

Cabinet

Monday, 5 July 2021

Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 5 July 2021. 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 Jonathan Malton.

1. 2020-2021 Quarter Four Performance Report

Cabinet:

Reviewed and **noted** the KPI results and comments at Appendix A and progress against Business Plan actions at Appendix B.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Recommended any action required to address issues identified within this report and its appendices;
- b) Requested clarification from performance indicator owners on any aspects relating to performance indicators, results and comments contained within this report and its appendices.
- c) Commissioned more detailed performance reports from performance indicator owners that drill-down into specific areas relating to the one or more of the performance indicators, results and comments contained within this report and its appendices.

Reason for Decision: These recommendations are required to enable senior management and members to understand the organisation's performance. The information included within performance reports 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.

2. Private Sector Housing Policy (Environmental Health: Enforcement and Licensing)

Cabinet:

- a) **Approved** the Private Sector Housing Policy, to ensure the Council follows guidance from the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, to tackle substandard conditions in the private rented sector.
- b) **Delegated** authority to the Head of Shared Waste and Environment to make minor amendments, in consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and Licensing.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not approved the Private Sector Housing Policy

Reason for Decision: The policy is required to ensure that South Cambridgeshire District Council can deal with private sector housing issues in a fair and consistent manner, and incorporate guidance from Government departments.

3. **Officer Delegations for Infrastructure Projects**

Cabinet:

Noted that the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development has the authority for providing responses on behalf of South Cambridgeshire District Council relating to specific stages of the statutory process for infrastructure proposals being promoted through the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects scheme and Transport and Works Act.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not requested a report to seek clarification for these arrangements.

Reason for Decision: The Greater Cambridge area is the focus of a number of significant new national and regional infrastructure projects. These projects will have a range of impacts on the communities in South Cambridgeshire and as the Local Authority, it is important that the Council's views are duly represented within the statutory timeframes.

4. **Conservation Area Review Programme including approach to Longstanton Conservation Area Review**

Cabinet:

- a) **Endorsed** the criteria and approach for the rolling programme of Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans reviews, with the programme to be reviewed bi-annually.
- b) **Confirmed** that it will not prioritise a review the Longstanton Conservation Area at this time.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Used other criteria to prioritise the review of the District's Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans
- b) Decided to prioritise Longstanton Conservation Area

Reason for Decision: With so many Conservation Area reviews to be done it is important to establish criteria for approaching the review of Conservation Areas. The Shared Planning Service Conservation Team having developed a prioritisation approach do not consider that Longstanton Conservation Area is a priority for review in comparison with other Conservation Areas in the District

which include those with older designations; those have never been reviewed; or are in a potential development area/corridor; or have been identified as being at risk.

5. **Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document**

Cabinet:

Agreed to support the passage of this Supplementary Planning Document through this process to the next phase, which is public consultation prior to its return to this committee for review and adoption in late 2021.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Suggested amendments prior to consultation period

Reason for Decision: South Cambridgeshire District Council should maintain the currency and utility of key guidance on issues identified as important to it and its constituents. This Supplementary Planning Document represents just such a document and brings guidance on planning and biodiversity up to date.

6. **Review of the Design Review Service**

Cabinet:

- a) **Agreed** to replace the Design Enabling Panel to create the Greater Cambridge Design Review Panel and approve the Terms of Reference (including charges) set out at Appendix B from 1 January 2022.
- b) **Agreed** to grant delegated authority to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development in consultation with the Lead Cabinet Member for Planning Policy and Delivery to make minor changes to the Terms of Reference set out at Appendix B.
- c) **Noted** the findings and to implement the recommendations from Urban Design Learning set out in Appendix A.
- d) **Noted** the Milestones for Implementing the GCDRP set out in Appendix D.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

- a) Requested no changes to the current arrangements
- b) Continued the two design review panels with aligned processes and charging schedules and a single administration.

Reason for Decision: The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service design review service has not been reviewed in over 5 years. There are currently two different panels administered by the shared planning service, with different processes, remits and charging schedules. The intention is to move to a single panel and charging schedule and encompass current best practice in Design Review processes. It will also provide a consistent service, which applicants/agents seek, it will be more straight forward to administer, and it will ensure the service covers its costs. It will support improving the delivery of our service and how we monitor its performance.

