

CABINET – TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2022

DECISION NOTICE

The following decisions were taken on Tuesday, 6 December 2022 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: **Wednesday, 7 December 2022.**

End of the call-in period is **12 noon on Monday, 12 December 2022.**

These decisions will not be implemented until after this date and time.

Present: D Lloyd, Mrs R Holloway, R Jackson, P Peacock and T Wendels

<u>Agenda Item No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Action By</u>
6.	Update to the Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26	<p>AGREED that the update to the Medium-Term Financial Plan be noted.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To update Members on the current assumptions forecast in the Medium Term Financial Plan.</p>	Nick Wilson, Business Manager – Financial Services
7.	Local Area Energy Planning (Key Decision)	<p>AGREED that Cabinet endorse progress with the LAEP to enable a focus on district wide carbon emissions across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To help the Council deliver against its Carbon reduction target of net zero (direct emissions) by 2035, and to gather information to help the district determine potential pathways, technologies and scenarios, to achieving carbon net zero across the district. The Council have already made the commitment to reducing its own emissions. This is an opportunity to focus on the whole district and work towards a carbon net zero Newark and Sherwood.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u> The alternative option is to do nothing. In this situation the work will continue in partnership across the East Midlands without Newark &amp; Sherwood District Council input, which will result in the need to gather this information independently, as required, likely for a greater cost.</p>	Matt Finch, Director-Communities & Environment and Briony Ashton, Environmental Policy & Projects Officer
8.	Cost of Living Response	<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <p>a) note how the Council has responded so far to the cost of living challenges, and approve further work on potential projects as set out, for example in paragraph 2.1.1 of the report with a view to the creation of a Cost of Living Response fund to support our community objectives of creating vibrant and</p>	Suzanne Shead, Director – Housing, Health & Wellbeing

		<p>self-sufficient local communities where residents look out for each other and actively contributing to the local area and to improve the health and wellbeing of local residents;</p> <p>b) note that a further report will be brought to Cabinet with costed proposals for consideration within a cost envelope of approximately £150,000; and</p> <p>c) grant delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder – Strategy, Performance &amp; Finance after consultation with the S151 Officer and the relevant Portfolio Holder and the other Members on the Cabinet for any urgent individual allocations required in the interim period.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To provide practical support for residents and businesses through the cost of living challenges.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u> Not to consider further projects to address cost of living challenges, however it is considered appropriate to support residents and businesses during this period.</p>	
9.	Establishment of Newark and Sherwood Community Partnership	<p>AGREED that Cabinet approve the establishment of Newark &amp; Sherwood Community Partnership in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference as set out in the report.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To satisfy Government funding requirements and to develop and sustain good relationships between partners for the benefit of local residents and local businesses.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u> Cabinet could choose not to establish the proposed partnership or could vary its role and responsibilities.</p>	John Robinson, Chief Executive
10.	Infrastructure Funding Statement (Key Decision)	<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <p>a) approve the publication of the Infrastructure Funding Statement, which has been produced in accordance with the legislative requirements, before the end of the calendar year; and</p> <p>b) approve the proposed process for spend of Section 106 Developer Contributions set out at paragraph 2.3 of the report.</p>	Matt Lamb, Director - Planning & Growth and Matthew Norton, Business Manager, Planning Policy & Infrastructure

		<p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u></p> <p>To ensure that the District Council is operating in accordance with the requirements of the Community Infrastructure Regulations.</p> <p>To set out clearly the governance arrangements for spend of Section 106 contributions.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u></p> <p>None, there is a requirement to publish the Infrastructure Funding Statement by the end of the calendar year.</p>	
11.	A46 Northern Town Bypass and Newark Towns Fund	<p>AGREED that Cabinet note the update provided in the report.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u></p> <p>To keep Members updated on the A46 Northern Town Bypass and the Newark Towns Fund Program.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u></p> <p>No alternatives are considered appropriate at this time. The A46 Newark Northern Bypass proposals have long been an important aspiration of this Council, an aspiration supported by a raft of partners including Midlands Connect, Nottinghamshire County Council, Lincolnshire County Council, and a number of highway, LEP, and Local Planning Authorities from the Humber Ports to Tewkesbury.</p> <p>The development of the Newark Town Investment Plan and selection of priority Towns Fund projects was equally part of a significant assessment process undertaken by the Newark Towns Board, in consultation with a range of partners and industry, including this Council. The redevelopment of the Gateway site and relocation of the existing Newark Lorry Park remain an important part of this program.</p>	Matt Lamb, Director - Planning & Growth
12.	Heritage & Culture National Portfolio Organisation Status and Strategic Development (Key Decision)	<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <p>a) recognises the success of the National Portfolio Organisation application and that the agreed grant amount of £309,000 annually be added to the budget for the three years of the funding agreement from April 2023, to be drawn down from the Arts Council in stages, in line with their funding agreement;</p> <p>b) approve the addition of three new funded roles to the establishment for the three years of the funding agreement from April 2023;</p>	Carys Coulton-Jones, Business Manager-Heritage, Culture and Visitors

