oliver, A G Orgee, D R Pegram, J A Powley, A A Reid, J E Reynolds, K Reynolds, M Shuter, L Sims, M Smith, T Stone, J M Tuck, R Turner, J K Walters, J West, J D White, K Wilkins, H Williams, M Williamson, L J Wilson and F H Yeulett

Apologies: Councillors N Bell, R Farrar, S Higginson, S G M Kindersley and P Sales

73. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Walters, seconded by Councillor J Reynolds and resolved:

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

The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor Huppert, expressed his Group's view that the ceremonial role of Chairman should not be restricted to one party, but should be available to all members. He further expressed their opinion that one-year terms would be more appropriate and would allow more members to share this honour. However, his Group would support the Chairman's re-election.

[Voting pattern: unanimous.]

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

74. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Normington, seconded by Councillor Eddy and resolved:

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

[Voting pattern: unanimous.]

Councillor Orgee signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and thanked the County Council for his appointment.

75. MINUTES: 28th MARCH 2006

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th March 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

76. REPORT OF THE COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER

Members noted that Alice Douglas, a Liberal Democrat, had been elected in the by-election held on 4th May 2006 for the Romsey Electoral Division.

77. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Councillor

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Douglas to her first meeting of the Council.

North Pole Marathon

The Chairman led members in congratulating Mark Howe, Head of Adults (Client Side), who had recently completed a North Pole marathon to raise funds for the Cambridge Cancer Help Centre.

78. 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.

- Councillor Batchelor as a member of South Cambridgeshire District Council's Cabinet (Minute 86, Report of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 18th April 2006, Item 1, Children and Young People's Plan) and the Chairman of Linton Action for Youth (Minute 87, Scrutiny Annual Report 2005/06 and Strategic Work Programme 2006/07)
- Councillor Broadway as the Police Authority's nominated Chairman of the East Cambridgeshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Minute 85, The Council's Policy Framework)
- Councillor Giles as a provider of supported lodgings for Social Services (Minute 86, Report of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 18th April 2006, Item 1, Children and Young People's Plan)
- Councillor Griffiths as a member of the English Churches Housing Group national body, a Trustee of Jimmy's Nightshelter and a member of the Cyrenians Board (Minute 86, Report of the Meeting of Cabinet held on 18th April 2006, Item 7, Inspection of Supporting People November 2005: Audit Commission report)
- Councillor Johnstone as a Non-Executive Director of the Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Minute 87, Scrutiny Annual Report 2005/06 and Strategic Work Programme 2006/07), and Minute 88, Written Questions)
- Councillor King as the Chairman of the Bowthorpe Centre (Minute 87, Scrutiny Annual Report 2005/06 and Strategic Work Programme 2006/07).

79. ELECTION OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Powley, seconded by Councillor Johnstone and resolved:

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

[Voting pattern: Conservative and Labour Groups in favour, Liberal Democrats abstained]

80. APPROVAL OF CABINET ARRANGEMENTS

It was moved by Councillor Walters and seconded by Councillor 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 Office and thematic portfolios and that the names of members so assigned and any subsequent changes thereto be notified to the Director of Governance as soon as practicable, who shall keep members of Council informed of the portfolio assignments and any changes thereto.

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.

The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, Councillor Huppert, expressed his Group's preference that members of the Cabinet should be appointed by the Council and not by the Leader of Council, in order to promote greater accountability of individual Cabinet members.

The Leader of the Labour Group, Councillor Ballard, expressed his Group's support for the 'strong Leader' model as proposed.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

[Voting pattern: Conservative and Labour Groups in favour, Liberal Democrats against]

81. COUNCIL CONSTITUTION – AMENDMENTS

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Normington, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Orgee, and agreed unanimously to

- i) Approve the revisions to the Council Constitution set out in the appendix to the report;
- ii) Agree that the Director of Governance be authorised to amend the Constitution to correct typographical errors and other minor amendments to reflect revised terminology;
- iii) Note the outcome of the review of political proportionality required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

82. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

It was moved by Councillor Walters, seconded by Councillor Reynolds and agreed unanimously that:

- i) The appointment of Council Committees as listed in paragraph 2.2 of the report to Council, with terms of reference as set out in the Council's Constitution (as amended) be confirmed;
- ii) The membership and political composition of the Committees listed in paragraph 2.2 be approved as set out in Appendix B to these minutes;
- iii) The current appointments to the outside organisations and bodies listed in 3.1 of the report to Council be confirmed as set out in Appendix C to these minutes.

