

COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the County Council held on Thursday, 7 November 2019 at Council Chamber, County Hall, Kendal at 10am

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs C Bowditch (Chair)

Mr J Airey	Mr D Gawne	Mr P McSweeney
Mr T Allison	Mr W Graham	Mr FI Morgan
Mr MS Barbour	Mrs BC Gray	Mrs M Rae
Mr AL Barry	Mr KR Hamilton	Mrs S Sanderson
Mrs PA Bell	Mrs RC Hanson	Mr DE Southward
Mr B Berry	Dr S Haraldsen	Mr S Stoddart
Mr RW Betton	Mr M Hawkins	Mrs V Tarbitt
Mr RK Bingham	Mr K Hitchen	Mr P Thornton
Mr J Bland	Mr C Hogg	Mrs C Tibble
Mr A Bowness	Mr JS Holliday	Mr CP Turner
Mr M Brereton	Mr N Hughes	Mrs H Wall
Mrs A Burns	Mr MA Johnson	Mr R Watson
Mr F Cassidy	Mr A Kennon	Mr WJ Wearing
Mr SB Collins	Mr AWC Lamb	Mr C Weber
Mr A Connell	Lord R Liddle	Mr T Wentworth Waites
Mr GD Cook	Mr J Lister	Mr CJ Whiteside
Mr P Dew	Dr K Lockney	Mrs EL Williamson
Ms C Driver	Mrs EA Mallinson	Mrs J Willis
Ms D Earl	Mr J Mallinson	Mr D Wilson
Mr GM Ellis	Mr AJ Markley (Vice-Chair)	Mr M Wilson
Mr D English	Ms C McCarron-Holmes	Mr AW Wonnacott
Mrs S Evans	Mr W McEwan	Mr MH Worth
Mr LN Fisher	Mr A McGuckin	Mr SF Young

There were 68 members present at the start of the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Bell, Mrs HF Carrick, Mr W Clark, Mr N Cotton, Miss HJ Fearon, Mr HGG Graham, Mr KA Little, Mr T Lywood, Mr NH Marriner, Mr GRPM Roberts, Mr B Shirley, Mr D Whipp, Mr S Wielkopolski and Mr R Worthington

55 ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made on this occasion.

57 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the press and public be not excluded from any items of business on the agenda today.

58 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public questions, petitions or statements made to the Council.

59 MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 September 2019 be agreed with the following amendment:-

On Minute No 53 – Notices of Motion Paragraph 8, second line add the word “inland” before “flooding”, to read: “...that Climate Change was responsible for all of the inland flooding issues’.

60 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair announced that the details of the engagements undertaken by herself and the Vice Chair had been circulated to all members.

The Chair had officially launched her chosen charities this year – Carlisle Mencap and People First.

As part of the fundraising effort the Chair had foolishly agreed to abseil for charity alongside three other women:-

- Marcia Reid Fotheringham (High Sheriff);
- Carol Fish (Director at Cartmell Shepherd); and
- Kerrie Higham (Director at The Well Communities)

On Saturday 12 October they abseiled down one of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service’s highest training towers based at Carlisle East Fire Station. This was a real personal achievement for the Chair but terrifying and not one which would ever be repeated.

To date the grand total raised for the collective chosen charities was over £2500. As this Sunday was Remembrance Sunday, the Chair and many of the Armed Forces Champions and representatives of the Lieutenancy would be attending various services this weekend across the county to commemorate those fallen, the veterans and those who were currently serving.

Earlier this month, the Chair, had proudly attended the County Council's Children in Care Council Awards, which celebrated the Children Looked After. This was the sixth year of the event and it was a truly memorable day.

In late September, the County celebrated 10 years of Cumbria Pride and 50 years since Stonewall. It was a great day celebrating diversity, recognition and acceptance and the Chair was delighted to be invited and to represent the County Council.

When the Chair was appointed Chair back in April, one of her aspirations was to visit as many schools as possible to talk to children about the importance of voting, and so far 12 school visits had taken place. A warm welcome had been received from all the schools and the children, and the Chair shared with members some of the comments received.

The Chair reminded members that during lunchtime there would be a Christmas craft fair today in the foyer. This had proved to be very popular last year and the Chair was delighted to welcome them back again.

