

SHADOW EXECUTIVE DECISION NOTICE

The following decision(s) were taken by Shadow Executive at its meeting held on **10 March 2020**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 19 March 2020.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

REGISTERED PROVIDERS CHARGING ARRANGEMENTS

(a) Decisions

Following on from the previous report on the Bucks Home Choice scheme and the charging arrangements for Registered Providers (aka housing associations), this report summarises the status of the charging arrangements that currently operate within each district for (i) Bucks Home Choice adverts and (ii) development partnership arrangements, and reviews the options for operating the charging arrangements from vesting day and recommends the approach that should be taken.

RESOLVED:

- 1. Draft and implement a timetable for the development and introduction of a harmonised countywide system for charging Registered Providers to advertise tenancies via the Bucks Home Choice scheme with a target completion date of 30 September 2020.**
- 2. Continue the existing district-zoned Bucks Home Choice charging arrangements in Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe post-vesting day until new countywide harmonised charging arrangements are introduced**
- 3. Continue the existing Aylesbury Vale Affordable Housing Partnership Agreement from vesting day on the basis that the new Buckinghamshire Council will review working arrangements with Registered Providers and may develop and implement a new countywide Affordable Housing Partnership Agreement as required.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

N/A

(c) Alternative options considered

Options set out within the report.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

Cllr Angela Macpherson declared an interest as a Member of the Board of the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust. Cllr Macpherson left the meeting for this item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

STREET NAMING & NUMBERING POLICY

(a) Decisions

This report presents the proposed Street Naming and Numbering Policy coming into effect on 1 April 2020 for Buckinghamshire Council if adopted.

RESOLVED:

That all four Authorities are to make provisions to adopt the proposed Street Naming and Numbering Policy prior to vesting day with the policy taking effect from 1 April 2020.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The recommended option provides the opportunity for harmonisation, cost and administration efficiencies and reduced risk.

(c) Alternative options considered

- Continue to operate under 4 differing Street Naming and Numbering policies from 1 April 2020 with the increased risk of legal challenge from customers who use our services in each of the former sovereign areas.
- Reject the proposed policy that draws on best practice from each of the four Authorities and adopt a policy currently in place at one of the sovereign Authorities.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

MK STRATEGY 2050

(a) Decisions

This report provides a short summary of the MK Strategy for 2050, highlighting the key points of relevance for Buckinghamshire.

RESOLVED:

That the Shadow Executive submits a response to the Milton Keynes Strategy 2050 on behalf of Buckinghamshire Council as set out in Appendix 1.

(b) Reasons for decisions

N/A

(c) Alternative options considered

N/A

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

MODERN DAY SLAVERY STATEMENT

(a) Decisions

To seek agreement of the Modern Slavery Statement for Buckinghamshire Council and the process for future annual review.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To agree the Modern Slavery Statement for Buckinghamshire Council**
- 2. To agree the process for annual review and publication of the document**
- 3. To note the likely legal duties in relation to modern slavery and exploitation**

(b) Reasons for decisions

The recommendations are to comply with best practice to publish a Modern Slavery Statement; and also to be prepared for the anticipated requirement to publish a statement being extended to local authorities.

(c) Alternative options considered

The Council could choose not to have a Modern Slavery Statement. However, this is already considered good practice and there is likely to be a future requirement for statutory agencies to comply with the duty.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

CARERS STRATEGY

(a) Decisions

To gain agreement the All Age Carers Strategy, which will:

- Create a single, all age approach to supporting Carers in Buckinghamshire.
- Highlight the demographic needs of Buckinghamshire through data analysis and consultation and engagement.

RESOLVED:

To AGREE the All Age Carers Strategy.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The current Carers Strategy for adult carers and young adult carers (age 16+) expired in 2019. This strategy takes a holistic approach to how we provide support for carers of all ages. The strategy has been produced with the Clinical Commissioning Group to ensure there is a single approach across health and Local Authority services.

The strategy reflects national legislation and guidance whilst also applying weight to issues that are key to the people of Buckinghamshire.

(c) Alternative options considered

Option to not publish a Carers Strategy – the reputational risk to the Council is felt to be high due to the expectation that has been set through the engagement undertaken to date.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

EMERGENCY PLAN

(a) Decisions

The Shadow Authority is required to prepare, approve and publish certain emergency and civil contingency plans before Vesting Day.

