

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

Issued: 6th August 2021

The following decisions in this notice were made by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021 and will come into force and may be implemented on 16th August 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 if it is 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

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| A5 | Budget Forecast 2021/22 as at Period 3 | (KEY DECISION) a) The Council’s forecast outturn position for 2021/22 and the associated risks and other considerations be noted. b) The assessment of the current deliverability of the 2021/22 saving proposals in |
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North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| | | <p>Appendix 1 of the report be noted.</p> <p>c) The final allocation of the Local Covid Support Grant as set out in paragraph 6.14 of the report be noted.</p> <p>d) Approval be given to the inclusion of £178k of grant funding for the ex-offenders programme, as set out in paragraphs 6.36-6.37 of the report, within the budget, noting that it is anticipated that the spend profile for this will be £150.5k in 2021/22 and £27.5k in 2022/23.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision – to note the forecast financial position for 2021/22 as at Period 3 and to consider the impact on this year and future years budgets.)</i></p> |
| A6 | Capital Programme Update 2021/22 | <p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>a) That the new capital approval process, endorsed by Finance and Resources Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 13th July 2021, be noted;</p> <p>b) That the following changes into the capital programme totalling £9.272m be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Stanton Cross Primary School £9.064m two form entry school and children’s centre funded from Section 106 (S106) contributions. ii. Library Management System £161k funded from borrowing/ discretionary funding. |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|---|---|
| | | <p align="center">iii. Binrastructure - £47k funded through external contributions</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision:</i></p> <p><i>i. The local authority has a legal obligation to deliver S106 related works in accordance with the signed S106 agreement;</i></p> <p><i>ii. The recommended course of action will allow the timely progression of capital works;</i></p> <p><i>iii. The recommended course of action is required to support the sustainability of the library service including critically the support of the Community Library Programme;</i></p> <p><i>iv. Utilisation of grant funding to support our environment through the provision of litter bins.)</i></p> |
| A7 | Housing Land Supply in North Northamptonshire | <p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>That approval be given to:-</p> <p>a) the Council measuring five-year supply against the Local Housing Need (LHN) for the North Northamptonshire Housing Market Area (HMA), calculated using the Standard Method (as confirmed in Ministerial Statement dated 16th December 2020); and</p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|--|---|
| | | <p>b) the approach set out in a) above being reviewed annually to take account of changes in circumstances, including progress on the North Northamptonshire Strategic Plan and any changes to the standard method by which Local Housing Need is calculated.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision: To agree an approach that is compliant with national policy and guidance and will provide greatest protection from speculative development proposals for the whole of the Council's area.)</i></p> |
| A8 | Integrated Care System Design Principles | <p>a) That the feedback received from the Health, Wellbeing, and Vulnerable People Executive Advisory Panel (EAP) be noted;</p> <p>b) That the design principles for the Northamptonshire ICS, as summarised in Appendix 1, slide 26 to the report, be endorsed.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision:-</i></p> <p><i>i. Some of the design principles are required following the publishing of the Health and Care White Paper. Other principles have been proposed following extensive stakeholder engagement with health and care delivery partners in Northamptonshire aiming to ensure that the design principles are not considered contentious.</i></p> <p><i>ii. Significant work has been undertaken locally to reach the current set of design principles.</i></p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|------------------|---|--|
| | | <p><i>iii. The design principles formulate the start of the process of becoming an integrated care system and there will be more opportunities for councillors to play an important role in advising the executive on policy development around integrated approaches with health services in North Northamptonshire that have the potential to positively impact on the health and wellbeing of all residents.)</i></p> |
| <p>A9</p> | <p>Oxford to Cambridge Arc - Environmental Principles</p> | <p>a) That the shared environmental principles, set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be endorsed; and</p> <p>b) That the development of an Arc Environment Strategy, which will provide further guidance on how the principles can be delivered, be supported.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision:</i></p> <p><i>The principles are not formal policy but rather a shared statement of ambition for the Arc. They are intended to:</i></p> <p><i>i. support the environment policies emerging from the Arc Spatial Framework;</i></p> <p><i>ii. allow use of the Arc as a place for DEFRA to test and apply its 25-year plan and funding through pilots and projects;</i></p> <p><i>iii. support Local Planning Authorities with a frame of reference to further develop the principles through Local and Strategic Plans at a local and sub-regional level.)</i></p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|---|---|
| A10 | Variation of school admission arrangements for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 due to the requirements of the new 2021 School Admissions Code | <p>a) That the following variations to admission arrangements for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 be approved:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Amendment of the first oversubscription criterion for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools to give the highest priority to: ‘looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order). All references to previously looked after children in this Code mean such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.’ ii. That North Northamptonshire Council’s new in-year scheme be included in the admission arrangements and delegated authority be given to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families, Education and Skills in consultation with the Executive Director of Children’s Services to approve the scheme. <p>b) That authority be delegated to to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families, Education and Skills in consultation with the Executive Director of Children’s</p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|--|---|
| | | <p>Services to approve the Fair Access Protocol, following consultation with schools in North Northamptonshire;</p> <p>c) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families, Education and Skills in consultation with the Executive Director of Children’s Services to make any changes necessary to the admissions policies where required to give effect to any Acts, Regulations or revised School Admissions or School Admission Appeals Code or binding Schools Adjudicator, Court or Ombudsman decisions whenever they arise.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision:</i></p> <p><i>The variations are necessary to comply with the statutory requirements of the School Admissions Code (2021). It is the duty of all admission authorities to act in accordance with the Code.)</i></p> |
