

**Decisions of the Shadow Executive Committee at its meeting held on
Wednesday 10 February 2021**

Issued: 11 February 2021

The following decisions in this notice were made by the Shadow Executive on Wednesday 10 February 2021 and will come into force and may be implemented on Friday 19 February, unless the decision is subject to call-in, in accordance with section 9 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules within the Shadow Authority's Constitution.

A request for call-in shall only be considered to be valid if signed/authorised by at least four Shadow Members who are not Members of the Executive Committee.

A call-in request must be in the form of a written/emailed notice submitted to the Monitoring Officer and received before the published deadline.

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
05a	Housing Revenue Account – Draft 2021/22 Budget and MTFP Proposals	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <p>The following be approved for recommendation to the Shadow Authority at its meeting on 25th February 2021:-</p> <p>(i) The draft 2021/22 Housing Revenue Account Budgets consisting of the Corby Neighbourhood Account and the Kettering Neighbourhood Account as set out in Appendix A;</p> <p>(ii) An increase in dwelling rents for 2021/22 of 1.5% (based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for September 2020 + 1%) which is in line with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) Policy statement on rents for social housing published in February 2019;</p> <p>.</p> <p>(iii) The draft Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Plan consisting of the Corby Neighbourhood Account and the Kettering Neighbourhood Account, for 2022/23 to 2025/26 as set out in Appendix B;</p> <p><i>(Reason for Recommendations - To ensure that the Shadow Authority complies with its Constitution in setting the budget for North</i></p>	Janice Gotts

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<i>Northamptonshire and meets its statutory duties.)</i>	
05b	Final Budget 2021-22 and Medium Term Financial Plan	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <p>The following be approved for recommendation to the Shadow Authority at its meeting on 25th February 2021:-</p> <p>(i) The 2021-22 revenue budget, for approval and adoption, which sets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A budget requirement of £608.5m including Dedicated Schools Grant of £316.0m resulting in a net revenue budget requirement of £292.5m as set out in Appendix A. b. A total Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes of £171.5m as contained in paragraph 8.14. c. A Band D Council Tax of £1,532.90 for North Northamptonshire Council, including a 1.99% increase in 'core' Council Tax and 3% Adult Social Care Precept, noting that a separate Council Tax Resolution Report will be presented at the Shadow Authority meeting 25th February 2021 as set out in paragraph 8.16. d. Council Tax harmonisation for North Northamptonshire using the alternative notional amount approach to harmonise in the first year, as contained in paragraphs 8.19 to 8.22. e. Savings, pressures and income generation proposals of £26.5m net as set out in Appendix A f. Maximised Council Tax Long Term Empty Property Premium as set out in paragraphs 8.27 to 8.28. g. The detailed proposals of savings, pressures and income generation for 	Janice Gotts

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<p>2021-22 as set out within the report and Appendix B;</p> <p>h. The gross and net budgets for the Directorates and Corporate as set out in Appendix D;</p> <p>i. A contingency sum of £5.7m as set out in paragraph 11.1;</p> <p>j. Corporate budget requirements to cover capital financing costs of £18.2m as set out in paragraph 11.2;</p> <p>k. The revisions to fees and charges for 2021-22 as set out in Appendix E, noting the changes contained within section 9 of the report;</p> <p>l. The planned use of, contribution to, and movement in, reserves as identified in the report and in Appendix F subject to the final call on reserves after any changes are required to account for final charges etc;</p> <p>m. The Treasury Management Strategy for 2021-22 as set out in Appendix K, including the Affordable Borrowing Limit of £824m, and to note an update to the Strategy will be provided once the disaggregation of Northamptonshire County Council's Balance Sheet has been finalised.</p> <p>n. The utilisation of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2021-22 as set out in Appendix L; 3.2</p> <p>(ii) That this Committee:</p> <p>a) Notes the financial position has been based on the Final Local Government Finance Settlement announced on 4th February 2021 together with any further announcements to the date of the publication of this report;</p>	

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Notes the Consultation feedback as at Appendix G; c) Notes the responses to the Shadow Overview and Scrutiny Committee report from its meeting on 28th January 2021, as at Appendix J, and which was presented at the meeting of the Shadow Executive on 3rd February 2021, in reaching the final budget recommendations; d) Notes the Equality Impact feedback as at Appendix H be noted; e) Notes the Executive Director of Finance's Section 25 Report as at Section 16 including the review of the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves; f) Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Finance to manage any variation in budget prior to 1st April 2021 as a result of final confirmation of funding or income, or unforeseen commitments, in consultation with the Finance Portfolio Holder; g) Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Finance in consultation with the Finance Portfolio Holder to draft the recommended budget resolution for the Shadow Authority in accordance with the necessary legal requirements and taking into account the decisions of the Shadow Executive Committee and any final changes and other technical adjustments; h) Approves the implementation of any new business rate reliefs in 2021-22 as announced by Government in the Chancellor's 	

