

COUNCIL

THURSDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 27 September 2018. 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 Democratic Services.

ADOPTION OF SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL PLAN (CABINET - 24 SEPTEMBER 2018)

Council **AGREED** to

1. Note the Inspectors' Report containing the Inspectors' Main Modifications to be made to the submitted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan in order for it to be found sound (Appendix 1); and
2. Note the schedule of Additional Modifications (Appendix 2) to the submitted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan to make minor updates and corrections; and
3. Note the Main Modifications to the submitted Policies Map published alongside the Inspectors' Report as a reference document to the examination (Appendix 3);
4. Adopt the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018, including both Main and Additional Modifications (Appendix 4);
5. Adopt the South Cambridgeshire Policies Map 2018, including Main Modifications and Additional Modifications (Appendix 5); and
6. Authorise the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire, in liaison with the Deputy Leader, to make minor typographical amendments or updates in preparing the final version of the Adopted Local Plan and Policies Map.

APPOINTMENT TO THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL (IRP)

Council **AGREED**

To authorise the Executive Director to undertake a recruitment and selection process and recommend the appointment of a new member of the Independent Remuneration Panel for a three year term of office.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL: SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2018/19

Council **AGREED**

1. That the Independent Remuneration Panel be thanked for their work in producing the report at Appendix A.
2. That, having had regard to the report, this Council does not support the

adoption of the recommendations on the grounds that it does not appear adequately to evidence the reasoning behind the proposed allowances.

3. That the Council therefore agrees that:
 - (a) in accordance with the mechanism adopted in previous years, all allowances be raised in line with the staff pay award for 2018/19; and
 - (b) an SRA of £444 (to be adjusted in accordance with 3 (a) above), be awarded to the Chairmen of the Grants Advisory and Climate Change and Environment Advisory Committees.
4. That the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2018/19, revised in accordance with 3 (a) and (b) above, be introduced with effect from 8 May 2018.
5. That the Executive Director be authorised to implement and advertise the scheme and make any consequential amendments to the Scheme of Members' Allowances in Part 6 of the Constitution.
6. That the Independent Remuneration Panel be requested to undertake a review of the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2019/20.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR PETER TOPPING

Following amendment of the original motion, Council **AGREED** the following motion:

The Leader of the Council received a letter from the Housing Minister dated 26 July asking her "to bring forward ambitious proposals for transformational housing growth, including new settlements", by mid-September.

This Council notes the recommendations set out in the recently published report by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review that councils should focus on "exemplary" place making and quality of design in order to ensure that accelerated house building does not remove the qualities that make South Cambridgeshire an attractive place for companies to invest in and people to move to, and therefore instructs the Chief Executive and the Director of Planning and Economic Development to prepare a presentation, as the planning authority, that demonstrates how the Council is seeking to meet this expectation.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DR. MARTIN CAHN

Following alteration of the original motion by the mover, with the consent of Council, Council **AGREED** the following motion:

In the 2016 Referendum on the European Union the South Cambridgeshire District voted 60.2% in favour of remaining in the European Union.

The negotiations on withdrawal that have followed the national decision to leave the EU have progressed at a slow rate and the precise nature of any final deal is still uncertain with clear divisions among those who voted to leave and a lack of support among the Government's members of parliament for the adopted 'Chequers proposals'. It is therefore clear that there is uncertainty whether any final deal will have wholehearted support and can be carried through Parliament.

In recent months a campaign has developed which proposes a People's Vote on any final deal (or no deal), with the alternative to remain in the EU, to ensure that the path taken has majority support among the electorate.

A number of letters have been received by members asking the Council to support this initiative.

The Council notes that:

- (i) The Governor of the Bank of England has stated that the average household income in Britain is now £900 lower than that anticipated if the decision to leave the EU had not been taken.
- (ii) There are a large number of non-UK EU nationals resident in the district whose life, and that of their UK-national families, has been destabilised by uncertainty. Apart from the social impacts, this has resulted in the loss of staff by local businesses and the NHS.
- (iii) Due to uncertainty about whether the deal that will be agreed with the EU will achieve a Parliamentary majority, 'no deal' appears a very credible outcome. This has been described by Chancellor Hammond as having "large fiscal consequences" and by independent observers as "overwhelmingly negative".
- (iv) All avenues currently being considered by the Government impose increasing delays for goods at our international frontiers and no facilitation would be provided for trade in services which form a major element in the local economy.
- (v) Recent opinion poll evidence has suggested an overall trend in public opinion away from support for leaving the EU and in favour of a vote on the conditions of any departure. A vote on the terms of withdrawal with the option to remain would ensure that we leave, should we do so, with wholehearted support for the actual conditions of withdrawal.
- (vi) The anticipated rapidly deteriorating economic situation if Brexit proceeds is likely to accelerate austerity, which has already caused acute problems in providing local authority services and has severely affected local residents, in particular those in social housing or in receipt of benefits.
- (vii) Evidence of illegal overspending has been presented (and accepted by the Electoral Commission) and court challenges on the constitutional position are still continuing. A vote on the withdrawal terms would ensure that any decision is accepted as sound by both sides of the argument rather than being fought out in the courts.

The Council believes that the interests of its residents would be best protected by a referendum on the terms of leaving the European Union with the possibility of rescinding Article 50 and remaining in the EU.

The Council calls on the Government to abandon plans for a hard Brexit and to give the electorate, in particular the South Cambridgeshire electorate, the opportunity to assess the original promises of a seamless Brexit with minimal impact made by the Leave campaign by giving the electorate (including resident European citizens) a vote on whether to accept the proposed withdrawal arrangements or to retain the many benefits local residents currently enjoy with the option of staying in the European Union.

The Council should write to our two local MPs calling on them to defend the interests of the District's citizens by supporting this campaign.

STANDING IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR AIDAN VAN DE WEYER

Following amendment with the consent of the mover, Council **AGREED** the following motion:

This Council welcomes the commitment by government to invest in the Oxford-Cambridge corridor and to enable it to make a nationally significant contribution to

economic growth.

This Council sees the construction of the central section of the East West Rail line as being transformational for the regional economy, allowing sustained growth and geographical expansion of our high value industries such as life sciences, IT and digital.

This Council believes that at this stage in the design process it is essential for all route options to be evaluated. The selection of route options must take account of analysis of how they support and unlock housing and employment growth and how they fit with our existing development strategies.

This Council acknowledges that infrastructure investment on this scale carries enormous risks in its impacts on the environment while also presenting us with an unprecedented opportunity to make positive contributions to the net biodiversity and natural capital gain of the areas affected. This Council therefore commits itself to promoting environmental enhancement of benefits (such as flood management, water availability, noise and air pollution mitigation, health and landscape/amenities) along the corridor and asks that this is included in the route evaluation criteria.

This Council recognises that East West Rail and the growth of the corridor more generally will bring significant change to existing communities. It will work closely with those affected from the earliest stages of the project and will ensure that the delivery bodies do likewise.

This Council will continue to collaborate with the East West Railway Company on the route options and on analysing their benefits and impacts.

This Council will coordinate its work with all the local partners as well as the East West Rail Consortium, of which the Council is a long-standing member.

This Council requests that the Leader and Chief Executive write to the East West Railway Company, the Department of Transport, Network Rail and our MPs to express our aspirations for East West Rail in these terms.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Council **AGREED**

To exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that if present there would be a disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended).

ICE RINK FUNDING AGREEMENT (CABINET - 5 SEPTEMBER 2018)

Council **AGREED** to defer further consideration to a future meeting of the Council as further information was required from a 3rd party before Members could make an informed decision.