The Chair invited the Cabinet Member for Health and Care Services to make an announcement on Modern Day Slavery.

The Cabinet Member informed Council that National Safeguarding Adults week would take place between the 18 to 24 November, and Modern Slavery would be the theme. During this week of action, Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board would publish 5 minute briefings on their website and via social media raise awareness of how to recognise the signs and what to do if they suspected someone was a victim of modern slavery.

In October 2018 a suspected victim of Modern Slavery was rescued from a shed in north Cumbria. Arrests were made and investigations continued. The case received significant media attention locally, following which, the Board published a newsletter to raise awareness of Modern Slavery.

This was not just a national issue, it was very much on Cumbria's doorstep and the Cabinet Member urged members to read the LGAs Councillor Guide to Tackling Modern Slavery.

The Cabinet Member for Customers, Transformation and Fire and Rescue made two announcements. The first one on a new initiative called 'What3words', which was a geocode system for the communication of locations within a resolution of three metres. What3words encoded geographic coordinates into three dictionary words; the encoding was permanently fixed. What3words differed from most other location encoding systems in that it displayed three words rather than long strings of numbers or letters.

The Cabinet Member encouraged all members to download the App.

The second announcement was that a decommissioned fire engine from Cumbria was being donated to a region of Gambia to help a local fire brigade save lives.

The fire engine, which had seen 20 years of service and was in working order, was being shipped over to the Gambia. This operation had been organised by one of Cumbria Fire and Rescue Services' Watch Managers, who had organised a garden party at his Coniston home, raising £1,640 towards the shipping costs. The remainder had kindly been met by his friends.

The fire engine would be heading to Kotu fire station, where it would replace an older and increasingly unreliable pump. The Watch Manager organised the fire engine donation after visiting Kotu fire station while on holiday in the West African country with his wife two years ago. In Koto they had a very old fire engine that kept breaking down, the conditions were harsh, and there were many house fires to deal with.

The Watch Manager would be returning to Gambia early next year and planned to give up time during his stay to provide some training for Kotu's firefighters.

The Cabinet Member for Public Health and Community Services made an announcement regarding Arts Council Funding. At the last Council meeting the Cabinet Member shared the news that Arts Council Funding had been awarded to the 'Barra Culture' project. She had now received further details that £79,570 of funding had been received which would help to develop creativity within our libraries to support our thriving communities and public health.

The Cabinet Member was delighted with the news, as it was well known that arts and culture could have a positive effect on health and wellbeing and the County Council wanted to build on its healthy libraries initiative. If any member would like further information about this initiative she asked them to contact her directly.

The Cabinet Member for Childrens Services informed members that following the Children in Care Council Awards, some of the youngsters from the Children in Care Council would be invited to attend a future County Council meeting to give a presentation.

The Chief Executive then made a couple of announcements.

Firstly, that Mr John Readman would be joining Cumbria County Council in early February as the new Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive).

Secondly, to say that Cumbria County Council had been shortlisted for 9 out of the 12 categories in this year's Local Government Chronicle Awards. These awards were for entrants who had demonstrated outstanding practice as well as cutting-edge innovations. The winners of the LGC Awards would be announced on 18 March 2020.

61 MINUTES OF THE CABINET

The Leader of the Council presented the minutes of the Cabinet meetings held on 19 September 2019 and 17 October 2019.

Mr M Wilson asked when there would be an announcement on this year's financial settlement.

The Leader replied that at this stage it was unknown when the announcement would be made, but it may now be delayed until after the week after the general election.

Mr Dew commented on the Cabinet Minutes - 19 September 2019, Minute 39, page 25 - 2019/20 Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report to 30 June, 2019, that the report again highlighted the persistent demand pressures on the budget arising from Children Looked After, Younger Adults and SEND Home to School Transport. The minutes stated that 'significant actions were underway to continue to strengthen gate-keeping, monitoring and management of delivery services to mitigate these budget pressures'. Mr Dew asked the Leader of the Council for an insight into the kinds of 'significant actions' the administration had in mind and when these would start to take effect.

The Leader reminded members that the County Council was one of many local authorities suffering from severe financial pressures with Children Looked After, Younger Adults and SEND Home to School Transport. This was a national issue and the recent spending round announcement had recognised this with additional funds being allocated.

