

AT A MEETING of the Economy, Transport and Environment Select Committee
of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on
Thursday, 27th January, 2022

Chairman:

* Councillor Stephen Philpott

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| * Councillor Derek Mellor | * Councillor Rupert Kyrle |
| * Councillor Nick Adams-King | * Councillor Hugh Lumby |
| Councillor Debbie Curnow-Ford | Councillor Elaine Still |
| * Councillor Barry Dunning | * Councillor Martin Tod |
| * Councillor Tim Groves | Councillor Rhydian Vaughan MBE |
| * Councillor Gary Hughes | * Councillor Bill Withers Lt Col (Retd) |
| * Councillor Louise Parker-Jones | * Councillor Graham Burgess |
| | * Councillor David Drew |

*Present

Also present with the agreement of the Chairman: Councillor Rob Humby, Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment

29. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Debbie Curnow-Ford, Councillor Elaine Still and Councillor Rhydian Vaughan. Councillor's Graham Burgess and David Drew attended as deputies for the meeting.

30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter considered at the meeting they must declare that interest at the time of the relevant debate and, having regard to the circumstances described in Part 3, Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore Members were mindful that where they believed they had a Non-Pecuniary interest in a matter being considered at the meeting they considered whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 2 of the Code, considered whether it was appropriate to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

31. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and agreed.

32. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations for the meeting.

33. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman confirmed that the extraordinary Select Committee meeting arranged for February was on the 14th at 14:00.

34. **ETE PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23, 2023/24 AND 2024/25**

Councillor Martin Tod declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery at Winchester City Council.

Councillor Rupert Kyrle declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Environment at Eastleigh Borough Council.

Councillor Nick Adams-King declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Strategic Regeneration and Partnership (South), Recycling, Environmental Services and Car Parking at Test Valley Borough Council.

The Select Committee received a presentation from the Senior Finance Business Partner and Director for Economy, Transport and Environment regarding the revenue and capital programme positions for the department from 2022 to 2025 (items 6 and 7 in the minute book), which were due to go to the Decision Day of the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment on 27 January 2022.

The increasing financial pressures were highlighted, which included inflation that was at its highest level since 2011. Delays with legislation around waste management also added complications and the ability for local Councils to align in timelines when it came to contracts and infrastructure.

During questions, the following points were clarified:

- Highways materials were sourced locally as much as possible and materials were being recycled more to help reduce the Council's carbon footprint
- It was important that collaborative working was done across Hampshire to help with economic development and County Deal discussions highlighted areas that could be further improved.
- The £7m additional reoccurring funding allocated for highways maintenance as detailed on Paragraph 24 of the revenue report would help in repairs but the extent would depend on how inflation continued to rise.
- New contracts took into account the issues with inflation, where as those that had already been awarded with allocated funding caused the bigger issues.
- Work was being done through the Hampshire 2050 network on surface water flooding
- Money allocated to walking and cycling improvements was often combined as part of highways and junction improvements and as a result of Active Travel funding or Local Government Schemes; therefore it was difficult to calculate exactly how much had been invested in walking cycling initiatives alone.

- The Environment Agency was responsible for rivers and preventing pollution from sewage.

During debate, some Members felt that funding could be better used elsewhere where as others argued that this could always be the case with any funding and it was about looking at the longer term and bigger picture.

The Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment agreed that the bigger picture was important and that discussions were regularly held with Boroughs and Districts about working more collaboratively. The suggestion was also noted that the reoccurring £7mil funding remit should be expanded to include work to mitigate surface water flooding.

RESOLVED

The Select Committee supported the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment regarding the capital programme for 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.

35. 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET REPORT FOR ECONOMY, TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

Councillor Louise Parker-Jones declared an interest as her partner was an employee of Green Energy Installations.

Councillor Martin Tod declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery at Winchester City Council.

Councillor Rupert Kyrle declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Environment at Eastleigh Borough Council.

Councillor Nick Adams-King declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Strategic Regeneration and Partnership (South), Recycling, Environmental Services and Car Park at Test Valley Borough Council.

This item (item 7 in the minute book) was discussed along with item 6 on the agenda.

RESOLVED

The Select Committee supported the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment regarding the revenue budget for 2022/23.

36. HWRC BOOKING SYSTEM

Councillor Martin Tod declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Economic Recovery at Winchester City Council.

Councillor Rupert Kyrle declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Environment at Eastleigh Borough Council.

Councillor Nick Adams-King declared an interest as the Cabinet Member for Strategic Regeneration and Partnership (South), Recycling, Environmental Services and Car Park Parking at Test Valley Borough Council.

The Select Committee pre-scrutinised a report of the Director for Economy, Transport and Environment (item 8 in the minute book) for the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment's Decision Day on Thursday 27 January 2022.

Members were reminded of the history behind the booking system being introduced and learned that there had been significant positive feedback on the system, which was managed pre-dominantly via an online booking portal.

The Select Committee learned that the booking system had significantly improved traffic and queues at many of the busier sites. Pedestrian access to HWRC's was also being trialled at some sites, which was possible due to having the booking system in place.

Same day bookings had not been possible due to system restraints, but this was being investigated going forward.

Councillor Hughes proposed trialling a withdrawal of the booking system at the Waterlooville HWRC to see how this impacted usage and traffic, which was seconded by Councillor Tod. The proposal was lost on a vote.

RESOLVED

The Select Committee supported the recommendations being proposed to the Executive Lead Member for Economy, Transport and Environment in paragraphs 2. and 3. of the attached report.

37. TASK AND FINISH WORKING GROUP PROPOSAL

The Committee considered a report from the Chief Executive (item 9 in the minute book) proposing a Task & Finish group on 20mph Speed Limit Policy.

It was confirmed that the Policy & Resources Select Committee had agreed to the establishment of the working group at its meeting on the 21 January 2022. Councillor Humby emphasised the importance of the review being evidence-based and the conclusions of the group would return to the 19 September 2022 Select Committee.

RESOLVED

a) It was agreed that a Task and Finish Working Group be established to review the current 20mph speed limits across the County on the basis of the attached proposed Terms of Reference.

b) The following Members were appointed to the Task and Finish Working Group in accordance with the Terms of Reference:

Councillor David Drew
Councillor Barry Dunning*
Councillor Tim Groves
Councillor Hugh Lumby
Councillor Derek Mellor
Councillor Parker-Jones
Councillor Martin Tod
Councillor Bill Withers

* Confirmed just after the meeting had finished instead of Councillor Curnow-Ford

38. **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Select Committee were happy with the current programme and agreed to look at it in more detail at the next meeting on the 14 February.

Chairman,