

The following decisions in this notice were made by the Executive on Thursday 18th January 2024.

Any decisions identified below as a **KEY DECISION** will come into force and may be implemented on Friday 26th January, unless the decision is subject to call-in, in accordance with section 18 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules within North Northamptonshire Council’s Constitution.

Requests for Call-In

A request for call-in shall only be considered to be valid if signed by at least 8 members of the Council (10% of the total number of members) who are not members of the Executive. One of the requestors must identify themselves as the originator of the request and the request must specify the nature of the grounds relied upon. A call-in request must be in the form of a written notice submitted to the Monitoring Officer and received before the published deadline. Either one notice containing all required signatures or up to 8 separate e-mails (as appropriate) will be acceptable.

The notice must set out:-

- (a) the resolution or resolutions that the member(s) wish to call in;
- (b) the reasons why they wish the Scrutiny Management Board to consider referring it back to the Executive, with particular reference to the principles of decision making set out elsewhere within this Constitution; and
- (c) the alternative course of action or recommendations that they wish to propose.

Agenda Item No	Subject	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

Item 4	Performance Indicator Report 2023/24 (Period 8 - November 2023)	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Executive noted the performance of the Council as measured by the available indicators at Period 8 (November) 2023/24, set out in Appendix A to this report.</p>
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		<p>Reason for Recommendations – to better understand the Council’s performance as measured by Key Performance Indicators as at Period 8 (November) 2023/24.</p> <p>Alternative Options Considered: Reporting performance data on a less frequent basis is an option but monthly reporting is considered useful at this stage of the Council’s existence, reporting alongside budget information</p>
Item 5	Culture, Tourism and Heritage Business Plan 2024-2025	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>KEY DECISION</p> <p>That the Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approved and adopted the Culture, Tourism and Heritage Business Plan for the 2024/2025 financial year. b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, in consultation with the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing to take the actions necessary to ensure successful delivery of the Business Plan. <p>Reasons for Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the Business Plan will facilitate the integration of the new Plan into the service, marking a significant milestone as we enter the 24/25 financial year, a period poised for continued achievement, growth, and sustained success. • The Business Plan outlines a clear and strategic vision for the Culture, Tourism,

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		<p>and Heritage departments, providing a roadmap for their development and growth. It ensures that the council has a well-defined direction to safeguard, promote, and celebrate the cultural heritage and tourism assets of North Northamptonshire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plan consolidates various departments under a unified approach, fostering operational efficiency through streamlined processes and resource sharing. Adopting this plan enhances collaboration, leading to cost savings and optimised service delivery. • The Plan focuses on creating a seamless and immersive experience for both residents and visitors. By integrating educational programs, cultural events, and tourism promotion, the plan enhances the overall visitor experience, contributing to the attractiveness of North Northamptonshire as a destination. <p>Alternatives Options Considered: The primary alternative considered was to forego the development of a new single Business Plan for Culture, Tourism, and Heritage, opting to run the departments individually. However, this approach is not recommended due to significant cost and performance implications. Operating the departments independently would likely result in increased expenses, reduced operational efficiency, and a lack of cohesive strategic direction. By consolidating efforts, resources, and strategies under a cohesive plan, North Northamptonshire Council and the Culture, Tourism and Heritage Service is better positioned to achieve its goals. It will make best use of resources to optimise income and provide a seamless and integrated experience for both residents and visitors.</p>
Item 6	Northamptonshire Tourism Strategy and Local Visitor	RESOLVED