		<p>c) approve the establishment of an Independent Board, as previously agreed through Policy &amp; Finance Committee in March 2022, to meet the requirements of the National Portfolio Organisation status;</p> <p>d) approve a Cabinet Working Group to be set up to oversee the development of a refreshed strategy for Heritage &amp; Culture as outlined in the report;</p> <p>e) approve that a budget of £20,000 be set aside in 2023-24 to undertake an options appraisal to support delivery of an agreed future strategy for Heritage &amp; Culture; and</p> <p>f) support the National Civil War Centre continuing to offer free entry to residents during school holidays and for key, targeted activity and events, supporting residents to access welcoming, engaging and warm spaces over the winter period through the cost of living crisis and to interact with our heritage and cultural offer.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u>  These recommendations align to the Community Plan by clearly defining and evaluating Heritage &amp; Culture's remit and scope to:</p> <p>Deliver inclusive and sustainable economic growth through skills, educational development and the visitor economy;</p> <p>Improve the health and wellbeing of residents by responding to their needs through cultural engagement and outreach; and</p> <p>Create vibrant and self-sufficient local communities where residents actively contribute to their local area through co-creation via the NPO investment principles and activity.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u>  Do nothing, service delivery would continue, but this option does not acknowledge the challenge currently being seen in town centres and with visitor admissions and will therefore not enable a pro-active response to ensure our service remains relevant and fit for purpose and reflects value for money for the Council.</p>	
13.	Newark & Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022 - 2026 (Key Decision)	<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <p>a) approve and adopt the Newark &amp; Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-2026; and</p>	Cara Clarkson, Strategic Housing

		<p>b) approve the detailed Health Improvement Action Plan to be endorsed by the Strategic Health Partnership and the Portfolio Holder for Homes &amp; Health.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To ensure that the Council and its partners have a strategy that drives health and wellbeing improvements across the district.</p>	
14.	Responsive and Programmed Works - Additional Programme	<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <p>a) approve an additional £100k be added to this year's budget funding from the HRA Newark and Sherwood Homes Merger Transfer reserves; and</p> <p>b) note that any additional funding will be included in 2023/24 budget setting process.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To support the Repairs Team to ensure tenants homes are well maintained whilst we make improvements to our service delivery.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u> To continue to use existing resources to gradually reduce repairs workload.</p>	Steven Stone, Housing Maintenance & Asset Management
15.	Adoption of a Newark & Sherwood District Council Tree Strategy (Key Decision)	<p>AGREED that:</p> <p>(a) the draft Tree Strategy be shared with key partners (Sherwood Forest Trust, RSPB, Woodland Trust &amp; Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust) and reviewed before being released for public consultation via the Council's website; the outcome of the consultation to be reported back to Cabinet for consideration prior to formal adoption of the final draft Strategy and;</p> <p>(b) the proposal to fund the increase in budget as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report for essential tree survey and maintenance work be approved.</p> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> To support the Council's green ambitions to 'Enhance and protect the district's natural environment', as stated in the community plan.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u> Not to progress the Strategy at all, or to progress the Strategy but with a greater or lesser allocation of budget. On balance the recommendation is to progress a</p>	Matt Finch, Director – Communities & Environment and Matt Adey, Environmental Services

		Strategy, subject to the outcome of consultation, in order to contribute to the Council's carbon reduction plan, and that the budget proposed is proportionate.	
16.	Newark Safer Streets 4 Scheme and the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme (Key Decision)	<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) note the progress in the implementation of the Safer Streets 4 project and Rural Crime and Prevention Programme;</li> <li>(b) approve the use of the overage for match funding the schemes;</li> <li>(c) approve the addition of £305,000 to the Capital Programme for Safer Streets 4;</li> <li>(d) approve the addition of £49,500 to revenue budgets for Safer Streets 4; and</li> <li>(e) approve the addition of £39,000 to the Capital Programme for the Rural Crime and Prevention Programme.</li> </ul> <p><u>Reasons for Decision:</u> By delivering the Safer Streets and rural crime initiative the Council will contribute to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p><u>Options Considered:</u> The alternative option is to find alternative to the match funding identified in the report.</p>	<p>Matt Finch, Director- Communities &amp; Environment and Alan Batty, Business Manager – Public Protection</p>