Issued: 19th November 2021

The following decisions in this notice were made by the Executive on Thursday 18 November 2021.

Any decisions identified below as a <u>KEY DECISION</u> will come into force and may be implemented on 29th November 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.

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Part A – It	ems considered in public	
Item 5	Performance Indicator Report 2021/22 - Quarter Two	That the Executive: a) Noted the performance of the Council measured by the available indicators at Period 6 for 2021/22 as set out in the appendices to the report; and
		b) Noted the approach that is being taken to develop the Council's performance

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		monitoring arrangements.
		Reason for Decision – to better understand the performance of the Council as measured by performance indicators as at Period 6, 2021/22.
Item 6	Budget Strategy Process 2022-23	That the Executive:
		 a) Approved the budget setting process set out within this report to allow a balanced budget to be set by the Council; and in consideration of the comments of the Finance and Resources Scrutiny Committee as set out in Section 6 of the report;
		b) Noted the proposed timeline for the setting of the budget may be subject to change in line with Government announcements;
		c) Endorsed the proposed scrutiny arrangements as set out in Section 6 of this report following comments from the Finance and Resources Scrutiny Committee also shown in Section 6.
		d) Approved the consultation proposals set out in Section 7 of the report.
		e) Delegated authority, on an equal basis, to the Leader and Executive Member for Finance and Transformation, in consultation with the Assistant Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Finance, to determine the final arrangements for the consultation process.
		Reason for Decision – To seek approval for the budget strategy process for the 2022/23 budget and the medium-term financial plan top 2025/26.

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Item 7	Capital Monitoring 2021/22 - Period 6	(KEY DECISION)
		That the Executive:
		a) Noted the draft capital outturn position of all sovereign council authorities for the financial year 2020/21;
		b) Noted the proposed capital carry forwards for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programmes as detailed in Appendix A.
		c) Noted the new schemes that have been approved since 1st April 2021
		d) Noted the capital outturn position for the General Fund Capital Programme and HRA Capital Programme for 2021/22 initial monitoring commentary
		Reason for Decision - This is in line with the Council's constitution and financial regulations in relation to governance.
Item 8	Mid-Year Report 2021 – Treasury	That the Executive:
	Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) and Annual Investment Strategy (AIS)	 a) Noted the treasury management and prudential indicators as set out in Appendix A to the report;
		b) Noted the half year treasury management report detailing the activity undertaken during the first half of the financial year to 30th September 2021 and the performance achieved set out in Appendix A to this report; and

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		c) Noted that all treasury activities were undertaken in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy/Annual Investment Strategy.
		Reason for Decision - The Council's Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) is underpinned by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management ("the Code") which requires that members are informed of treasury management activities at least twice a year. Full Council has delegated the formulation and monitoring of the Council's treasury management strategy, policy and activity to the Executive.
Item 9	Draft 2020/21 Outturn Positions for Corby Borough Council, East Northamptonshire District Council and Northamptonshire County Council	That the Executive: a) Noted the forecast outturn position for 2020/21 for Corby Borough Council, East Northamptonshire District Council and Northamptonshire County Council including a summary of the main variations as set out in this report. b) Noted that the full detailed statement of accounts for Corby Borough Council and East Northamptonshire Council remain subject to External Audit and will be presented to the Council's Audit and Governance Committee once this is complete. c) Noted the draft outturn 2020/21 for Northamptonshire County Council and that the Statement of Accounts for the County Council will be presented to West Northamptonshire Council's Audit Committee, in line with the requirement that West Northamptonshire Council lead on the closure of the County Council's accounts. Reason for Decision – To inform Members of the outturn position for 2020/21 for Corby Borough Council, East Northamptonshire District Council and Northamptonshire County Council as the outturn will form part of the Statutory Statement of Accounts for these Councils.

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Item 10	Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2022/23	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a) Considered the information as set out in the report and endorse a proposed 2022/23 Local Council Tax Support Scheme which maintained the current 2021/22 scheme, allowing for the changes required to reflect the annual uprating of allowances and premiums and any statutory base legislation changes which are required to be made to the scheme; and b) Recommended the proposed LCTS Scheme 2022/23 to Council for approval at its meeting in December 2021. Reason for Decision – to deliver a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2022/23 that meets statutory requirements.
Item 11	Household Support Fund: Proposed Distribution of Funds 2021/22	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a) Noted that the Household Support Fund investment is to be managed locally; b) Approved the Proposed Scope and Diversity Distribution Recommendations detailed in 4.1; c) Approved the control and oversight approach set out in the Appendix to the report.

