

CABINET

THURSDAY, 14 JANUARY 2016

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 14 January 2016. Decisions made by the Cabinet will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Council are not 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. FINANCE SHARED SERVICES

Cabinet:

- (a) **NOTED** the success of the current interim arrangements to share the Head of Finance and other housing finance staff and **AGREED** to make these permanent to support the development of the shared service.
- (b) **SUPPORTED** further work to develop the finance shared service, as outlined in the report, noting that the final structure of the service will be determined after the implementation of the replacement financial management system.
- (c) **NOTED** that a further report, including a business case, will be brought back to Cabinet in due course.

Other Options Considered: Other options considered included:

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

These options were not further developed as they did not appear to present the same opportunities.

Reason For Decision: Sharing services presents an opportunity for the 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. REVIEW OF LESSONS LEARNED FROM ORCHARD PARK

Cabinet **ENDORSED** the final recommendations of the Working Group, as set out in the report.

Other Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- endorsed some of the additional recommendations and suggest amendments to others, with an option for further work to be carried out by the Working Group;
- refused to endorse the additional recommendations from the Working Group.

Reason For Decision: These recommendations were made following a comprehensive scrutiny review undertaken by a Working Group of the Council's Scrutiny and Overview Committee. The reasons for each recommendation are set out in the Working Group's final report.

3. GAMBLING ACT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Cabinet:

- (a) **APPROVED** the Gambling Act 2005 statement of Policy, as appended to the report, for ratification and adoption by the Leader of the Council, subject to the inclusion of Parish Councils under section 5 of the Policy entitled 'interested parties'.
- (b) **DELEGATED** the Director of Health and Environmental Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services, to review the format of the statement of Policy.

Other Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- amended the statement of Policy;
- refused to approve the statement of Policy.

Reason For Decision: A statement of licensing Policy is a requirement under Section 1 of the Gambling Act 2005.

4. WING: COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY AND REQUIREMENTS

Cabinet:

- (a) **ENDORSED** the draft requirements of the Section 106 Agreement for the Wing outline planning application, which will be considered and a final determination made by the Joint Development Control Committee (Cambridge Fringes), including the list of items and triggers.
- (b) **DELEGATED** to the Portfolio Holder for Planning, 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 committee report for the Wing 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 current recommended requirements for the proposed Wing development.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT UPDATE

Cabinet:

- (a) **NOTED** the Local Government Finance Settlement.

- (b) **REQUESTED** that the following options be modelled in the Medium Term Financial Strategy reports to Cabinet and Council in February 2016:
- a 2% increase in Council Tax year on year;
 - a £5 increase for 2016/17 followed by a 2% increase year on year;
 - a £5 increase for every year of the current Parliament.
- (c) **APPROVED** the inclusion of £200,000 in the authority's Capital Programme, as a fund to finance the refurbishment of General Fund Equity Share properties;
- (d) **APPROVED** the inclusion of an additional £160,000 in the authority's Medium Term Financial Strategy and revenue budgets to meet anticipated additional costs in respect of the Local Plan, to be funded from New Homes Bonus receipts;
- (e) **APPROVED** the creation of a new Neighbourhood Plans Project Officer post;
- (f) **APPROVED** the inclusion of works at Sawston Tannery in the Capital Programme, to be funded by grants from external organisations.

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

Reason For Decision: Reasons for these decisions are set out in paragraphs 4 to 7 of the report.