

## **SHADOW EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE**

The following decision(s) were taken by Shadow Executive at its meeting held on **12 November 2019**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 19 November 2019.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

#### **COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME**

##### **(a) Decisions**

The purpose of this report is to review the proposed Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS), taking into consideration customer feedback as a result of public consultation.

**RESOLVED: That the Council Tax Reduction scheme, as proposed at the Shadow Executive on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019, is adopted as the new scheme for Buckinghamshire Council commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020.**

##### **(b) Reasons for decisions**

The scheme as recommended is believed to be as the best fit that balances costs and minimal impact on claimants in line with the defined Principles.

##### **(c) Alternative options considered**

Six options have been previously considered as outlined in the report to the Shadow Executive on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2019.

##### **(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations**

None

### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

#### **MAIN PAYSACLE, REWARD, TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

##### **(a) Decisions**

The Implementation Plan for the new Council has committed to a 'must have' of a new main pay scale and terms and conditions in place for 1 April 2020. These proposed pay arrangements and T&Cs will apply to staff at Tier 4 and below.

**RESOLVED: The paper recommends The Pay Scale and Terms and Conditions for Buckinghamshire Council.**

## **(b) Reasons for decisions**

As a new legal entity Buckinghamshire Council will require a Pay scale and Terms and Conditions.

## **(c) Alternative options considered**

None.

## **(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations**

None.

## **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

### **DEVOLUTION OFFER**

#### **(a) Decisions**

This report sets out a proposed devolution framework to enable local organisations, particularly town and parish councils, to take on greater local control over the running of Buckinghamshire Council's services and assets.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- 1. To agree to set up a three year devolution programme with a phased roll out. In phase 1 will include:**
  - **The existing legacy service devolution arrangements in place continuing for highways, and for green space in the Wycombe district area;**
  - **Support given to local organisations, including town and parish councils, to take on community assets such as community centres, toilets, memorials; and**
  - **Place-based pilots.**
- 2. To agree the Service Devolution and Asset Transfer Policy for Buckinghamshire Council as set out in Appendix 1.**
- 3. To provide support to organisations to take up the devolution offer through:**
  - **An online toolkit and guidance.**
  - **Dedicated staff to help progress devolution requests.**
  - **Technical and specialist advice in areas such as:**
  - **Health and safety**
  - **Human resources**
  - **Insurance provisions**
  - **Contract management**
- 4. To note the implementation next steps are set out in section 4 of this**

**report, including development of a wider service devolution offer for phase 2 & 3 of the programme.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

The recommended approach enables the Shadow Authority to deliver a key part of the intended benefits of the single business case as set out in the Structural Changes Order for the establishment of Buckinghamshire Council.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

1. Do nothing - The option of having no devolution offer has been considered but is not recommended. A key part of the single business case, as approved by the Secretary of State and as set out in the Structural Changes Order, was to enable greater local control through a devolution offer.
2. Devolution Offer to all from day 1 - A full roll out of devolution in the first year of the new Council's operation is potentially high risk and resource intensive to deliver. Service integration will take a number of years and the diversity of service delivery models presents a complexity to devolution that must be taken into account.
3. Phased Devolution Offer - This is the approach that is recommended and has been developed as set out in this paper, with pilots in phase 1, as well as an invitation to community organisations to submit expressions of interest in community assets prioritised for potential transfer.

**(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations**

None

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

**WYCOMBE REGENERATION STRATEGY AND OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE FOR EASTERN QUARTER**

**(a) Decisions**

In September 2018 Inner Circle Consulting were commissioned to produce a Regeneration Strategy, working with officers in the WDC Regeneration and Investment Team. This work is now complete and the resulting strategy is appended to this report for approval.

**RESOLVED: That the Regeneration Strategy for High Wycombe, Princes Risborough and Marlow be approved as a draft to be considered and, in whole or part, be incorporated in a wider strategy by the new Buckinghamshire Council once it comes into being.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

The strategy provides both principles and an outline programme showing how the

main settlements within the district can contribute to the stated growth aims for Buckinghamshire.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

Not to approve the strategy for further consideration.

**(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations**

None

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

**SPENDING PROTOCOL: PRINCES RISBOROUGH RELIEF ROAD**

**(a) Decisions**

This report seeks to update on the forecast cost of Phase 1 of the Princes Risborough Relief Road, highlighting where greater cost certainty has been obtained and outlining the main risks. It seeks support for progressing the scheme through detailed design and commencing CPO process/land negotiations. Further updates would then be provided to the new authority in 2020/21 to determine the way forward.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To note the latest projected costs for Princes Risborough Relief Road Phase 1 and support Option 3 which involves progression of the scheme through detailed design and commencing CPO process/land negotiations, funded from the existing Wycombe District Council capital programme funds.**
- 2. To support the release of the funding which forms part of the WDC approved budget.**
- 3. That an update report be brought to the new Buckinghamshire Council in 2020/21 to update on costs and potential section 106 and other income.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

Option 3 is the preferred option. It ensures that the Relief Road Phase 1 scheme can progress in a timely manner which is essential to enable take up of HIF funds, delivery of housing and infrastructure. It enables the scheme to progress in a timely manner in the early stages, thereby not jeopardising potential take up of HIF funds, whilst allowing further work to be undertaken to provide greater certainty on costs, programme, risks and potential income.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

1. Support the new projected cost for submission into the 2020/21 budget setting process

2. Do not support the submission of the new projected cost into the budget setting process.
3. Support progression of the scheme through detailed design and commencing CPO process/land negotiations, funded from the existing Wycombe District Council capital programme funds, but bring a report back to the new authority in 2020/21.

Option 1 is desirable as it ensures that the relief Road Phase 1 scheme can progress in a timely manner which is essential to enable the take up of HIF funds, delivery of housing and infrastructure.

Option 2 risks failure to deliver the scheme and defaulting on the take up of £12m of HIF funding.

Option 3 is the preferred option – it enables the scheme to progress in a timely manner in the early stages, thereby not jeopardising potential take up of HIF funds, whilst allowing further work to be undertaken to provide greater certainty on costs and potential income.

**(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations**

None

For further information please contact: Rachel Bennett on 01296 382343.