



Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **20 July 2021**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 27 July 2021.

Agenda item no. 7

Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) Initial Programme

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a progress report of the Future High Streets programme in High Wycombe. A further report to establish the programme and governance would be submitted to Cabinet in September 2021.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Leader, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration, and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to submit the offers to purchase the properties listed in Annex 1 (confidential), subject to the exchange of contracts being conditional upon Future High Streets grant first being received by the Council from MHCLG.**
- (2) That the Section 151 Officer be authorized to sign the MHCLG Future High Streets grant offer agreement, as set out in paragraph 5, and to draw down on the first year's allocation.**
- (3) That the Service Director for Property and Assets be delegated to appoint the external consultants to undertake development management, valuations, due diligence and lettings, to be funded by the Future High Streets grant.**
- (4) That the Leader, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to exchange contracts and complete on the proposed acquisitions set out in the Cabinet report.**
- (5) That the Service Director for Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the Section 151 Officer be authorised to undertake the tendering, selection and appointment of buildings contractors to undertake the refurbishment (subject to planning, if required) of acquisitions, once purchases have been completed.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

To allow the Council to commence work and make best use of the first tranche (£6.7m) of MHCLG's Future High Streets fund (FHSF) grant. The MHCLG are about to release the funding to Councils, subject to them signing a Grant Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding, the latter needing to include annexed documents comprising (a) Spend Profile, (b) Work Plan, and (c) Risk Register.

(c) Alternative options considered

None. Following the submission of a successful expression of interest and award of feasibility funding to Wycombe District Council in 2019, a full bid was made by Buckinghamshire Council to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) in July 2020 for £17.2m of capital funding for Future High Streets Funding (FHSF) for High Wycombe.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 8

Former Orchard House

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the proposed construction by the Council, in partnership with South-Central Ambulance Service (SCAS), of a new Ambulance Resource Centre on the site of a former property (now demolished) owned Freehold by the Council in High Wycombe under Title Nos BM357755 and BM357753. The development would replace the much smaller existing High Wycombe ambulance facility and would meet current and future operational needs.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That Cabinet recognised this project represented a good example of a Local Authority (Buckinghamshire Council) and a NHS Foundation Trust organisation (South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS)) working jointly together to better serve the Council's resident population in providing a more modern and larger ambulance facility to replace the much smaller existing facility which would enable the Service to meet current and future operational needs.**

- (2) That the addition of this scheme to the Capital Programme, to be funded via the prudential borrowing facility, which in turn is funded by Public Works Loan Board for a new Ambulance Station be agreed, with the facility to be let on a long lease to The South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS).**

- (3) That the Service Director for Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the S151 Officer be authorised to appoint consultants and contractors within the agreed cost envelope set out in the Part 2 report (confidential) to progress and complete development of the site including seeking and obtaining planning permission.**
- (4) That the Service Director for Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to finalise and agree the Heads of Terms together with any necessary amendments for a development agreement and Agreement for Lease and Lease in accordance with the emerging heads of terms set out in the confidential annex at part two of the Cabinet report; and subsequently, subject to meeting contract conditions, to exchange and complete the contracts.**
- (5) That the Service Director for Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to prepare all necessary briefings and scopes of work, make and amend as required Planning Applications, undertake any Consultation and to tender for necessary consultants and a main contractor for the construction, design and delivery of this project and subsequently award the construction contracts, subject to those costs falling within the parameters set out in the financial envelope considered in the Part 2 confidential report.**
- (6) That the Service Director for Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to enter into, administer and comply with the terms of any required non-disclosure agreement for the duration of this project while it remained in force.**
- (7) That the Service Director for Property and Assets, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources, Property and Assets, and the Section 151 Officer, be authorised to make arrangements for a Public Works Loan Board loan to finance the project.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

The reasons for the decision are detailed at paragraphs 2.1 to 2.7 of the Cabinet report, including that the project provided both synergy and a holistic fit with Buckinghamshire Council's Corporate Plan for 2021-22 and its key strategic and economic activities including Strengthening our communities, Protecting the vulnerable, Improving the Environment, and Increasing prosperity.

The siting of a new and modern ambulance facility at this site represented good public value with wider ranging social and environmental effects. It was also in line with the One Public Estates aim to bring public sector bodies together, to create better places by using public assets more efficiently, creating service and financial benefits for partners and releasing land for housing and development.

(c) Alternative options considered

The 4 other options considered are detailed at paragraphs 4.1 to 4.4 of the Cabinet report.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 9

Corporate Performance Indicators 2021-22

(a) Decisions

The report detailed the key performance indicators and targets being proposed for reporting to Cabinet in 2021/22. It was proposed that reporting against these indicators would commence for Quarter 2.

RESOLVED –

(1) That the key performance indicators for 2021/22 be agreed.

(2) That the associated targets for 2021/22 be agreed.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The Corporate Performance Framework is reported on a quarterly basis to Cabinet to ensure there is understanding, ownership and accountability for performance outturns, including actions to improve performance where appropriate.

(c) Alternative options considered

None arising directly from the report.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 10

Q1 Budget Monitoring Report 2021-22

(a) Decisions

The report set out the Revenue and Capital position for Buckinghamshire Council for the financial year 2021/22.

RESOLVED –

That the report, including the risks and opportunities contained within it, be noted.

(b) Reasons for decisions

To understand the financial position of the Council in respect of 2021-22 Budgets.

(c) Alternative options considered

None arising directly from the report.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

For further information please contact: Craig Saunders -
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