83. OPPOSITION GROUP LEADERS

The Council noted that Councillor Huppert had been appointed as the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and Councillor Ballard as the Leader of the Labour Group for the period to the next annual meeting of the Council.

A paper setting out Opposition Spokesmen was tabled and is attached as Appendix D to these minutes.

84. APPROVAL OF CALENDAR OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was proposed by Councillor Normington, seconded by Councillor Orgee and resolved unanimously:

That the following calendar of County Council meetings be approved:

- 18th July 2006
- 17th October 2006
- 12th December 2006
- 20th February 2007
- 23rd February 2007 (provisional)
- 27th March 2007
- 15th May 2007.

85. THE COUNCIL'S POLICY FRAMEWORK

It was proposed by Councillor Walters and seconded by Councillor Reynolds

That the Council adopts the Policy Framework as summarised in the Policy Statements and as set out in the Corporate Plan and Best Value Performance Plan.

Councillor Huppert reported that the Liberal Democrat Group would not be endorsing the Policy Framework. The Group supported many of the aspirations set out, but was concerned that they would not be delivered. Councillor Huppert gave as an example the aim of improving public transport, which was undermined by the £250,000 reduction for 2006/07 to the bus subsidy budget.

Councillor Reid expressed support for the policy statement on the Environment Strategy, but suggested that the key areas for development should be strengthened to place greater emphasis on the production and use of renewable energy, reduction of water use, improvement of air quality, noise reduction and improvement of access to open space. He also emphasised the need to ensure that targets were translated into action. On the Local Transport Plan, he welcomed the addition of a Rail Strategy appendix to the main document, but called for fuller reference to this in the Local Transport Plan policy statement.

Councillor Broadway noted that the Local Transport Plan policy statement referred to the Ely southern link road as a major scheme to be developed during the Plan period. She reminded members that there was currently no Government funding available for this scheme until at least 2011.

Councillor Jenkins expressed support for the Adult Support Services Strategic Plan policy statement and the areas for development it set out. However, he suggested that there was scope to improve value for money in the delivery of domiciliary care, by managing providers more robustly and ensuring that as much of the budget as possible was spent on frontline services.

Councillor Griffiths highlighted the Audit Commission's recent rating of Cambridgeshire's Supporting People programme as one-star, with uncertain prospects for improvement. The inspectors' report had identified a number of areas to be addressed, including performance management, governance and access to information about services.

Councillor Moss-Eccardt expressed concern at a lack of effective links between the policy statements on the Children and Young People's Strategic Plan, the Crime and Disorder Strategies and the Youth Justice Plan in relation to youth offending.

Responding, the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Councillor Powley, emphasised the importance of financial responsibility in delivering the objectives set out in the Policy Framework. Cambridgeshire's settlement for 2006/07 had been difficult, that the settlement for 2007/08 was likely to be even harder and that the scope to raise income locally was limited, with Council Tax capping a very real possibility. Councillor Powley reminded members that within the context, the Council was recognised by external inspectors as delivering good value for money to residents.

Responding to the comments on the Environment Strategy, the Lead Member for Environment, Business and Waste, Councillor Oliver, drew attention to the Council's wide range of environmental activities. She noted that Northstowe was already being recognised as a national exemplar because of its development according to sustainable principles.

The Lead Member for Inclusion, Councillor Tuck, emphasised that there were effective links between the Children and Young People's Strategic Plan, the Crime and Disorder Strategies and the Youth Justice Plan, and between the officers delivering the services these Plans covered.

The Lead Member for Community Learning and Development and Adult Social Care, Councillor Yeulett, noted that the Council would be taking forward the Supporting People post-inspection action plan in conjunction with its partners, but highlighted the challenges that would be posed by the reductions to the Supporting People budget nationally.

