

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 26 August 2021

Issued: 27 August 2021

The following decisions in this notice were made by the Executive on Thursday 26 August 2021.

Any decisions identified below as a **KEY DECISION** will come into force and may be implemented on **Tuesday 7 September 2021**, 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 relevant Scrutiny committee 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 5	Budget Forecast 2021/22 as at Period 4	(KEY DECISION) a) That the Council's forecast outturn position for 2021/22 and the associated risks and other considerations be noted; b) That the assessment of the current deliverability of the 2021/22 saving proposals in
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		<p>Appendix A to the report be noted;</p> <p>c) That a virement of £690k from contingency to enabling and support services be approved to allow budget realignment within overall available resources, as set out in paragraph 6.54 and 6.58 of the report;</p> <p>d) That support for local bus services be continued, to maintain concessionary bus fare reimbursements to bus operators at pre-Covid levels for the remainder of the current financial year (2021/22), which accords with the request from the Department for Transport.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decisions - To note the forecast financial position for 2021/22 as at Period 4 and consider the impact on this year and future years budgets.)</i></p>
Item 6	Capital Programme Update 2021/22	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>1. That the following changes into the capital programme totalling £2.295m be approved: -</p> <p>a) A43/A6116 Steel Road Roundabout – increase in budget of £1.020m to £3.973m funded from external grant;</p> <p>b) Isebrook SEND College – Connected offer expansion of the school – approval for additional £482k funded from Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Capital Grant, taking the total of the scheme to £0.532m;</p>

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		<p>c) Improvement of Facilities at Montsaye Academy, Rothwell – Council contribution of £0.606m to school improvements funded through S106 external contributions;</p> <p>d) Chester House Estate restoration - £187k funded from external contributions.</p> <p>2. That the following changes to the capital programme totalling £10.105m be noted: - That items e) and f) have been approved by the Executive Director of Finance in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance under delegation from the Shadow Authority as part of the budget report to Council on 25 February 2021, and follows confirmation of grant funding after the budget was set, and item g) was approved as part of a separate report on the Heritage Action Zone to Executive on 5th August 2021:</p> <p>e) Allocation of Department for Transport Capital Maintenance Funding 2021/22 - £8.404m funded from external grant;</p> <p>f) LTP Integrated Transport Block Funding 2021/22 - £1.551m funded from external grant;</p> <p>g) Kettering High Street Heritage Action Zone - £0.150m approved budget increase as a result of additional Historic England funding.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decisions –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The local authority has a legal obligation to deliver S106 related works in</i>

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		<p><i>accordance with the signed S106 agreement;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Utilisation of government grant to support the Council’s Highways infrastructure and transport network;</i> • <i>Utilisation of grant and other external funding to improve and expand Education provision and facilities;</i> • <i>Utilisation of grant for specific key projects to support of the North Northamptonshire economy and housing developments.)</i>
Item 7	Chester House Estate Programme and Business Plan Update	<p>a) That the positive progress to date with the Chester House Estate Capital Works programme and future business development be noted;</p> <p>b) That the refreshed Business Plan July 2021 attached at Appendix B to the report be endorsed and regular updates on progress against it be received.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decisions: - To mobilise the refreshed Chester House Estate restoration business plan ahead of planned site opening to the public on 23rd October 2021.)</i></p>
Item 8	Adoption of the Part 2 Local Plan for Corby	<p><u>Recommendations to Council</u></p> <p>That Council be recommended: -</p> <p>a) that the Part 2 Local Plan for Corby (set out in Appendix A to the report) be adopted;</p> <p>b) to delegate authority to the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Assistant Director for Growth and Regeneration, to make any further Additional Modifications to the Part 2 Local Plan for Corby or its</p>

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		<p>accompanying Policies Map that relate exclusively to factual updates, grammatical corrections, and formatting for the purposes of publishing the plan to presentation standard;</p> <p>c) to delegate authority to the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Assistant Director for Growth and Regeneration, to prepare and publish the Adoption Statement (draft as Appendix E) and the Sustainability Appraisal Statement and fulfil any other duties required under Regulation 26 and 35 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decisions –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The NPPF states that the planning system should be genuinely plan-led. Succinct and up-to-date plans should provide a positive vision for the future of each area and a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social, and environmental priorities.</i> • <i>The Plan drawn up by Corby Borough Council was subject to thorough examination and has been modified as a result of recommendations made by the Inspector, as set out at Appendix C to this report. The Council also made non-substantive modifications to the plan during the course of the examination, which are set out at Appendix D to this report.</i> • <i>In the event that the Plan is adopted for the Corby area of North Northamptonshire, it will supersede all of the existing saved policies and allocations in the 1997 Corby Borough Local Plan.)</i>

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Item 9	Local Transport Plan – Integrated Transport Plan 2021/22 Funding Allocation and Capital Funding 2021/22	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the receipt of the government grants totalling £9.955m be noted and accepted, made up of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Allocation of Department for Transport Capital Maintenance Funding 2021/22 - £8.404m b) Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport Block Funding 2021/22 - £1.551m 2. That it be agreed to spend the grants on maintaining and upgrading the highways network in line with the Northamptonshire Transport Plan. <p><i>(Reason for Decisions - Utilisation of government grant to support and maintain the Council's Highways infrastructure and transport network.)</i></p>
Item 10	Strategy for Tackling Litter and Fly-tipping	<p>That the North Northamptonshire Strategy for tackling litter and fly-tipping, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To accord with legislation and the policies of the Council;</i> • <i>To provide a comprehensive approach to tackling litter and fly-tipping across North Northamptonshire; and</i> • <i>To support the North Northamptonshire Street Cleansing Policy.)</i>

