

Item 18 - Update on Motions agreed by the Council – 22 January 2014

Date	From	Motion	Status	Accountable Director
23/01/13	Cllr Halden	<p>It is the will of council that members should defend their taxpayers. As such, council requires a specific section on every portfolio holder report to full council (delivered under the provisions of chapter 2 part 2 section 3.8 of the constitution) be dedicated to financial matters.</p> <p>This financial section of the report should cover all finance and budget issues of the portfolio that the portfolio holder considers relevant, including (but not limited to): fiscal management; budget responsibility of the cabinet member; receipts and actual spend vs. predicted spend; the levels of virements; and value for money.</p>	<p>The report template has been amended to provide for the financial information requested by the Motion to be included in the written reports submitted by Cabinet Members to future meetings of the Council. The template can be found in J:\THURROCK\Corporate Templates.</p>	Graham Farrant
27/02/13	Cllr Hague	<p>All council tax payers are entitled to a discounted rate for use of the Dartford Crossing, by filling in a form. Since the council will be writing to all council tax payers next month with the bills, the council resolves to include a copy of the form with each bill, to ensure every resident has the opportunity to take advantage of the discount.</p>	<p>An application form was included with each council tax bill sent out in March. Although the form was not in the correct format, it has been confirmed that applications will be honoured. It is also possible to apply on-line.</p> <p>Customer services received a large number of calls from residents soon after the 2013/14 Council Tax bills were sent out and the initiative seems to have stimulated demand for the discount.</p>	Sean Clark
27/03/13	Cllr Pearce	<p>Thurrock Council resolves to write to the Prime Minister David Cameron to welcome the announcement of a referendum on the United Kingdom's continued membership of the European Union.</p>	<p>A letter has been sent to the Prime Minister and a response was received from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, dated 15 May, which reads as follows:</p> <p>Thank you for your letter to the Prime Minister about the EU. As you can appreciate, the Prime Minister receives a high volume of correspondence. Where relevant, letters are delegated to officials at the appropriate government department for a response.</p>	Graham Farrant

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			<p>The Government believes that membership of the EU is in the national interest, but also that important reforms are needed in the way the EU works. The UK's membership of the European Union is of huge benefit in terms of the jobs and investment that the single market helps to bring to the UK; in terms of the strong collective voice which the EU provides on negotiating free trade agreements; through the UK's ability to use targeted, effective sanctions to counter threats to our security; and to act internationally on cross-border issues such as climate change, peace keeping and conflict prevention.</p> <p>Nevertheless, the EU needs reform. And so, while the UK is committed to playing an active and influential role across all areas of EU activity, it will also argue for reforms that will ensure the EU can better tackle the challenges it now faces. The Prime Minister has been clear that the EU must address its main challenges: the Eurozone crisis, the EU's lack of competitiveness and the disengagement that many voters feel from the EU and what it does.</p> <p>Progress on reform has already been made. For example, the UK secured a single EU patent regime which saves innovators and entrepreneurs millions of pounds in multiple patent applications and encourages economic growth. And the UK formed a coalition of the Dutch, Swedes, Danes, Finns and Germans to argue for greater restraint in the Multi-annual Financial Framework negotiations, securing a good deal for European tax payers in February 2013. This was the first ever reduction in the EU's seven-year budget.</p> <p>Reflecting the Coalition Agreement between the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats, the Government has no plans to hold a referendum about the UK's membership of the EU in this Parliament. In a speech</p>	
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			<p>given in January 2013, David Cameron outlined future proposals of the Conservative Party about such a referendum, looking ahead to the next election. Other political parties will set out their positions on a referendum in their next manifestos.”</p>	
27/03/13	Cllr J Kent	<p>Thurrock Council establishes a working group to ensure the events of the First World War are appropriately commemorated in Thurrock.</p>	<p>Nominations have now been received for the working group and a meeting will be convened at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>The Group has held its first meeting and is considering a programme of events. Local groups, schools and residents will be invited to share their ideas.</p> <p>The Group continues to meet to develop a programme of commemorative events for Thurrock.</p>	Steve Cox
27/03/13	Cllr Hebb	<p>Thurrock Council resolves to write to the Prime Minister David Cameron to show support for his recent announcement of a new proposed Chief Inspector of Hospitals in response to reported persistently high death rates at BTUH.</p>	<p>A letter has been sent to the Prime Minister and a response was received from the Department of Health on 13 May 2013, which reads as follows:</p> <p>“Thank you for your letter of 12 April to David Cameron about Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals Trust. As this matter is health-related, your letter has been passed to the Department of Health and I have been asked to reply.</p> <p>As you are aware, the NHS Medical Director, Sir Bruce Keogh, is conducting an independent investigation into 14 trusts that have higher than expected death rates, one of which is Basildon and Thurrock University Hospitals Trust. The investigation will seek to determine whether there are any sustained failings in the quality of care and treatment being provided to patients at these trusts. It will identify how these trusts can be helped to improve, including any</p>	Roger Harris

