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## NOTICE OF MEETING

**Meeting** Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel

**Date and Time** Tuesday, 13th October, 2020 at 10.00 am

**Place** Remote meeting

**Enquiries to** members.services@hants.gov.uk

John Coughlan CBE
Chief Executive
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UJ

## FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This meeting is being held remotely and will be recorded and broadcast live via the County Council's website.

### **AGENDA**

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to Part 3 Paragraph 1.5 of the County Council's Members' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 1.6 of the Code. Furthermore all Members with a Personal Interest in a matter being considered at the meeting should consider, having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 4 of the Code, whether such interest should be declared, and having regard to Part 5, Paragraph 5 of the Code, consider whether it is appropriate to leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with the Code.

## 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 10)

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 October 2019.

## 4. **DEPUTATIONS**

To receive any deputations notified under Standing Order 12.

## 5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements the Chairman may wish to make.

## 6. BUSINESS SERVICES GROUP – 2019/20 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (Pages 11 - 32)

To consider a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services regarding the 2019/20 annual accounts for the Business Services Group.

## 7. PROPERTY SERVICES OPERATIONS: RESPONSE TO COVID - PRESENTATION (Pages 33 - 42)

To receive a presentation with information regarding the Property Services response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **8. MANAGING HAMPSHIRE'S BUILT ESTATE** (Pages 43 - 56)

To consider a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services regarding the management of Hampshire's built estate.

## **9. PROPERTY SERVICES COMMERCIAL DECISIONS REPORT** (Pages 57 - 64)

To consider a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services seeking spend approvals for new contract arrangements.

## **10. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY PROGRAMMES UPDATE** (Pages 65 - 74)

To consider a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services with an update on climate change and energy programmes.

## **11. PROPERTY SERVICES: MAJOR PROGRAMMES UPDATE** (Pages 75 - 84)

To consider a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services regarding major programmes of work underway in Property Services.

## **ABOUT THIS AGENDA:**

On request, this agenda can be provided in alternative versions (such as large print, Braille or audio) and in alternative languages.

## **ABOUT THIS MEETING:**

The press and public are welcome to observe the public sessions of the meeting via the webcast.



## Agenda Item 3

AT A MEETING of the Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Tuesday, 8th October, 2019

## Chairman: \* Councillor Stephen Reid

- \* Councillor Bill Withers Lt Col (Retd)
- \* Councillor Adrian Collett Councillor Andrew Gibson
- \* Councillor Keith House
- \* Councillor Rhydian Vaughan MBE

\*Present

### 74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received for this meeting.

## 75. **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 4 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.

## 76. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and agreed.

## 77. **DEPUTATIONS**

No deputations had been received for this meeting.

## 78. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that he had recently visited Oakmoor Academy in Bordon, the excellent replacement new secondary school building will house 900 students, with the capacity to expand to 1,200.

He reported on the impressive building and facilities which was testimony to the County Council's expertise designing and delivering schools that are excellent learning environments both inside and out.

## 79. PROPERTY SERVICES BUSINESS REVIEW

The Panel received and considered a report and presentation (Item 6 in the Minute Book) from the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services on the County Council's Property Services' performance and financial outturn for 2018/19 and priorities for 2019/20 and beyond.

Members were shown a presentation including images which detailed the achievements to date, including completed projects such as the Lookout at Lepe.

It was reported that Property Services had had another successful year in 2018/19, achieving a balanced budget position across more than £40m of expenditure within the Property and Facilities function. The Service also delivered in excess of £50m of repairs and maintenance expenditure across schools and the County Council's corporate estate.

A number of questions were answered including:

- The impact the current economic uncertainty could have on the public sector
- Making our buildings more energy efficient
- The cyclical trend in the number of primary and secondary places required over time

### **RESOLVED:**

That the Panel notes the successful outturn for Property Services in 2018/19 and the implementation of its new operating model as part of the Property Futures transformation programme. This ensures that the service continues its strong performance and has the ability to:

- respond to ongoing and emerging County Council priorities;
- deliver effective services to schools, Police and Fire under the respective shared services arrangements;
- generate external income to maintain capacity and skills and make a substantial contribution to overheads.

### 80. MANAGING HAMPSHIRE'S BUILT ESTATE

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 7 in the Minute Book) giving an update on progress made in managing Hampshire's Built Estate.

The report outlined how Property Services is managing the County Council's estate to ensure statutory compliance and the steps it takes to address the high level priorities of health, safety and risk management.

It was noted that a total of around £43 million of capital and revenue investment is spent in the repair and maintenance of schools and HCC corporate buildings in Hampshire.

The Panel were made aware of the increased risk to the health of trees as a result of ash dieback on the corporate and maintained school's estate. It was reported that a collaborative approach to responding to this was being undertaken across all relevant services of the Council.

The Schools Funding programme was also discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman would write to the Schools Minister at the appropriate time regarding the level of funding received by the County Council for schools maintenance and in particular the high liability of system buildings in the Hampshire estate.

## **RESOLVED:**

### That the Panel notes:

- 1. progress made against the 2019/20 Planned and Revenue Repairs programme across the corporate and maintained schools estates.
- 2. the additional schemes to be added to the 2019/20 programme for the corporate estate.
- 3. the progress made to reduce health and safety risks and the maintenance liability in the corporate estate in the context of the available budgets.
- 4. the progress in addressing the health and safety risks and condition liabilities in the school estate and the continuing maintenance pressures arising from system buildings of the 1960s and 1970s.

## 81. PROPERTY SERVICES: MAJOR PROGRAMMES UPDATE

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services (Item 8 in the Minute Book) giving an update on major programmes being progressed through Property Services.

The Director highlighted the major programmes being progressed which included:

- Construction Framework and Category Management
- Corporate Office Accommodation
- Adult Health and Care
- Children's Services Capital Programme
- Isle of Wight Priority Schools Building Programme (PSPB2)

## **RESOLVED:**

The Panel noted the progress of each of the programmes of work.

## 82. ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services Department (Item 9 in the Minute Book) giving an update on progress made in reducing the County Council's carbon emissions and the ongoing programmes of work to achieve this.

The Director highlighted the main points of the report including excellent progress towards meeting the 2025 carbon emission target; the ongoing success

of the many energy reduction programmes and the changes to the Climate Change Levy (replaced the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) scheme) which will be charged on all energy used by all consumers, unlike CRC which applied only to large consumers of energy in the public and private sectors like the County Council.

A number of questions were answered in relation to Carbon emissions for staff travel and street lighting shown in paragraph 25 of the report.

It was noted that a number of school sites were being considered with regard to electric vehicle charging points to ensure a network of suitable locations for Council Services and staff for business use.

### RESOLVED:

### That:

- 1. The positive achievements of the Carbon Management Strategy Phase 2 reduction of 3.1% year on year, with an overall reduction of 43.3% against the 2025 target of 50% be noted.
- 2. The further £230,000 of carbon tax reductions in Phase 2 be noted.
- 3. A further saving of £300,000 in energy costs over the past year be noted.
- 4. The good progress in Energy Performance Programmes Phases 4 and 5 be noted.
- 5. The positive engagement with schools be noted.
- 6. The Panel recommends to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources that projects totalling £610,000 be added to the capital programme funded from the remaining £1.11 million of the previously identified £7m capital funding identified for green energy and energy saving initiatives. The projects would support the further expansion and development of the electric vehicle infrastructure, further Solar PV and battery storage in support of the carbon reduction and energy saving targets for HCC's corporate estate.
- 7. The Panel recommends to the Executive Member for Policy and Resources that approval be sought from Cabinet to use the remaining £0.5 million of this investment to create a £1million De-Carbonisation Clean Growth energy recycling fund with 50:50 match funding basis through Salix Finance.
- 8. The Panel endorses the commitment made to sign up to the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy's (BEIS) Emissions Reduction Pledge 2020.

## 83. BUSINESS SERVICES GROUP - 2018/19 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The Panel considered a report of the Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services regarding the annual report and accounts for 2018/19 for the Business Services Group (Item 10 in the Minute Book).

Members were made aware that despite trading pressures, the three self-funding business units ((HC3S, HTM and County Supplies) continued to perform well against their competitors in the local area, with HC3S receiving several accreditations and awards for the quality and sustainable sourcing of its meals.

A number of questions were answered including:

<ul> <li>The reasons for the reduction in the take up of school meals a</li> </ul>
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• The promotion of pooled vehicles for staff

## **RESOLVED:**

That the Panel make the following recommendation to the Executive Member for Commercial Strategy, Human Resources and Performance that:

The 2018/19 annual report and accounts for the Business Services Group be approved.

Chairman,		



## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Report

Committee/Panel:	Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel			
Date:	13 October 2020			
Title:	Business Services Group – 2019/20 Annual Report and Accounts			
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services			

**Contact name:** Shaun Le Picq

Tel: 0370 779 0482 Email: shaun.lepicq@hants.gov.uk

## **Purpose of this Report**

 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a summary of the financial and business performance of the three self-funding business units within the Culture, Communities and Business Services (CCBS) department for the 2019/20 financial year. The report also includes an overview of the aggregated accumulated surpluses of these businesses.

### Recommendation

That the Panel make the following recommendation to the Executive Member for Commercial Strategy, Human Resources and Performance:

2. That the 2019/20 annual report and accounts for the Business Services Group be approved.

## **Executive Summary**

- 3. This report provides Members with a summary of the financial and business performance of the three self-funding business units, known collectively as the Business Services Group (BSG) in the Culture, Communities and Business Services Department (CCBS) for the 2019/20 financial year. The three business units within BSG are:
  - Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S)
  - Hampshire Transport Management (HTM)
  - County Supplies (CS).

- The business units operate in a highly competitive environment and their continued trading performance is dependent on the success of their business development plans in retaining existing customer loyalty and winning new business.
- 5. The annual net trading deficit for 2019/20 was £1.624 million, compared to an original business plan target surplus of £604,000 and a revised forecast deficit of £921,000. The deficit was primarily due to school meal uptake being lower than target, food and staffing costs being higher than forecast, lower turnover than target in the County Supplies warehouse and the adverse impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. In March 2020, the Covid-19 lockdown cost an estimated £944,000 due to a considerable reduction in income as schools and other sites closed at short notice, whilst food and staffing costs had already been incurred. It has recently been agreed that corporate funding of £931,000 will be made available to the Business Services Group to cover the net cost (after furlough income) of the HC3S Covid-19 related financial loss incurred in 2019/20. This report shows the income loss as being met from the BSG accumulated surpluses in Appendix 2, as that reflects the position as at March 2020.
- 6. If the adverse financial impact of Covid-19 had not occurred, HC3S would have achieved a better financial outturn of £1.086 million deficit compared to its revised forecast deficit of £1.292 million. This would have been an improvement against forecast of £206,000. This illustrates that HC3S's financial recovery plan, as previously reported to Members, was having a positive effect prior to the Covid-19 lockdown. Meal uptake was above target in January and February 2020 combined and staffing and meal costs had been reduced.
- 7. This financial result also continues to reflect the significant pressures in the market in which the businesses operate. These pressures include increases in overall staffing costs due to local government pay for Grade A catering assistants being higher than the National Living Wage, increases in employer pension contributions, general inflationary pressures across food and other commodities and reduced spend by customers due to the financial constraints within the public sector and an overall squeeze on household disposable incomes.
- 8. Despite these trading pressures and the overall deficit for the year, the business units continue to perform well against their competitors in the local area. HC3S received several accreditations and awards for the quality and sustainable sourcing of its meals, including being re-accredited for the Soil Association's 'Food for Life Served Here' bronze award. This accreditation is reviewed annually and confirms that at least 75% of food is cooked fresh, is good quality and sourced locally where possible. County Supplies has retained business with 100% of all schools (including academies) in Hampshire, Southampton and Portsmouth and attracted 21 new customers in

the year. HTM has continued to be successful in winning new business from new external customers and schools, supplying them with a total of 335 vehicles, which exceeded the business plan target by 34 vehicles.