The Leader of the Council reminded members that the purpose of the Policy Framework was to set out the parameters within which the Cabinet could operate. Any decision made outside this Framework could be referred back to full Council. He also reminded members that the Liberal Democrat Group had had the opportunity to put forward alternative proposals, but had chosen not to do so.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

[Voting pattern: Conservative and Labour Groups in favour, one member against, Liberal Democrats abstained]

86. REPORT OF THE CABINET

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Walters, moved receipt of the report of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 18th April 2006.

Key decisions for determination

1) Children and Young People's Plan

It was moved by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, Councillor Johnstone, and seconded by the Lead Member for Learning, Councillor Lucas, that Council that:

The Council approves the draft of the Children and Young People's Plan.

Councillor Kent reported that the Liberal Democrat Group supported the Plan, including its emphasis on the integration of children and young people's services, holistic support for children and their families, and particular support for vulnerable children. However, she commented that the Plan was a long document and needed a clear summary, to promote understanding and ownership by all members and partner agencies. She particularly commented on the need to involve schools in partnership working, and expressed some reservations as to whether health agencies would be in a position to deliver their parts of joint services.

Councillor Ballard reported that the Labour Group also supported the Plan, which was the result of substantial cross-party working. He suggested that the full Plan should have been reproduced in the papers for Cabinet members. Councillor Ballard emphasised the importance of health services for young people and commented particularly on the importance of drug and alcohol services. He welcomed the work by Trading Standards to reduce underage sales of alcohol. Realistic targets for young people's drinking were essential, since drinking in moderation, supervised by parents, could help young people to develop responsible attitudes to alcohol in later life.

Councillor Downes welcomed the Plan's aspiration to reduce teenage smoking, but suggested that the emphasis should be on prevention rather than cessation, since young people could find it very difficult to give up once they had started.

Councillor Hughes welcomed the Plan's emphasis on helping young people to 'enjoy and achieve'. She noted that this should include working with parents who had not themselves enjoyed attending school, to help them to pass on positive messages to their children. Councillor Hughes also commented on the need for effective partnership working to deliver services for young children, and the need to capitalise on the progress already made by SureStart.

Councillor Broadway commented that the target to reduce reported bullying in schools should not act as a disincentive to reporting incidents when these occurred. She expressed concern that bullying was a major issue and that more should be done to raise teachers' awareness. Councillor West commented on the need to establish clear evidence of bullying, rather than relying on hearsay.

Councillor Giles commented on the need for effective and adequately resourced support for looked after young people as they reached 16 and began the transition to living independently. She commented that many vulnerable young people suffered from low self-esteem, and that this could lead to destructive forms of behaviour.

Councillor Moss-Eccardt suggested that the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee's consideration of this important Plan should have been more detailed. The former Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Bates, noted that the Committee had been fully involved in the preparation of the Plan and would continue to keep it under close review.

Responding, the Lead Member for Learning and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services welcomed the cross-party support for the Plan. They noted that Spokes had already identified partner agencies' ability to deliver against their aspirations as one of the main risks in implementing the Plan. In particular, children's good health was key to reaching their full potential, making partners' contributions essential. Targets would be monitoring closely to ensure that partnerships were working effectively.

A vote was taken and the recommendation was agreed unanimously.

2) Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Walters, and seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor J Reynolds, that:

The Council approves the draft Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07, subject to any minor changes and final figures which may be added before the publication date, to be agreed in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

Councillor Harrison expressed concern that the draft Plan appeared to contain a significant number of errors, inconsistencies, coincidences and omissions. She suggested that Council should not approve the Plan but should ask it to be carefully reviewed and then brought back for approval.

Councillor Reid welcomed the selection of the 'Top 30' performance indicators for particularly close monitoring by Cabinet, but expressed concern that these did not sufficiently reflect the Council's environmental objectives as set out in the Environment Strategy. He suggested that the indicator currently in the Top 30 on the number of bus passengers in Cambridge be replaced with a more strategic indicator on reductions to the emission of gases contributing to climate change.

Councillor Huppert suggested that instead of deleting the indicator on bus passengers from the 'Top 30', the size of the basket of indicators should be increased to allow one on the emission of gases contributing to climate change to be added. He noted that his Group would be opposing the recommendation, and would have been willing to make an alternative proposal if sufficient officer support had been available to assist with this. He also highlighted the sections of the Plan relating to the Comprehensive Performance Assessment. He noted that the Council was currently rated as a three-star authority, 'improving well', the median on both axes. He noted that although the Council's performance was above average for Children and Young People's Services, it was below average for Culture, Environment and Adults' Social Services, and argued that the Council should be aiming for higher standards of performance than these.