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Item 11	Improvement of facilities at Montsaye Academy, Rothwell, using banked Section 106 funding	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>a) That the release of £606,446 of Section 106 contributions for Montsaye Academy be approved;</p> <p>b) That the delivery of the project by Pathfinder Schools Academy Trust be approved;</p> <p>c) That authority be delegated to the Executive Member for Children, Families, Education and Skills in consultation with the Director of Children’s Services to enter into a Funding Agreement between North Northamptonshire Council and Pathfinder Schools Academy Trust for the delivery of planned improvement works.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decisions –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The recommended course of action will allow the timely progression of capital improvement works at Montsaye Academy that are required to improve the educational environment for students and staff;</i> • <i>The recommended course of action will benefit students currently being educated at Montsaye Academy;</i> • <i>The Council (or customers) will receive the maximum benefit from the option proposed and Montsaye Academy will be able to derive the full benefit of the banked S106 contributions.)</i>

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Item 12	Proposal to fund a 'Connected Offer' or annex site to Isebrook SEND College at the 'Four Seasons' building, Kettering.	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>a) That the proposal to establish an annex site or 'Connected Offer' provision to Isebrook SEND College at the 'Four Seasons' building, Kettering by the Creating Tomorrow Academy Trust (the Academy Trust that operates Isebrook SEND College) be noted;</p> <p>b) That the required expenditure of £481,886 to allow for the progression of the proposed scheme and to note that this scheme will be funded via SEND Capital Grant funding received directly from central government be approved;</p> <p>c) That authority be delegated to the Executive Member for Children, Families, Education and Skills, in consultation with the Executive Director of Children's Services, to complete all necessary documentation to ensure effective delivery of the scheme.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decisions –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The recommended course of action is the most cost-effective manner of providing additional SEND places in the Kettering area of North Northants;</i> • <i>The Council and its customers will receive the maximum benefit from the option proposed. The proposal will provide a bespoke specialist education provision within the area that is not currently available, that is specifically designed to meet the individual needs of the cohort of students that will attend the new provision;</i> • <i>To proposal will assist the Council in fulfilling its statutory obligations of providing a sufficiency of SEND places by providing an additional 20 secondary SEND</i>

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		<i>places in the area.)</i>
Item 13	Enforcement Policy	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>That the Enforcement Policy, attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision - The adoption of an Enforcement Policy by the Council provides clarity as to the regulatory approach which will be adopted by the Council. Adoption of the policy ensures that the Council discharges its obligations under the Regulator’s Code, issued by the Better Regulation Delivery Office (BRDO) pursuant to the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006.)</i></p>
Item 14	Technical Updates to Section 106 Evidence Base and Benchmark Cost Data	<p>a) That it be agreed that the 2021 updated baseline pupil yield figures (as set out in Table 3 of the report) and benchmark costs (as set out in Table 5) replace those set out in the Obligations Framework 2015;</p> <p>b) That authority be delegated to the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Director of Place and Economy to review and amend the pupil yield figures and benchmark costs on an annual basis.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decisions - To ensure the Section 106 contributions secured towards new infrastructure are based on latest available pupil yield data and cost benchmarks, and that these figures and costs are reviewed and updated annually where necessary.)</i></p>

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Item 15	Additional Restrictions Grant Top-Up Funding	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the approach taken by the Council to allocate previous discretionary Additional Restrictions Grant be noted; b) That the four options outlined at Appendix A to the report for utilising Additional Restrictions Grant top-up funding to support the local economic recovery be approved; c) That authority be delegated to the Executive Member of Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Executive Director of Place and Economy to allocate the Additional Restrictions Grant funding. <p><i>(Reason for Decisions - To enable the distribution of Additional Restrictions Grant top-up funding to support the local economic recovery framework.)</i></p>
Item 16	Draft 2020-21 Outturn Positions - KBC & BCW	<p>That the forecast outturn position for 2020/21 for Kettering Borough Council and the Borough Council of Wellingborough be noted.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision – To inform Members of the outturn position for 2020/21 for both Kettering Borough Council and the Borough Council of Wellingborough as the outturn will form part of the Statutory Statement of Accounts.)</i></p>
Item 17	Procurement of the Leisure Management Service	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) That it be agreed to commence a procurement process for a Leisure Management Contract for the management of Kettering Swimming Pool,

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		<p>Kettering Athletics Track and Synthetic Pitch, Corn Market Hall, and Desborough Leisure Centre for a contract as set out in paragraph 4.11 of the report;</p> <p>b) That authority be delegated to the Executive member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism in consultation with the Assistant Director, Housing & Communities, to take any further decisions and/or actions required to conclude this procurement and deliver this service, without the need to return to the Executive.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision - To fit within similar timeframes to existing leisure management arrangements in North Northamptonshire. This will also afford the opportunity for the Council to consider the options for future management of its wider leisure service.)</i></p>
Item 18	A43/A6116 Steel Road Roundabout Project	<p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>a) That the work undertaken to date to get the project to the delivery Stage be endorsed;</p> <p>b) That it be agreed to increase the project cost within the Delivery Plan from £2,950,000 to £3,973,252.</p> <p>(Reasons for Decisions –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council and general public will receive the maximum benefit from the option proposed; • To re-affirm the Council's ambitious plans for growth and regeneration; • Consistency with previous decisions made by Corby Borough Council;

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northamptonshire County Council, the North Northamptonshire Shadow Authority and North Northamptonshire Council.)