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		 Reasons for Decision: The distribution of funds must meet the wider communities financial needs, where other grants and funding are not available Where possible the level of duplication of grants for the same purpose must be minimised which is why this year the in-house team is recommended It reflects the 'Levelling Up' agenda as defined by the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities.
Item 12	Isham Bypass	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a) Noted and accepted the receipt of the government funding totalling £1,859,000 for development work on the A509 Isham bypass; and b) Agreed to spend the funding on developing the Outline Business Case (OBC) and planning application for the A509 Isham bypass. Reason for Decision - utilisation of government funding to progress the development work for the A509 Isham bypass scheme.
Item 13	The Corporate Plan 2021-2025	That the Executive: a) Endorsed the Corporate Plan 2021 – 2025, as set out in Appendix A.

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Item 14	Procurement of Contract for the Haulage and Treatment of Kerbside Collected Dry Recycling Material	b) Recommended that Council adopt the Corporate Plan 2021 - 2025; as set out in Appendix A. c) Noted that progress in the delivery of the Corporate Plan, subject to Council adoption, will be regularly reported to the Executive and the Plan will remain responsive to change. Reasons for Decisions - A Corporate Plan is a key document which sets out the overarching future policy direction of the Council. The Executive provide strategic leadership to the authority, and they will lead the organisation using the approved Corporate Plan as a framework. It is important therefore that they endorse the Plan and recommend its approval to the decision-making body which is Council. (KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a) Authorised procurement for the haulage and treatment of kerbside collected Dry Recycling Material (DRM) in accordance with the Council's Constitution. b) Delegated to the Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, in consultation with Executive Director for Place & Economy, Executive Director for Finance and the Executive Member for Finance, the authority to take any further decisions and/or actions required in connection with the procurement and award of the contract, without the need to return to the Executive.

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		 Reasons for Decision: The recommended course of action is the most cost-effective and enables the Council to make informed decisions regarding its medium-term financial planning. This option ensures the authority has a legally procured and compliant processor for its DRM.
Item 15	Destination Nene Valley - Board Representation	That the Executive: a) Agreed an amended membership to the Strategic Board as set out in section 4.17 of the report b) Noted the activities being undertaken to support the visitor economy Reason for Decision - to ensure appropriate representation on the Destination Nene Valley Board following the creation of North Northamptonshire Council and new Executive roles.
Item 16	Food Safety and Food and Feed Standards Standards Plan 2021-23	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a) Approved the Food Safety and Food and Feed Standards Service Plans 2021-23; b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration in consultation with the Director of Place and Economy to approve future changes to the

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		plans.
		Reason for Decision:
		 To accord with legislation as detailed in paragraph 2.1 To allow changes to the plan to be agreed without Executive approval
Item 17	Bus Service Improvement Plan	(KEY DECISION)
		That the Executive:
		a) Endorsed the Bus Service Improvement Plan in Appendix A;
		b) Noted the additional £154,450 capacity funding received from Government; and
		c) Agreed that the proposal for restoring a subsidised bus service budget outlined in the Bus Service Improvement Plan should be included as part of the consultation on the Council's budget proposals for 2022-23 and beyond.
		Reason for Decisions:
		 To improve bus services for North Northamptonshire communities, enable more communities to have a bus service and minimise the risk of any communities losing their bus service; To facilitate climate and environmental benefits through increasing bus use and the operation of more low emission buses; To contribute to the implementation of the Northamptonshire Transportation Plan (the

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		Local Transport Plan); To enable the Council to access the funding being made available by Government to support the National Bus Strategy.
Item 18	Northamptonshire Youth Justice Plan	That the Executive endorsed the Youth Justice Plan and recommended it for approval to Council.
Item 19	Procurement of Catering Services at Corby East Midlands International Pool	That the Executive: a) Approved the procurement of catering provision at Corby East Midlands International Pool. b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, in consultation with the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing, to take any further decisions and/or actions required in connection with the procurement and award of the contract. Reasons for Decision – • The recommended course of action will be the most cost-effective way of running the provision of the café and catering facilities within CEMIP • Customers within the facility will be able to access a catering service that meets their needs with increased opening hours and choice. • Maintaining a café and catering service in this facility adds to the offer available for the

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		community and supports events including children's parties, swim galas and diving competitions.
Item 20	Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a) Approved the allocation of £580,250 from the Homelessness Prevention capital budget to the Rough Sleeping Accommodation Programme; and b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Housing and Communities, in liaison with the Executive Director of Adults, Communities and Wellbeing to take any further decisions and/or actions required to deliver this capital project.
Item 21	Mobile Home Fees and Assessment Policy	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive approved the charging of an application fee for both a mobile homes licence and for a site owner to be assessed under a Fit and Proper Person Assessment and be included on a Register. Reasons for Decision The approval of this recommendation under a regulatory framework, will allow authorised Officers to manage the licensing process and allow the Council to fulfil its statutory duties under the Mobile Homes Act 2013 and The Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) (England) Regulations