- 9. The business units have also supported the delivery of a number of County Council initiatives and objectives including:
  - working in partnership with Children's Services to achieve savings on their contribution to the cost of the courier service
  - leading on three climate change workstreams in CCBS
  - replacing 41 existing diesel vehicles with fully electric vehicles
  - providing and promoting healthy and nutritious meals for school children
  - supporting UK suppliers.
- 10. The businesses are continuing their work, in line with their business plans and T21 programmes, to generate efficiencies, focus on customer retention, exploit digital technologies and win new business. The investment required for these business development programmes is funded by the accumulated surpluses generated by the business units and this ensures that no financial support is provided by the County Council for this investment.
- 11. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has caused considerable disruption to the level of income generated and this means that the financial sustainability of the business units is at risk as the Business Services Group's accumulated surpluses may not cover the forecast deficit for 2020/21. The forecast impact of a loss of income of at least £4.4 million from Covid-19 on the business units has been included in the County Council's submission to MHCLG and also in the County Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. The financial position will be monitored closely through the year and the businesses will continue to seek out further efficiencies and income generation opportunities to try to safeguard the financial sustainability and success of the business units.
- 12. All three businesses have provided a range of Covid-19 response and recovery services since the start of the pandemic and have been providing flexible and responsive services to customers and the County Council throughout lockdown and into the lockdown easing and recovery phases. This included providing an emergency catering service to 5 primary schools whose private sector catering suppliers were unable to provide the service required.

## Contextual information

- 13. The three self-funding business units (HC3S, HTM and County Supplies) in CCBS are required to be financially self-sufficient by generating income through trading with the County Council, schools, other educational establishments and the wider public and third sectors in and around Hampshire. The income is intended to cover all costs, including relevant and appropriate departmental and corporate overheads. The business units are required to generate reasonable surpluses to enable them to re-invest in new initiatives and technology to maintain competitiveness and business success.
- 14. The 2019/20 business plans for the three business units, which set out the financial and performance targets and service delivery objectives, were reported to the Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel and approved by the Executive Member for Economic Development on 26 March 2019. This report outlines the actual performance against these plans during the last financial year.
- 15. The main aims of the business units are to provide good quality, value-formoney services to a wide range of internal and external customers, to be fully self-funding and to make a significant contribution to the County Council's corporate agenda. Due to difficult trading conditions, the business units have made an overall deficit in 2019/20 and this will also need to be funded by the accumulated surpluses earmarked for the business units. £944,000 of this deficit was attributable to the Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, HC3S had put in place a financial recovery plan which was intended to bring HC3S back into surplus by 2021/22 at the latest.
- 16. BSG's primary trading focus is with the education sector which accounts for just over 80% of turnover. Whilst trading is mainly with customers in Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton, the customer base extends into parts of Berkshire, Dorset (including Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole), Isle of Wight, Surrey, West Sussex and Wiltshire.

### Finance

17. The 2019/20 final accounts for BSG are summarised in table 1 below and the summary accounts for each business unit are shown in Appendix 1.

Table 1 – Business Services Group Actuals 2019/20

	Revised Target 2019/20 £'000	Actuals 2019/20 £'000	Variance to revised target 2019/20 £'000	Variance 2019/20 %
Income	56,691	55,026	(1,665)	(2.9%)
Costs	57,612	56,650	(962)	(1.7%)
Surplus / (deficit)	(921)	(1,624)	(703)	(76.3%)

- 18. The key points to note for 2019/20 are:
  - Total business turnover (income) was £57.1 million, which is an increase of £400,000 on the previous year.
  - This turnover was £1.7 million (2.9%) below the revised target.
  - Total costs were £56.7 million, which was £962,000 (1.7%) lower than the revised target.
  - BSG made a deficit of £1.6 million and this was a £703,000 worse position than the revised target.
  - £944,000 of this variance was directly attributable to loss of school meal income from the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - If the pandemic had not occurred, BSG would have improved on its forecast deficit by £241,000. This impact is reflected in table 2 below.

Table 2 – Business Services Group Actuals 2019/20 - with Covid-19 impact

	Revised Target 2019/20	Actuals 2019/20	Including Covid-19 impact 2019/20	Variance to revised target 2019/20	Variance 2019/20
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
Income	56,691	55,026	55,970	(721)	(1.3%)
Costs	57,612	56,650	56,650	(962)	(1.7%)
Surplus / (deficit)	(921)	(1,624)	(680)	241	26.2%

19. Table 2 above illustrates that HC3S's financial recovery plan was having a positive effect prior to the Covid-19 impact, with food and staffing costs being below the revised target in the last quarter of 2019/20 prior to the Covid-19 lockdown in March.

- 20. As self-funding business units, BSG also covers the cost of relevant departmental and corporate support services. In 2019/20, BSG contributed over £800,000 towards the cost of corporate and departmental overheads. In addition, BSG funded the cost of the past pension deficit for its staff, which cost £753,000 in 2019/20.
- 21. Table 3 below shows the annual surpluses generated by the business units over the last five years.

Table 3 – Annual Trading Surplus / (Deficit) 2015/16 to 2019/20

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Business Unit	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
HC3S	591	55	7	(280)	(2,030)
HTM	321	266	183	98	14
County Supplies	342	516	317	225	392
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	1,254	837	507	43	(1,624)
% of income	2.4%	1.6%	0.9%	0.1%	(3.0%)

- 22. The reduction in HC3S's financial performance over the last five years reflects the increase in staffing and food costs, a continued reduction in primary school meal take-up and lower returns at some secondary and commercial sites than planned. HC3S's financial recovery plan is in place with the aim of increasing meal uptake, increasing staff productivity, reducing the cost per meal and reducing management costs. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that the financial situation has worsened and in 2019/20 accounted for an additional financial pressure of £944,000 which increased the deficit to £2.03 million.
- 23. HTM's reducing surpluses from 2015/16, are due to increases in the cost of staffing and vehicle spares and consumables, whilst contract hire rates have been held throughout the life of those contracts. HTM is reviewing prices and margins across the range of its services in 2020/21 to ensure that it can generate a reasonable surplus whilst still remaining price competitive. There were no direct adverse impacts from Covid-19 in 2019/20 as services which were affected by lockdown such as short-term hire, ad-hoc vehicle maintenance and fuel usage will be accounted for in 2020/21 due to the timing of transactions.
- 24. County Supplies continues to achieve a steady surplus each year as it maintains its price competitiveness and successfully retains income levels and customers. There were no adverse impacts of Covid-19 on County Supplies in 2019/20 as turnover in March 2020 was slightly above target for

that month due to customers increasing their purchase of hygiene products and PPE.

25. In addition to generating £24.5 million of income from Hampshire primary school meals, HC3S continued to maintain a portfolio of customers in other sectors and outside of Hampshire achieving turnover (income) as follows:

secondary schools: £3.3 million

schools outside Hampshire: £2.1 million

non-school sites: £4.6 million

other income: £0.2 million.

26. As shown in table 4 below, in 2019/20 HC3S also returned surpluses of £69,000 to secondary schools and provided a financial payback of £214,500 to other County Council services from the catering operations at these services' sites.

Table 4 - Financial Payback to Services from HC3S in 2019/20

Site / Service	Catering Payback 2018/19 £'000
Countryside Service	90
Sir Harold Hillier Gardens	98
Calshot Activity Centre	9 <sup>1</sup>
Library Service	17.5
Total for Hampshire County Council Services	214.5
Secondary Schools	69
Total payback to customers	283.5

27. HTM's total income was £8.67 million, which was only 0.7% below target. This was mainly due to workshop income being £180,000 (25%) below target, because the Highways England (HE) fleet was all replaced with new vehicles during the year and HE decided to send all vehicles back in their existing condition with no remedial work undertaken, which was not as originally forecast in the trading account. All other income was slightly above target, leading to an overall surplus of £14,000 which was £37,000 below target. The income for each of HTM's five core services was as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The payback to Calshot is rent paid to Calshot Activity Centre for the café

contract hire: £4.96 million

fuel: £1.18 million

courier service: £1.04 million<sup>2</sup>

• spot hire: £0.94 million

workshop income: £0.56 million.

- 28. HTM's costs were very close to target at £28,000 (0.3%) below target.
- 29. County Supplies warehouse income, at £9.69 million, was on a par with the previous financial year, though was below target by 8%. This reflects spending pressures for schools, leading to a reduction in their purchases of curriculum supplies. Income from the County Supplies' portfolio of framework agreements continues to hold up well, despite the current public sector financial constraints and generated £1.13 million of income, which was £11,000 (0.98%) above target. Proactive management of costs and delivery of efficiencies led to costs being £100,000 (2.8%) below budget, which enabled the business unit to generate a reasonable surplus of £392,000 (3.5% of turnover).
- 30. The accumulated surpluses of the businesses provide a strategic reserve that help protect the County Council from financial risk in the event of adverse trading conditions or unforeseen events and makes it possible for the businesses to invest in initiatives that retain customer loyalty and win new business, whilst also enabling the replacement of assets and equipment, upgrading technology and improving services. BSG's accumulated surpluses form part of the County Council's overall reserves. The 2019/20 movements on the accumulated surpluses for the businesses are shown in table 5 below.

Table 5 – Accumulated Surpluses – movements 2019/20

	£'000
Surplus as at 01/04/19	5,669
Business Services Group deficit 2019/20	(1,624)
Depreciation, interest and finance	146
Spending from accumulated surpluses	(430)
Closing balance as at 31/03/20	3,761

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The courier service also includes the transport service for Adult Services clients at day services, transport of school meals, MIDAS driver training and library book movements.

- 31. The accumulated surpluses reduced by £1.9 million (34%) during 2019/20 to £3.8 million. The trading deficit of £1.6 million accounted for the majority of the reduction and spending of £430,000 related to investments included in the Business Plans for 2019/20, as approved by the Executive Member, for kitchen and servery improvements, technology and equipment upgrades and replacements and other Transformation to 2021 (T21) projects which will deliver efficiencies and retain or increase income in future years. Further detail of this spending from the accumulated surpluses is shown in Appendix 2. It has recently been agreed that corporate funding of £931,000 will be made available to the Business Services Group to cover the net cost (after furlough income) of the HC3S Covid-19 related financial loss incurred in 2019/20. This will be reflected in the BSG Accumulated Surpluses in 2020/21. This report shows the income loss as being met from the BSG accumulated surpluses in Appendix 2, as that reflects the position as at March 2020.
- 32. It is currently difficult to forecast the movements on the accumulated surpluses for 2020/21 as the Covid-19 pandemic is having a significant adverse impact on the income levels of all three of the business units. The deficit for 2020/21 is currently estimated to be £4.3 million (excluding furlough income) assuming that all pupils are attending school from September 2020 and some level of social distancing continues until the end of the financial year. The accumulated surpluses will therefore only cover some of the trading deficit.
- 33. The forecast Covid-19 impact on loss of income for the business units in 2020/21 ranges from £4.4 million to £10.9 million, depending on whether school meal numbers continue to be as low as they have been during lockdown for the rest of the financial year or whether they recover to normal levels from September. These forecasts currently exclude any furlough income. The Covid-19 impact of £4.4 million has been included in the County Council's submission to MHCLG and also in the County Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. The financial position will be monitored closely throughout the year and the businesses will continue to seek out further efficiencies and income generation opportunities to try to safeguard the financial sustainability and success of the business units.
- 34. Appendix 2 shows the planned spending from the accumulated surpluses in line with the original approved 2020/21 Business Plans. All spending requires a business case approved by the Departmental Management Team and only items which are business critical or have a clear payback are now included as firm commitments for 2020/21. A number of projects previously reported to Members will have to be deferred until the financial position for 2020/21 is clearer.
- 35. Taking account of future potential commitments and earmarks, particularly arising from the Business Units' Transformation to 2021 (T21) programme, there is currently an unallocated balance in the accumulated surpluses of only

- £3,000. This is after some of the earmarks have been reduced compared to previous estimates to reflect the limited funds available within the accumulated surpluses. This balance does not take account of the potential estimated £4.3 million to £10.8 million end of year deficit for 2020/21 from reduced trading turnover as a direct result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, the forecast balance in the accumulated surpluses assumes that any 2020/21 Covid-19 related trading losses, as detailed above, will be funded corporately by the County Council.
- 36. HC3S also manages delegated catering budgets on behalf of schools through buy-back arrangements and a Service Level Agreement (SLA) which covers the costs of equipment maintenance and replacement in schools' kitchens and serveries. This SLA had an annual value of £2.1 million in 2019/20. This pooled fund does not form part of HC3S's trading account as it is managed on a break-even basis on behalf of schools.

### **Performance**

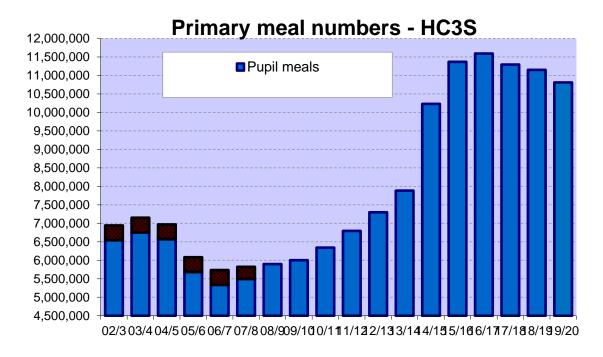
37. BSG's actual performance against the target key performance indicators for 2019/20 is shown in table 6 below.