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			<p>additional regulatory action that may be needed in order to protect patients.</p> <p>NHS England selected these trusts because they had provided outlying results for the Summary Hospital-level Mortality Indicator (SHMI) for a period of two years. More information on the SHMI, including methodology and results, can be found on the NHS Information Centre's website at www.ic.nhs.uk/SHMI.</p> <p>The full terms of reference for Sir Bruce's review can be found on the website of the national commissioning board, NHS England, www.england.nhs.uk, by searching for 'Bruce Keogh outliers'.</p> <p>If you want to submit any information or raise any concerns you may have about any of the 14 hospital trusts covered by this review, details of how to do so are available on the NHS Choices website, www.nhs.uk, by searching 'Bruce Keogh review'."</p> <p>The Keogh report has now been received and the government have agreed to subject BTUH to "special measures" provisions. This will involve a team of experts providing support and monitoring to the hospital - the exact arrangements for this have not been announced. Claire Panniker (CEO of BTUH) will be attending the September meeting of the Health and Well-Being Board to go through the report in more detail and explain the hospitals initial response.</p> <p>October update - The Department of Health have recently announced what being in 'special measures' means for the eleven Trusts where 'special measures' apply following the Keogh Review:</p>	
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trusts are required to published an Improvement Plan – with monthly progress updates published;• Leadership reviewed – with Trusts required to make changes (BTUH have already made extensive changes to Board level management); Intense external scrutiny from the NHS Trust Development Authority and from Monitor – to ensure that improvement actions are being taken;• An Improvement Director will be allocated to each Trust;• Trusts could have some of their freedoms suspended – e.g. freedom to decide who sits on the executive board, how to spend their money etc. <p>How and the extent to which some of the above measures are applied will be on a case by case basis.</p> <p>November update – in January of this year, CQC carried out an inspection at the Hospital which resulted in the issuing of compliance actions against two essential standards – ‘care and welfare of people who use services’, and ‘cleanliness and infection control’, and a warning notice against another of the essential standards – ‘assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision’.</p> <p>CQC carried out a follow-up inspection in September, the report of which was published at the end of October. The inspection concluded that the warning notice could be removed and that the Hospital was meeting the outcome ‘assessing and monitoring the quality of service provision’. The inspection report also identified that the ‘cleanliness</p>	
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			and infection control' outcome was being met, but that some action was needed on outcomes 'care and welfare of people who uses services' and 'records' – but that there was minor impact on people that used the service.	
24/04/13	Cllr Hebb	Thurrock Council recognises and acknowledges the services to the nation of the late Baroness Thatcher as Prime Minister, and asks the Mayor to send the council's condolences to her family.	The Mayor had written to the Prime Minister to express condolences on behalf of the Council before the Council meeting was held in April.	Graham Farrant
19/06/13	Cllr B Rice	<p>In recognition of the growing demands on the Council and society at large caused by the increasing numbers of people with dementia this Council resolves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Thurrock will become a Dementia Friendly Council. • All members will be encouraged to gain more understanding and awareness of dementia by signing up to be a dementia friend at www.dementiafriends.org.uk and attending a one hour information session 	<p>Workforce Development are currently arranging with Members Services the dates of the dementia training that will form part of the Members Development Programme. We plan to offer approximately 4 sessions.</p> <p>We are also reviewing the delivery of our Dementia Strategy and a report on the impact of our Dementia Acton Plan and a refreshed plan for 2014/15 will be going to HOSC in the Autumn.</p> <p>January update - Workforce Development have scheduled 3 sessions for Members to undertake an hour long Dementia Friend's Information Session which will take place on from 7.00pm on Wednesday 5th, Tuesday 18th or Thursday 27th February 2014.</p>	Roger Harris
24/07/13	Cllr W Curtis	This Council calls upon Essex and Suffolk Water Company to provide a Water Ring Main to service the Buckles Lane, South Ockendon area. This is to ensure the appropriate water pressure is available to the Fire Service in the event of another fire.	<p>The issues with the water supply are associated with the site itself as opposed to the public supply provided by Essex and Suffolk Water. This is due to the size of the site meaning that some areas on it are distant from the public main.</p> <p>In order to provide the best fire cover in these circumstances, Essex Fire have enhanced their prearranged attendance for this site to include a water tanker and a hose laying vehicle.</p>	Darren Henaghan

