

South Bucks District Council

Cabinet Decision

Notice is given that the following decisions have been taken by Cabinet on Wednesday, 13 December 2017

5 **The Local Authority (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004**

(a) DECISION:

The Cabinet considered a report which proposed to extend the current indemnity provided for Members and Officers.

RECOMMENDED to Full Council that

- 1) pursuant to the Local Authority (Indemnities for Members and Officers) Order 2004, the Council agrees to indemnify Members and officers against any personal liability incurred when carrying out their duties, except in the cases of fraud or criminal acts.
- 2) the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to finalise the wording of the indemnity in consultation with the Director of Resources and the Leader of the Council.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To ensure that Council Members and Officers were protected from any personal liability when carrying out their duties.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

To consider separate requests for indemnities in relation to specific activities.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

6 **Draft Revenue Budget 2018/19**

(a) DECISION:

The Cabinet were presented with the draft revenue expenditure budget for 2018/19. It was the responsibility of the Cabinet to prepare a revenue budget for approval by Full Council which would form the basis of setting the council tax.

RESOLVED that

- 1) it be agreed that the report is to form the basis of the draft revenue budget for 2018/19, and is updated to reflect the outcomes of the Local Government Finance Settlement and related announcements; and
- 2) Officers be instructed to examine options to reduce the planned use of the General reserves in the draft 2018/19 budget, and include these in the final budget report in February.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

Members needed to consider the service expenditure part of the budget, and that the overall budget was consistent with the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The overall budget would be finalised in February, and that would then lead to the confirmation of the level of council tax.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Cabinet was required to prepare a revenue budget for approval by the Council.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

7a **Private Sector Leasing Scheme**

(a) DECISION:

The Cabinet received a report which sought approval to enter into an Agreement with Paradigm Housing to deliver a Private Sector Leasing Scheme.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the implementation of a Private Sector Leasing Scheme by Paradigm Housing to deliver temporary accommodation to meet the Council's statutory homelessness duties be agreed;
- 2) delegated authority be given to the Head of Healthy Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to enter into an Agreement with Paradigm Housing for the delivery of the Private Sector Leasing Scheme;
- 3) it be noted that Management Team has agreed an exemption from the Chiltern District Council and South Bucks District Council Contract Procedure Rules for the Agreement between the Council and Paradigm Housing for the delivery of the Private Sector Leasing Scheme; and
- 4) a further report be brought to Members in 12 months to update them on the progress of the scheme and its impact on the delivery of the Council's statutory homelessness duties. In addition to this report, regular updates to be provided at PAG meetings.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To provide an alternative source of temporary accommodation for South Bucks District Council in order to meet the demand from homeless households.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

To not proceed with a Private Sector Leasing Scheme. This would mean that the Council would continue to have to rely primarily on Bed & Breakfast and Nightly-Booked accommodation to meet its statutory homelessness duties for the immediate future.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

8a **Beaconsfield Common Land**

(a) DECISION:

The Cabinet received a report which updated Members about the Council's legal responsibilities for the Common Land and Waste of the Manor land in Beaconsfield Old Town following detailed consideration by Environment PAG.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the Council changes its approach regarding the maintenance of the Beaconsfield Old Town Common Land by limiting its involvement only to ensuring that the land remains free from encroachment and no longer undertakes maintenance of areas of the Common Land that are owned by Bucks County Council and Hall Barn Estates;
- 2) the Council no longer undertakes works on the Waste of the Manor;
- 3) the Council communicates this change of approach to the landowners, Town Council and general public; and
- 4) authority to agree the wording of any appropriate signage, taking into account the conservation area status, on the Common Land be delegated to the Head of Environment in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

Following clarification of the Council's legal responsibilities for maintenance of the Common Land and Waste of the Manor, a review of the management situation in Beaconsfield Old Town had been undertaken in view of insurance liabilities and budgetary pressures.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Do nothing and continue to suffer expenditure and insurance risks on land that was not the responsibility of the Council.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

Councillor Gibbs and Councillor Sullivan declared a personal interest in this item as Members of Bucks County Council.

9a **Response to the Consultation on Revised Draft Airports National Policy Statement**

(a) DECISION:

Following the publication by the Government of a revised draft Airports National Policy Statement, the Cabinet received a report which examined the changes and proposed issues to be included in the response.

RESOLVED that authority to respond to the consultation on the revised draft Airports National Policy Statement be delegated to the Director of Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To respond to the consultation so that the views of the Council would be taken into account.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

To not respond to the consultation.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

12 **Approval of Consilio Business Plan**

(a) DECISION:

The Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the business plan produced by Consilio Property Limited.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the Consilio Business Plan, as detailed in Appendix A, be approved with the addition of the statement in the "Other Matters" section of the Business Plan regarding contingency arrangements around material delays in securing dedicated professional resource and professional advisers; and
- 2) authority be delegated to the Director of Resources to agree minor changes to the Consilio Business Plan in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

South Bucks District Council (as shareholder) needed to approve the Consilio Business Plan before Consilio could start trading.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

To not approve the Consilio Business Plan.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

13a **HS2 Work and Resourcing Report**

(a) DECISION:

The Cabinet received a report which provided Members with an update on the work for the HS2 project and the resource forecast for this work.

RESOLVED that

- 1) the current position regarding the Service Level Agreement and Funding Agreement between the Council and HS2 be noted; and
- 2) the existing budget for the project be retained for the duration of the project, and that £37,534 from the existing budget be rolled over to the end of the next calendar year to cover any project team costs not recovered from HS2. No new or additional funding was being sought.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To bring Members up to date on work undertaken on the project, the resources position and the funding requirements for undertaking the further work on the project.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Cabinet considered the future funding options.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

Date Published:	15 December 2017	Call in Deadline Midnight on:	22 December 2017
Date to be implemented: 23 December 2017			
*recommendations to Full Council are not subject the call in procedure			