| A11 | Performance Indicator Report 2021/22 (Quarter One) | <p>a) That the performance of the Council as measured by the available indicators as at Period 3 (Quarter 1) for the 2021/22 financial year be noted.</p> <p>b) That the approach being taken to develop the Council's performance monitoring and management arrangements, as set out in the report, be noted.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision:</i></p> <p><i>To better understand the performance of the Council as measured by performance indicators as at period 3, 2021/22.)</i></p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|
| A12 | Rough Sleeping Initiative | <p>a) That the approach being taken to reduce the number of people sleeping rough across North Northamptonshire be endorsed, and the associated spend be approved;</p> <p>b) That the MHCLG allocation for 2021/22 and the programme of activities that are being delivered under the Government’s Rough Sleeping Initiative across North Northamptonshire.</p> <p><i>(Reason for Decision:</i> <i>To ensure a robust and multi-disciplinary service that is designed around the needs of the individual.)</i></p> |
| A13 | Shire Lodge Cemetery Extension | <p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>a) That approval be given to the acceptance of the winning tender, Bidder 3 and delegate authority to the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Assistant Director of Regulatory Services to take the appropriate steps required to deliver the; and</p> <p>b) That the decisions made by the predecessor authority, Corby Borough Council, endorsed by the Shadow Executive of North Northamptonshire Council, to progress the project to extend the cemetery at Shire Lodge be confirmed.</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision:</i></p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| | | <i>To progress the works and to accept the most economically advantageous bid for the work.)</i> |
| A14 | OPUS Governance and Delivery | <p>That approval be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the shareholding arrangements as set out in paragraph 4.12 of the report; b) the proposed amendments to the Dividend Policy as set out in paragraph 4.15 of the report; c) the extension of the Service Agreement until 8th January 2027; and <p>That endorsement be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) the administrative amendments required to ensure the necessary agreements are in place for the joint venture between OPUS and North Northamptonshire Council, West Northamptonshire Council and the Northamptonshire Children’s Trust. <p><i>(Reasons for Decision</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. In relation to the shareholding arrangements, there have been negotiations with partners in the joint venture to reflect the Local Government Review in Northamptonshire, new customer bases and the transition from LGSS. The recommendations will increase shareholding for the Council and therefore is considered to be a good option for the Council.</i> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|--|--|
| | | <p><i>ii. In relation to the dividend policy, the recommended changes will be beneficial to the Council as this will recognise its contribution in terms of spend in the joint venture.</i></p> <p><i>iii. Alternative options are not to agree to the changes however the default shareholding would be less than the recommended change. The Council could choose not to agree the recommended changes to the dividend policy however this is not considered to represent best value compared to the proposed policy.)</i></p> |
| A15 | Kettering High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) | <p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <p>a) That the predecessor authority Kettering Borough Council’s agreement with Historic England to invest funding in delivering HSHAZ schemes in Kettering town centre, be endorsed;</p> <p>b) That the High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) scheme approved carry forward budget for this year of £3,448,000 be noted;</p> <p>c) That it be agreed to receive an additional £150,000 of Historic England funding, and to invest that funding to relay cobbles and improve the pavement environment in West Street; and</p> <p>d) That approval be given for the following councillors to sit on the HSHAZ Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the Executive Member for Growth & Regeneration; and ii. the Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture & |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|-------|---|
| | | <p align="center">Tourism; and</p> <p>iii. invite a representative from Kettering Town Council to join the Board; and</p> <p>e) That authority be delegated to the Executive Member for Growth & Regeneration, in consultation with the Executive Director for Place & Economy, to take any further decisions and/or actions required to conclude any procurement and deliver this project.</p> <p><i>(Reasons for Decision:-</i></p> <p><i>i. To provide consistency with previous Council decisions.</i></p> <p><i>ii. To provide certainty to the Kettering HSHAZ project.</i></p> <p><i>iii. To formally accept the additional £150,000 grant offer by Historic England and confirm it will be invested on the specific project for which it was granted.</i></p> <p><i>iv. To provide appropriate governance of the overall HSHAZ project, to ensure the public and their views are represented.</i></p> <p><i>v. To work to optimise the investment for the longer-term benefit of Kettering town centre and its environment.</i></p> <p><i>vi. To enable further decisions to be made, within the remit of the agreed project, without bringing about further delays, thereby keeping delivery of the project on</i></p> |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|---|--|
| | | <i>track.)</i> |
| A16 | New two Form of Entry Primary School on the Stanton Cross Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) development | <p>(KEY DECISION)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the Section 106 expenditure of £9.66 million to fund the new 2FE primary school, located on Stanton Cross, SUE, be approved; b) That the inclusion in the Council’s capital programme of a new two form entry primary school situated on the new SUE at Stanton Cross, Wellingborough be noted; c) That the necessary contract awards for Stanton Cross, following the procurement process and proceed with the construction on the new school, with a proposed opening date of September 2022, be authorised; d) That the financial and governance arrangements associated with the capital scheme be approved; e) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Education in consultation with the Director of Children’s Services to authorise all necessary contract awards to deliver the new school; f) That it be noted that the process to appoint an Academy Sponsor to run the new school, in accordance with the ‘Free School Presumption’ regulations, stipulated by the Department for Education, will commence. |

North Northamptonshire Council – Decisions taken by the Executive on Thursday 5 August 2021

| Agenda Item No | Topic | Decision |
|----------------|-------|--|
| | | <p><i>(Reasons for Decision:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Local Authority has a legal obligation to deliver the primary school, in accordance with the signed section 106 agreement;</i> • <i>The recommended course of action will allow the timely progression of capital works to build the new primary school at Stanton Cross SUE;</i> • <i>The recommended course of action will benefit students and families who will reside within the development, by providing local school places for local school children;</i> • <i>North Northamptonshire Council (or customers) will receive the maximum benefit from the option proposed.)</i> |