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			<p>Any enhancements to the water distribution system on site to improve fire fighting capabilities would be the responsibility of the site owner or occupier.</p> <p>A letter was written to the Commercial Director of Essex and Suffolk Water on 14 November, requesting a local meeting to discuss the problem and a technical response has been received. A meeting has been arranged for 16 January 2014 for the Council to understand precisely what that might mean to residents.</p>	
24/07/13	Cllr B Rice	<p>Thurrock Council Welcomes the transfer of Public Health functions to this council and notes that, despite promises that funding would be at 2012/13 levels, the public health grant awarded for 2013/14 includes a funding cut of 12.7% - or £1.124m. The Council calls on the Department of Health to fully restore the level of Public Health Grant funding to £8.541m.</p>	<p>We have produced a detailed analysis of how the funding of Public Health services was built up during the last financial year (2012/13) when run by the SW Essex PCT – to show that Thurrock has experienced a £ 1.1m shortfall.</p> <p>This has now been submitted to the Department of Health and we await their formal response.</p> <p>November Update: As of 11 November 2013, we are still awaiting a response.</p> <p>Letter received 16 December 2013, confirming that the £1.124m has been added to Thurrock Council's baseline allocation from 2013/14.</p>	Roger Harris
24/07/13	Cllr P Smith	<p>Whilst welcoming the principles behind the Troubled Families Project, Thurrock Council feels that the project should have been fully funded.</p> <p>Councils are expected to fund 60% of this project whilst facing year on year cuts to their operating budgets and to fund this initiative will mean that another service provided to our residents will have to be cut to fund this Government plan.</p> <p>We ask that the Council writes to the Secretary of</p>	<p>The Chief Executive has written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury requesting a response to the motion. The position of the council underlying this motion was also explained at a meeting with DCLG representatives when they visited the Troubled Families Programme in mid September.</p> <p>Response received from DCLG (Baroness Hanham CBE) dated 7/10/13.</p>	Carmel Littleton

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		State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles MP, and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Danny Alexander MP, to ask that this important project is fully funded by the Government.	“The costs associated with troubled families are shared between central government, local authorities and other bodies on a payment by results basis. We estimate that troubled families cost the country £9 billion a year, £8 billion of which is spent reacting to the problems they have that they cause to local communities. This is why this Government has committed nearly £450 million in additional investment to help unlock some of these savings. As you know, local authorities and their partners are already spending a huge amount reacting to these families’ problems and this programme is about reducing the need for some of this investment by achieving results and saving money. We do not agree that this programme, in the way it is funded, requires cuts to other services”.	
23/10/13	Cllr Ojetola	This Council requests that NHS England and Thurrock CCG consider the introduction of a further GP surgery in Chafford, to meet increasing demand, as part of the Primary Care Strategy work already in progress.	<p>November Update: NHS England Essex Area Team is in the process of developing the Primary Care Strategy from Essex. Listening events have taken place and a draft Strategy is scheduled to be developed towards the end of the year. The Strategy will then be subject to consultation. The Primary Care Strategy will look at future models of primary care – including how demand can best be met across Thurrock.</p> <p>January update – we are expecting the first draft of the primary care strategy towards the end of January 2014. This will be taken through the Health and Wellbeing Board for debate to ensure that this motion and the wider concerns of the Council over Primary Care in Thurrock are fully addressed.</p>	Roger Harris
27/11/13	Cllr B. Rice	In May Newcastle City Council passed a declaration setting out their commitment to tackle the harm smoking causes their communities. This has become known as the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control and been endorsed by, among others, The Public Health Minister, Chief	Thurrock Council is now listed as a signatory to the Local Government Declaration on Tobacco Control on the Smokefree Action website: (http://www.smokefreeaction.org.uk/declaration). A paper is being considered on this topic by the Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Board on 9 th January.	Roger Harris

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		<p>Medical Officer and Public Health England.</p> <p>This Council will sign up to the Declaration and commit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce smoking prevalence and health inequalities • Develop plans with partners and local communities • Participate in local and regional networks • Support Government action at national level • Protect tobacco control work from the commercial and vested interests of the tobacco industry • Monitor the progress of our plans • Join the Smokefree Action Coalition. 		
27/11/13	Cllr Anderson	<p>That Thurrock Council will work pro-actively with local community groups to create a comprehensive list of Assets of Community Value in Thurrock, which would then be protected by the Community Right to Buy provisions of the Localism Act.</p>	<p>Thurrock Council is a member of the ACE Partnership with libraries, Thurrock Adult College, ngage and Thurrock CVS. The ACE Partnership organises free training for community groups and residents on issues relating to empowerment and voluntary action. The Partnership is negotiating training dates with Locality, a national organisation commissioned by the government to support the implementation of community rights. This will provide an opportunity to promote the Community Right to Bid and to encourage nominations to the Assets of Community Value.</p>	Steve Cox
27/11/13	Cllr Gledhill	<p>The Council request that a review be carried out of the implementation of the Veteran's Charter and publish the results before its second anniversary (March 2014), to ensure that the commitment we signed up to is working in Thurrock.</p>	<p>A review will be carried out and published within the requested time frame.</p>	Steve Cox