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		 2020. It is intended that the Licensing and Appeals Committee adopt the proposed Mobile
Item 22	North Northamptonshire Waste &	Homes Fees and Assessment Policy, as set out at Appendix A . (KEY DECISION)
	Recycling Policy & Street Cleansing Policies	That the Executive: a) Approved the Household Waste and Recycling Policy;
		b) Approved the Household Waste and Recycling Folicy, b) Approve the Street Cleansing Policy; and
		c) Agreed to expand the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) collections to cover the whole of the Council's area (Corby, Kettering & Wellingborough) on a phased basis, subject to the identification of the necessary budget.
		Reasons for Decisions:
		 To ensure North Northamptonshire has an agreed set of waste and recycling policies and street cleansing policies to ensure clarity for residents on the service standards to be delivered:
		To enable enforcement action to be taken where appropriate:
		Allow a review of services where harmonisation is not currently possible and provide

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		future recommendations on the delivery of these services
Item 23	Modern Slavery Statement 2021-22	(KEY DECISION)
		That the Executive approved the statement on Modern Slavery as a position statement for North Northamptonshire Council.
		Reasons for Decision: To promote the abolition of modern slavery, commercial organisations are required to publish an annual statement setting out the steps they take to prevent modern slavery in their business and their supply chains. This is a requirement under section 54 (Transparency in Supply Chains) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. It is considered good practice for organisations which are not required to publish such a statement to do so in any event to demonstrate their commitment to the principles contained in the legislation.
Item 24	Council Housing Policy Update	(KEY DECISION)
		That the Executive:
		a) Approved the Tenancy Agreement and Aids and Adaptation Policy for adoption;
		b) Recommended that the Tenancy Policy be approved by Full Council following relevant legal advice;
		c) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Housing and Communities, in liaison with the Executive Director, Adults, Communities and Wellbeing or their delegate, to take any further decisions and/or actions required to implement Tenancy Agreement

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		and Aids and Adaptation Policy.
		Reasons for Decision:
		 Comply with legislation that requires all social housing providers to have a Tenancy Policy. Offer one consistent Tenancy Agreement for the Council as a landlord. Provide one tenancy offer to all successful applicants within the North Northamptonshire Council area. Continue harmonising our suite of Council Housing policies for Tenancy Management, Housing Management and Property Management
Item 25	Extension of Public Spaces Protection Order, Corby Town Centre	(KEY DECISION)
	Craci, Colby Town Contro	That the Executive:
		a) Approved the commencement of consultation on the extension of the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place for Corby for a further three years on the current terms; and
		b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Housing and Communities, in liaison with the Executive Director, Adults, Community & Wellbeing to:
		i) determine whether to extend the order, vary the order or allow the order to lapse, taking account of all consultation responses;

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		ii) take any further decisions and/or actions required to deliver this extension.
		Reason for Decision:
		To give authorised officers the ability to continue to use enforcement powers under the PSPO to respond to alcohol related anti-social behaviour and begging within Corby town centre
		 In addition, it will support with the wider aims of the Safer Corby team to work in partnership with other agencies to tackle issues which affect the quality of life of residents and visitors to the area
Item 26	Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Annual Report 2020-21	That the Executive noted the content and recommendations of the Ombudsman's reports.
Item 27	Treescape Funding	That the Executive:
		 a) Accept the grant monies offered by the Forestry Commission for the proposed tree planting scheme; and b) Approve the capital budget of £237,504.10 funded by external grant monies, per the separate capital budget report.
		Reason for Decisions:

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		 The proposed scheme will enhance the Councils green space through planting of trees. The scheme supports the Council's ambition for climate change mitigation. The recommended course of action is the most cost-effective, being funded externally.
Item 28	Ending of East Northamptonshire Area Housing Options Contract - Bringing the Service In-house	That the Executive: a) Confirm that the Council should discharge its obligations in respect of homelessness and housing advice in the East Northamptonshire locality area in-house with effect from 1st April 2022; and b) Delegate authority to the Executive Member for Housing and Communities, in consultation with the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing, to take the steps necessary to implement the in-house provision of the East Northants area housing options service. Reason for Decisions: To enable the implementation of a single operating model for Housing Options Services across North Northamptonshire, in order to align with local government reform and transformation, to streamline service provision, and to introduce more efficient and harmonised arrangements. This should lead to an improved service focussed on the needs of the Council.
Item 29	Corby Town Investment Plan - Programme of Projects	(KEY DECISION) That the Executive:

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		a) Approved the early release of 5% (£995,000 approx.) of the Town Fund award to the Capital Programme in order to fund the design work, feasibility studies and business case development (including accurate financial projections for each project, mainly the Link Road and the Multi-use Building)
		Reasons for Decisions:-
		 This funding will support and inform the development of business cases to the standard set by government in order to allow progression to the next stage of the process. Should any of these projects prove to be unviable through the business case development, this 5% is not subject to clawback.
Item 30	Procurement of a Single Revenue & Benefits ICT System for North	(KEY DECISION)
	Northamptonshire	That the Executive:
		a) Approved the commencement of the procurement process to purchase and implement a single Revenue and Benefits ICT System for North Northamptonshire.
		b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Finance and Transformation, in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance, to take any further decisions and/or actions required to conclude the procurement and implementation of the new system.
		Reason for Decisions – The Council will gain productivity efficiencies from a single system for Revenues and Benefits by enabling single source reporting and support for billing. It will remove current issues of sovereign council system incompatibility and will assist the Council to

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		provide a unified platform to provide information for residents and businesses. Interactions with the Council will be simplified and require less internal resource.
Item 31	Proposal to Establish a Poverty Truth Commission for North Northamptonshire	 That the Executive: a) Establish a Poverty Truth Commission to be facilitated by Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire; b) Award grant funding to Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire of £14,426 for the purpose of facilitating the creation and management of a poverty truth commission; c) Delegate authority to the Executive Member for Adults, Health & Wellbeing, in consultation with the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing, to take any further decisions and / or actions required in relation to the award of the grant funding.
Item 32	Rental Agreements at Chester House	 a) Approved the letting of a portion of space within one of the retail units at Chester House Estate on the terms agreed within paragraph 5 of the report. b) Noted that the recommended decision affects an elected member and in line with Guidance attached at Appendix A, the Executive as the relevant decision-making body have considered the matter.

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		 In order to maximise income and move towards Chester House Estate becoming self-funding a business plan was agreed at a previous Executive meeting. As part of the business plan there are a number of retail units that were offered to the open market and have attracted a number of local businesses to the site and enhances the heritage attraction offer. There was significant interest in the retail units and this exceeded the volume of retail units available for letting. There are some units that are run by the attraction itself and it was identified by the officers running the attraction that it would be possible to make some space available within those units to unsuccessful applicants for the main retail units.
Item 33	Capital Programme Update 2021-22	 (KEY DECISION) That the Executive approved the following changes to the capital programme: a. Rough Sleepers Accommodation Programme (RSAP): i) to increase the overall capital programme by £0.580m recognising the £0.580m RSAP grant allocation, with the remainder of the programme funded through £0.580m match funding; ii) To recommend to Council the virement of the required match funding of £0.580m from the Housing and Homelessness Prevention approved programme to the RSAP; b. Devolved Formula Capital Grant Funding 2021/22 – to increase the fund by £281k to reflect additional funding allocated by the Department for Education;

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		c. Disabled Facilities Grant Programme 2021/22 – to increase the fund by £311k following confirmation of grant funding allocation.
		d. Oundle Cycle Way – to include the sum of £125k funded by Oundle Town Council;
		e. Treescape Transformation – to include the sum of £238k funded by a grant from the Forestry Commission;
		f. Corby Town Fund – to include £0.975m for preliminary design and development costs, funded by early release of funding awarded from the Levelling Up Fund;
		g. Isham Bypass - to include in the capital programme funding of £1.859m to develop an outline business case, funded by the Department for Transport Major Road Network Capital Grant.
		h. Improving Access for Disabled People – to vire £50k from an underspend on the roof renewals budget to progress urgent cases on the current waiting list.
		 Recommended that Council approve the virement of £0.580m from the housing and homelessness programme to the RSAP.
		Reasons for Decisions:
		To increase the number of supported housing units available to rough sleepers and therefore reduce the number of individuals sleeping rough in North

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		 Northamptonshire. To passport capital grants provided as part of annual allocations by government to schools. To allow final grant allocations to be recognised and utilised to support adaptations and other related spend through Disabled Facility Grants. To support increases to cycling provision as part of healthy living and the carbon neutral agenda. Increased tree canopy outside of woodlands supporting the carbon neutral agenda. To deliver essential highways infrastructure to support growth and development in North Northamptonshire. To deliver essential access for people with disabilities within their homes when providing facilities as accessible showers and stairlifts.
Item 34	Budget Forecast 2021/22 as at Period 6	(KEY DECISION)
		That the Executive:
		 a) Noted the Council's forecast outturn position for 2021/22 and the associated risks and other considerations.
		 b) Noted the assessment of the current deliverability of the 2021/22 saving proposals in Appendix A.
		c) Noted that in accordance with the Council's Constitution the Executive Director of Finance (S151 Officer), in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and Transformation, has approved funding of up to £16,263 to the operator of the Bus Service W8 between Wollaston, Bozeat and Wellingborough to cover the period