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	Economy Partnership for Northamptonshire	<p>KEY DECISION</p> <p>That the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approved the Northamptonshire Visitor Economy Strategy for adoption; b) Supported the proposal to continue to work closely with colleagues in West Northamptonshire and put in place the Local Visitor Economy Partnership by implementing a new Community Interest Company to ensure good governance. A future report will be brought to the Executive which will set out detailed implementation plans and financial implications related to the development of the Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP). c) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, in consultation with the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing to undertake any activity to develop the plans for LVEP development, ahead of these being brought back to the Executive for approval. <p>Reasons for Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy seeks to improve the county’s visitor economy. If Northamptonshire's visitor economy had grown at the same pace as our neighbours in Cambridgeshire over the past decade, it would have resulted in £36m more spending by overnight visitors and some 660 jobs either safeguarded or created. • To maximise the potential for the county’s visitor economy in the future by

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		<p>implementing an agreed and focussed plan where North and West unitary authorities can work together and in close partnership with industry, education and other stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To take advantage of the new national framework that has been developed by Visit England that sees circa 40 Local Visitor Economy Partnerships (LVEPs) across England delivering national tourism policy as set out by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in its response to the de Bois Review. There is an initial leadership role for both councils to support the development of an impactful and industry driven destination management organisation focussed on Northamptonshire. <p>Alternative Options Considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The alternative option would be to not have a Northamptonshire Visitor Economy Strategy. However, this would not be a recommended approach as both councils wouldn't have a clear direction or plan to address the challenges associated with the visitor economy in Northamptonshire. Without a dedicated strategy, the county might miss out on valuable opportunities to attract more visitors, generate increased spending, and create jobs. • Additionally, without a coordinated effort through a joint strategy, the potential for collaboration with industry, education, and other stakeholders may remain untapped. The alternative of not having a strategy could result in a fragmented approach, where each authority operates independently, possibly leading to duplicated efforts, inefficiencies, and a lack of a unified vision for the development of the visitor economy. • By not adopting a Visitor Economy Strategy, Northamptonshire might also miss the chance to align itself with the national framework set by Visit England and

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		<p>the Department for Culture, Media, and Sport. The absence of a strategic plan may hinder the county's ability to establish a Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) and a destination management organisation, both of which are crucial for implementing effective policies and initiatives at the local level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In summary, not having a Northamptonshire Visitor Economy Strategy could result in missed economic and developmental opportunities, lack of coordinated efforts, and an inability to leverage the national framework designed to support and enhance the tourism sector. The proposed strategy aims to address these concerns and position Northamptonshire for a more prosperous and sustainable future in the visitor economy.
Item 7	Specialist Drug and Alcohol Treatment for Rough Sleepers, or at risk of Rough Sleeping	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>KEY DECISION</p> <p>That the Executive approved the use of the Council’s Public Health Reserves in the absence of a Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant (RSDATG), to fund activities and new roles up to £600,000 to underpin Rough Sleeping Drug and Alcohol Treatment services.</p> <p>Reasons for Recommendations: Approval will allow the Public Health Team and Housing Team to develop an evidence-based support service for individuals rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping with drug and alcohol dependency in North Northamptonshire. The funding will prevent significant harm and risk of death amongst people sleeping rough and the findings will be used to establish the new service model for 2026 when the drug and alcohol service will be recommissioned.</p>

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		<p>Alternative Option Considered: Decline the use of Public Health Reserves to provide evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment and specialist wrap around support for people sleeping rough or at risk of sleeping rough, including those with co-occurring mental health needs.</p>
Item 8	<p>Making of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for Rushden Town Centre</p>	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Executive:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approved the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for Rushden town centre, with the draft order as set out at Appendix A of this report. b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Housing, Communities and Levelling Up in consultation with the Director of Public Health and Wellbeing, to make any further minor amendments required to implement the Public Spaces Protection Order for Rushden town centre. <p>Reasons for Recommendations –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give authorised officers the ability to use enforcement powers under the PSPO to respond to anti-social behaviour within Rushden town centre. • Recommendation (b) will allow the Executive Member and Director to make minor amendments to wording of the order to ensure it accurately reflects approved prohibitions.

