

## **CABINET**

RECORD OF DECISIONS of the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 11 June 2019 at 3.00 pm at the Guildhall, Portsmouth

### **Present**

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE (in the Chair)

Councillors Steve Pitt  
Dave Ashmore  
Suzy Horton  
Darren Sanders  
Jeanette Smith  
Matthew Winnington  
Rob Wood  
Lee Hunt

#### **51. Apologies for Absence (AI 1)**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Lynne Stagg.

#### **52. Declarations of Interests (AI 2)**

There were no declarations of members' interests.

#### **53. Record of Previous Decision Meeting - 25 March 2019 (AI 3)**

**RESOLVED** that the record of decisions of the previous Cabinet meeting held on 25 March 2019 were approved as a correct record, to be signed by the Leader.

#### **54. Annual Appointments to Outside Bodies (AI 4)**

The nominations which had been received were considered and appointments were made are published on a separate schedule.

#### **55. Representation to the Minister for Children regarding "Strengthening Families" funding for Children's Social Care (information item) (AI )**

Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, as Leader, had written to challenge the government's criteria which penalised local authorities, like Portsmouth, which had been rated as "Good" by Ofsted. Councillors Rob Wood as Cabinet Member for Children and Families and Councillor Suzy Horton as Cabinet Member for Education, were both grateful for the letter being sent to stress the continued need for investment in preventative measures at Portsmouth and minister had recently visited and been impressed by inclusion at local schools. Councillor Winnington, as Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing and Social Care, added that work was also taking place with families where parents were alcohol dependent, which should be built on.

**The information report was noted.**

**56. Water Quality Issues in the Solent Catchment Area and Planning Decisions (AI 6)**

Sim Manley, Development Manager, presented the report which set out the implications of the advice received from Natural England and the work taking place with them and with PUSH to find solutions. The legal advice received was that decisions should not be issued on proposals which have an overnight stay and for the need for proposals to be 'nitrate neutral'. The report set out the lobbying and other measures being suggested to mitigate this restriction.

Cabinet members were concerned that government departments were giving contradictory advice at a time when housing targets were being set for the city's development. Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson, as Leader, was taking this up with the Local Government Association (LGA) and had written to the two Secretaries of State to address this. Cabinet Members were also mindful of the Council's resolution on Climate Emergency. Councillor Sanders, as Cabinet Member for Housing, was aware of the concern of local landlords who wished to develop. Councillor Winnington raised public health matters regarding water quality for swimming and farming and fisheries implications that needed broader work with partners and neighbouring local authorities.

It was noted that this report was also being brought to the attention of the Planning Committee the following week.

**The Cabinet:**

**(1) Noted the issues covered in the report, in particular the implications for the authority and determination of planning applications;**

**(2) Endorsed the actions and mitigations proposed in sections 3.9 - 3.13 to respond to this issue.**

**57. D-Day 75 Commemorations (information) (AI )**

At the conclusion of the meeting Councillor Jeanette Smith, Cabinet Member for Resources, wished to ensure that the gratitude of the Cabinet was placed on record for the excellent work by the Events Team and all staff involved in making the commemorations so momentous.

Councillor Lee Hunt, as Cabinet Member for Community Safety, also praised the work and support of the emergency services.

The Leader and Deputy Leader had received very positive feedback from members of the public and the Leader of the Council would be writing to thank staff on behalf of the Cabinet.

The meeting concluded at 3.32 pm.

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Councillor Gerald Vernon-Jackson CBE  
Leader of the Council