Within the County Council plans were being established for the strengthening of early intervention services. This was preferable, both for families and officers, with the intention that families were given access to early intervention services rather than being taken into care.

Although it was difficult to manage and mitigate these budget pressures the Leader reassured members that there was a huge amount of work taking place across the Council to try to reduce these pressures.

Mr Collins asked about the Cabinet Minutes - 17 October 2019, Minute No 50 – Future Commissioning Arrangements with North Cumbria CCG, and whether the council was aware of the importance of good dental health and its significance in the wider health of people with some long term conditions. He asked for assurance that Cumbria County Council would not lose sight of the importance of dental health and to take this into account when making decisions.

The Cabinet Member thanked Mr Collins for raising this, which she felt was one of two areas which needed to be considered carefully, the other being sight. She agreed to provide a written response to Mr Collins.

Lord Liddle arrived at the meeting at this point.

Mr Dew commented on Minute 52 – Award of Contract – Child and Family Support Services that he was aware that the award of the contracts for these services had been controversial and that at least one may be subject to a call-in. That aside, he asked the Cabinet Member – Childrens Services to outline the 'new ways of working' mentioned in paragraph 4 of the minutes.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services responded to say the intention was to make the services more proactive. The County Council was looking to strengthen early help services to enable interventions to be carried out sooner, therefore avoiding the need to take children into care.

The member thanked the Cabinet Member for the response and endorsed the need for early help services.

Mr Lamb said the decision to award the contract to Family Action for the Copeland area, over local charity Howgill, had been met with anger by the local community. However, the Council's process had been conducted in a legal manner, although he felt the consultation which preceded this could have been better. He asked the Leader of the Council whether this had been sufficient and to commit to a more open and transparent consultation process going forward.

The Leader responded to say that as part of the outcome of the call in clarification meeting the County Council had agreed to undertake a lessons learned exercise, therefore it would not be appropriate to comment further or pre-empt the outcomes of the exercise. Findings would be shared with members once completed.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services said the Chair of Scrutiny Management Board had already asked for a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to be established to take this forward. The response to this would be considered by members.

62 QUESTIONS

Mr Airey asked the Cabinet Member for Health and Care Services for an update on the Abbey Care Home at Staveley. He asked why the proposal had not been brought before South Lakeland Local Committee. He thought that local committees should be made aware of these proposals. He asked if there was a deliberate policy to actively discourage people taking up places in the older care homes.

The Cabinet Member responded to say she was disappointed that the member felt like this as the Abbey Care Home had been discussed at many South Lakeland Area Planning Sessions, and had been on the agenda for many months.

The Cabinet Member said there were no plans to close any other care homes, other than those already highlighted in the modernisation agenda. She confirmed the plan going forward was to invest in Cumbria Care.

She informed Council that this item was for discussion at the Cabinet meeting being held on 14 November, so it would be inappropriate for her to comment before any decision had been taken.

Mr Turner asked the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Property whether a review could be undertaken across the County Council estate to see if there is adequate disabled parking.

The Cabinet Member agreed to speak to colleagues in the Property Team about conducting a review.

Mr Betton said the residents of Warwick Road had raised concerns with him at the original design stage of the scheme in respect of the junctions work at Warwick Road. Mr Betton asked on behalf of his residents for clarity as to whether the bridge structure was safe, and when United Utilities would move on. He asked when the inconvenience that impacted on parking and on businesses at Rosehill Industrial Estate would come to an end. He was looking for a commitment from the Leader and Cabinet Members to work with residents regarding their concerns.

Mr Thornton arrived at the meeting at this point.

The Leader responded to say that he was not aware of any other road scheme that had been subject to a more detailed consultation than this one. The scheme had been substantially modified as a result of these consultations and Mr Betton had been involved in these discussions. What has happened since the modified scheme was introduced was not within the control of the County Council.

The issues surrounding Botcherby Bridge had been due to flood defence works being undertaken by the Environment Agency. High river levels during the works had resulted in the need to restrict the bridge to single lane traffic in order to safeguard the public. The County Council's Highways Service was working with the Environment Agency to finalise the assessment of damage.