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		Alternative Options Considered – Not to make the PSPO – This could have a negative impact on our reputation and our ability to deliver on our Corporate Plan commitments to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and the root causes of ASB.
Item 9	Adoption of the Corby Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>KEY DECISION</p> <p>That the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Noted the findings of the public consultation analysis for the Corby Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which forms Appendix B of this report; b) Approved and adopted the Corby LCWIP which forms Appendix A of this report as a Council policy document; c) Agreed the prioritisation of routes within the Corby LCWIP, subject to funding being available, forms the basis of work to develop preliminary designs for the routes to inform future funding bids.

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		<p>Reason for Recommendations – Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) are the recommended Department for Transport approach for planning and co-ordinating provision for active travel modes. They provide a strategic and planned approach for short- and long-term provision for cycling and walking within the local area.</p> <p>The Corby LCWIP has been developed to enable the Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Identify prioritised cycling and walking infrastructure improvements for future investment; · Ensure that consideration is given to cycling and walking within both local planning and transport policies and strategies; and · Make the case for future funding for walking and cycling infrastructure. <p>Alternative Options Considered – While it would be possible to develop an LCWIP based on a different methodology to that contained in Government guidance on LCWIPs, this is not recommended as it would mean that the Council was less likely to secure Government funding. However, should alternative funding (such as S106) become available for particular corridors, it would be possible to progress lower priority schemes on that basis.</p>
Item 10	Cleaning Service Contract Procurement	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>KEY DECISION</p> <p>That the Executive:</p>

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		<p>a) Confirmed the preferred procurement route for a Building Cleaning service contract via an Open Market Tender, noting that the feasibility of inhouse provision will be considered to ensure value for money and quality service is achieved from the chosen delivery model.</p> <p>b) Confirmed approval for a contract extension of six months to a current provider for Building Cleaning Services to accommodate the time required to conclude the procurement exercise.</p> <p>c) Delegate authority to the Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, in consultation with the Assistant Director of Assets & Environment, to enter into the necessary contractual arrangements to secure best value for delivering the Building Cleaning service.</p> <p>Reasons for Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed procurement route seeks to widen the tender process to additional bidders, with a more tightly defined service scope helping to remove the affordability challenges associated with the framework-based proposals. • The proposed procurement process will enable smaller local cleaning employers the opportunity to tender for the work, these firms are not currently part of the framework. • The recommendation continues to aim to provide the most cost-effective solution, which can be deployed to suit the changes in service need and delivery throughout the contract period.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed option aims to access a reliable cleaning service, provision to monitor contractor performance, providing quality services for North Northamptonshire residents. • The proposed contract documentation will allow flexibility to add and remove the buildings covered by the contract as the Council’s estate is reviewed and evolves over the coming several years. <p>Alternative Options Considered: A number of alternative options were considered by both operational managers and procurement colleagues in shaping the November 2022 report, including building an in-house team or undertaking the bespoke procurement of a new Cleaning Services contract. The preferred option was deemed to offer the best value for money to the Council using information known at that time in terms of time to deploy the new arrangements, access to established providers, procurement costs, risk and overall value for money. The revised approach continues to offer the majority of these benefits, with the additional benefit of providing access to the tender opportunity to other suppliers (including North Northamptonshire based SMEs). The main downside of the Open Market Tender option was the time to procure. The unforeseen delay can be addressed through the proposed extension to the existing contract.</p>
Item 11	Budget Forecast Update 2023-24 - Period 8	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Noted the Council’s forecast outturn position for 2023/24 as summarised in Section 4, alongside the further analysis, risks and other considerations as set

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		<p>out in Section 5 to Section 7 of the report.</p> <p>b) Noted the assessment of the current deliverability of the 2023/24 savings proposals in Appendix A.</p> <p>Reason for Recommendations – to note the forecast financial position for 2023/24 as at Period 8 and consider the impact on this year and future years budgets.</p> <p>Alternative Options Considered: The report focuses on the forecast revenue outturn against budget for 2023/24 and makes recommendations for the Executive to note the current budgetary position as such there are no specific choices within the report.</p>