



Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **25 January 2021**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 1 February 2021.

Agenda item no. 7

Buckinghamshire Council corporate response to the proposed new prison at HMP Grendon/Springhill, Grendon Underwood

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on Buckinghamshire Council's consultation response to the proposed new prison at Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Grendon/Springhill in Grendon Underwood.

On 2 December the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) launched a public consultation on 'The New Prisons Programme' which outlined their proposal to build a new prison to house up to up to 1680 additional prisoners in a category C resettlement environment in Buckinghamshire. Appendix 1 to the report set out the Council's draft response to the consultation. This had been formulated by seeking input and views from relevant departments across the Council as well as local councillors. Feedback from local residents and key partners had also been taken into consideration.

Cabinet were in support of the draft response to the Government consultation, as set out in the Appendix 1, agreeing to enhance the section on the environmental impact and review the wording in the labour market and housing affordability section.

RESOLVED: That the draft response to the Government consultation, as set out in Appendix 1, be agreed and that responsibility for submission of the final response, incorporating any further changes after the Cabinet meeting, be delegated to the Corporate Director (DCE) in consultation with the Cabinet Member/Leader of the Council.

(b) Reasons for decisions

To ensure Buckinghamshire Council's views are submitted for consideration prior to the Ministry of Justice's consultation deadline on the 29th January 2021

(c) Alternative options considered

To not respond to the consultation. However, due to the significance of the proposals on Buckinghamshire services and local residents, this option was not recommended.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

Angela Macpherson, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, explained that she is a local member for the Grendon Underwood ward.

John Chilver, Cabinet Member for Property and Assets, explained that he is also a local member for the Grendon Underwood ward. Furthermore, he has a daughter who works for the Ministry of Justice.

For further information please contact: Catherine Mackenzie on 01494 421206, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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