

CABINET

THURSDAY, 9 JULY 2015

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of Cabinet held on Thursday, 9 July 2015. Decisions made by Cabinet will be subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Graham Watts.

1. SHARED SERVICES

Cabinet **AGREED**:

- (1) That the approach to shared services outlined in the report be endorsed.
- (2) That approval be given to the establishment of a Joint Committee without delegated powers to oversee the delivery of shared services.
- (3) That the Leader be confirmed as the Council's representative to this Committee and a deputy be appointed.
- (4) That the proposed sovereignty guarantee in paragraph 36 of the report be approved, subject to the inclusion of the words 'and users' after 'residents' in the third sentence and the same sentence being amended to reflect that the commissioning or delivery of services together was specifically designed not to change how residents and users experienced services, unless there was an improvement in services.
- (5) That the approach to cost sharing principles and partnership agreement as outlined in the report be approved.
- (6) That the approval of the final partnership agreement be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
- (7) That, subject to the approval of the business cases for ICT, Legal and Building Control Shared Services, formal consultation commences with Trade Unions/Staff Council and affected staff on 24 July 2015, closing on 1 September 2015.
- (8) That the business cases for ICT, Legal and Building Control be approved and the Executive Director (Corporate Services) be delegated to make decisions and to take steps which are necessary, conducive or incidental to the establishment of the respective shared service in the business case.
- (9) That performance of the ICT, Legal and Building Control shared services be monitored monthly at the Partnership Board for Shared Services and the Joint Committee, for the first six months of the shared services.
- (10) That the Legal Practice Business Plan for 2016/17 be available for scrutiny by February 2016.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered were as follows:

- retaining services as they are for each respective Council;
- operate a shared services model with different partners;
- outsourcing of the services.

Reason For Decision: Sharing services presents a great opportunity for all three Councils to save money and build resilience across their current services, which often contain highly specialised roles. It also provides the opportunity to improve services to customers, by ensuring a focus on seamless service delivery.

2. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Cabinet **AGREED** to approve the establishment of a Housing Development Agency under shared governance with the City Deal local authority partners (Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council) and delegate authority to the Executive Director (Corporate Services) to make decisions and to take steps which are necessary, conducive or incidental to the establishment of the shared housing development service in accordance with the business case.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered were set out in the body of the report.

Reason For Decision: The three Councils individually require the capacity to develop and implement their Housing Build Strategies. Undertaking this work collectively will maximise this capacity and avoid competing for the same resource in a limited market place.

3. BUSINESS HUB PROJECT BUSINESS CASE REPORT

Cabinet **NOTED** progress towards the creation of a multi-agency “Business Hub” on a trial basis for 12 months to create a start-up phase to draw together key business advice services from both Trading Standards, Cambridgeshire Fire Service and South Cambridgeshire District Council to promote joint Primary Authority Agreements and associated commercial activities.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered are set out in paragraphs 26 to 28 of the report.

Reason For Decision:

To provide a more customer-focused, joined-up, “one-stop-shop” for regulatory services business advice for local and national businesses by drawing together key services from both Cambridgeshire County and South Cambridgeshire District Councils and Cambridgeshire Fire Service.

To increase income to South Cambridgeshire District Council by increasing the number of hours that chargeable business advice can be given, developing a cost recovery model for regulatory services business advice that can be expanded in a financially sustainable way.

To develop an operating model that other regulatory services may join in subsequent phases, bringing in new offering of advice and support services for the Business Hub.

4. NORTHSTOWE: S.106 HEADS OF TERMS AND CIVIC HUB

Cabinet **AGREED** to:

- (1) Endorse the draft requirements for a Section 106 Agreement for the Northstowe Phase 2 Outline Planning Application, which will be considered by the Northstowe Joint Development Control Committee (NJDCC), including: the list of items and triggers; and draft outline specifications for the health centre and library with community use, and the community hub.
- (2) Delegate to the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Director of Planning and New Communities, the authority to make any minor changes to the draft requirements prior to inclusion in the Northstowe Joint Development Control Committee report for the Phase 2 development.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered are set out in the body of the report.