Similarly, the other issue was due to United Utilities carrying out some pipe replacement work which had not proved successful. United Utilities had had to redo the works and they had a legal right to do so. Cumbria County Council was unable to refuse this request.

The Victoria Viaduct was also closed for health and safety reasons, which were out with the control of this Council.

Mrs Mallinson asked a question about the domestic homicide review, which had included a domestic violence murder that had taken place in Carlisle. She had heard that there were plans to cut funding from this budget quite substantially, and that this would result in a cut of up to 99 bed spaces in Cumbria, 37 of which were in Carlisle. She asked the Leader for an update.

The Leader said there were no proposals to cut funding to the County Council's Domestic Violence budget, and he confirmed that the County Council would continue to protect those at risk of domestic violence. He wondered if there had been some confusion with the future provision of the Generic Adults Housing Related Support Service, as he was aware there were ongoing discussions taking place about the future provision of this service.

Mr Brereton asked if the Cabinet Member for Highways would be able to help with a major issue across his division. There were about 12 speed activated signposts across his division, however, the last working one of those had recently expired, and

he had been told by officers that they would cost between 30-50k to replace or refurbish.

Many local residents were very concerned about this, and both the ongoing and future maintenance of these signs. He asked the council to work with him and other members to complete a thorough survey of these signs, to plan the future maintenance and to assist parish and town councils that wished to implement more modern speed indicator devices.

The Leader of the Council responded to say that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, although absent today, was always willing to work with communities. However, the speed devices and the maintenance were actually the responsibility of local committees and/or Highways England. He suggested talking to them about this issue.

Mr Bland raised the issue of the Abbey Care Home, which was a popular care home in Staveley. He thought the home should remain open and he asked the Cabinet Member for Health and Care Services whether the County Council could find a way to insure the home stayed in the village.

The Cabinet Member responded to say there had been extensive consultation undertaken over many months and at the event over 80 people had attended to give their views. However, she did not feel it was appropriate to respond to this question as Cabinet will be making a decision on this in the near future.

Mr Ellis asked whether Cabinet would be willing to carry out a review of on street parking in Carlisle. With all high street shops struggling he asked the Leader whether he would agree that the last thing needed was an end to on-street parking.

The Leader said he was not aware of any plans to end on street parking in Carlisle, and he understood that businesses would be impacted by a decision such as this. He was aware that Carlisle City Council had introduced free parking on their car parks after 3pm each day, however, he wondered if extending this to all day may have a more positive impact on the high street trade.

Mr D Wilson reminded Council of the flood event on 30 September 2017 where rain overwhelmed the drainage systems resulting in flooding to an estimated 255 properties in Millom and Haverigg. One key aspect of the areas flood defences was King Street Pumping Station, which was managed by United Utilities.

Since 2017 there had been a number of occasions when flooding had reoccurred, although not as serious, however, if it had not been for local people taking preventative action it could have been far worse. The latest event was as recent as 1 November 2019.

Mr Wilson asked the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport to help the communities of Millom and Haverigg by ensuring that action was taken to assess the performance and adequacy of Millom's Flood Management arrangements and King Street pumping Station in particular. He also asked for assurances that any planned improvements and preventive measures were implemented without delay.

The Leader of the Council responded, in the absence of the Cabinet Member, to say that although the County Council was the Lead Local Flood Authority this issue was the responsibility of United Utilities. He assured Mr Wilson that if he wanted to pursue this with United Utilities to lobby for action, then the County Council would support him.

Mr Fisher asked the Cabinet member for Economic Development and Property when the County Council was going to install electric charging points in Cumbria House which could be used by staff, members and the public on days when the car park was open to them.

The Cabinet Member responded to say that Cumbria County Council was currently considering the issue of electric charging points across the whole of the County Council's car parking network.

Mr Whiteside asked the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport whether a more proactive approach could be adopted for developing 'shovel ready' schemes for the A595.

The Leader reminded Mr Whiteside that the County Council had developed a number of schemes for road improvements along the A595, which had already been submitted to Government, but funding for these had not been forthcoming.

Mr Lamb asked the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Property whether he would agree that the recent decision on the planning application for West Cumbria Mining would provide a welcome boost to the economy of West Cumbria.