Councillor Wilkins expressed concern that a number of the indicators for which no performance was reported related to diversity issues for either service users or Council employees.

Councillor Griffiths noted that there was no data recorded for the numbers of adults accessing drug treatment services, and expressed her disappointment that the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee had recently decided not to carry out a review this year of drug and alcohol treatment services.

Councillor Ballard expressed concern that, although there had been some improvement, the Council's performance against a number of key performance indicators remained in the bottom quartile. These included the numbers of elderly people awaiting care packages and helped to live at home, and the numbers of serious or fatal road accidents.

Responding, the Leader of the Council noted that the draft Plan had already been discussed twice at Cabinet, and that Scrutiny members could have requested a more detailed review prior to Council if they had wished. He noted that some parts of the Plan were still in draft because year-end performance figures or information from partners was awaited. Some of the targets had had to be included as Government requirements, even if the local target was zero. Where appropriate, estimates of performance had been included. The Leader undertook to refine the Plan as necessary, but paid tribute to the officers for the considerable hard work on it they had already done.

A vote was taken and the recommendation was agreed.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour, Liberal Democrats against, Labour Group abstained]

Key decisions for information

3) Award of Highways Services Contract 2006-16

Councillor Huppert reported that the Liberal Democrat Group had called in Cabinet's decision relating to the award of the Highways Services Contract. This would be a significant contract, spanning ten years and worth approximately £25 million per annum. The Group had not been satisfied that Cabinet members had received sufficient information at their meeting to make an informed decision. The call-in had highlighted a particular need for more information on the advantages and disadvantages of working with a single contractor; how performance would be managed; break clauses in the contract; and the preparation of a risk register.

Councillor Moss-Eccardt also expressed disappointment at the limited amounts of information available to Opposition members and to the public and commented that better information should have been made provided, in the interests of openness and democracy.

Responding, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services, Councillor J Reynolds, agreed that the Cabinet report could have been more detailed. However, he drew attention to the list provided to the Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee of the many other opportunities members and the public had had to find out about the emerging contract. The contract bids had been scored in detail, with a weighting of 60% for quality and 40% for cost. The bid from W S Atkins had been agreed to be most suitable. Councillor Reynolds and Councillor Curtis both noted that the new contract would be based on open-book accounting and more collaborative styles of working, which would help the Council to achieve best value for money.

Other decisions

4) Waste Private Finance Initiative

5) Statement on Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA)

Councillor Huppert welcomed the Statement, commenting that whilst it was useful to undertake the CPA process, the Council's main focus should be on service delivery.

6) Annual Efficiency Statement

Councillor Ballard emphasised that measures should not be counted as efficiency savings if they were in fact cuts to services. He expressed concern that some of the proposed efficiency savings, such as reductions to day care in adult social services, might not in practice be deliverable.

Responding, the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Councillor Powley, agreed that cuts should not be counted as efficiency savings. However, he noted that in some cases, it was possible to deliver services more efficiently in different ways than at present, and in these cases the resultant savings could be counted as efficiency savings. He noted that the Council expected to deliver £8.5 million of efficiency savings this year, and held Beacon status for Procurement because of its effective ways of working.

Other matters

7) Inspection of Supporting People in November 2005: Audit Commission Inspection Report

Councillor Jenkins commented on the importance of the Supporting People programme in delivering services to vulnerable people, and expressed disappointment that the Audit Commission had found Cambridgeshire's programme only 'fair'. However, he noted that only three authorities nationally had been rated as 'excellent'; these were all unitaries, who did not face some of the challenges of partnership working that arose in Shire Counties. He expressed concern that the inspection report had been considered by the Community Learning and Development and Adult Social Care Service Development Group (SDG) after Cabinet, meaning that Cabinet's debate had not been informed by the SDG's comments. He highlighted the importance of the post-inspection action plan, particularly in introducing better performance management. He commended the fact that 80% of the £12.3 million Supporting People budget was spent on frontline services, and suggested that this good practice could be extended to domiciliary care providers, who spent only 50% of their budget on front-line services.