Table 6 – Key Performance Indicators: Targets and Actuals for 2019/20

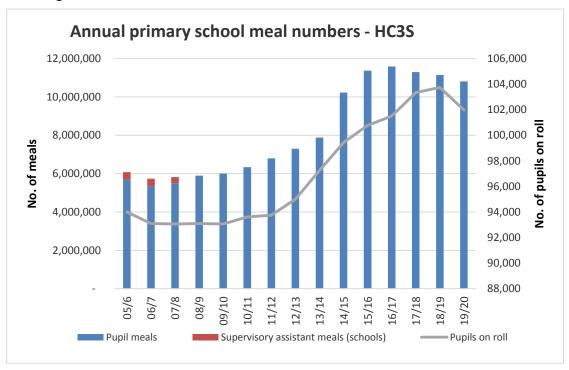
KPI	Target	Actuals	Variance
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
HC3S			
- Primary school pupil meals uptake	55.8%	53.5%	-2.3%
- Primary school food cost per meal	£0.90	£0.94	+£0.02
- Unit labour cost as % of income	53%	53%	0%
HTM			
- Pool car utilisation	90%	80.1%	-9.9%
- Fleet downtime	1%	0.36%	-0.64%
- Fleet size (external customers)	211	223	+12
- Contract hire conversion rate: quotes to orders	50%	57.8%	+7.8%
County Supplies			
- Stores turnover	£10.5m	£9.7m	-£0.8m
- Stores purchase price inflation	+1.2%	-0.18%	-1.38%
- Service levels – Top 400 lines	98%	98.5%	+0.5%
- Deliveries on due day	>98%	99.8%	+1.8%

38. Lower meal uptake and higher food costs have been the main factor in the lower than planned turnover and surplus for HC3S in 2019/20. The number of meals provided was also adversely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic impact in March 2019 as the number of meals was 31% lower than target, due to

- school closures for the last two weeks of March. This accounted for a 17.5% variance in percentage uptake.
- 39. However, the number of meals served in January and February 2020 combined was 3% higher than target. Unit labour costs were also exactly on target for the year. Although the cost per meal for the year was higher than target by 2 pence per meal, there was a downward trend in meal costs. In Autumn term 2019 the cost per was 98 pence and by the Spring term 2020 it was 89 pence, which is a reduction of 9 pence (9.2%) per meal. This demonstrates that the elements of the financial recovery plan relating to increasing meal uptake, reducing staff costs and reducing food costs, that had been put in place in autumn 2019, was starting to have a positive impact prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. Food costs have been reduced further in the current financial year to 75 pence per meal from the autumn term 2020/21.
- 40. 10.61 million primary school meals were provided in the year, which equates to over 55,200 primary school meals served on average each day by HC3S. This compares to 11.15 million meals in the previous year and 11.29 million meals in 2017/18.
- 41. As previously reported to Members, this reduction appears to be a national trend and HC3S has been working on a programme to increase its marketing activity including effective use of social media and commissioning external specialist support to undertake social marketing research. Unfortunately, this social marketing work has been put on hold temporarily due to the pandemic, though HC3S has increased its social media reach during the pandemic with nearly 9,000 followers and this is significantly higher than competitors. The trend in meal numbers over the last 18 years is shown in the graph below.

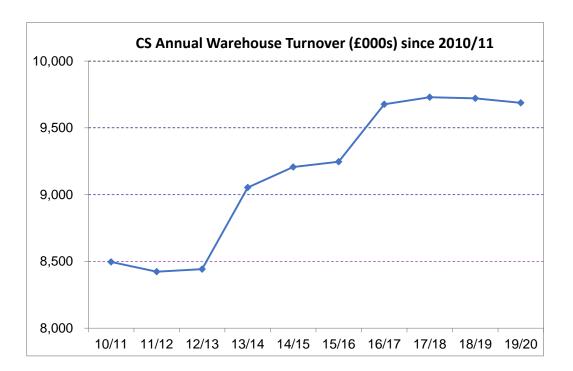


42. HC3S mobilised three new contracts for the provision of catering services in primary schools outside of Hampshire during the year. In addition, four secondary schools extended their contract with HC3S. Unfortunately, HC3S lost business with three primary schools and two secondary schools during the year. In addition, three further contracts came to an end and HC3S decided it was not commercially viable to bid to retain them. Two of these contracts were in Wiltshire and HC3S also terminated a contract with a secondary school in Hampshire as it was not providing the required financial returns due to a change in the catering service required by the school. The graph below reflects the recent reduction in the number of pupils on roll, due to these lost contracts, compared to the change in meal numbers. This shows a broad correlation between changes in the number of meals and changes to the number of pupils on roll for those schools at which HC3S provides the catering.



- 43. Following a joint strategic catering review with the Countryside Service, it was decided to transfer catering at the five County Parks and Titchfield National Nature Reserve to the Countryside Service on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019.
- 44. The impact of these changes means that as at March 2020, HC3S were providing catering services to customers at 491 schools and 6 non-school sites. This is an overall reduction during the year of 5 schools and 6 non-school sites.
- 45. HC3S has been re-accredited with the Soil Association's 'Food for Life Served Here' Bronze award for all primary schools. This accreditation is reviewed annually and confirms that at least 75% of food is cooked fresh, is good quality and sourced locally where possible. The HC3S service in

- primary schools has also achieved a Gold 'Eat Out, Eat Well' award, which recognises how HC3S makes it easier for pupils to make healthier choices and demonstrates how these healthier choices are actively promoted.
- 46. HC3S was named 'Education Caterer of the Year' by the Foodservice Cateys and was also the winner of the Cateys' Innovation Award. HC3S was also successful in the EDUCatering awards and won both 'Primary School Caterer of the Year' and the 'Marketing' awards. HC3S's marketing initiatives, especially though social media, were also recognised by the Lead Association for Catering in Education's (LACA) Marketing Award.
- 47. HTM's external customer fleet exceeded target by 12 vehicles taking the total number of external customer vehicles to 223. This demonstrates very good progress on HTM's business development objectives of increasing the number of external customers. This success in winning new business is also reflected in the percentage contract hire conversion rate (quotes to orders) being nearly 8% above target. Fleet downtime continues to be well below the minimum expected at 0.36% compared to a target of 1%, which reflects good performance at the vehicle workshops by keeping downtime as low as possible for customers.
- 48. For the second year running, the utilisation of the Alphacity pool car scheme was particularly disappointing at 80.1%, which is 9.9% below target. This was caused by poor utilisation of a small number of vehicles that were made available at a number of the County Council's offices and hubs outside of Winchester, despite action being taken during the year to move vehicles to locations which had expressed an interest in using a pool car. In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the size of the Alphacity fleet will be reviewed and some vehicles will be returned early if the savings warrant doing so.
- 49. Good progress has been made with replacing the current diesel fleet (where vehicles have reached the end of their useful life) with electric vehicles. During the year, the number of electric vehicles in operation increased to 41 as at the end of March 2020.
- 50. County Supplies continues to perform above target for deliveries on due day (99.8%) and service levels (98.5%), which is important for retaining customer loyalty. Inflation on purchase prices was 1.38% lower than forecast, which reflects effective supplier negotiation and leveraging of purchasing power with key partner authorities. Warehouse turnover remained relatively static, for the fourth consecutive year at £9.7 million. As shown in the graph below, this is the first time since 2012/13 that warehouse turnover has not increased for a sustained period. This reflects difficult trading conditions with our public sector customers, particularly due to the financial pressures experienced by schools, which continue to be County Supplies' core customers.



51. During the year, 21 new customers registered with County Supplies, most of which were as a result of a business development campaign to attract new customers within the business unit's 'deliverable radius', including parts of Dorset, Surrey and Berkshire. County Supplies has successfully retained 100% of all schools and academies in Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton as customers during 2019/20.

## **Sustainability and Climate Change**

- 52. All three business units have continued to deliver a range of sustainability initiatives and carbon reduction actions during the year to contribute to the County Council's climate change programme. These include:
  - Drinks purchased only in recyclable, reusable or refillable containers
  - Takeaway cutlery and straws are recyclable or compostable
  - Recycling cooking oils into biofuels
  - Use of UK seasonal vegetables and other UK produce to reduce food miles and support British farmers and growers
  - Traceable and sustainable food purchasing policy
  - HC3S implemented electronic and digital communications with all kitchens which reduces use of paper, printing and transport
  - Primary school meal ordering, portion control and food unit cost management has reduced food waste
  - 41 fully electric vehicles now in the fleet
  - HTM recycles all spent oils and lubricants, scrap metal and batteries

- Putting arrangements in place for a hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel pilot for some of the current diesel LGVs and vans which will start in 2020/21
- County Supplies' packaging is made of at least 70% recycled material and recycles all waste cardboard from its warehouse operations
- The three business units are leading on three of the County Council's climate change workstreams: food, travel and transport and product lifecycle.

## **Apprenticeships**

- 53. BSG continues to provide opportunities for apprenticeships within the businesses, supported by funding from the apprenticeship levy. During the year, HTM had five vehicle technician apprentices in the workshops and two business administration apprentices at HQ (shared with County Supplies to broaden their skill base). HTM has engaged fully with the apprenticeship programme since 2006 and has enabled 23 apprentices to be trained and qualified during that time. The apprentices have been an integral part of HTM's succession planning strategy from the outset. Without the workshop apprentices coming through the system, HTM would struggle to maintain operations in a hard to recruit market, with a decreasing number of trained technicians available.
- 54. County Supplies currently has three members of staff undertaking a Level 4 apprenticeship in Commercial Supply & Procurement. They are over halfway through the apprenticeship and are planning to finish their apprenticeships and qualify early in 2021. County Supplies also have a member of staff undertaking a Customer Service Practitioner apprenticeship. Our marketing and project support officer is undertaking a level 3 apprenticeship in Team Leadership and Management, leading to a recognised ILM qualification.
- 55. HC3S registered 14 members of staff for a variety of level 2 and level 3 hospitality & catering apprenticeship programmes. Due to staffing issues with the learning provider, applications had to be put on hold for 3 months as they were unable to support new apprentices for that period. This has led to a backlog of applications and a further 10 staff still awaiting sign up to programmes, which have also been adversely affected by the Covid-19 lockdown. 16 staff completed their apprenticeship qualifications during the year. During 2019/20, HC3S has also employed a Business Development Apprentice who is undertaking a Level 3 Marketing Assistant Apprenticeship. HC3S's Catering Operations Management Trainee, who is due to complete her apprenticeship shortly has secured a permanent post with HC3S as Continuous Improvement Manager.

## **Covid-19 Response and Recovery**

- 56. The business units have been assisting the County Council, schools, other customers and partners in Covid-19 response and recovery activities. The business units have also adapted their services to be Covid-19 secure for staff and customers and to support social distancing and other government requirements.
- 57. All three businesses have been working fully since lockdown started on 23 March and throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. HC3S has supported schools by providing meals for income assessed free school meal pupils and vulnerable and key worker children who were attending school. HC3S also provided an emergency catering service to 5 primary schools whose private sector catering suppliers were unable to provide the service required, especially over the Easter and half-term holidays when schools remained open.
- 58. The County Supplies warehouse has been fully operational and delivering to all customers who have remained open. County Supplies has also been supporting the Local Resilience Forum PPE warehouse operation.
- 59. All five of HTM's vehicle workshops have remained open, supporting all customers including Hampshire Highways, Highways England, County Council departments and schools.
- 60. There is obviously pressure on income and turnover in 2020/21. Meal numbers are much lower than usual, demand for short term hire and related services provided by HTM is very low and sales from the County Supplies warehouse are below target as schools require less curriculum supplies with pupil numbers affected by lockdown. Over 500 staff have been furloughed for a few months where they are funded by income that has been affected by the pandemic.
- 61. Further information on the range of services that the business units have been providing during the pandemic and the financial and operational impact will be reported in more detail to a future meeting of the Panel.

### Conclusions

62. The performance of all three businesses has been adversely affected by unplanned cost increases and a downturn in customer spend in 2019/20 and, in the case of HC3S, by the Covid-19 pandemic affecting school meal numbers in March 2020. This reflects the financial constraints that are affecting our public sector customers and has been highlighted in the business units' annual reports and business plans for the last few years.

