

South Bucks District Council

Cabinet Decision Notice

Notice is given that the following decisions have been taken by Cabinet on Wednesday, 13 March 2019

5.2 Refreshed Joint Business Plan 2019-20

The Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the refreshed Joint Business Plan 2019-20 as set out in the Appendix to the report.

RECOMMENDED to Council that the refreshed Joint Business Plan 2019 - 20 be approved.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

The Joint Business Plan formed part of the Council's policy framework and was reviewed every year to reflect the changing needs of the locality and the communities that live and work within Chiltern and South Bucks, as well as the service planning process.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Failure to refresh the Plan annually will soon render it out of date and out of touch with residents' priorities.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

5.3 Performance Indicator Review 2019/20

The Cabinet received a report which updated Members on the outcomes of the Performance Indicator (PI) review for 2019/20 and which sought approval for the proposed changes to reporting.

RESOLVED that the changes to the Performance Indicators for each service be approved.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

Reviewing Performance Indicators allowed each service to adjust targets, add in more relevant indicators and remove those indicators that do not provide valuable information so that the Indicators were relevant and up to date. Performance Indicators were part of the Service Planning process, and serve as an important part of the Council's performance management framework.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

6.1 South Bucks Car Parks Review

(a) DECISION:

Cabinet received a report which provided Members with options for consideration to maximise the use of parking facilities across South Bucks to continue to meet the needs of the local towns and villages and also to ensure that management of the car parks took into account the recommendations made at the Task and Finish Group on the budget.

RESOLVED that:-

- 1a an increase in short stay parking tariffs (1hr to 4hrs) and the flat Sunday rate across all car parks by 10p be agreed.
- b an increase in the 24hr tariff in Burnham and Farnham Common by 20p be agreed.
- c a one hour tariff in the Broadway car park, Farnham Common be introduced.

The current tariffs alongside the above options provided at Appendix A of the report were noted.

- 2 the Head of Environment be authorised to publish the statutory Notice of proposed Amendment to the Off Street Parking Places Order.
- 3 if no valid objections are received in response to publication of the Notice at 2.2 the Director of Services be authorised to make and publicise the Amendment Order.

- 4 if valid objections are received in response to publication of the Notice at 2.2, the Director of Services be authorised to deal with any such objections after consultation with the Portfolio Holder and to make and publicise the necessary Amendment Order with or without modifications as considered appropriate.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To enable the car parks to continue to be effectively managed and to provide investment for future car park development.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The various options for charging were considered.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None.

6.2 Electric Vehicle Charging

Cabinet considered the option of introducing electric vehicle charging points in SBDC car parks to promote sustainable transport and enable the car parks to be viable for all motoring groups.

RESOLVED that:

- 1a the Off Street Parking Places Order be amended to enable electric vehicle charging points to be introduced in locations where evidence supports the requirement and that the Head of Environment be authorised in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to approve the locations.
- 1b car park fees and charges for electric vehicle users be retained.
- 2 the Head of Environment be authorised to publish the statutory Notice of proposed Amendment to the Off Street Parking Places Order.
- 3 if no valid objections are received in response to publication of the Notice at 2.2 the Director of Services be authorised to make and publicise the Amendment Order.

- 4 if valid objections are received in response to publication of the Notice at 2.2, the Director of Services be authorised to deal with any such objections after consultation with the Portfolio Holder and to make and publicise the necessary Amendment Order with or without modifications as considered appropriate.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To maximise the use of available parking space and provide parking facilities for all user groups.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

To decide not to amend the Off Street Parking Places Order to enable electric vehicle charging bays to be introduced in the District of South Bucks.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

7.1 Bucks Home Choice Allocation Policy

Cabinet receive a report which sought authority to adopt and implement the revised Bucks Home Choice Allocations Policy following consideration by the Healthy Communities Policy Advisory Group and the Cabinet.

RECOMMENDED to Council that

- 1 the revised Bucks Home Choice Allocations Policy be approved
- 2 the Head of Healthy Communities be delegated authority to make any final amendments and to agree and adopt the final version of the revised Bucks Home Choice Allocations Policy in consultation with the Healthy Communities Portfolio Holder and subject to Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern and Wycombe District Councils also adopting the revised policy.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

To secure the approval and adoption of the revised Bucks Home Choice Allocations Policy following a consultation exercise.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Bucks Home Choice Allocations Policy could be left in its current form. However, this would create significant risks for Council:

- It would leave the Council vulnerable to legal challenge on some aspects of the Policy which have not been formally updated to reflect changes brought forward by legislation, guidance, case law and Ombudsman decisions.
- The current policy was no longer compatible with the Council's statutory homelessness duties following the implementation of the Housing Act 1996. Without the proposed revisions, the Council would face increasing challenges in meeting its statutory homelessness duties and preventing homelessness wherever possible (avoiding the need to provide costly temporary accommodation).
- Other aspects of the policy which would benefit from updating would be left unchanged.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

10.1 Bad Debt Write-Offs

Cabinet received a report on the write-off of debts, which were non recoverable due to insolvency action.

RESOLVED that the position regarding the debts listed be noted and to authorise these to be written off on the Council's books.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

The reason for this decision was that all the debts were non recoverable due to insolvency action.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

There is no alternative other than to write the debts off.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

10.2 Application for Hardship Relief from Business Rates

Cabinet considered an application for Hardship Relief as set out in the report.

RESOLVED that the Hardship Relief be not awarded.

(b) REASON FOR DECISION:

Awarding Hardship Relief from Business Rates is discretionary and in this instance it was agreed that it was not reasonable to grant hardship relief having regard to the interest of persons subject to the Council Tax as all businesses needed to make provision for their first year of operation.

(c) ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The Council has the option to award relief at whatever level and for whatever period but for this application it was not considered appropriate.

(d) CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS/DISPENSATIONS:

None

Date Published:	14 March 2019	Call in Deadline Midnight on 21 March 2019	
Date to be implemented 22 March 2019			
*recommendations to Full Council are not subject the call in procedure			