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		from 8 th November 2021 to 1 st April 2022.
		d) Noted and approved the application of the Council's contingency budget in 2021/22 as set out in paragraph 5.5.
		e) Approved an increase in the gross revenue budget to reflect additional Household Support Fund grant received from Government. It is forecast that this figure will be £2.508m based on the allocation for the County, however, final confirmation is awaited from government on the individual allocations to North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council, see paragraph 5.65.
		f) Noted that an urgent decision was made to approve the funding of Free School Meal vouchers for the October half term at an approximate cost of £0.152m from the Household Support Fund.
		g) Approved the use of the Household Support Fund grant to meet the estimated cost of £0.305m for Free School Meal vouchers for the Christmas break and note that a separate report is on the agenda for this Committee proposing the use of the Household Support Fund.
		h) Noted that an urgent decision was made to increase the Council's minimum hourly wage rate for staff to the Real Living Wage of £9.50 per hour at an estimated cost of £0.8m to be funded from the Council's contingency budget in year and included within the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan from 2022/23.
		Reason for Decisions – to note the forecast financial position for 2021/22 as at Period 6 and consider the impact on this year and future years budgets.

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		Part B – Items considered in private
Item 35	Approval to Purchase Six Properties for Temporary Accommodation in	(KEY DECISION)
	Kettering	That the Executive:
		 a) Approved the proposal to purchase six properties in Kettering, which will be used to discharge the Council's duties and powers under part 7 of the Housing Act 1996.
		b) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Housing and Communities, in liaison with the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing, to take any further decisions and/or actions required to conclude this procurement and deliver this capital programme.
		Reason for Decisions –
		 There is an existing capital budget available which was allocated to enable purchases of properties which can be used for Temporary Accommodation
		There is a particular shortage of one bed properties available for Temporary Accommodation
		 There is a need for Temporary Accommodation properties which are suitable for households who require ground floor accommodation
		 If the opportunity is not taken to purchase the properties, the flats currently leased will no longer be available and more costly alternative forms of accommodation would need to be found for eligible households (e.g., nightly paid or bed and breakfast accommodation)
		The purchase of properties for this use means that the Council acquires an asset against which an ongoing income can be collected in the form of rental payments. This reduces pressure on the homelessness revenue budget which would otherwise have to

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		cover the costs of other types of temporary accommodation.
Item 36	Future Provision of Services Provided by Wellingborough Norse	(KEY DECISION)
		That the Executive:
		 i) Agreed to transfer the services currently provided by WNorse back to NNC to directly manage and deliver these services from 1st April 2022;
		 Delegated authority to procure and sign the necessary contracts to implement an in-house model to the Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and the Executive Director for Place and Economy;
		iii) Agreed a project budget of £80k (revenue) to enable the project to be implemented within the required timeframes.
		Reasons for Decisions:
		 The option enables NNC to align the in-house services of Corby and Kettering with the services covering Wellingborough; The option will allow further transformation and integration with existing services within NNC; The current service level provided by WNorse is not in line with NNC's aspirations; greater control and management of performance can be achieved in-house; A project team is required to ensure a successful implementation; this requires external advice from those who have undertaken similar work in similarly short timeframes;

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		 Delegation for the implementation of the project is recommended to ensure the project can progress in line with the required timeframes; and, The option ensures key services, some of which are statutory, will be delivered from 1st April 2022.
Item 37	Extension of current contract for the Processing and Treatment of Waste Wood	(KEY DECISION) That the Executive: a. Exercised the option to extend the existing agreement until 31st March 2024; and b. Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Highways, Travel & Assets, in consultation with the Executive Director for Place and Economy (Deputy Chief Executive), Executive Member for Finance and the Executive Director for Finance, to take decisions necessary to ensure continued service provision under the contract. Reasons for Decisions:
		 The option proposed aligns most closely with local government reform and transformation outcomes noting that the wood waste requiring treatment forms part of waste generated by the HWRC service which will run contractually to end of March 2025 under a lead authority model with North Northamptonshire as lead; The recommended course of action is the most cost-effective;

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		 Extension of the wood waste contract allows for the accord with current legislation; Consistency with previous contractual extension decisions.