- 63. The businesses have continued to win new customers and have contributed to a number of County Council initiatives and objectives during the year, including climate change, increasing the number of fully electric vehicles in the County Council's fleet to 41, providing and promoting healthy and nutritious meals for school children, offering a range of apprenticeship opportunities and supporting local suppliers within their supply chains.
- 64. BSG's business development plans, which focus on on-going efficiencies, exploiting digital technologies, meeting customers' changing expectations, retaining customer loyalty and winning new business remain critical to achieving on-going success and long-term financial sustainability for the three business units in a highly competitive marketplace. The Covid-19 pandemic has added significant financial and operational challenges in both 2019/20 and 2020/21.

## REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

## Links to the Strategic Plan

This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because it enables the business units to demonstrate appropriate reporting mechanisms and to operate on a self-funding basis within the County Council's financial regulations.

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Business Services Group – 2018/19 Annual Report and	8 October 2019
Accounts	
Business Services Group – Business Plans 2019/20	26 March 2019

## Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocationNone

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

## 1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic:
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionally low.

## 2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

This report outlines the financial position of the Business Services Group for 2019/20 and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment has not been considered necessary in the development of this report as it is not proposing any changes to current service provision and therefore will have no impact on groups with protective characteristics.

## CCBS Business Services Group Final Accounts 2019/20

	Ham	Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S)						
				Variance		Deficit as		
	Original	Revised		to revised		%age of		
	Target	Target	Actuals	target	Variance	income		
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	%		
Income	38,127	36,797	35,126	(1,671)	-4.5%			
Costs	38,013	38,089	37,156	(933)	-2.4%			
Surplus / (deficit)	114	(1,292)	(2,030)	(738)	57.1%	-5.8%		

	County Supplies					
	Original	Revised		Variance to revised		Surplus as %age of
	Target	Target	Actuals	target	Variance	income
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	%
Income	12,032	11,159	11,230	71	0.6%	
Costs	11,593	10,839	10,838	(1)	0.0%	
Surplus / (deficit)	439	320	392	72	22.5%	3.5%

	Hampshire Transport Management (HTM)							
				Variance		Surplus as		
	Original	Revised		to revised		%age of		
	Target	Target	Actuals	target	Variance	income		
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	%		
Income	8,735	8,735	8,670	(65)	-0.7%			
Costs	8,684	8,684	8,656	(28)	-0.3%			
Surplus / (deficit)	51	51	14	(37)	-72.5%	0.2%		

	Business Services Group						
	Original	Revised		Variance to revised		Surplus as %age of	
	Target	Target	Actuals	target	Variance	income	
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	%	
Income	58,894	56,691	55,026	(1,665)	-2.9%		
Costs	58,290	57,612	56,650	(962)	-1.7%		
Surplus / (deficit)	604	(921)	(1,624)	(703)	76.3%	-3.0%	

Business Services Group	2019/20	2020/21
Estimated Accumulated Surpluses (reserves)	£'000	£'000
Balance as at 1st April 2019	5,669	
Actuals 2019/20		
BSG trading deficit 2019/20	(1,624)	
BSG depreciation & capital charges	146	
HC3S kitchen and servery improvements / investments - primary	(159)	
HC3S kitchen and servery improvements / investments - secondary	(35)	
HC3S equipment replacement (Countryside)	(8)	
HC3S mobile electronic catering administration system	(101)	
HC3S staff recruitment and retention programme	(8)	
HC3S Crimson Tide Mpro system replacement	(5)	
HC3S income generation (social marketing research)	(13)	
HC3S School Meal Income system replacement	(8)	
County Supplies warehouse scanning system	(42)	
HTM workshop pit covers (H&S requirement)	(28)	
HTM fleet management system reprocurement	(23)	
Balance at 31 March 2020	3,761	
Forecast 20/21 Commitments		
Forecast BSG Surplus 2020/21 (original target)		115
BSG depreciation & capital charges		148
HC3S kitchen and servery improvements / investments - primary		(35)
HC3S kitchen and servery improvements / investments - secondary		(20)
HC3S digital efficiencies (allergen system)		(30)
HC3S School Meal Income system replacement		(165)
County Supplies Bar End site roof replacement		(500)
County Supplies customer ordering system modernisation		(261)
HTM IT infrastructure upgrades at workshops		(30)
HTM fleet management system reprocurement		(152)
HTM Micheldever lift and brake rollers for MOT bay		(37)
SHHG extension contribution		(200)
Forecast balance at 31 March 2021		2,594
Future Potential Earmarks and Contingencies		
HTM Petersfield workshop refurbishment		(1,290)
HC3S Alternative Service Delivery Model analysis & implementation		(175)
HC3S mobile electronic catering - devices refresh (earliest 2023/24)		(176)
HTM provision for final year capital charges (2024/25)		(340)
Traded Services Online system (HCC Sold Services) – BSG contribution	<u> </u>	(50)
CRM system (HCC Sold Services) – BSG contribution		(50)
BSG contingency (1.25% of 2020/21 original target turnover)		(710)
Repayment by SHHG (over 6 years)		200
Forecast Uncommitted Balance		3

Note – excludes potential estimated Covid-19 related deficit of £4.3m to £10.8m (excluding furlough income) for 2020/21



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# Property Services Operations: Responding and adapting to Covid-19

**Rebecca Thompson** 

**Strategic Manager Operations** 

**Susan Thornton** 

Senior FM and Maintenance Manager



## **Overview**

- Supporting the County Council's initial response and recovery
- Delivering business as usual
- Standing up specialist facilities
- Corporate office accommodation lockdown and recovery
- Facilities Management beyond business as normal
- Summary, questions and close



## Supporting lockdown and recovery

## **Response:**

- Ensuring operational continuity for HCC critical services, Police and Fire
- Supporting safe shut down of buildings
- Maintaining critical health and safety activities
- Mobilising new cleaning contract from 1st April 2020











## **Recovery:**

- Supporting safe re-opening of buildings
- Implementing government guidance
- Creating Covid-secure signage toolkit
- Managing contracted services



## Delivering business as usual

- Temporary pause of non critical maintenance works
- Manging our own teams and capacity
- Working with and supporting our contractors and suppliers
- Implementing safe working procedures
- 😸 Progressing the wider repairs and maintenance programme
- Targeted maintenance to enable safe reopening of schools
- Protecting our most vulnerable sites and residents









## Setting up specialist facilities

- Segensworth warehouse
- Temporary mortuaries
- Woodcot Lodge 'discharge to assess' short term care facility

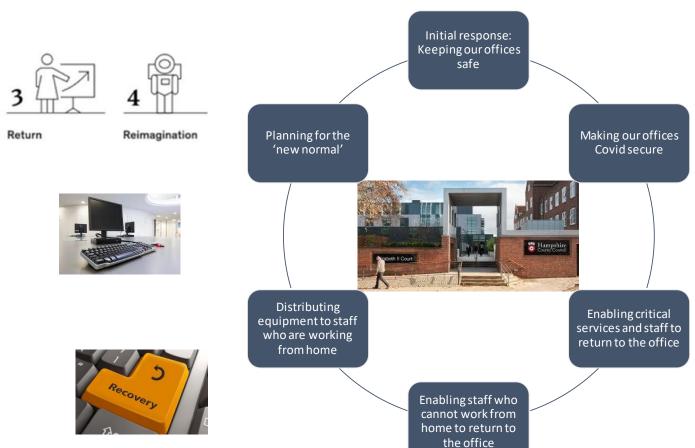
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## Making our offices Covid-secure











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# Facilities Management: beyond business as usual......

- Redesignation of individuals to support Adults Health & Care
- Transition to Member meetings via MS Teams and Youtube link
- Set up and support for the PPE warehouse & temporary mortuary
  - Sending remote working equipment home
- Creation of resource hubs to support print, post and confidential waste
- Test and Trace collection & delivery service to support laboratory testing
- Community use buildings recovery





## In summary

- Cross-cutting support to response and recovery
- Adaptable and responsive to new challenges
- Significant breadth and depth of skills and knowledge across the whole asset lifecyle
- Flexible resources and strong supplier relationships
- Focused on delivering outcomes



## **Questions?**



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#### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

#### Report

Committee/Panel:	Buildings Land and Procurement Panel
Date:	13 October 2020
Title:	Managing Hampshire's Built Estate
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact name: Steve Clow

Tel: 0370 779 8845 Email: steve.clow@hants.gov.uk

#### **Purpose of this Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the delivery of the County Council's 2020/21 repair and maintenance programmes for the corporate and schools' estates. The report provides details of funding allocations, the impacts of Covid-19 on the delivery of work programmes and the approach taken by Property Services to mitigate these impacts.

#### Recommendations

- 2. It is recommended that the Buildings Land and Procurement Panel advises the Executive Member for Commercial Strategy, Human Resources and Performance that:
  - The progress made in delivery of the 2020/21 repairs and maintenance programmes for the corporate and schools estates is noted;
  - The additional schools condition allocation funding is noted;
  - The impact of Covid-19 and the steps taken by Property Services to mitigate this is noted.

#### **Executive Summary**

- 3. This report seeks to:
  - Report the progress on delivery of the 2020/21 repairs and maintenance programme for the corporate and schools' estates;
  - Provide an update on the allocation of funding to address the highest priorities across the corporate and schools' estates;

 Report on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the delivery of the 2020/21 repairs and maintenance programme and the steps being taken by Property Services to mitigate this impact.

#### **Contextual information**

- 4. The 'Managing Hampshire's Built Estate' report to the Executive Member for Commercial Strategy, Human Resources and Performance on 20 July 2020 set out the urgent decisions made during the Covid-19 lockdown (as a result of the temporary cessation of Executive Member decisions) by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources to allow essential progress to be made on the delivery of the 2020/21 repairs and maintenance programme for the corporate and schools' estate.
- 5. These decisions included confirmation of the 2020/21 funding totalling £49 million, high level allocation of this funding to address repairs and maintenance priorities, and approval of project appraisals for named capital schemes with individual values of £250,000 or more. The detailed budget allocations and programme of planned revenue and capital projects under £250,000 were approved under Chief Officer delegations by the Deputy Chief Executive.
- 6. The report also identified the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown on the delivery of the 2020/21 repairs and maintenance programme, as understood at that time, and the steps being taken by Property Services to mitigate this impact.
- 7. The easing of lockdown measures in the early summer removed some of the previous constraints, but a number of Covid-19 related challenges remain and continue to impact on the delivery of the programme.
- 8. Covid-19 has, however, created a number of new opportunities as central government seeks to drives economic recovery through allocation of additional funding to key priorities. This includes £560m of additional funding identified to address schools' condition, with £8m of this being allocated to Hampshire County Council as additional Schools Condition Allocation (SCA) grant funding. This is a very welcome additional funding stream and can will contribute to further projects of an essential repair and maintenance nature in the schools estate. Additionally as part of "Plan for Jobs" there are opportunities to bid for funding from the £1bn attributed to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme and £1bn for a Schools Rebuilding Programme. Details are awaited on the bid criteria and officers are reviewing potential projects that could be submitted once these are known.
- 9. There continues to be significant pressure on the repairs and maintenance budget for corporate buildings due to the extent of maintenance liability across the estate and the lack of any revenue or capital funding streams from government as exists for schools. Priorities are kept under continual review to ensure that funding is allocated to address the most urgent needs. This

year will be pivotal year as liabilities are putting significant pressure on existing budgets particularly for health and safety priorities. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic means that all non-essential expenditure has to carefully considered and there is little flexibility for one off capital funding which had been used to good effect in previous years to tackle the repairs backlog.

