

Cabinet

Monday, 7 December 2020

Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 7 December 2020. 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. Quarter Two Performance Report

Cabinet:

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. Equality Scheme

Cabinet:

- a) **Approved** the Equality Scheme at Appendix A (including equality objectives and actions).
- B) **Noted** the 2019-20 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Actions report contained at Appendix B.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not approved the Equality Scheme.

Reason for Decision: Under the Public Sector Equality Duty that came into force in April 2011, local authorities are required to prepare and publish one or more objectives to meet any of the aims of the duty every four years. South Cambridgeshire District Council publishes its equality objectives within its Equality Scheme, which is now due for renewal.

Public authorities are also required to publish information annually to demonstrate how the Public Sector Equality Duty is being met, and one way in which this can be achieved is through the publication of information to show steps that have been taken to have due regard to the aims of the equality duty, as at Appendix B.

In addition to the legal requirements detailed above, these recommendations are required to ensure that Council policies, projects and practices achieve positive outcomes for residents and service users, including protected characteristic groups. On this basis, at the Cabinet meeting of 4 September 2019, it was requested that officers present a report.

3. **Refugee Support**

Cabinet:

Agreed to accept up to 4 refugee families per year within the District as part of the national commitment for the next three years, subject to;

- Government providing ongoing funding and developing future schemes, and,
- having access to support services that are currently offered by Cambridge City Council or equivalent.

Delegated to the Lead Cabinet Member for Housing to change this timescale if this brings the timescale into line with the announcement of a future government scheme.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not agreed the proposal.

Reason for Decision: To ensure that the Council can meet our part of the international commitment to assisting refugees.

4. **Medium Term Financial Strategy**

Cabinet:

- a) **Acknowledged** the projected changes in service spending and the overall resources available to the Council over the medium term;
- b) **Recommended** to Full Council the refreshed Medium Term Financial Strategy at Appendix A and updated financial forecast at Appendix B;
- c) **Noted** the growth bids, detailed at Appendix C, for inclusion in the Budget Setting Report in February 2021;
- d) **Noted** the proposed range of service efficiency savings/policy options

detailed in Appendix D of the report and that these will undergo further refinement and consultation with employees and other stakeholders prior to forming part of the Budget Setting Report in February 2021.

Please note that recommendations to Council are not subject to call in.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not agreed the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Reason for Decision: To ensure that the Cabinet is aware of the financial challenges over the medium-term and the strategy that is required to ensure that the Council will be in a position to deliver sustainable public services in the future.

To provide Cabinet with an update of the financial position and forecasts for the General Fund over the medium term following a review of financial assumptions. To enable the Cabinet to recommend the MTFS to Council for approval to assist in the Council's financial planning.

5. Capital Programme Update and New Bids

Cabinet:

- a) **Acknowledged** the performance achieved in relation to the Capital Programme schemes substantially completed in 2019/2020, summarised at Appendix A in the report.
- b) **Considered** the capital programme bids for new projects outlined in the report at Appendix B and to determine whether to approve the new capital schemes.
- c) **Recommended** to Full Council the revised capital programme for the period 2020/2021 to 2025/2026, at Appendix C for the General Fund and at Appendix D for the Housing Revenue Account, to reflect the new scheme bids, amendments to the programme and the reprofiling of expenditure identified in the report.

Please note that recommendations to Council are not subject to call in.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not approved any new capital funding bids.

Reason for Decision: To enable the Cabinet to consider the outturn performance of the Council's Capital Programme in 2019/2020, new capital project bids for 2021/2022 and the updated capital programme incorporating new items and reprofiling of expenditure.

6. Fees and Charges

Cabinet:

- a) **Approved** the fees and charges as detailed in Appendix A of the report to take effect from 1 April 2021 (unless otherwise stated) or the earliest feasible date thereafter.
- b) **Noted** the proposed variations to fees and charges in comparison to the prevailing inflation rate detailed in the report.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not adopted the revised fees and charges from 1 April 2021.

Reason for Decision: To enable the Cabinet to consider the outturn performance of the Council's Capital Programme in 2019/2020, new capital project bids for 2021/2022 and the updated capital programme incorporating new items and reprofiling of expenditure.

7. **Quarter Two Monitoring Report**

Cabinet:

- a) **Acknowledged** the forecast 2020/21 revenue outturn position against the approved revenue budget shown in Appendix B, the projected major variances with reasons for these variances at Appendices C1 and C2 and the action being taken to address the underlying issues;
- b) **Acknowledged** the latest position on the 2020/21 Capital Programme.

Options Considered: Cabinet could have:

Not agreed the Quarter Two Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report.

Reason for Decision: To advise the Cabinet of the latest monitoring information in respect of the 2020/21 revenue and capital budgets and emerging budget issues, for the second quarter period to 30 September 2020.