Councillor Stone also welcomed the post-inspection action plan and sought confirmation that funding was in place for its implementation.

Responding, the Lead Member for Community Learning and Development and Adult Social Care, Councillor Yeulett, noted that the inspectors' report had identified a number of positive aspects of the Cambridgeshire programme, particularly in improving people's lives. He confirmed that the action plan was being implemented to address the inspectors' concerns.

8) Delegation of Authority to Sign Off Service Plans

Councillor Harrison commented on the need to ensure both Cabinet ownership and the high quality of all plans delegated to individual Cabinet members to sign off. She suggested that the Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee could consider this further.

9) Petitions

As the local member for four of the five public byways highlighted in the petition from the Ramblers Association, Councillor Batchelor expressed support for the petitioners' views. He asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services to use all appropriate powers to ensure that byways remained passable. He also asked to be sent a copy of the officers' response to the petitioners.

Part 2 exempt reports

10) Park House Lease Renewal

87. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2005/06 AND STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME 2006/07

The Chairman of the Scrutiny Management Committee, Councillor King, moved receipt of the Scrutiny annual report for 2005/06 and the strategic work programme for 2006/07. His proposal was seconded by the Chairman of the Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Harrison.

Responding to the report, members made the following comments:

General

- Paid tribute to the members of the Scrutiny Committees and the supporting officers for the achievements of the past year. Cabinet members were also thanked for their contributions to the scrutiny process.
- Commented particularly on the role of the Scrutiny Development Co-ordinators in enhancing the quality and momentum of the Scrutiny Committees' work. Some members suggested that these posts should be funded from the Council's core budget, rather than being dependent on efficiency savings as at present.
- Discussed the Scrutiny Committees' wider role in contributing to the Council's efficiency agenda. Some members felt that they were already making a valuable contribution; others emphasised that this should not be the main aim of Scrutiny, and that the Committees' most important role was to hold the Cabinet to account.
- Suggested that Scrutiny Committees' role in contributing to Best Value reviews should be reconsidered, since this had been an important part of their work in the past.
- Commented on the need for the Committees' work programming to be informed by an awareness of risks posed to the Council, and of scrutiny and review already carried out by other groups.
- Welcomed the Council's continuing decision to share the chairing of the Scrutiny Committees between Administration and Opposition members, helping to ensure the cross-party nature of scrutiny.

- Commented on the need to communicate the role of scrutiny more effectively outside the Council, to encourage members of the public to engage with the Committees as a means of holding the Cabinet to account.

Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee

- Commented that the work programme for Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee proposed little direct scrutiny of parts of the Office of Corporate Services, and suggested that there were a number of services within this Office that would benefit from scrutiny.
- Highlighted the role of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee in scrutinising the growth agenda.

Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee

- Welcomed the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Committee's scrutiny of the Youth Service. One member welcomed the additional funding for this service, but expressed disappointment that only half of it, £80,000, would be spent on front line services, with the remainder being used for an outstanding debt. He emphasised the importance of providing youth services for young people aged 11-19 and expressed concern that the Government appeared to be shifting its emphasis to the 13-19 age group.

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

- Expressed concern that the workload of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee was growing rapidly, and that this Committee would face a particular challenge to remain engaged with health partners as their organisations were reconfigured. The Chairman of the Committee noted that this Committee had previously been supported by a research officer as well as the Health Scrutiny Co-ordinator; he asked for consideration to be given to reappointing to this post, which was currently vacant.
- Commented that the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee should play an important role in monitoring health outcomes for children and young people.

In conclusion, members agreed unanimously

To agree the strategic work programme for the Council's Scrutiny Committees for 2006/07.

88. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

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

- Councillor Huppert had asked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Walters, about loans made by the Council to Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trusts. The response confirmed that the Council had not made any loans to Primary Care Trusts following the Council decision of 21st February 2006.
- Councillor Huppert had asked the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services, Councillor Powley, about shortfalls in income collection for the pooled budget for older people's services. The joint response from the Cabinet

Member for Corporate Services and the Lead Member for Community Learning and Development and Adult Social Care, Councillor Yeulett, set out details of the under-recovery against the Older People's Service income budget in 2005/06 of £99,000, 0.5% of the total income budget of £19.3 m.

