

HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Association meeting held at on Friday 27 January at Hart District Council at 10.00 am.

Present:

Basingstoke and Deane	Councillor P Harvey T Curtis (Director of Planning and Transport)
East Hampshire	Councillor E Cartwright (Chairman) B Price (Strategic Manager)
Eastleigh	Councillor A Winstanley C Holloway (Deputy Chief Executive)
Fareham	Councillor S Woodward A Davies (Chief Executive)
Gosport	Councillor A Hayward Councillor M Hook I Lycett (Chief Executive)
Hampshire	Councillor J Glen Councillor R Perry P Robertson (Chief Executive) J Coughlan (Head of Children's Services) J Lovelock (Corporate Policy Manager)
Hart	Councillor S Gorys V Evans (Acting Chief Executive)
Havant	Councillor A Briggs G Andrews (Managing Director)
New Forest	D Yates (Chief Executive)
Portsmouth	Councillor L Mason
Rushmoor	Councillor J Marsh Councillor P Moyle (Vice-Chairman) A Lloyd (Chief Executive)
Southampton	Councillor A Vinson Councillor J Baston J Bridge (Senior Adult and Community Learning Manager) A Trayer (Waste Collection and Recycling Manager)
Test Valley	Councillor J Heron T Van der Hoven (Head of Administration)
Winchester	Councillor T Evans Councillor J Wagner

Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils	S Lugg (Director)
Eastleigh Community Services	K Dufton (Chief Executive)
Hampshire Police Authority	M Attenborough-Cox (Chairman)
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Government Association	J Adams (representing Director) D Allen (PA to Director)
National Institute for Adult Continuing Education	M Ravenhall (Senior Development Officer) J Williams (Regional Development Officer)
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Learning and Skills Council	R Munson (Head of Operations) G Marsden (Adult Team)

Also in attendance:

Government Office for the South East	C Evans (Locality Manager, Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Government Office for the South East)
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1.06 WELCOME

Councillor Anthony Barrell, Chairman of Hart District Council, welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2.06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Pattie (East Hampshire); Councillors K House and Councillor P Wall (Eastleigh); Councillors A Rice, K Thornber and M Woodhall (Hampshire); Councillor M Cartwright and J Bonney (Hampshire Fire and Rescue); Councillor J Pittfield (Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils); Councillor S Parker (Hart); Councillor D Gillett (Havant); Councillors A Sutton, D Tuson and J Wood (Isle of Wight); B Lawson (Isle of Wight Association of Parish and Town Councils); Councillor M Robinson (LGA); Councillors M Holding and M Kendal (New Forest); Councillor J Bridle (Southampton); Councillor T Jackson (Test Valley) and Councillor S Campbell (Winchester).

3.06 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2005 were agreed as a correct record. The Chairman reported that a letter had been sent to the ODPM in support of Surrey LGA's representations on the future of public sector partnerships (minute 51.05).

4.06 LIFELONG LEARNING

The Chairman introduced Mark Ravenhall and Jenny Williams of the National Institute for Adult Continuing Education (NIACE).

Mr Ravenhall and Ms Williams gave a presentation from both the national and regional perspective which focussed on:

- ! The background to and role of NIACE
- ! Its work with and for the LGA
- ! Its support to and for adult learning in local authorities
- ! Local authorities and adult learning
- ! Government policy in adult learning
- ! The work of NIACE in the regions
- ! South East regional activity

Robert Munson of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Learning and Skills Council (LSC) reported on its work concerning adult learning.

John Bridge of Southampton City Council gave a perspective from the local authority point of view.

Mr Ravenhall, Mr Munson and Mr Bridge answered questions and concerns from those present including:

- ! the potential for liaison with doctors regarding the high prescription of anti-depressants which links with learning could possibly reduce
- ! the importance of local authorities in the link between leisure and learning
- ! concerns over the Government's future funding and support for LSCs.

Consideration was also given to a background report by the Director which highlighted the changing role of local authority adult education particularly in Portsmouth and Southampton together with the role and perspective of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Skills Council.

The Chairman thanked Mark Ravenhall, Jenny Williams, Rob Munson and John Bridge for their contributions.

RESOLVED

That Member Authorities recognise the importance of developing lifelong learning in their corporate and community plans.

5.06 MANAGING HAMPSHIRE'S RECOVERED RESOURCES - THE CASE FOR CHANGE AND A PROPOSED MODEL FOR THE FUTURE

Peter Robertson introduced a report by the Chief Executive of Basingstoke and Deane and the Chief Executives' Group.

The report set out the case for change and outlined the preferred model of strategic clusters proposed by the Project Integra Strategic Officers' Group. It proposed that the detailed planning and implementation of this model should be led by Chief Executives from both a waste collection and waste disposal authority, assisted by a joint officers' group.

The following issues were raised in discussion:

- ! concerns in some authorities that there had been no consultation on proposals at member level. It was accepted that Member input would be sought before the proposals were formally agreed

- ! the need for money saving and adding value to be fully included in the proposals
- ! recognition of district council input
- ! the importance of finding new markets for recycled materials
- ! involvement of professional people important
- ! the need for landfill credits to be fed back to district councils
- ! the need for sharing management potential and best practice between district councils and Hampshire County Council.

Support for the proposals was given by many of those present.