Reason For Decision: To ensure that Cabinet can consider any corporate implications arising from the draft requirements for Northstowe Phase 2.

5. **RIGHT TO BUILD VANGUARD**

Cabinet **AGREED**:

- (1) To continue to take forward the Right to Build project.
- (2) To buy the registration module and continue to promote the scheme, to be developed and programmed alongside the re-procurement of the sub-regional housing register, and to the implementation of the Self-Build and Custom Housebuilding Act.
- (3) To write a Supplementary Planning Document for the Right to Build, to sit alongside the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document.
- (4) To further developing land and finance options, to be the subject of a report at a later date.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered are set out in paragraphs 29 to 33 of the report.

Reason For Decision: To ensure that Cabinet can consider the implications of continuing to support Right to Build, including self-build and custom-build housing, in the district.

6. **CORPORATE PLAN FORWARD LOOK AND STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER**

Cabinet:

- (1) **NOTED** the policy and financial context for the annual refresh of the Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy, as set out in the report and appendices.
- (2) **APPROVED** the Strategic Risk Register and Matrix, as set out in Appendices D

and E of the report.

- (3) **AGREED** the Corporate Cycle for the development of the Corporate Plan 2016-2021, as set out in Appendix F of the report, and **APPROVED** the commencement of a fuller review of the evidence base in 2016, comprising the elements set out in paragraph 22 of the report.
- (4) **ENDORSED** the provisional priority areas to inform the development of the Corporate Plan 2016-2021, identified in paragraphs 24-26 of the report.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered are set out in the body of the report.

Reason For Decision: The report provides Members with an overview of the evidence base for the annual refresh of its key strategies and to provide early identification of continuing and emerging priorities for refreshed corporate and financial strategies for 2016-2021.

The Strategic Risk Register and Matrix form the record of corporate risks the Council currently faces in the delivery of services and the achievement of strategic aims, together with control measures to address sources of assurance over the risks.

7. **POSITION STATEMENT: FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND RISK (END OF YEAR REPORT)**

Cabinet:

- (1) **NOTED** the Council's provisional financial outturn position, together with the overview of Corporate Plan 2014-2019 achievements and performance against key performance indicators set out in the report and Appendices A to E.
- (2) **APPROVED** the capital and revenue budget rollovers totalling £8,480,664, as listed in Appendix F, to be carried forward into the 2015-16 financial year and **NOTED** that the additional £150,000 required to meet the costs arising from additional work to progress with the Local Plan would be met from increased General Fund reserves as at 31 March 2015.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered are set out in the body of the report.

Reason For Decision: To enable Cabinet to maintain a sound understanding of the organisation's financial position and performance. This contributes to the evidence base for the ongoing review of priorities and enables, where appropriate, redirection of resources to reflect emerging priorities and address areas of concern.

Rolling over revenue and capital budgets will allow the re-phasing of specific expenditure into 2015-2016 as stated in the proposal forms, summarised in **Appendix F** of the report.

8. **ORCHARD PARK TASK & FINISH GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet **ENDORSED** the interim recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee's Task and Finish Group, as set out in paragraph 16 of the report, and **AGREED** that the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Transportation and the Chairman of the Task and Finish Group would determine an appropriate way forward for their implementation. **Other Options Considered:** Other options considered are set out in paragraph 18 of the report.

Reason For Decision: The interim recommendations were agreed by Scrutiny and Overview Committee on 30 April 2015. They have been drawn up by the Working Group following an analysis of the information gathered during a series of discussions and interviews that have been carried out. Further work is being carried out by the Working Group but it is hoped that the interim recommendations will provide useful information to support the Northstowe Joint Development Control Committee in its deliberations regarding Section 106 items and triggers and planning conditions.