#### Impact of Covid-19 on planned programme delivery and emerging work

- 10. Shortly after the Covid-19 lockdown commenced in late March 2020, Property Services suspended all non-critical maintenance works in occupied buildings. While there was no government mandated closure of construction sites, it was necessary to pause activity to determine whether it could continue safely, for both site operatives and building occupants. Works on stand alone construction sites continued successfully throughout the lockdown. Good progress on the schools capital programme is described elsewhere on this agenda in the Major Programmes Update Report.
- 11. To support the closure and re-opening of County Council buildings due to Covid-19, Property Services and the corporate Health and Safety team provided guidance to building managers on actions required to maintain the safety of the buildings, including testing of fire alarms and flushing of water systems to manage the risk from legionella. This guidance was also shared with partner organisations including Police, Fire, Hampshire Cultural Trust and community groups.
- 12. During the lockdown period, Property Services' teams continued to work on the design and procurement of repairs and maintenance projects to ensure that any delays to the programme could be minimised. By early summer the majority of paused works had recommenced on site and good progress had been made on the development of new schemes. This allowed a substantial programme of work to be mobilised to site over the summer to take advantage of the better weather and the summer break at schools.
- 13. Property Services' teams have worked closely with contractors and building occupiers to ensure that appropriate measures are in place to manage the risks arising from Covid-19. For some projects, where social distancing measures have a greater impact on the work being undertaken, there has been some impact on the contract duration and associated costs. However, this is affecting only a small proportion of projects. Limited additional costs have been covered corporately by a fund created specifically for this eventuality and all expenditure agreed with the Head of Finance and subsequently included in the Covid-19 finance reporting to Cabinet.
- 14. Particular care has been taken at the County Council's nursing and residential homes to ensure that vulnerable residents are safeguarded from any Covid-19 risks that could arise from the delivery of maintenance work. Property Services' teams continue to work closely with the Registered Managers to manage access to these buildings and ensure that works are undertaken safely. There are also some school sites where works have been paused or

- delayed for a short period at the start of the autumn term, to allow the schools to settle into their new routines.
- 15. In light of the significant financial challenge faced by the County Council due to Covid-19, the repairs and maintenance programme for the corporate estate has been carefully reviewed to ensure that all identified expenditure is fully justified. Adjustments have been made to the programme to ensure that repair and maintenance priorities that have emerged since the start of the current financial year can been addressed within current funding allocations.
- 16. Maintenance funding for the schools' estate is ringfenced and funded by schools or government grant only and therefore work has continued on the agreed programme. The announcement of additional funding for schools' condition will allow the programme to be expanded to address further repair and maintenance priorities which is very welcome. Members are reminded that total repair liabilities assessed on a periodic basis by survey and intelligence far exceed the annual budgets available. Officers continue to lobby the DfE in particular for additional funding for school buildings and support from BLaPP is always welcome in this regard.

#### Management of health and safety

- 17. Scheduled servicing, testing and inspection regimes form a key part of the effective management of health and safety risks across the built estate and these have continued over recent months.
- 18. This has included the completion of a substantial programme of fire safety surveys on all properties that provide overnight accommodation across the estate and therefore represent the highest risks from fire. A programme of repairs and improvements to the physical fire precautions in these buildings is now being progressed. The Property Services' Fire Team will also be supporting the review of the fire risk assessments for these buildings which inform the local management arrangements for fire safety and evacuation procedures. The strong and effective partnership with Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service continues to support the approach and priority in this essential area. Close working between service departments, corporate health and safety and Property Services ensure effective coordination and formulation of programmes of improvement work.
- 19. Arrangements for the management of legionella were maintained throughout the lockdown period. With many buildings closed or at very low occupancy levels during lockdown, guidance was issued to sites to ensure that additional flushing and temperature checks were undertaken when buildings were reopened. Within the HCC care nursing and residential homes, these measures are supplemented by water sampling and testing and follow up remedial measures to address infrequent localised detections.
- 20. A programme of legionella improvement works planned for a number of HCC Care homes was paused during the height of the pandemic but has now been

restarted, as access restrictions at these buildings have been eased. Work to address issues that are identified through the temperature monitoring regime is ongoing. Although out of range temperatures represent only around 2% of the 11,600 items of legionella data collected, tracing and rectifying the causes remains a significant and important task.

- 21. The tree survey programme has continued, including monitoring ash die back across the county. Ash die back has not had a major impact to date and appears to affect groups of trees rather than isolated specimens. Where die back is present, the trees are removed to address the risk, in line with the agreed corporate policy. The strategy is coordinated with activities in other services including Countryside and Highways.
- 22. The health and safety performance on maintenance and project work has been positive so far this year, with zero significant accidents or incidents recorded. There is regular reporting through our internal management meetings and ongoing liaison with the corporate health and safety teams.
- 23. A recent Southern Internal Audit Partnership audit of Property Services' project health and safety procedures concluded a "**substantial assurance**" rating (the highest possible), reinforcing the good work undertaken in respect of contractor management responsibilities.

#### Corporate estate

- 24. The impact of temporary Covid-19 shutdowns and furloughing of staff within some contractor and supply chain organisations delayed some repairs and maintenance projects in the corporate estate programme at the beginning of the year. The impacts were not as significant as initially expected and, where necessary, key projects have been re-programmed into the autumn and early winter.
- 25. A number of additional repair and maintenance priorities have emerged since the start of the year. These include urgent reactive repair and lifecycle replacement works and works to address health and safety priorities. Additional funding is also required on a small number of projects to address increased costs arising from the Covid-19 measures that need to be put in place by contractors. This has been reported to the Head of Finance and included in the financial impact assessment shared with Cabinet.
- 26. In light of the wider financial pressures caused by Covid-19, the repairs and maintenance programme for the corporate estate has been fully reviewed and a number of planned schemes have been deferred to future years, where this can be done without significantly impacting on safety or service continuity. This, together with the allocation of the repairs and maintenance reserve funding, means that the most urgent priorities can be addressed within current budget allocations.

27. Deferrals and additions to the 2020/21 repairs and maintenance programme have been approved under Chief Officer delegations.

#### Schools estate

- 28. Despite the delays incurred at the start of the financial year due to the Covid-19 lockdown, good progress has been made on the delivery of the repairs and maintenance programme for schools. All works that needed to be undertaken during the summer holiday period were completed and work to develop the larger projects continues well, with works on site due to commence in the spring and summer of 2021, in line with the planned programmes.
- 29. On 29 June, the Prime Minister announced an additional £560m for repairs and upgrades to school buildings, on top of funding already allocated for the current year. The additional funding has been received as an addition to the School Condition Allocation (SCA) grant, with the County Council receiving a further £8.1m, bringing the total SCA grant for 2020/21 to £25.5m.
- 30. Property Services and Children's Services will jointly agree priorities for this additional funding that target educational benefit and reduce maintenance liability. It is currently anticipated that approximately £4m of the additional funding will be allocated to address the next two priority SCOLA reclad projects with the remaining £4m used to fund a number of smaller schemes addressing common condition related themes. These include roofing upgrades, window improvements, boilers and pipework infrastructure and upgrading electrical infrastructure including distribution boards.
- 31. Named schemes with individual value over £250k will be added to the capital programme through Executive Member and Council approval early in 2021 with the lower value schemes and programmes of work approved under Chief Officer delegations.
- 32. At the end of June, the government also announced a new schools rebuilding programme, with £1bn identified for the first 50 projects. Property Services is working with Children's Services to review potential projects that could meet the necessary criteria, aligning with priorities identified from the DfE's Condition Data Collection (CDC) survey information. The planned "shovel ready" projects to replace the timber framed buildings at Grange and Fryern Junior schools have been shared with the DfE. Although initial feedback suggested that these do not meet the criteria for the programme, the DfE has made contact recently and further discussions are to be held. Opportunities to bid for this additional funding will continue to be rigorously and enthusiastically pursued.

#### **Finance**

- 33. Following confirmation of the additional SCA grant for 2020/21, the total repairs and maintenance funding available this year is circa £57 million, of which £11 million is allocated for the corporate estate and £46 million for schools. The funding sources are set out in the table below.
- 34. As noted in paragraphs 25 and 26, the repairs and maintenance reserve funding for the corporate estate has now been allocated to address urgent maintenance and health and safety priorities that have arisen since the start of the financial year. The impact of using the accumulated reserve now means that future years additional pressures cannot be absorbed. The liabilities and priorities for 21/22 will be reviewed as part of the autumn budget setting process. This is expected to be a very challenging process for the Council and senior officers are acutely aware of the need to be rigorous in our recommendations to Members.
- 35. As noted above, work has commenced to identify the most critical priorities to be addressed using the additional £8.1 million SCA grant. Schemes with an individual value of £250k or above to be recommended for addition to the capital programme in early 2021.

Budget	2020/21	Comments
	£'000	
Landlord Repair and Maintenance	7,918	Annual P&R revenue budget
Additional Landlord Repair and Maintenance allocation (£3m for period 2019/20 - 2020/21)	1,500	Second year allocation against the total 2 year funding
Carry forward from 2019/20	25	
Accumulated R&M Reserve	1,056	To support additional investment priorities
R&M reserve 2020/21 contribution	545	Annual allocation
Subtotal Corporate Estate	11,044	

Budget	2020/21	Comments
Schools SLA JWA Pooled revenue contributions	13,746	Pooled funding contributions from schools
School Condition Allocation (SCA) grant 2020/21	17,412	Grant confirmed by the DfE in April 2020.
Carry forward SCA grant from 2019/20	6,917	Allocated to schemes identified in the 2019/20 programme
Additional Schools Condition Allocation (SCA) grant 2020/21	8,086	Additional grant confirmed by the DfE in August 2020.
Subtotal Schools' Estate	46,161	
Grand Total	57,205	

- 36. In March 2020, the Cabinet Office issued Procurement Policy Note (PPN) 02/20 providing guidance for public bodies on payment of at risk suppliers to ensure continuity of service both during and after the Covid-19 outbreak. There have been a number of updates to this guidance and a further PPN 04/20 was issued in June providing guidance on payment to suppliers during the recovery and transition period following easing of the lockdown.
- 37. A review of at risk contractors was undertaken and measures were put in place to assist contractors and their supply chains where required, following the guidance in PPN02/20. Measures included ensuring prompt payment of invoices to maintain cash flow and 14-day valuations for larger contracts, where requested by the Contractor to further improve cashflow. The level of retention held on previously completed projects was also reviewed and released where appropriate.
- 38. Although some maintenance projects did pause for a few weeks at the start of the Covid-19 lockdown, due to a lack of materials and/or availability of labour, only small delays were experienced. Contractually the restrictions imposed are deemed to be a Force Majeure event. Applicable Extensions of Time have been granted to contractors to ensure that they are not unfairly penalised through the application of contract penalties, within the spirt of the PPN-02/20 guidance.
- 39. Two of the four term maintenance contractors (TMCs) made claims for relief under PPN-02/20, which allowed for continuation of normal payments up to the end of June, even if service delivery was disrupted or temporarily suspended. Total relief paid by HCC to the TMCs in the period to end of June was £250,874.

#### Performance

- 40. The primary objective of the repairs and maintenance programmes is to maintain the County Council's estate in a safe and useable condition, ensuring compliance with statutory requirements and prioritising repairs that represent the highest risks in terms of health and safety and service continuity.
- 41. Property Services ensured that critical maintenance services were maintained throughout the Covid-19 lockdown period and worked closely with building occupants as buildings re-opened. Throughout the Covid-19 lockdown and ongoing period of recovery, critical repair and maintenance work has continued across the estate and

#### Consultation and Equalities

- 42. The repair and maintenance programmes are developed in consultation with schools and County Council departments to ensure that proposals meet the needs of building occupants and align with longer term service plans and asset strategies.
- 43. The 2020/21 repair and maintenance programmes represent expenditure of £57m on the County Council's built estate, addressing the highest priorities condition and maintenance issues. This expenditure will reduce health and safety risks and create improved environments, benefiting all those who occupy and access services from these buildings.

#### Other Key Issues

#### Climate Change

- 44. The programme of planned maintenance work makes an important contribution to achieving the County Council's targets to reduce carbon emissions and energy consumption from its corporate estate. This includes improving the thermal performance of buildings through re-cladding and reroofing projects, replacing older plant and installing improved controls and incorporating additional energy saving measures, such as LED re-lighting schemes and photovoltaic panels, into planned maintenance projects.
- 45. The announcement in July 2020 that the government will invest £1 billion over the next year in a Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme offers HCC and its public sector partners the opportunity to bid for grant funding improve energy efficiency and implement low carbon heat upgrades across its built estate. More detail on the climate change and carbon strategy and progress on the successful reduction programmes is included in the report elsewhere on this agenda.

#### Digital and Smarter Working

46. Work to replace the current Property Services' asset management system continues to progress positively. A four-year contract was let to Concerto in May 2020, for the replacement system. Good progress continues to be made with mobilisation towards the implementation date of April 2021.

#### **Future direction**

- 47. Throughout the remainder of the financial year work will continue to progress the agreed 2020/21 programme of works and recover as many delays as possible caused by Covid-19.
- 48. With the financial pressures created by Covid-19 on the County Council, repairs and maintenance work on the corporate estate will continue to be carefully considered to ensure that the available funding is directed at the most critical priorities to maintain a safe estate and support service continuity.
- 49. A number of opportunities have been created by central government to secure additional funding which, if successful, would contribute towards the improvement in condition and reduction of maintenance liabilities across the built estate. Work will continue through the autumn to identify opportunities and prepare compelling bids.

#### REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

#### Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

### NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it. Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:				
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>			
Managing Hampshire's Built estate – Report to EMCSHRP	20.07.2020			
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives				
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>			
Procurement Policy Note 02/20	03.2020			
Procurement Policy Note 04/20	06.2020			

#### Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

#### **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

#### 1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic:
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it:
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionally low.

#### 2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

2.1 The 2020/21 repair and maintenance programmes represent expenditure of £57m on the County Council's built estate, addressing the highest priorities condition and maintenance issues. This expenditure will reduce health and safety risks and create improved environments, benefiting all those who occupy and access services from these buildings. For the full EIA assessment please see the <u>Equality Impact Assessment</u>.



#### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

#### Report

Committee/Panel:	Buildings Land and Procurement Panel
Date:	13 October 2020
Title:	Property Services Commercial Decisions Report
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

Contact name: Steve Clow

Tel: 0370 779 8845 Email: steve.clow@hants.gov.uk

#### **Purpose of this Report**

 The purpose of this report is to seek spend approvals for new contract arrangements for grounds maintenance, printing, heating oil and road fuel purchase.

#### Recommendations

That the Panel recommends to the Executive Member for Commercial Strategy, Human Resources and Performance that he:

- 2. Approves a total contract spend of up to £5 million over 7 years for new grounds maintenance contract arrangements for Hampshire County Council corporate sites.
- 3. Approves total contract spend of up to £5 million over 5 years for a new Print Services contract.
- Approves a total Hampshire County Council contract spend of up to £30 million over 4 years for a call off contract under the new Heating Oil and Road Fuels framework arrangement.

#### **Executive Summary**

- 5. This report seeks to:
  - provide the context for the re-procurement of grounds maintenance, print services, heating oil and road fuels contract arrangements for the County Council and other partners;
  - set out the proposals for procurement of new contract arrangements for these services;

- identify the anticipated contract spend and the funding sources for this spend;
- highlight the approach to performance management of these services
- 6. The current grounds maintenance term contracts (grass cutting, landscape and tree management etc) expire in December 2020 and need to be replaced. It is proposed to procure a new framework arrangement comprising nine lots. Call-off contracts for a period of up to seven years will be put in place for grounds maintenance services to Hampshire County Council (HCC) corporate sites, with a maximum anticipated spend of £5 million over this period. Schools and partner organisations, including Hampshire Police through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) will also be able to buy their own call-off contracts through the framework arrangement managed by Property Services.
- 7. The current print services contract for Printsmart and high-volume production print services is due to expire in autumn 2021. It is proposed to procure a new single supplier contract that will replace the current arrangements with an encrypted internet printing service to align with the proposals for the next generation Hampshire Public Services Network (HPSN) 3 digital infrastructure contract procured by the Director of Corporate Resources. The new print contract will be for a duration of up to 5 years with an anticipated maximum spend of £5 million over that period.
- 8. The existing framework and call-off contracts for heating oils and road fuels expires on 31 March 2021. It is proposed to procure a new 4-year framework, comprising two lots. The framework will include an option for the provision of biofuels / hydrogenated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel. Annual call off contracts will be established for HCC corporate sites and vehicle fleet with an anticipated maximum spend of £30 million over 4 years.

#### **Contextual Information**

#### Grounds maintenance services

- 9. The current term contracts for the provision of grounds maintenance services to HCC corporate sites, schools, academies, police and fire expire in December 2020 and now need to be replaced. Grounds maintenance includes typically maintenance of grass areas, hedges, beds and borders, sport pitches and line marking, removal of litter and leaves.
- 10. An options appraisal has been carried out to determine the appropriate contracting route and the best associated procurement procedure. The chosen option is to procure a framework arrangement with nine geographical lots with a single supplier for each lot. This is expected to get the best market response given the profile of providers in this business and continue

- to support the economy while providing and efficient and effective way of managing the suppliers.
- 11. The procurement of a dedicated framework supports the aim to provide opportunities for current reliable suppliers alongside new, national contractors and local SMEs. Each lot will comprise HCC corporate sites, schools and other partners' sites and the sizes of the lots have been optimised to offer a more consistent revenue opportunity and number of sites, whilst considering the geographical spread. This is based on a thorough assessment of the previous arrangements, what is best for the customers and site occupiers and what gives the best opportunity to measure and control performance.
- 12. The optimisation of the number of lots is also aimed at reducing the number of suppliers to be managed and allow greater consistency where suppliers are successful in multiple lots, but without excessive dependency on any one supplier. Each supplier can be awarded a maximum of 3 lots, resulting in between 3 and 9 suppliers on the framework arrangement.
- 13. The framework will be procured via an open tender procedure. Call off contracts will be formed for the HCC corporate sites within each lot and schools and partners will be able to establish their own call-off contracts under the framework agreement. This will enable a transition to a more self service model for schools and partner organisations which give them flexibility as well as reduced overhead costs for the Council. There is no revenue budget for the service to manage a complex customer interface and therefor a business decision has been made on this basis.
- 14. The call-off contracts for the HCC corporate sites will be for an initial 5 year period with the option to extend for a further 2 years.

#### **Print Services**

- 15. The current PrintSmart contract for office printing, copying and scanning expires in September 2021. The linked contract for high volume production devices in Hampshire Printing Service (HPS) and wide format print devices expires in March 2022. The print service contracts provide services to all HCC departments, as well as a range of external customers, and are managed by the Print and Document Service in Property Services.
- 16. The corporate drive to reduce print activity and associated costs has been very successful, with a continued reduction in the level of printing activity since the start of the current contract. However there continues to be a demand for printing and copying and an increasing demand for scanning. Therefore a new print service contract is required from September 2021 to ensure continuity of key business services.
- 17. The intention is to replicate the current model of a single supplier contract to deliver both the PrintSmart and HPS elements of the service. The new

- contract will incorporate a reduction in the number of multi-function devices required for the PrintSmart service, to reflect the continued reduction in print volumes and the expected rationalisation of the office estate.
- 18. A key requirement of the new print contract will be the provision of encrypted internet printing, sometimes referred to as a 'cloud based' print service, to align with proposals for HPSN3 which will replace the County Council's current Wide Area Network (HPSN2) with internet connectivity for each site, from late 2021. A detailed specification of the requirements for the print service has been developed in close collaboration with IT Services.
- 19. The new print services contract will be procured through a competition under an existing available Crown Commercial Services (CSS) Framework reducing procurement time and cost for HCC. This is the same procurement route used for the current print services contract. The new contract will be for a duration of up to 5 years.

#### Heating Oil and Road Fuels Framework

- 20. The current framework for the provision of heating oil and road fuels, and associated HCC call-off contract, expires in March 2021. The framework is used to procure heating oil and road fuels for HCC corporate sites and its vehicle fleet and for schools, academies, Hampshire Constabulary (HC) and HFRS as well as a number of other district and unitary authorities.
- 21. HCC has provided a continuous heating oil and road fuels procurement arrangement for more than 10 years on behalf of the Council, blue light services and other public sector organisations. There is no suitable alternative framework which provides the solutions the HCC framework offers for the variety of fuel and fuel monitoring ability.
- 22. It is now proposed to procure a new framework to replace the current arrangements. The new framework will have the added benefit of an option for the provision of biofuels / hydrogenated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel. This will support the reduction of road vehicle carbon and emissions where electric vehicles are not a viable alternative for larger delivery and service vehicles. A pilot project led by Hampshire Transport Management (HTM) is currently assessing the effectiveness and costs of biofuels in operation.
- 23. The new framework will also include and extend the option for remote fuel level monitoring to aid automatic deliveries for re-fuelling and support a reduction in delivery mileage.
- 24. The framework will comprise two lots, conventional fuels and biofuels, each with a single supplier. The structure of the framework has been determined following a thorough assessment of the previous arrangements, what is best for the customers and site occupiers and what gives the best opportunity to measure and control performance, delivery efficiency and reduce delivery mileage, exhaust emissions and carbon. The proposed approach is also

- expected to achieve the best market response, given the complexity of providers in this business.
- 25. Annual call off contracts under the framework will provide heating oil and road fuels to HCC corporate sites and vehicle fleet. Schools and partner organisations, including HC and HFRS, will also be able to establish their own call off contracts under the framework arrangement, along with other councils and local authorities.
- 26. The new framework contract will be for a duration of up to 4 years and will be procured by an open tender procedure.

#### **Financial**

#### **Grounds maintenance contracts**

- 27. The estimated value of the proposed call off contracts for HCC corporate sites is up to £5 million over a maximum 7 year call off period. This will be funded from existing departmental revenue budget allocations.
- 28. The anticipated additional contract spend for schools and partners is up to £9 million over the 7 year duration.

#### Print services contract

29. The estimated total value of the proposed new print services contract is £5 million over the maximum 5 year contract period. This expenditure will be funded from existing departmental revenue budget allocations.

#### Heating oil and road fuels framework

- 30. The maximum anticipated HCC spend under the framework is £30 million over the 4 year period, to be funded from existing departmental revenue budget allocations.
- 31. The anticipated maximum total spend under the framework is £55 million over the 4 year period.

#### Performance

32. All of the proposed new contract arrangements will incorporate robust performance management arrangements in line with contract management best practice. Management information will be used to inform the regular assessment of supplier performance and action will be taken to address and shortfall in performance.

#### **Consultation and Equalities**

- 33. Internal and external customer representatives have been consulted on the requirements for the new contracts and their feedback has been incorporated into the proposed contract arrangements and scope of service.
- 34. Equality Impact Assessments undertaken for these contracts have indicated no impact on groups with protected characteristics.

#### REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

#### Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	no

#### Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document	<u>Location</u>	
None		

#### **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

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- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionally low.

#### 2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

2.1. The services procured through the proposed contracts support the continued operation of sites and services across the County Council, schools and wider public sector in Hampshire for the equal benefit of all service users.

#### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

#### Report

Committee/Panel:	Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel
Date:	13 October 2020
Title:	Climate Change and Energy Programmes Update
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services

**Contact name:** Steve Clow

Tel: 0370 779 8845 Email: steve.clow@hants.gov.uk

#### **Purpose of this Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to update members of Buildings Land and Procurement Panel (BLaPP) on progress in relation to energy and carbon reduction programmes in the context of the declaration of a climate emergency by the County Council in 2019. It also explains that a much wider and inclusive approach is now required to measure the total carbon consumption based on the latest national benchmark guidance.

#### Recommendations

- 2. That progress on the energy and carbon reduction programmes be noted.
- 3. That the further reduction in the County Councils carbon emissions to 2020 in relation to corporate buildings, street lighting and officer travel of 3.4% contributing to a total reduction since 2010 of 46.7% be noted. This is well on track to meet the target of 50% by 2025 previously approved by the Executive Member.
- 4. That BLaPP note the new context in which the carbon and energy programmes now sit and support the research into measuring the wider carbon emissions of the built estate. Proposals for future programmes of work will be brought back to this panel for consideration in due course.
- 5. That BLaPP support the early work to define the challenge of achieving net zero carbon by 2050 in relation to the built estate in support of the County Councils commitments and in line with the Climate Change Strategy approved by Cabinet in September 2020.

#### **Executive Summary**

- 6. The County Council declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 in support of the national government and in line with many other Local Authorities. This set two challenging targets for the Council and County area to be carbon neutral by 2050 and to build resilience to a two degree rise in temperature. The Councils own built estate and property activities are a significant contributor to the emissions.
- 7. Since 2010 the focus of the Councils Property Services has been on the reduction of carbon emission in relation to our corporate buildings, street lighting and business travel through a range of Energy Performance Programmes (EPPs). These have been successful in achieving a reduction in the specific scope of 46.7% over the decade. This has translated to cumulative cost savings of £30m over this period (including schools in the first phase of the plan from 2010 to 2015).
- 8. Setting the target of carbon neutrality by 2050 across all the County Councils activities significantly increases the scope of the work and magnifies the challenge well beyond any previous programme. This report will explain the early work that is now underway to define the current total emissions across all activities in line with accepted national guidance on the metrics and definition of carbon. This now needs to include, for example, the schools estate, embedded carbon in construction and the emissions created off site by energy consumption. The scope of the previous carbon reduction programme will be absorbed into the new approach. To put this into context as the wider emissions come into scope, the previous carbon reduction programme was little more than 10% of the new required approach.
- 9. The scale of the task just to get accurate data on the total emissions should not be underestimated. Work has now been underway for many months to assess and capture this. The Carbon Trust have been commissioned by the Council to provide expert assistance and advice in collating and measuring the emissions from a wide range of sources. They have been working with Property Services to share methodologies and innovative ways of data capture to ensure a consistent and robust baseline is created. This is essential on which to base the evidence for the priorities of future phases of the programme and to create a long term plan to achieve the target.
- 10. The report contains an update on the Energy Performance Programmes and demonstrates that good, solid progress continues to be made. Work is ongoing on improving building performance, installing LED lights, measuring and procuring our energy efficiently and delivering renewable energy projects. This work has been funded by the County Council capital energy fund and the investment continues to be paid back over time by energy savings. External loan and grant funding have been leveraged through national initiatives like Salix.

