

South Bucks District Council

Cabinet Decision Notice

Notice is given that the following decisions have been taken by Cabinet on Wednesday, 9 January 2019

4 Implementation of the new Unitary District Council

(a) DECISION:

Cabinet considered a report which provided an update on the proposed creation of a new Unitary District Council. A working draft of the proposed Structural Changes Order and draft Modification Regulations had been shared with the Leaders and Chief Executives. The content of the Structural Changes Order had been subject to informal consultation with the five local authorities and the Secretary of State had now made the decisions necessary to determine the content where agreement could not be reached between the authorities. A summary of the decisions made, as reflected in the draft Order, were considered.

Cabinet were asked to consider whether the Council should formally consent to the Secretary of State's proposals in the draft Modification Regulations under section 15 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 and respond by the Government's deadline of 10 January 2019 to comply with timescales for laying the necessary Statutory Instrument in Parliament.

RESOLVED:

1. Cabinet notes the current position in respect of the proposals for creation of a new single tier Unitary District Council in Buckinghamshire.
2. Cabinet do not consider the Structural Changes Order as currently drafted is in the best interests of South Bucks District residents, businesses and other stakeholders and are therefore not minded to consent to the Modification Regulations under section 15 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016.
3. The Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader be authorised to finalise the Council's formal response to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

In response to the Secretary of State’s request for the Council to consider whether to consent to the Secretary of State’s proposals by the Government’s deadline of 10 January 2019 the Cabinet did not consider the Structural Changes Order as currently drafted is in the best interests of South Bucks District residents, businesses and other stakeholders and are therefore not minded to consent to the Modification Regulations under section 15 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Cabinet had the option to give its consent to the Secretary of State’s proposals or not give consent.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

Date Published:	10 January 2019	Date to be implemented:	10 January 2019*
*Urgent Implementation: Under Rule 4.2 of the Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed to urgent implementation of the Cabinet’s Decision without the call-in procedure applying because the MHCLG require the Council’s decision on consent to proposed structural change in Buckinghamshire by 10 January 2019, to enable the necessary legislation to be laid in Parliament.			