

**REPORT OF THE
Leader/Cabinet
PART II**

1. Regulation 11 (Key Decisions)

- 1.1 Regulation 11 (special urgency) allows for a key decision to be made if it is impracticable for notice of the intention to take a key decision under Regulation 9 to be given 28 clear days in advance of the taking of the decision. This also allows for a Key Decision to be taken where it is impractical for public notice at least five working days before the decision is taken to be given in accordance with Regulation 10. Regulation 11 sets out the actions required to be taken in those circumstances which include gaining the consent of the Chairman of the relevant Select Committee or in their absence, of the Chairman of the County Council. Details of Key Decisions taken under Regulation 11 must be presented to the County Council.
- 1.2 On Monday 18 October 2021, the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services took a Key Decision on the COVID Household Support Fund regarding vouchers for the October 2021 Half Term. It was impracticable to give the required 28 days notice of the Executive Lead Member's intention to take this Key Decision due to the timing of mobilisation for delivery of services by the October half term. In accordance with Regulation 11, agreement was obtained from the Chairman of the Children and Young People Select Committee, that the Key Decision was urgent and could not reasonably be deferred.

2. Events Celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

- 2.1 At his Decision Day on 25 January 2022, the Executive Member for Policy and Resources endorsed proposals for the County Council's Platinum Jubilee programme, which would be spread throughout Her Majesty's Platinum year, with the primary focus during the extended bank holiday weekend of Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June 2022.
- 2.2 It was noted that activities were still in the planning stages and were subject to change but included:
- A tree planting programme to support the Queen's Green Canopy
 - An archive footage video of Hampshire during the Queen's reign
 - An interfaith event unveiling the statue of Licoricia
 - The Chairman's Concert
 - The Big Lunch in the Country Parks
 - Beacon lighting
 - A 'climb Everest' event at the Calshot Climbing Wall.

3. Serving Hampshire – 2021/22 Half Year Performance Report

- 3.1 At its meeting on 8 February 2022, Cabinet received and noted the Serving Hampshire – 2021/22 Half Year Performance Report which demonstrated that the County Council had performed well in the delivery of core public services during the first half of 2021/22 against its Serving Hampshire Strategic Plan, with nearly three quarters of performance measures showing improved or maintained performance. Despite the continuing impact of COVID-19, budget constraints and other on-going externally driven challenges, no areas of performance were identified as high risk and Directors provided assurance against this positive picture for the first two quarters of 2021/22. Cabinet welcomed the ongoing work by departments in the recovery from the pandemic and the exemplary ongoing commitment of staff.
- 3.2 Cabinet also noted that Hampshire Children’s Services and its safeguarding partners, Hampshire Constabulary and pan-Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Groups had hosted a pilot Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) in November 2021, the outcome of which was appended to the report.
- 3.3 The outcome of the report, whilst not graded, was very positive. Inspectors found that vulnerable children, young people and their families, in the Hampshire County Council local authority area, receive the right level of help at the right time as a result of highly effective multi-agency ‘front door’ services provided by health, children’s services and the Police.
- 3.4 Inspectors were also impressed by the pioneering, collaborative agency work to safeguard children at risk of criminal exploitation, who go missing or who have been trafficked or smuggled; concluding that the quality of work is “consistently high”. This is attributed to strong and effective communication, including out of hours, which targets children most at risk and helps to keep vulnerable children safe. High-risk strategy meetings, attended by a broad range of professionals from the relevant services, helps to identify perpetrators and plan action to prevent children most at risk being drawn into gangs and associated areas of criminal and sexual exploitation. Multi-agency meetings held daily mean that information is quickly shared about children and victims at high risk of domestic abuse, resulting in early action being taken and support put in place for victims and their children.
- 3.5 The inspection, which took place from 15 to 18 November 2021, also concluded:
- Agencies work diligently together to help vulnerable children and to prevent risks from escalating
 - Early Help Hubs provide sensitive, imaginative and innovative child-centred help and protection which is making a substantial difference to helping vulnerable children and their parents, reducing risk and improving their life chances
 - Leaders have been quick to respond to the increase in demand for services. For example, in recognition of the 20% increase in referrals and assessments during the COVID-19 pandemic, additional health, police and children’s services staff have been employed in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

- Professionals retain a child-focused perspective, while being respectful and empathic of unmet parental needs. They ensure that the voice of the child is heard and the child's views and lived experiences are at the centre of decisions
- Professionals make consistently strong efforts to understand parental history and trauma alongside the impact of mental illness, domestic abuse, poverty, addiction and insecure housing, evaluating how these and other vulnerabilities affect their ability to provide stable, safe and consistent care for their children

3.6 Overall, the inspection determined that “the safeguarding partnership in Hampshire is highly effective”.

Further details can be found at the links below:

[Executive Lead Member for Children's Services - 18 October 2021 Decision Day](#)
[Executive Member for Policy and Resources - 25 January 2022 Decision Day](#)
[Cabinet - 8 February 2022](#)

COUNCILLOR KEITH MANS
Leader and Chairman of Cabinet