



Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **6 January 2022**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 12 January 2022.

Agenda item no. 8

Council Tax Base 2022-23

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the Council Tax Base Setting 2022/23.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Buckinghamshire Council Tax Base of 225,030.74 for the year 2022/23 be approved.**
- (2) That the Buckinghamshire Council's collection rate for the year 2022/23 is 98.2%.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

On an annual basis, all local authorities are required to calculate a Council Tax Base which is used to set the level of Council Tax. The process is governed by the Local Authorities' (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992. It is a requirement to set the Council Tax Base as at 30th November and inform the other Preceptors.

(c) Alternative options considered

This is detailed at paragraph 2.6 of the Cabinet report. The Council has discretion over setting the collection rate. Setting a higher rate would increase revenue. Any potential deficit created by the collection rate falling below the rate can be managed in future years. Changing the assumption around the collection rate would also impact on the receipts of major preceptors.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 9

Draft Revenue Budget and Capital Programme



(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report setting out the draft 3-year revenue budget and 4-year capital programme for Buckinghamshire Council. This included updates on the latest estimated funding position, service budget pressures and the key financial risks facing the Council in the future.

The Council Tax Resolution report would be presented as a separate report as part of the final budget in February 2022 and would contain the final information from the other precepting authorities leading to the total Council Tax for the area, which full Council was required to approve. The Cabinet report did not include special expenses. Discussions were ongoing to agree special expenses budgets for 2022/23, and these would also be presented alongside the final budget.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the draft revenue budget and capital programme for 2022/23 (Appendices 1-3) be approved.**
- (2) That the outcome of the budget consultation (Appendix 4) be noted.**
- (3) That the proposal to seek delegation from Council to Cabinet for up to £100m of new capital schemes to be added to the capital programme, through Prudential Borrowing, and where robust financial business cases have been made, be supported.**
- (4) That it be noted that a supplementary report, the formal Council Tax Resolution, will accompany the final budget submitted to full Council.**
- (5) That the current risks associated with the draft budget proposals be noted.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

To approve a draft budget and capital programme that can then undergo scrutiny and challenge prior to the final budget for Buckinghamshire Council being approved by the Council on the 23 February 2022.

(c) Alternative options considered

There were no other options. The Council is required to set a balanced budget before 11 March in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 10

Aylesbury Vale Estates Business Plan

(a) Decisions

Aylesbury Vale Estates (AVE) had been formed in 2009 as a 20-year Joint Limited Partnership (JLP), following a 15-month full OJEU procurement process. It was a 50-50 partnership between the Council and private investors who collectively formed Akeman Partnership LLP. Akeman Asset Management provided the day to day management of the portfolio with the 'Board' meeting formally every quarter with more informal monthly interim meetings.

AVE was required to present a rolling three year business plan for comment and sign-off by the Council as 50% shareholder. Cabinet received a report and accompanying business plan which set out the strategy for achieving the core objectives of AVE (as agreed in 2009), during the plan period. The detail of the plan was focused on the first year i.e. 2022/2023. The strategy for years 2023/2024 and 2024/2025, would be kept under review to enable new opportunities and challenges to be responded to. The report also summarised the performance to date in the current financial year.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the performance of AVE against the current Business Plan and for the current financial year be noted.**
- (2) That the AVE Board be asked to consider the comments made at this meeting on their strategy and business plan, in finalising their Business Plan for 2022-25.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

Aylesbury Vale Estates was required to present a rolling three year Business Plan for comment and sign-off by the Council as 50% shareholder.

(c) Alternative options considered

The Cabinet report did not present alternative options to the current joint venture business model but did invite comment on the proposed strategy and actions.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

Councillors S Bowles and P Strachan declared a pecuniary interest as Aylesbury Vale Estates Board Members and left the meeting while this matter was discussed. Councillor M Winn declared a personal interest as he had recently called-in a planning application submitted by AVE to the Central Bucks Area Planning Committee and left the meeting while this matter was discussed.

For further information please contact: Craig Saunders – democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

You can view upcoming decisions to be made and all decisions taken on the Council's website [here](#).