89. ORAL QUESTIONS

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

- [Councillor Douglas asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services, Councillor J Reynolds, what options he was considering to ease the traffic congestion on Coldhams Lane caused by the operation of traffic lights on Newmarket Road. Councillor Reynolds agreed to send a written response to her question.](#)
- Councillor Jenkins asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services how many hours of education had been lost due to the roadworks to students who lived north of the A14 and attended establishments south of the A14 in Cambridge. He also asked what steps would be taken to learn from the current experience to mitigate the impact of similar roadworks for future developments. Councillor Reynolds commented that it would not be useful to calculate the hours of education lost. He emphasised the need for infrastructure to precede major new developments and asked members to recognise that there would be some inconvenience associated with its implementation.
- Councillor Ballard commented that 22nd to 26th May 2006 would be Diversity Week. He noted that adults with disabilities were the only recipients of support services not covered by a partnership between health and social care providers, and asked whether steps would be taken to develop such a partnership in the coming year. Responding, the Cabinet Lead for Diversity, Councillor Lucas, highlighted the programme of events proposed by the Council to mark Diversity Week. The Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services, Councillor Reynolds, agreed to consider Councillor Ballard's comments about services for adults with disabilities.
- Councillor Williamson asked the Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services what the expected completion date was for the roadworks at the A14/A10 junction outside Milton, and what lessons had been learned from these roadworks to minimise disruption for residents and traders in Milton, should the Park and Ride site be relocated from Cowley Road. Responding, Councillor Reynolds noted that the current roadworks were due to be completed in June. Consultations were continuing on the possible relocation of the Park and Ride site to the Butt Road junction. Some land purchases still needed to be negotiated. If the Park and Ride were to move, it would be essential to manage the relocation properly and to ensure effective access for public transport to the new site.

90. MOTIONS

One motion had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10. The following was proposed by Councillor Reid and seconded by Councillor Williamson:

This Council welcomes the adoption of the policy that all new schools built by the Council should be designed to achieve the Building Research Establishment's 'Very Good' BREEAM rating for environmental performance. However, this Council believes in principles that we should aim for excellence in environmental standards for all our new buildings, where this is affordable.

To assist informed decision making, this Council calls on Cabinet to ensure that, for each future new school or other building to be built by the Council, the comparative cost of achieving 'Excellent' BREEAM retain be calculated and presented as part of the procurement process. Such comparison should include capital costs and lifetime running costs, and should take account of any projected changes in energy prices.

Members speaking in support of the motion made the following comments:

- Noted that the motion did not propose a change to the current policy of building to the 'Very Good' standard, but called for costs to be prepared of building to the 'Excellent' standard, to enable informed consideration of the costs and benefits of building to the higher standard over the whole life of a new building.
- Commented that the Council had an important role as community leader to set high environmental standards. In particular, building schools to high environmental standards would help to educate children and young people for the future.
- Noted that fuel prices were rising rapidly and that the Council should build to the highest environmental standards possible to help offset these rising costs.

Members speaking against the motion made the following comments:

- Noted that the policy of building to the 'Very Good' standard had been agreed after careful consideration by the Environment, Waste and Business Service Development Group and by Cabinet. Cabinet were of the view that this standard was the highest affordable to the Council.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups in favour, two Conservative members against, most Conservative members abstained.]

Chairman:

CABINET AND PORTFOLIOS 2006/07

POSITION	COUNCILLOR
Leader of the Council	J K Walters
Cabinet Member for Corporate Services	J A Powley
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services	S F Johnstone
Lead Member for Inclusion	J M Tuck
Lead Member for Learning	V H Lucas
Lead Member for CYPS Resources and Planning	D R Pegram
Cabinet Member for Environment and Community Services	J E Reynolds *
Lead Member for Environment, Waste and Business	L J Oliver
Lead Member for Transport and Delivery	L W McGuire
Lead Member for Community Learning and Development and Adult Social Care	F H Yeulett

* Deputy Leader of the Council

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2006/07

SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

CORPORATE SERVICES (11)