11. The definition and data capture work are now progressing at speed and it is intended to report regularly to BLaPP on this subject in future meetings. It is also proposed to include a detailed presentation to members at a future meeting to enable more debate, discussion and Member input on this very important matter.

#### Climate Change Strategy – Energy and Infrastructure workstream

- 12. Phase 2 of the carbon reduction strategy (2015 to 2025) has concentrated on reducing carbon emissions from the corporate estate and business travel by officers, with good progress reported annually to this Panel. Following the County Council's Climate Change Emergency declaration of July 2019 and its adoption of the policy objectives of net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2050 and increased resilience to the impacts of a 2°C rise, this approach is now being widened in scope through a series of workstreams overseen by the Director of CCBS, under the County Council's Climate Change Strategy.
- 13. An 'Energy and Infrastructure' workstream has been established, covering all the County Council's freehold and leasehold land, buildings, highways and street lighting. In line with the internationally recognised Greenhouse Gas Protocol definitions, this workstream addresses the following emissions issues:
  - Scope 1: Direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the heating of the corporate and schools' estate, together with the greenhouse gas emissions (methane and nitrous oxide) from the rural estate.
  - Scope 2: Indirect CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to electricity consumption within the corporate and schools' estate and streetlighting.
  - Scope 3: Indirect CO<sub>2</sub> emissions embodied in the manufacture, transport and construction of the Council's building and highway works, together with those from the energy consumption of offsite digital data storage.
- 14. The total carbon emissions in scope for the Energy and Infrastructure workstream is currently estimated to be 125,000 tonnes and a very high level estimate for all three scope emissions is 200,000 tonnes. In particular the latter figure should be taken with come caution at this stage as measuring emissions that are indirectly created in the manufacture of products that we buy is challenging. The Director of CCBS will continue to undertake further research and engage with national experts like the Carbon Trust to refine the data.

- 15. In addition to emissions, the Energy and Infrastructure workstream will also attempt to measure and addresses the following climate change and sustainability issues:
- 16. The impact of climate change on the County Council's energy consumption, buildings and infrastructure arising from a potential 2°C rise and the adaptation measures required.
- 17. Nitrate effluent, potable water consumption, construction waste and loss of natural capital arising from the operation and development of the County Council's buildings and infrastructure.
- 18. Data is being collated on the above issues to establish a baseline 'State of the Estate' summary report, providing a wider and comprehensive context for the relative scale of the issues, current performance and the impact of investments made to date. Such rigorous, holistic, data-driven research is an essential foundation for the formation of a long-term strategic approach to the investment decisions that will be required over the next 30 years to reduce the County Council's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to net-zero and address the impacts of the changing climate.
- 19. It is proposed to bring a summary of the 'State of the Estate' report to a future meeting of this panel in 2021. Initial progress to date indicates some key challenges and opportunities:
- 20. Embodied emissions from construction activity represent a significant proportion of the County Council's energy and infrastructure annual emissions. Establishing accurate data across several hundred contracts each year to measure progress on reducing these embodied emissions will be a necessary but very complex challenge.
- 21. With increasing progress in the 'greening' of the National Grid, reductions in the County Council's electrical consumption will have progressively less impact on its own carbon reduction in the future, potentially requiring a shift in focus to concentrate on other causes of emissions.
- 22. There may be potential to use the County Council's land and buildings to offset and sequester a proportion of its own carbon emissions.
- 23. In due course, the Scope 3 emissions of the Travel, Food, Product Lifecycle and Environment workstreams (other streams overseen by the Director of CCBS) will be added to those of Energy and Infrastructure to establish a complete CO<sub>2</sub> emissions summary of all the County Council's activities and the scale of the challenge and opportunities they represent to achieve a net-

zero carbon footprint by 2050.

#### **Energy Programmes Activity & Update**

24. Further good progress has been made in the 2019/20 "energy year" in reducing carbon emissions by 3.4% from street lighting and buildings in the corporate estate and business travel by officers. Emissions have reduced by 46.7% since 2010 and the County Council is on track to achieve the 50% reduction by 2025 if not earlier. The table below outlines the positive progress the County Council has made in the reduction of emissions in scope of the Carbon Management Plan agreed by Cabinet in July 2010.

**Table of Carbon Emissions from 2010** 

Sector	2010 Emissions Tonnes	2015 Emissions Tonnes	2016 Emissions Tonnes	2017 Emissions Tonnes	2018 Emissions Tonnes	2019 Emissions Tonnes	2020 Emissions Tonnes	2025 Target Emissions
Corporate Buildings	21,000	19,060	16,829	16,830	16,425	14,928	13,772	
Street Lighting	26,600	17,558	13,450	12,119	11,560	11,234	10,717	
Officer Travel	6,600	4,889	4,534	4,605	4,420	4,555	4,395	
Total	54,200	41,507	34,813	33,554	32,405	30,717	28,884	27,100
% Reduction	-	-23.4%	-35.8%	-38.1%	-40.2%	-43.3%	-46.7%	-50.0%

- 25. 2018/19 was the final year of the nationally reported Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) scheme, which provided the method for calculating our carbon emissions year on year against the original base year of 2010. The base year factor had been used to calculate our carbon footprint each year to ensure our savings have been due to decreased consumption rather than just "cleaner" electricity generation.
- 26. The future reporting of the carbon emissions of the County Council will be reported in line with the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reporting and will be widened to cover Scopes, 1 2 and 3 as part of the Climate Change Strategy. The national Carbon Reduction Commitment Phase 2 (2014/15) excluded the school estate from the carbon emission figures, but with the wider and more challenging climate change agenda at the forefront now our forward reporting will again include schools carbon reporting aligned with the Scopes 1, 2 & 3 criteria noted previously.

#### **Energy Programmes Headlines**

27. Below are some key highlights of progress on the Energy Performance Programmes that have been successfully running for some years. These have been and will continue to be reported to BLaPP but will need to be incorporated into the longer term strategy and action plan for the County Council approved by Cabinet in September this year.

- Energy Performance Programme 4 LED Lighting £1.62m programme nearing completion. Saving over £200,000 and around 600 tonnes of carbon.
- Energy Performance Programme 4, 5 & 6 for Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCP) have delivered Public EVCPs at Calshot Activities Centre, Country Parks and more are being delivered. The Central Southern Regional EVCP Framework is being used by 55 Contracting Authorities delivering EV infrastructure with 382 EV charge points installed to date and many more planned. HCC have installed 138 so far (126 fleet and 12 public) with more underway as part of a planned network to be in place to support business activities. The three Winchester Park and Rides car parks, Manor Farm and River Hamble Country Park and other locations are planned.
- Energy Performance Programme 5 Battery Storage a feasibility study has been undertaken and a pilot project planned.
- Energy Performance Programme 6 The Salix Corporate Estate
   Decarbonisation fund is being set up and will focus on more LED lighting,
   Solar PV, and integrating energy saving works into maintenance programmes.
- Corporate Solar PV Programme This £1m programme is complete. 38
   Corporate Buildings have PV installed with the installation at Bar End warehouse in contract.
- Schools Energy Performance Programme continues to deliver energy cost reduction where 30 schools have already benefitted from LED lighting, and energy efficiency projects over the past 2 years saving £116,000 and 380 tonnes of carbon.
  - Schools PV Schools continue to engage with Property Services for solutions to support Climate Change and carbon/energy reduction. Property Services energy team continue to engage with schools on the solutions for PV and have a business case prepared for a Schools Salix de-carbonisation fund
- The Property Services Energy Team continue to engage and share their expertise with other Local Authorities promoting best practice and enablement.

#### **Energy & Utility Services.**

#### **Electricity & Gas**

28. The Electricity and Gas contract for Hampshire County Council (HCC) and public sector partners has been re-procured and will commence in October 2020. The new contract provides the benefit of flexible purchasing of energy when the market is attractive. The contract also offers the provision of purchasing fully renewable Electrical Energy from sustainable generation sources to reduce Carbon.

- 29. The option and scheme for purchasing Electrical renewable energy is by use of a "Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin" certificate (REGO). This evidences the energy used is from renewable sources only. This is a significant option as it provides the Council, Schools and Partners a facility to help achieving Carbon reduction targets.
- 30. The REGO cost premium it is very small and can be offset by savings achieved in the new contract flexible procurement. The HCC Corporate Estate REGO cost is £32k per annum against an annual cost of around £6.5m. For schools, the cost is £32.6k against an annual cost of £6.7m. The decision for changing to fully renewable energy using the REGO scheme for the Corporate Estate has been supported by the Climate Change Board for approval and announced by the Leader at Cabinet in September 2020. This is step made possible by the recent procurement of energy contracts which facilitate the purchase of carbon neutral electricity. Moving to carbon neutral space and water heating is much more challenging and it is hoped that the recent announcement of a national De-Carbonisation fund (referred to below) will provide an opportunity to secure funding for this. It should be noted that the carbon reduction as a result of purchasing REGOs represents around 5% of the total scope 1,2,3 emissions. More will be reported to a future meeting of the panel.

#### **Energy Consultancy Services**

31. The development of specialist energy & utilities consultancy has delivered significant efficiencies for the Council and tangible financial, and qualitative benefits which can be evidenced within this paper providing savings in excess of £2.5m as a result of astute forward purchase of energy etc. Additional qualitative benefits are in areas of supplier relationship management; contract rationalisation by combining fractional and legacy industry elements; improved invoicing and payment processes, improved understanding of energy markets; proactive support with external blue light partners and other Councils; and the opportunity for further savings, efficiencies as the markets change.

#### **Liquid Fuels**

32. The Heating Oil & Road Fuels framework contract is in the process of being re-procured for HCC and partners including Blue light services (refer to elsewhere on this agenda). This is a new generation framework and will include the provision of Biofuels such as Hydrogenated Vegetable Oils (HVO), which is considered a growing need for larger fleet vehicles where Electric Vehicles are not a viable alternative, and supports clean air and decarbonisation of the Councils transport fleet. The contract for Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) has been extended for a further period to identify and develop efficiencies within the supply chain for the future contract procurement.

#### **Water Services**

33. Following deregulation of the commercial water industry HCC procured a new contract which amalgamated the eight existing water supply, and waste-water contracts into one inclusive contract. This provided efficiency and consistency in billing and payment, reduced contract administration and accurate water data. The contract further included a Hampshire wide water resilience strategy to ensure key Council services are supported in potential drought events.

#### **Government Announcements**

34. In July 2020 the Government announced £1bn grant funding to support "A Plan for Jobs 2020" which refers to the Governments 2017 Clean Growth Strategy38 to support the Green recovery. The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (Clean Growth Strategy), set out the government's ambition to halve greenhouse gas emissions from the public sector by 2032. This scheme is targeted to fund both energy efficiency and low carbon heat upgrades which cannot easily be delivered within the existing Salix loan scheme's criteria. The de-carbonisation grant aims to deliver funding for the more challenging initiatives within the public sector building environment. The fund strategy was announced in September 2020 through Salix Finance being a department of Business Enterprise & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Bids are being compiled by Property Services for submission for both the Corporate and school's estate to develop and deliver the opportunity.

#### **Consultation and Equalities**

- 35. At this stage consultation is limited to internal departments and functions as the response to the Climate Change Strategy is developed.
- 36. There is no current requirement for an Equalities Impact Assessment, but these will be done when programmes of work are defined that impact on service delivery or community involvement.

#### REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

## Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes	
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	No	
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No	
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	No	
OR		
This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:		

# Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u> <u>Location</u>
None



#### HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Report

Committee/ Panel:	Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel	
Date:	13 October 2020	
Title:	Property Services: Major Programmes Update	
Report From:	Director of Culture, Communities and Business Services	

Contact names: Steve Clow

Tel: 0370 779 8845 Email: steve.clow@hants.gov.uk

## **Purpose of this Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel on a number of key programmes of work being undertaken by Property Services.