The Cabinet Member said the mine was an invaluable asset for West Cumbria as well as the rest of the country. He understood the environmental issues and concerns but steel would be needed to produce wind farms, trains and bus infrastructure, all of which were part of the plans for a greener future.

Mr J Mallinson asked the Cabinet Member for Customers, Transformation and Fire and Rescue why new Cumbria County Council printers were only printing single-sided and asked if this was appropriate in view of climate change issues.

The Cabinet Member said she was surprised to hear this and would investigate and respond to Mr Mallinson on this.

Mr Bingham asked the Cabinet Member for Customers, Transformation and Fire and Rescue if she had any further information about the provision of CCTV cameras in rural areas, in an effort to combat county lines drugs trade.

The Cabinet Member had no further information at this stage but would investigate and respond to Mr Bingham.

Mr Hogg asked the Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning whether she agreed with the findings of the recent Durham Commission report which says: 'the

Commission believed that all schools, from early years to post-16 education should be encouraged and resourced to promote creativity in all young people, whatever their background. Teaching for creativity should therefore be practiced across the curriculum and accessed by all'.

The Cabinet Member responded to say that she did agree with the findings. Over recent years many schools had narrowed their curriculums, which was a concern.

63 TREASURY MANAGEMENT HALF YEAR STRATEGY REVIEW 2019/20

The Deputy Leader of the Council presented a report detailing treasury management activities during the first half of the 2019/20 financial year and confirming that all Treasury Management activities undertaken during this period were in compliance with the Annual Strategy agreed by Members at Council in February 2019.

The Deputy Leader took members through the report.

He informed members that the County Council currently had a strategy to delay borrowing in the short to medium term, using temporary internal cash balances instead. The Council also took tactical decisions, where appropriate, and on the advice of the Council's external Treasury Management adviser to undertake long term borrowing at fixed interest rates. This enabled the Council to 'lock in' long term rates whilst they were low.

Mr Ellis asked the Deputy Leader if there was a list available of the new borrowing carried out by the Council. He supported the need for refinancing and noted that over the last 18 months £130m of borrowing had been taken out. He wondered how much of this was paying back old borrowing as opposed to new borrowing.

Mr Dew commented to say that the council's finances were undoubtedly well managed by the Director of Finance, and the report before Council gave an insight into the delicate balancing act that took place between internal and external borrowing on the one hand, and investment return and risk on the other. However, there appeared to be a worrying downturn in investor confidence resulting from a looming global recession which tended to be overlooked because of the obsession with national issues. It would be helpful to have a summary of the specific steps that the council had taken, or was intending to take to mitigate the increased risk associated with the worsening economic climate.

Mr Morgan had concerns that the announcement of the increase of all PWLB borrowing rates would have a negative impact on the number of affordable homes being developed.

Mr Mallinson asked the Deputy Leader whether the PWLB rates were still competitive, and if not would the County Council look to borrow from elsewhere.

The Deputy Leader thanked members for their comments and questions, some of which were complex. Although he felt it was unlikely that the County Council would

look elsewhere for loans, he agreed to investigate this further and provide a written response.

RESOLVED that,

- 1) Members note that following a half yearly review, no amendments are required to the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and the Annual Investment Strategy;
- 2) Members note that following a half yearly review, Prudential Indicators and Treasury Management Indicators have been fully complied with and that no amendments are required to these indicators; and
- 3) Members note the Treasury Management function is forecasting a £1.626m underspend for 2019/20, due to the Council's tactical strategy to utilise internal reserves whilst available, albeit that this will be kept under review given various uncertainties, including interest rate movements and cash flow requirements.

64 YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGY 2019/20

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services presented a report by the Interim Executive Director - People which sought approval of the Youth Justice Strategy 2019/20.

Mr Dew commented that he felt the Youth Justice Plan was thorough and comprehensive and was encouraged to read that the focus on prevention, early intervention and partnership working was having a positive impact on performance indicators. However, the Plan was right to sound a note of caution about becoming complacent because there was still a small group of harder to reach young people who were resistant to change.

He said he was heartened by the determination expressed in the Plan to do everything possible to ensure that those young people were given the opportunity to break the cycle of offending so that they could lead healthy and safe lives and achieve their aspirations.

