



## Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **11 April 2023**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 18 April 2023.

### **Agenda item no. 7**

#### **Buckinghamshire Drugs and Alcohol strategy 2023-28**

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

A new cross-Government 10-year national drugs strategy 'From harm to hope' had been published in April 2022, led by the Home Office. Guidance for local delivery had been published in June 2022. This set out a requirement for local areas to create a multi-agency Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP), undertake a needs assessment and produce a local drugs strategy delivery plan by the end of December 2022.

The Buckinghamshire CDP had been established on a Buckinghamshire Council footprint, the Senior Responsible Owner was the Director of Public Health and Community Safety, and its remit included alcohol as well as drugs. It had convened its first meeting in October 2022, terms of reference had been agreed and a needs assessment had been produced that was in the process of being published on the Council's website.

The previous Buckinghamshire Drugs and Alcohol Strategy had expired during the pandemic. A new strategy was therefore required, but the timeline was expedited in response to the above national guidance. Partners had worked together to produce the priorities and actions that would be taken locally to meet the national aims.

Cabinet Members agreed the resolution subject to four conditions as below:-

1. Local Members to be given the opportunity to input to the strategy.
2. As the granularity of data improves the Council needed to be clearer about which areas needed to be addressed particularly geographical areas impacted and the demographics of the residents who were at risk. The demographics should drive the Strategy.
3. A report should be submitted to Cabinet in a year's time with a review on the achievements of the Strategy with annual metrics which also needed to be more specific and measurable.
4. Nitrous Oxide – as further information became available nationally, reference needed to be made in the Strategy about how to address use of nitrous oxide.

**RESOLVED –**



**That the Drugs and Alcohol Strategy 2023-28 be NOTED and ENDORSED.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

National guidance published in June 2022 requires each new Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP) to have a local drugs strategy delivery plan in place by December 2022. The CDP had been established on a Buckinghamshire Council footprint, was chaired by the Director of Public Health and Community Safety, and included alcohol as well as drugs within its remit. The actions in this strategy had been developed with local stakeholders, including the members of the CDP.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

None, there is a statutory requirement for local areas to create a multi-agency Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP), undertake a needs assessment and produce a local drugs strategy delivery plan.

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

None.

**Agenda item no. 8**

**Budget Adjustments to the Approved Capital Programme**

**(a) Decisions**

Cabinet received a report and was informed that changes to budgets within the Council's Capital Programme, where they reprofile or realign the programme agreed at Council, require a Key Decision under the Council's Constitution. The Reprofiles, Releases and Reallocations in this report have been recommended via the Member-Led Capital Boards - Property Board, Highways Board, HIF Board, or Corporate Capital Investment Board.

The Capital Boards had recommended reductions to the Capital Programme of £13.9m from £163.6m at Quarter 2 to £149.7m. This had been factored into the Quarter 3 Capital budget monitoring report. These changes related to:

- Re-profiled into future years - £19.6m, across a range of projects.
- Re-profiling funding brought forward - £2.6m, relating to Swan Car Park major works, SEALR phase 2 and the Princes Risborough Relief Road.
- Released funding - £1.4m, to address inflationary pressures in the Capital Programme the Corporate Capital Investment Board had recommended to release the budgets for projects relating to Housing Renovation grants, some specific buildings maintenance, property investment projects in Wycombe, a contribution to the CCG for adaptations to GP surgeries and for Respite Care.
- Reallocation's - £2.0m, across a range of projects.
- Technical Additions of Ringfenced Funding - £2.5m, relating to Leisure and Open Spaces funded schemes, new Road Safety projects (funded by HS2) and for the Wendover

Community Library Hub.

The technical additions in the report were for new ringfenced funding (specific grants, and specific s.106), and the s.151 officer had delegated authority to make additions to the Capital Programme for these. The changes were required to be formally approved by Cabinet or Leader decision.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the recommended amendments to the approved Capital Programme be APPROVED.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

The Capital Programme budgets were periodically reprofiled to reflect project changes, and budgets were kept under regular review via Member-led capital boards. The amendments proposed in the Cabinet report had been recommended by those Boards.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

None – the recommended budget amendments would enable ongoing financial management of the Capital Programme.

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

None.

For further information please contact: Ian Hunt on , email [democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

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