#### Recommendation

2. That the Buildings, Land and Procurement Panel notes the progress of each of the programmes of work.

## **Executive Summary**

- 4. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the major programmes, project and issues currently being progressed relating to:
  - Category Development and Construction Framework Management regional and national leadership
  - Children's Services Schools capital programme design and delivery during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis

# 5. Category Development and Construction Framework Management

- 6. A new function called Category Development was established in Property Services during the Property Futures change programme to manage the diverse procurement arrangements across consultancy, construction, utilities and Facilities Management (FM). The role of the team is to ensure all the arrangements meet the current needs of the business, drive efficiencies, plan future spend strategies, and to manage relationships with suppliers. Bringing the management of all these arrangements into one efficient team will ensure a joined up and consistent approach. The service has identified around fifty different procurement arrangements such as frameworks, term agreements or long term contracts across the portfolio, and have categorised them into:
  - Construction
  - Utilities
  - Consultancy
  - Hard FM (building and engineering maintenance etc)
  - Soft FM (waste collection cleaning, office management, post and print etc)
- For some of these arrangements, the Director of CCBS has entered into Joint 8. Working Agreements (JWA) with other authorities to procure on a regional basis in order to share costs and to benefit from large scale aggregation. This methodology lends itself to larger scale work such as construction and consultancy. Property Services has a JWA with Devon County Council to procure and manage a suite of regional construction framework for major projects which was launched in April 2015 and was re procured in 2019. This consistently delivers in excess of £500m construction work a year for a wide range of public sector organisations including local authorities, universities, health clients and blue light services in the South of England and London. It is planned to procure a framework for public sector house building later in 2020 to meet demand which the construction framework is unable to deliver, and have been approached by Acivico, Birmingham City Council's property service who wish to join with Hampshire and Devon Councils. We also have a JWA with Devon County Council and Manchester City Council to procure a consultancy framework covering the full scope of Property Asset Consultancy provision in the South of England, London, the North West and West Midlands. This was awarded in early August.
- 9. Utilities includes our estate power requirements and provision for schools, Police and Fire Authorities. Gas and Electricity spend alone amounts to £20m per annum and our work involves continuous review to deliver efficiencies in spend and invoicing procedures. We are also considering carbon neutral "green" purchasing options to meet the Council's carbon targets and this is referred to in the Climate Change report elsewhere on the this meetings agenda.

- Hard FM includes our term maintenance arrangements for around 7,500 Council 10. buildings on approximately 1,500 sites. Total spend is around £15m per annum revenue and a review is under way to ensure the arrangement is maximising efficiencies. The contract is over half way through and early consideration in being given to the design, format and structure of the future client requirements to ensure there is maximum value for money, delivery of a quality of service and effective supply chain management. Property Service manages this contract on behalf of over 300 schools which buy into the service – there are significant economies of scale in collaboration and it generates income for the department.
- Soft FM is the most varied and challenging category including arrangements such as cleaning, security, grounds maintenance, printing services and waste collection. Spend is significant in excess of £5m per annum. We arrange contracts for the corporate estate and also make them available to schools and other public sector partners such as District Authorities, Fire and Police. Our key role is to ensure that the suppliers deliver best value for money and excellent service. There is a real drive on procuring effective services and managing them closely over the life of any contract. The service has oversight of a very wide range of contracts and manages the future tender pipeline supported by corporate procurement to ensure compliance with regulations and timely planning an delivery.
- 12. All of this work includes a levy on the underlying contracts which provides an income stream to cover costs, support our wider business, make contributions to overheads in the service and contributes to essential revenue savings in line with T19 and T21 targets. In the financial year 2019 / 2020, the total levy charged was £1,973,000 against a total team income capacity of £1,162,000 which represents £811,000 contribution to overheads. A 70% surplus on costs which is essential to the business model of Property.
- 13. The effects of the Coronavirus pandemic and resultant National lockdown coincided with the launch of the new cleaning contract for the corporate estate and the extension of the grounds maintenance contracts. The team has negotiated temporary commercial agreements on these and other FM contracts, balancing the impacts on our local suppliers with cost to the Council through advice from the Head of Finance.
- 14. The Services innovative work on regional frameworks has been replicated throughout England and Wales and the lead authorities in these regions have come together to form a body supported by the Local Government Association called the National Association of Construction Frameworks (NACF). It has as its mission to drive quality, efficiency, social value and innovation in publicly funded construction projects. The body is chaired by team leader of the Category Development team. The diagram below shows how the frameworks have developed under the NACF that delivers a collective total of around £2bn construction projects every year.

https://nacf.org.uk/

- 15. The benefits of collaboration and consultation with other authorities is well recognised by the category team, and the service has long run information sharing meetings with other South East authorities including Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex and Kent. Recently, led by the Assistant Director Property Services the team have established a new network, the Southern Public Sector Property Services Network which has brought together key senior officers from Dorset, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex and Kent to explore areas of collaboration and to share information. Reading and Southampton are expected to join in the near future.
- 16. This approach to collaboration and sharing culminated recently in a meeting between sponsoring Councillors from Hampshire and Devon County Councils. Portfolio holders Councillor Reid and Councillor Parsons from Devon agreed to have collective oversight of the joint working as strategic plans for the future are developed, including the implementation of a new Supply Chain Portal to give more opportunity to local supply chains and to form closer working ties with the local industry.

# Children's Services Schools capital programme – design and delivery during the ongoing Covid-19 crisis

- 17. The construction of all the school capital projects that were critical for delivery of additional school places this September continued to progress well on site since late March despite the Covid-19 outbreak. Disruption and any additional cost was minimised and work continued positively and safely on all projects on site.
- 18. In March 2020, the Cabinet Office issued Procurement Policy Note (PPN) 02/20 providing guidance for public bodies on payment of at risk suppliers and contractors to ensure continuity of service both during and after the Covid-19 outbreak. There have been a number of updates to this guidance and a further PPN 04/20 was issued in June providing guidance on payment to suppliers and contractors during the recovery and transition period following easing of the lockdown.
- 19. A review of at risk contractors was undertaken and measures were put in place to assist contractors and their supply chains where required, following the guidance in PPN02/20. Measures included ensuring prompt payment of invoices to maintain cash flow and 14-day valuations for larger contracts, where requested by the contractor to further improve cashflow. The level of retention held on previously completed projects was also reviewed and released where appropriate.
- 20. Although some capital projects did pause for a number weeks at the start of the Covid-19 lockdown, due to a lack of materials and/or availability of labour, only relatively small delays and costs were experienced. Over this period contractors

reviewed their sites and operating procedures and amended these to ensure compliance with central government and Construction Leadership Council (CLC) guidance on Covid site operating procedures. In this process contractors have been treated fairly to ensure that they are not penalised through the application of any contract penalties, within the spirt of the PPN-02/20 guidance.

- 21. The Property Services team working on the design and delivery of these new schools, school extensions and improvement works have been predominantly working from home over this period. Using mobile and online technology, they have worked collaboratively with contractors and the supply chain enabling all projects to continue construction on site safely. Contingency plans were developed to ensure the projects that needed to be finished to provide new school places were prioritised and these have all remained on track to deliver for both September 2020 and 2021 completions. There were eight projects due to complete for September 2020 and September 2021, together these will provide 3,050 additional school places.
- 22. The two new academy primary schools at Kings Barton, Winchester and Stoneham Park, Eastleigh, progressed well and completed at the end of July and August respectively. Both projects experienced some modest delay and loss of productivity as a result of the requirement to socially distance on site but remained on programme to install the loose furniture and IT equipment once the building works were complete and were operational in September 2020. These are operated as Academies by the University of Winchester. The University has recently written to Property Services to thank them for the exceptional efforts to keep the work going and the quality of the product. This is a key strand for the Service to ensure that the County Council retain the commissions to deliver schools in Hampshire irrespective of governance or funding sources. These new schools and those in design or construction are evidence of the success of this strategy in delivering good quality new school places on time and to budget.
- 23. Extension projects at Colden Common Primary and Kings Copse Primary also completed for September 2020, the contractor at Colden Common did have to temporarily close the site due to the inability to secure materials and labour during the Covid-19 lockdown. However, the contractor got back on site quickly and achieved successful completion.
- The new academy secondary, Deer Park School, at Botley and a new special school, Austen Academy, in Basingstoke are both progressing well on site and are due to open as planned in 2021. Deer Park School will be operated by the Wildern Academy Trust and Austen Academy will be operated by Catch 22.
- 25. The new permanent building for Cornerstone Primary School, North Whiteley, commenced on site in early June. The start on site was delayed by about a month due to the Covid-19 outbreak but the contractor has reprogrammed works and is still targeting to complete their works in the summer of 2021 for the school to be operational as planned in September 2021.
- 26. Design work is progressing well on all other projects, as planned, and the next

- significant tender returns were received over the summer and were acceptable so work has commenced on site for the extension proposed to Calthorpe Park School to provide 300 additional secondary school places. It is anticipated that this project will complete in the autumn of 2021.
- 27. Following the completion of Oakmoor School in autumn 2019 the contract to demolish the previous Mill Chase Academy school buildings has now commenced, the works are anticipated to complete in early 2021 and includes the demolition of the existing leisure centre once the new facility is open in the town centre all planned as part of the wider regeneration project for Whitehill and Bordon.
- 28. There has also been good progress on much needed work to improve facilities and capacity for special educational needs and disability (SEND) provision across Hampshire. In addition to the new Austen Academy noted in paragraph 14 above, the second phase of the improvement works to St Francis School, Fareham, have been started on site. These works are planned to be complete in summer 2021. The proposals to create a Waterloo School satellite SEND provision on the Woodcote Primary School site in Gosport are also now on site. These works are principally remodelling and more modest in scale so they will be completed more quickly. These works are due to complete over the summer.
- 29. The proposals for improvement and extension works to Shepherds Down School, Winchester are at tender stage and design proposals for an Osborne School satellite SEND provision on the Kings School site in Winchester are being developed.
- 30. Work is now underway for the replacement of the existing school buildings at Fryern Junior School, Chandler's Ford and Grange Junior School, Gosport. The total cost estimate for full replacement of these two schools is in the order of £15m. The project team have mitigated impacts of Covid-19 on the programme and building works have commenced on site for the school replacement project at Fryern Junior School. Modern methods of off-site construction will minimize time on site and disruption to the schools who remain on site during the rebuilding works. Building modules are due to begin arriving on site in late November. Design work and contractor procurement is ongoing for Grange Junior School. Value for money is being realised through the economies of scale in adopting a common and innovative approach to the design and delivery of both schools.
- 31. The basic need programme for temporary modular classrooms for this year comprises 9 schemes with a total value of £2m. This includes the relocation of existing units to Alderwood, Portway, Harrow Way, Talavera and Riverside schools; a new double unit with hygiene room at Forest Park; and a unit with enhanced facilities for SEND at Rachel Maddocks to meet the demands of a bulge in pupil numbers in September 2020. The modular contractors procured to deliver these did have a period of factory closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but they maintained programme and have delivered the classrooms required for the start of the academic year. The relocation of units to Brookfield and

- Glenwood schools will be carried out in the autumn term as they are not required for new places in September.
- 32. Children's Services have identified funding of £5m over three years (2019/20-2021/22) to address the suitability of school learning environments. Key workstreams have been identified and are to be prioritised within the provisional funding allocations; these have been themed around teaching spaces, lighting, pupil toilet provision, food technology classrooms and science laboratories. The programme paused due to restricted access to schools during the Covid-19 lockdown period. The programme has now recommenced. Suitability works for SEN schools has been added to key workstreams already identified and provisional funding allocations adjusted accordingly. The first phase of projects has been completed on site, design work on others is underway and the last tranche of projects are to be agreed. Value for money and meeting suitability key criteria remain the focus to identify the remaining cohort of priority projects for further phases. The first phase of expenditure of £1m of this funding has been committed this year for toilet refurbishments, lighting, and classroom ventilation, with further phases of £2m per year to follow.
- 33. Feasibility work and dialogue with the District and Borough Councils are progressing for future school projects in relation to planned new housing developments across Hampshire. These include the potential for new primary schools at Hartland Park in Fleet, Manydown and Hounsome Fields in Basingstoke, Welborne in Fareham, Berewood in Waterlooville, Horton Heath in Eastleigh, Wellesley in Aldershot, and a new secondary school for North Whiteley. Through negotiation with developers' suitable sites and funding contributions are being sought through S106 agreements. The design of these schools will maintain good standards of provision, delivered on time, to a good quality and at lower cost in response to continued pressure on public spending.

## **CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**

# Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

# Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>	
None		

#### **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

## 1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it:
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionally low.

#### 2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

2.1 An equalities impact assessment is not considered relevant in relation to the contents of this report.