On the 8th October 2019, the Shadow Executive agreed the Civil Contingencies Policy which defined the overall approach and direction of travel for dealing with emergency planning and business continuity.

This report relates to the production of the Buckinghamshire Council Emergency Plan and defines the main responsibilities and roles for the response at the local level.

RESOLVED:

That the Emergency Plan for Buckinghamshire Council is considered and agreed.

(b) Reasons for decisions

N/A

(c) Alternative options considered

N/A

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

ABBEY BARN LANE REALIGNMENT (ABLR)

(a) Decisions

This paper seeks approval by the Shadow Executive to enter into a contract (Initially for Early Contractor Involvement (ECI)) for the purpose of delivering the ABLR Project.

RESOLVED:

Delegation of authority to the Head of Highways Infrastructure Projects to enter into a NEC4 Option C (Target Cost) contract with Galliford Try through the Midlands Highways Alliance Framework for the Abbey Barn Lane Realignment (ABLR). This will initially only be for Early Contractor Involvement.

(b) Reasons for decisions

N/A

(c) Alternative options considered

1. Do nothing. In this situation the scheme would not progress through the ECI process which would result in a negative impact to the programme, potential impact on cost and loss of scheme benefits.
2. Procure the contract via a tender process. Through its involvement with the Midlands Highways Alliance (MHA), the County Council has established relationships with the framework's contractors including Galliford Try as the

preferred regional supplier. While a tender process would not prohibit ECI, a new contractual arrangement and relationship would potentially be short term and need to be established with the successful bidder. This would impact resources and programme, without any certainty around performance. The MHA framework has well developed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to ensure contractors deliver high quality schemes; ECI encourages this further still, whereas a tender exercise would take time and resources, require careful selection, potentially of a new supplier, unfamiliar with the scheme and how the Council works and could be a short term relationship.

3. **Recommended Option: MHA Procurement Strategy – Direct Award contract on the MHA framework, via the Regional Call-Off – This is the recommendation based on the established working relationships the Council has with the Regional Contractor (Galliford Try) as well as established collaborative working undertaken through the early phases of project design.**
4. Award Design & Build contract via the SCAPE Civils Framework. The works to be undertaken at Abbey Barn Lane are already developed with AECOM (also through the MHA) having undertaken the preliminary design input. The work is regarded as too far progressed with AECOM as designer and also of too low value to award using this route.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

MANAGING THE CARE MARKET: PROPOSAL FOR FEE INCREASES

(a) Decisions

Ahead of a Key Decision, inform Formal Shadow Executive of the options and the recommendation for fee increases in 2020-21 for the providers of adult care and support services.

RESOLVED:

- **That option 2 be adopted: Uplift of up to 2% based on evidence of increased cost. Contractually required uplifts awarded to Heritage and Freemantle block contracts.**
- **Utilisation of the following monies to meet fee uplift costs:**
 - **£1,142,000 earmarked for fee uplifts from the £9.5m demand growth monies**
 - **Up to £750,000 from the corporate contingency budget set aside to fund increases in the NLW**
 - **The balance from the additional £1m released to Adult Social Care from contingencies as part of the final approved budget.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

The key advantages of option 2 are:

- Contractual and statutory commitments to providers will be met based on an assessment of evidence by each provider who chooses to submit a business case.
- This approach takes account of the fact that providers are in different positions and will not all have been impacted in the same way by cost increases.
- The business case approach supports transparency around provider costs, and the information provided could help commissioners and providers to continue to work together – for example on areas where further cost reductions may be an option.
- This option allows us to try and develop the market in areas where our provision is not currently meeting need.

(c) Alternative options considered

- Option 1: Universal uplift of between 1% and 2% across the adult care and support market. Contractually required uplifts awarded to Heritage and Freemantle block contracts.
- **Option 2 (recommended):** Uplift of up to 2% on a case by cases basis, based on evidence of increased cost. Contractually required uplifts awarded to Heritage and Freemantle block contracts.
- Option 3: Contractually required uplifts awarded to Heritage and Freemantle block contracts only. No further uplifts awarded.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

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