Bradney M	C	Substitutes:	
Broadway J	LD	Bell N	LD
Dutton J	C	Boddington B	C
Jenkins D	LD	Butcher R	C
Kadić L	C	Hardy B	C
King S (Chairman)	C	Harty D	C
Moss-Eccardt R	LD	Williamson M	LD
Shuter M	C		
West J	C		
Williams H	LD		
Vacancy	C		

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES (11)

Batchelor J	LD	Substitutes:	
Bean B	LD	Bailey P	LD
Boddington B	C	Bradney M	C
Downes P	LD	Harrison N	LD
Farrer R	C	King S	C
Griffiths G	LD	Melton A	C
Harty D	C	Shuter M	C
Hughes E	L		
Hyams C	C		
Kenney G (Chairman)	C		
Smith M	C		

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE (11)

Curtis M	C	Substitutes:	
Heathcock G (Chairman)	LD	Bailey P	LD
Higginson S	LD	Dutton J	C
Hyams C	C	Eddy J	C
Lee S	C	King S	C
Reynolds K	C	Turner R	C
Sales P	L	Williams H	LD
Sims L	C		
Wilkins K	LD		
Wilson L (Conservative Lead)	C		
Vacancy	C		

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (11)

Bell N	LD	Substitutes:	
Brown Sir Peter	C	Curtis M	C
Butcher R	C	Higginson S	LD
Carter C	L	Hyams C	C
Harper G	C	Moss-Eccardt R	LD
Harrison N (Chairman)	LD	Sims L	C
Harty D (Conservative Lead)	C	Turner R	C
Hunt W	C		
Ogden M	C		
Williams H	LD		
Williamson M	LD		

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (7)

Broadway J	LD	Substitutes:	
Eddy J (Chairman)	C	Bradney M	C
Hensley W	C	Hunt W	C
King S	C	Jenkins D	LD
Kindersley S	LD	Reid A	LD
Smith M	C	McCraith D	C
Stone T	LD		

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (4)

Vice Chairman of the Council	C
Broadway J	LD
Carter C	L
Eddy J	C

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

Reynolds J (Chairman)	C
Cabinet Nominee *	C
Cabinet Nominee *	C
Non-Cabinet Nominee*	C
Liberal Democrat Group Leader or Nominee	LD
Relevant Liberal Democrat Spokesman *	LD
Labour Group Leader or Nominee*	L

** Membership changes from meeting to meeting*

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (7)

Bates I	C	Substitutes:	
Curtis M	C	Downes P	LD
King S	C	Dutton J	C
Powley J	C	Huppert J	LD
Reynolds K	C	Lee S	C
Stone T (Chairman)	LD	Turner R	C
Williamson M	LD		

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE (3)

Downes P	LD	Substitutes:	
Powley J	C	Huppert J	LD
Walters J K (Chairman)	C		

SERVICE APPEALS COMMITTEE (pool of 9)

Broadway J	LD	Reynolds K	C
Giles S	LD	West J	C
Hardy B	C		
Harrison N	LD		
Heathcock G	LD		
Hyams C	C		
Kenney G	C		
King S	C		
Lee S	C		

STAFF APPEALS COMMITTEE (pool of 9)

Giles S	LD
Hardy B	C
Hyams C	C
Kenney G	C
King S	C
Lee S	C
Reynolds K	C
White D	LD
Williams H	LD

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AREA JOINT COMMITTEES**CAMBRIDGE (6)**

Carter C	L	Substitutes:	
Harrison N	LD	Johnstone S	C
Huppert J	LD	Kent A	LD
Reid A	LD	Moss-Eccardt R	LD
Reynolds J	C		
White D	LD		

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE (5)

Bailey P	LD	Substitutes:	
Bean B	LD	Broadway J	LD
Bell N	LD	Shuter M	C
Hunt W	C	Williams H	LD
Powley J (Conservative Lead)	C		

FENLAND (5)

Butcher T	C	Substitutes:	
King S	C	Hardy B	C
Tuck J	C	Melton A	C
West J	C	Sims L	C
Yeulett F (Conservative Lead)	C		

HUNTINGDONSHIRE (6)

