

**North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Council on Thursday 31 August 2023**

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>Item 8</b>	Auditors' Annual Report 2021/22	<p><b>Resolved:-</b></p> <p>That Council notes the Auditors Annual Report 2021/22 at Appendix A to the report.</p> <p><i>Reasons for Decision:</i></p> <p><i>To note the work of Council and the Audit &amp; Governance Committee in exercising its duties and responsibilities to consider reports of the external auditor.</i></p> <p><i>Other Options Considered:</i></p> <p><i>No alternative options considered. It is important for the authority to consider its governance and assurance arrangements and to respond to recommended improvements to its practice.</i></p>
<b>Item 9</b>	Approval of Pay Structure and Terms and Conditions	<p><b>Resolved:-</b></p> <p>a) That approval be given to the adoption of North Northamptonshire Councils Pay Structure at Appendix B to the report;</p> <p>b) That approval be given to the adoption of North Northamptonshire Councils Terms and Conditions at Appendix C to the report.</p> <p><i>Reasons for Decisions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Implementing a new pay structure and terms and conditions for North Northamptonshire Council is an important decision that will help to further, shape our workforce now and in the future.</i></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Decisions relating to new pay and grading arrangements have significant financial implications for the council and whilst these have been built into the Medium-Term Financial Plan, approving the adoption of these proposals is a decision for Council, in accordance with the Constitution.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Alternative Options Considered:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Continuing to employ people on ‘interim’ terms and conditions.</i></li> <li>• <i>Starting the pay structure at a lower pay point and decreasing the pay differential between pay bands.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Item 10</b>	Northamptonshire Youth Justice Plan 2023/24	<p><b>Resolved:-</b></p> <p>a) That approval be given to the content of the Youth Justice Plan 2023/24 at Appendix A to the report;</p> <p>b) That the Northamptonshire’s Youth Offending Service’s priorities for 2023/24 be noted, as set out in the plan.</p> <p><i>Reasons for Decisions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To accord with the constitution of the Council where the Youth Justice Plan forms part of the Policy Framework that is decided by Full Council.</i></li> <li>• <i>To provide strategic direction to the Youth Offending Service that is delivered by Northamptonshire Children’s Trust.</i></li> </ul>

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		<p><i>Alternative Options Considered:</i></p> <p><i>None - As well as being a requirement of statute, the Youth Justice Plan forms part of the Council's Policy Framework and approval by the Council is therefore required.</i></p>
<b>Item 11</b>	Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022/23	<p><b>Resolved:-</b></p> <p>That the contents of the Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022- 2023 and the recommendations made within it, attached as Appendix A to the report, be noted.</p> <p><i>Reason for Recommendations –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To accord with legislation or the policy of the council. This is a statutory requirement of the Director of Public Health role.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Alternative Options Considered:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None as this is a statutory requirement of the Director of Public Health role. The North Northamptonshire Public Health team was formed during the period covered by this report. Establishing the priorities for improving public health in North Northamptonshire was a key focus of 2022-23 and provides the focus of this report.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Item 12</b>	Capital Programme and Revenue Budget Update 2023/24	<p><b>Resolved:-</b></p> <p>a) That approval be given to the funding for the following changes to the capital</p>

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		<p>programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Phase 2 Refugee Resettlement Scheme – approve a budget in 2023/24 of £3.298m for phase 2 of the Refugee Resettlement Scheme funded through £1.298m from the Local Authority Housing Grant and a virement of £2m from the Housing and Homelessness prevention capital programme to the Resettlement capital programme to meet the match funding requirement for the grant.</li> <li>ii) Environmental Services ground maintenance equipment – approve a budget in 2023/24 of £445k for the replacement of grounds maintenance equipment funding from borrowing.</li> </ul> <p>b) Approval be given to the funding for the following changes to the revenue budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Education Case Management System (ECMS) – approve a revenue budget of £1.362m in 2023/24 for the procurement and one-off implementation costs of a new ECMS funded through use of the Transformation Reserve, and approve the inclusion of ongoing revenue costs of £131k in 2024/25 and £142.5k in 2025/26 into the MTFP.</li> </ul> <p><i>Reasons for Recommendations:</i></p> <p><i>These are set out in greater detail within section 5 of the report, but can be summarised as:</i></p>

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		<p>i) <i>To support the housing provision in North Northamptonshire;</i></p> <p>ii) <i>To support the achievement of corporate plan objectives; and</i></p> <p>iii) <i>To improve service provision in relation to children, young people, parents and carers</i></p> <p><i>Alternative Options Considered:</i></p> <p>i) <i>Alternative options in relation to the Phase 2 Refugee Resettlement Scheme can be summarised as follows:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Do nothing – if the Council does not participate in this programme, it will not receive the funding allocation and the challenge of finding onward settled accommodation for refugees will remain;</i></li> <li><i>• Commit to delivering a smaller number of homes – whilst this may be easier to achieve, the government grant allocation will reduce proportionately and less homes will be acquired into our temporary accommodation stock. Ultimately fewer additional homes will be available to the Council to use as affordable housing for our residents in the longer term.</i></li> </ul> <p>ii) <i>Alternative options in relation to Environmental Services Grounds Maintenance Equipment can be summarised as follows:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• External grants were explored but are not available for plant equipment. The option of leasing new equipment was considered, but not deemed to represent value for money and therefore borrowing is the most cost-effective funding source. The other alternative option would be to not approve this</i></li> </ul>

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		<p><i>scheme. However, this would have an adverse impact on meeting service needs and the achievement of NNC’s corporate objectives.</i></p> <p><i>iii) Alternative options considered for the ECMS can be summarised as follows:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Do nothing;</i></li> <li><i>• Apply for a variation with the current supplier, subject to this option being available under the current contract and such modification satisfying the Public Contracts Regulations 2015; Reprocure the current system through a direct award; or Build a bespoke system for the Education Service. More detail in relation to alternative options considered by the Executive in respect of the three schemes are set out in the reports presented on 12th July and 17th August 2023, as referenced in Section 8 of this report.</i></li> </ul>
	Guillotine Motion	<p><b>Resolved:-</b></p> <p>That in accordance with meeting procedure rule 10, the meeting conclude at 9.00pm, three hours after its commencement, the substantive business of the meeting having been concluded.</p> <p><i>[Note:- In accordance with meeting procedure 10.3 he following outstanding items of business are adjourned to the next ordinary meeting of Council are:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Motions on Notice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>○ Motion 1 – Housing</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>▪ Motion 1, following advice from officers, having been in mid-debate at the conclusion of the meeting will serve as the first substantive agenda item at the next ordinary meeting of Council.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><i>○ Motion 2 – Alfred East Art Gallery</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Motion 3 – Library Services</i></li><li>● <i>Councillor Questions]</i></li></ul>

Issued: 1 September 2023