Mrs Tarbitt referred to the reference in paragraph 4.2 of the report, of the need to align the sign off of the plan in future with the committee cycles, to ensure all the relevant County Council committees had the opportunity to consider the plan before it was submitted to the Youth Justice Board. This comment was noted.

Mrs McCarron-Holmes commented that in order to reduce youth reoffending there needed to be clearer mechanisms in place to help those in danger of reoffending.

RESOLVED that, Members agree the Cumbria Youth Justice Plan 2019-20 for submission to the Youth Justice Board.

65 CONSTITUTION REVIEW GROUP UPDATE

The Leader of the Council presented a report which asked members to approve changes to update and maintain the Constitution. These proposals had been considered by the Constitution Review Group.

With reference to the Terms of Reference of the Chief Officers Committee, since the Council had approved the last changes in April 2019, it had become apparent that they may be open to an interpretation which was unintended by the Council. To ensure clarity, minor amendments were proposed to Part 2L in relation to grievances.

The Leader then took members through the changes needed in relation to the Scheme of Delegation – Part 3A (Scheme of Delegation – Shareholder’s Representative), specifically with reference to the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership. Members noted the proposal to add a new Appendix 2 to Part 3A of the Constitution.

The Leader then explained that Section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 applied to information held by the Council and provided an exemption if disclosure would or would be likely to inhibit the free and frank provision of advice or exchange of views, or otherwise prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs.

It was recommended that information about the qualified person was maintained in the Constitution, so that it was easily accessible to members and officers. Since the appointment was not a delegation of an executive or non-executive function of the Council, the intention was that an additional Part 3B be added to the Constitution as set out in Appendix 4 of the report.

RESOLVED that, Council

- 1) Approve the changes to the Terms of Reference of the Chief Officers Committee Part 2L set out in Appendix 1.
- 2) Approve a new Appendix 2 to Part 3A (Scheme of Delegation - Shareholder’s Representative) to extend delegations to the Director of Finance in respect of shareholder decisions in the Border to Coast Pensions Partnership as set out in Appendix 3.
- 3) Approve the addition of a new Part 2B to codify in the Constitution the Council’s Qualified Person for the purposes of certain exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

66 SCRUTINY ADVISORY BOARD - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Leader presented a report which asked Council to note the appointment of the new Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Advisory Board – Children and Young People following the recent resignation of Mr B Shirley from the Scrutiny Advisory Board.

RESOLVED that, Members note that Mr P Dew has been appointed as the vice chair of the Scrutiny Advisory Board – Children and Young People.

67 SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The Chair of Scrutiny Management Board presented a report which updated Council on the issues and developments that had occurred since the last meeting of Council.

The Chair took members through the report, and asked them to note that although the report referred to a call in received on 29 October, this had now been withdrawn following the clarification meeting held on 5 November.

Mr Hughes asked the Chair of Scrutiny Management Board what actions, if any, the LEP Scrutiny Committee would be taking to encourage the LEP to be more proactive in considering growth deal bids which would have a positive impact on climate change.

The Chair responded to say that the LEP Scrutiny Committee was still developing its work programme and he invited Mr Hughes to attend meetings to observe the work of the committee.

RESOLVED, that the report be received and noted.

68 URGENCY PROVISIONS

The Leader of the Council presented a report which notified members of the circumstances in which an urgent decision had been taken since the last meeting of Council.

The decision referred to was an urgent decision to agree to submit the County Council's Better Care Fund submission for 2019/20 to Government. Had the decision been delayed the result could have been a loss of up to £25m of funding, which the County Council received through the Better Care Fund.

RESOLVED, that the report be received and noted.

69 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

The Chair reported that the Motion, which had been submitted, had been withdrawn.

70 SPEECHES

Mrs Tarbitt made a speech about the Armed Forces Veterans.

At the previous council meeting in June 2019 the Chair made an announcement about a raffle for a beautifully hand-carved rocking horse kindly made and donated by David Richardson, an Armed Forces Veteran who learnt to carve as a result of the courses run over in Catterick Camp by Help for Heroes.

The rocking horse was won by Shirley Evans, County Councillor for Kendal Nether, which now had pride of place in her home.

All the money from this raffle was donated to Jigsaw.

The Chair thanked Mrs Tarbitt for her speech.

The meeting ended at 12.20pm