Boddington B	C	Substitutes:	
Giles S	LD	Downes P	LD
Harty D	C	Farrer R	C
Hensley W	C	Hyams C	C
Kadić E	C	Lucas V	C
McGuire M (Conservative Lead)	C	Pegram R	C

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE (5)

Bradney M	C	Substitutes:	
Jenkins D	LD	Kenney G	C
Orgee T	C	Smith M	C
Reynolds J (Conservative Lead)	C	Stone T	LD
Williamson M	LD	Wilson L	C

JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE POLICE AUTHORITY (3)

Ballard M	L
Huppert J	LD
Johnstone S	C

SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

COUNTY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVES 2006-2009	CONTACT DETAILS
<p>Cambridgeshire Association of Local Councils District Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Cambs • Fenland • Hunts • South Cambs 	4		<p>Cllrs M Shuter and N Bell Cllr B Hardy Cllr P Brown Cllr M Williamson</p>	<p>Mr Keith Barrand CALC Secretary 33 Stephenson Road, St Ives Cambs PE27 3WJ</p>
<p>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority</p>	3	13	<p>Cllrs: B Boddington T Butcher L McGuire D Harty L Oliver D Pegram G Harper M Smith G Heathcock S Giles S Kindersley H Williams C Carter</p>	<p>Deborah Thompson Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority Hinchingsbrooke House Huntingdon Cambs</p>

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVES 2006-2009	CONTACT DETAILS
Cambridgeshire Police Authority Nominations to be made to the Joint Committee on Appointments to the Police Authority for subsequent appointment to the Police Authority	6	7	Cllrs: I Bates J Tuck J Reynolds K Walters P Bailey J Broadway P Sales	Anna Turner Cambridgeshire Police Authority Hinchingsbrooke Park Huntingdon Cambridgeshire PE29 6NP E-mail: police.authority@cambs.pnn.police.uk Telephone: 0845 345 4335 Fax: 01480 425748
East of England Regional Assembly	1 minimum	1	Cllr J K Walters	Colin Robertshaw EERA Flempton House Bury St Edmunds IP28 6EG
ESPO Management Committee Future Accommodation Sub-Committee	1	3 As required	Cllrs: J Powley R Moss-Eccardt Cllr J Powley	Mrs Jenny Bailey Clerk to ESPO Management Committee Leicestershire County Council Glenfield Leicester LE3 8RA
Local Government Association	8 – 10	4	Cllrs: M Curtis S Johnstone J Huppert Labour vacancy	Chief Executive Local Government Association Local Government House Smith Square London SW1P 3HZ

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVES 2006-2009	CONTACT DETAILS
LGA Commissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural • Urban 		<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p>Cllrs: J Powley B Boddington</p> <p>Cllrs: N Harrison S Lee</p>	
County Councils' Network Council CCN Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive • Children's Task Group 	8-10	4	<p>Cllrs: S F Johnstone J K Walters J Huppert Labour vacancy</p> <p>Cllr J K Walters Cllr S Johnstone</p>	Director County Councils Network Local Government House Smith Square London SW1P 3HZ
Resource, Regional Employers Organisation (East of England)	4	4	<p>Cllrs: L Oliver J Powley D White P Sales</p>	Colin Robertson East of England Regional Assembly Flempton House Flempton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP38 6EG
Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for East Anglia	2	1	<p>Cllr V Lucas</p>	Reserve Forces and Cadets Association for East Anglia Springfield Tyrells 250 Springfield Road Chelmsford Essex CM2 6BU pssec@reserve-forces-anglia.org Tel; 0845 7023860

APPOINTMENT OF OPPOSITION GROUP LEADERS AND SPOKES 2006/07

Position	Liberal Democrat	Labour
Group Leader	J Huppert	M Ballard
Deputy Group Leader	J Broadway	C Carter
Environment and Community Spokesman Deputy #	A Reid D Jenkins	E Hughes -
Children and Young People's Services Spokesman Deputy #	A Kent M Williamson	M Ballard -
Corporate Services Spokesman	P Downes	P Sales
Strategic Planning (informal)	A Reid	E Hughes
Development Control (informal)	J Broadway	M Ballard
Fire (informal)	G Heathcock	C Carter

Liberal Democrat Group only