In the light of the points raised in discussion it was:

RESOLVED

- (1) That the proposal in this paper be endorsed as the outline model for the future;
- (2) That the Chief Executives of Southampton City Council and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council lead the planning and implementation of the revised model assisted by a group of officers from Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and other Waste Collection Authorities;
- (3) That the Project Integra Board should continue in its current capacity for the time being and act as advisor when the proposal is debated more widely;
- (4) That joint working already being explored (for example, Test Valley/New Forest and in North and North East Hampshire) should continue and feed into this process where appropriate;
- (5) That the Terms of Reference for the Group referred to in recommendation (2) should be to:
 - ! inform the HIOW Association of all developments via the Chief Executives' Group
 - ! develop detailed proposals for the practical implementation of the model, including definitions of roles, legal and financial implications
 - ! oversee the development of a draft constitution for the model
 - ! conduct workshops with Project Integra Members and Officers and others as required
 - ! brief , inform and consult individual authorities' members as necessary;
- (6) That the timescale should include a report to the HIOW Association by the end of September 2006, having passed proposals by the Project Integra Board for comment/endorsement on 6 July 2006.

6.06 UPDATE ON REORGANISATION OF POLICE AND HEALTH SERVICES IN HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Consideration was given to a report of the Director which updated Members on the current position regarding reorganisations in the Police and Health Services.

Mike Attenborough-Cox (Chairman of the Hampshire Police Authority) thanked those present for their support for a stand alone force and gave an update on the present position. He would keep this Association informed on the situation.

Many of those present re-iterated their support for a stand alone force. To support this, the Police were asked to look at working practices with neighbouring forces to ensure that any incidents which occurred close to Police boundaries were attended quickly and efficiently. Support was also sought for the new Basic Command Units' work.

Dave Yates (Chief Executive of New Forest District Council) updated those present on the proposed reorganisation of the Health Service and how the new system might work. It was felt that the new PCTs should have more contact with District Councils and Local Strategic Partnerships. There was also need for stability with no more reorganisation for the foreseeable future.

Southampton voiced concerns over the lack of discussion around proposals for strategic health authorities and ambulance trusts.

Mr Yates agreed that these proposals needed to be looked at.

RESOLVED

That the Chief Executives' Group be asked to continue work to ensure the best possible joint working between the Health Service and Local Government in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight under the new arrangements.

7.06 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BUDGET FOR THE ASSOCIATION 2006/2007

The Chairman introduced a joint report by the Association's Treasurer and Director which gave details of the financial position of the Association in 2005/2006; details of the capacity building fund to support Local Strategic Partnerships obtained from ODPM and projections for 2006/2007. It also proposed that the subscription rate be increased in line with inflation to £2,050 per unit from June 2006.

Hart voiced concerns that allowing more authorities to join the Association might dilute the voting power of existing Members and felt that if this was the case then a reduction in future subscriptions should be sought.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the budget for 2006/2007 be approved; and
- (2) That the Association's membership subscription unit be increased in line with inflation to £2,050 from June 2006.

8.06 CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION TO ENABLE NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITIES TO JOIN THE ASSOCIATION

The Chairman introduced a report by the Director which suggested an amendment to allow the New Forest National Park Authority and a future South Downs authority to join the

Association. The amendment would allow both for any future changes in structure and for new single purpose authorities to join. Other related amendments to attendance and voting were also proposed.

The new Chief Executive of the New Forest National Park Authority had been invited to attend Association meetings as an observer.

Proposed by Councillor Harvey (Basingstoke and Deane) and seconded by Councillor Moyle (Rushmoor) it was formally:

RESOLVED

That the Association's constitution be amended as set out in the report.

9.06 "FIVE MINUTE SLOT" AND FUTURE AGENDA

Consideration was given to the Director's report on this subject.

The report set out a list of potential matters for discussion at the March meeting of the Association.

It was agreed to add Gypsies and Travellers to the list of potential agenda items.

It was also agreed to arrange a separate meeting for those authorities directly involved to discuss the impact of national parks together with representatives from West Sussex.

The Chairman drew attention to the joint Local Criminal Justice Board and Community Safety Conference being held on 21 February 2006.

10.06 INTERNATIONAL LINKS AND EUROPEAN FUNDING

Peter Robertson and Councillor Roy Perry (Hampshire County Council) introduced a report on this subject.

Peter Robertson reported on an internal review of European work. He also highlighted the County Council's revised vision and what was emerging from Brussels.

Councillor Perry stressed the importance of the Brussels office in helping to maximise grant funding. The Brussels office cost Hampshire County Council £50,000 per annum. Its presence gave opportunities for local authorities to express views on EU policies and opportunities to exert influence early in the process by being kept up to date on emerging policies in order to influence those decisions.

Southampton gave its support to the report and said it would be happy to endorse Hampshire's objectives. It also highlighted its relationships with cities in China and Russia.

RESOLVED

That Member authorities consider the opportunities for using the expertise developed in Hampshire County and Southampton City Councils.

11.06 CHRIS TAPP

The Chairman offered a vote of thanks to Chris Tapp, Chief Executive of Eastleigh Borough Council who would be retiring in March. Chris had been the founder Chief Executive of the Association and had played a major part in both drafting the Constitution and setting up the Association. Eastleigh's Leader had been the Association's first Chairman and Chris was the Association's first Honorary Secretary. All those present wished Chris Tapp well in his retirement.

12.06 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Association would be held on 31 March at Havant Borough Council offices.