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<p>Spring Budget, which will increase the relief offering to businesses;</p> <p>i) Notes the transfer of £21.445m from reserves relates to a timing issue in respect of Business Rates Reliefs to support businesses through COVID-19;</p> <p>j) Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Finance to agree the use of the following reserves in consultation with Portfolio Holder for Finance (see also section 12.7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Social Care Reserve ii. Transformation Reserve iii. Public Health Reserve iv. Waste Management Reserve v. COVID-19 related reserves which includes the COVID-19 reserve and those held for the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) and Test and Trace <p>k) Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Finance to manage any variation in budget prior to the start of 2021/22 as a result of final confirmation of funding/income, or unforeseen commitments; in consultation with the Finance Portfolio Holder.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Recommendations: • To ensure that the Shadow Authority complies with its Constitution and legislative requirements in setting the budget for North Northamptonshire.)</i></p>	
05c	Final Capital Programme 2021-25 and Capital Strategy	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <p>The following be approved for recommendation to the Shadow Authority at its meeting on 25th February 2021:-</p>	Janice Gotts

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<p>The Capital Strategy, Capital Programme 2021-25, HRA Capital Programme 2021-25 and Baseline Development Pool, with the understanding that these will change for any schemes that are not complete by the current predecessor authorities as at the end of March 2021 and for any new schemes submitted through the agreed governance process between now and the end of March 2021.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Recommendation: The option proposed has taken into account the relevant officers and members steer regarding agreeing the principles that most closely align with the New Unitary Council's Safe and Legal perspective whilst including relevant transformation projects and maximising the delivery of currently agreed objectives.)</i></p>	
06	Director of Transformation Update	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The high-level Programme Delivery Status be noted; (ii) The update on Change Readiness be noted; (iii) The Communication and Engagement update be noted 	Lisa Hyde
07	Draft Vision Statement	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <p>The following draft vision statement for North Northamptonshire Council be endorsed:</p> <p>“We will work with the local community to make North Northamptonshire a place where everyone has the best opportunities and quality of life, driven by excellent public services. We will strive for an area that is safe and attractive with a thriving economy and green environment.”.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision – The draft vision statement is a proposed output set out in the Terms of Reference</i></p>	Guy Holloway

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<i>for the Vision and Culture Task and Finish Group. It is also good practice to develop a vision statement.)</i>	
08	Delegated authority to Approve Policies and Procedures	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <p>Authority be delegated to each member of the Corporate Leadership Team (in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder) to approve policies and procedures within the areas for which they are responsible, prior to Vesting Day on 1 April 2021, for the new council.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for decision – To ensure that the Council has the necessary policies and procedures in place for 1 April 2021)</i></p>	Adele Wylie
09	Shared Service Arrangements	<p>RESOLVED that:-</p> <p>a) The sharing of services described as Hosted or Lead Authority, in the Blueprint schedule attached as Appendix A to this report, with the West Northamptonshire Council as detailed in this report be approved;</p> <p>b) An Executive Joint Committee within the governance framework of the Council with the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix C to oversee the shared arrangements be established;</p> <p>c) The proposed reservation of delegated powers to the Chief Executive, Executive Directors, Directors and Assistant Chief Executive which will be set out in the Constitution be noted;</p> <p>d) The Heads of Terms for the inter authority agreements with the West Northamptonshire Council for the delivery of the services set out in Appendix B, be approved including:</p> <p>i. Provision of the services set out in Appendix A and described as hosted by North Northamptonshire Council on a short-term basis in accordance</p>	Adele Wylie

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<p>with the terms of the proposed agreement</p> <p>ii. Provision of the services set out in Appendix A and described with North Northamptonshire as Lead Authority in accordance with the terms of the proposed agreement until the agreement relating to that service is terminated</p> <p>iii. Receipt of the services set out in Appendix A and described as hosted by West Northamptonshire on a short-term basis in accordance with the terms of the proposed agreement</p> <p>iv. Receipt of the services set out in Appendix A and described with West Northamptonshire as lead authority in accordance with the terms of the proposed agreement until the agreement relating to that service is terminated.</p> <p>e) A Joint Officer Board to support the Joint Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix D be established.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for decisions:</i></p> <p><i>a) The Councils have agreed that it is not practicable to disaggregate some services before 1st April 2021 and therefore a short term agreement will allow the current arrangements to continue until the necessary service changes can be made or contracts replaced to allow the services to be disaggregated.</i></p> <p><i>b)The Councils have agreed that some services, which benefit from critical mass where the service will be commissioned from an external provider (and amended the contract now would be cost prohibitive) and where sharing gives both authorities better value for money and/or improved delivery, should continue to be delivered across the whole geographical area of North and West Northamptonshire.</i></p>	

Item	Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
		<p><i>c) To give effect to the decisions a Joint Committee will need to be established with agreed terms of reference supported by an Officer Board.</i></p> <p><i>d) An agreement will need to set out the terms of the arrangement and specific delegations will need to be made to relevant Chief Officers and Senior managers)</i></p>	

For any queries please contact Ben Smith, Joint Lead Democratic Services Manager at democraticservices@northnorthants.gov.uk