

Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **12 September 2023.**

Agenda item no. 8

Response to petition "Stop Investing in Fossil Fuels"

(a) Decisions

A 'Stop investing in fossil fuels' ePetition had been considered at the full Council meeting on 12 July 2023, at which the Cabinet Member for Accessible Housing and Resources requested it be referred to Cabinet for further consideration. The ePetition was detailed at Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report.

Cabinet considered a report that set out the concerns raised in the petition and the approach that Buckinghamshire Pension Fund in partnership with the Brunel Pension Partnership was taking towards carbon reduction and meeting its target of net zero by 2050.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the approach being taken by the Buckinghamshire Pension Fund and the Brunel Pension Partnership in reducing overall carbon intensity in its investment portfolios be ENDORSED.
- (2) That the situation with the Council's banking contract be NOTED.

(b) Reasons for decisions

In response to the ePetition, Cabinet was asked to note the carbon reduction being taken by the Pension Fund Committee and the Brunel Pension Partnership.

(c) Alternative options considered

None.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 9

Pathways for Children with SEND - Children's and Education Select Committee Report

(a) Decisions

The Children's and Education Select Committee had agreed to set up a rapid review in November 2022 with the aim of investigating the pathways to finding information for children and young people with SEND when first trying to access services and support. This involved:

- (a) assessing views from different sources with regards to the availability and accessibility of information required by parents to gain support from services for their children, and
- (b) gaining understanding on information for services specifically relating to gaining help for children with autism, ADHD and anxiety/depression.

The group took part in a range of evidence gathering sessions from November 2022 to March 2023 with a wide range of council officers, through visits to primary, secondary, grammar and special schools, with lead professionals from related organisations and by interviewing parents with SEND children.

The final stage of evidence gathering with individual meetings with parents provided a crucial insight into the first-hand experiences of parents in accessing the system of services potentially available to them when concerned about gaining help for their child. This process highlighted a range of issues such as difficulties in knowing where to go for assistance, how to gain diagnoses, and symptoms being recognised and supported.

The review was chaired by Councillor Diana Blamires and comprised Councillors Sarah James, Sophie Kayani, Paul Turner and Julie Ward. Following the evidence gathering meetings the review group then met to discuss and agree its key findings and recommendations, which were presented in the report found at Appendix 1.

Cabinet was asked to consider the recommendations of the Select Committee Review.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Pathways for Children with SEND Review Group, as well as the supporting officers, be thanked for their work and subsequent recommendations.
- 2. That Cabinet's responses to the Pathways for Children with SEND Review report and recommendations, as set out and circulated to Members, be agreed.

Note: a complete breakdown of the scrutiny recommendations and Cabinet's responses can be found <u>here</u>.

(b) Reasons for decisions

For Cabinet to consider the recommendations of the Children's and Education Select Committee with a view to improving pathways to services for SEND children and young people.

(c) Alternative options considered

None. Cabinet was asked to consider these recommendations and provided a response which can be found <u>here</u>.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

Agenda item no. 10

Buckinghamshire Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2023/24

(a) Decisions

The Buckinghamshire Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2023-2024 provided details of progress made against agreed outcomes for Children and Young People. It outlined priorities, alongside potential future challenges for the partnership over the coming year. It also highlighted the partnership arrangements and budget position for the Youth Offending Service Partnership.

The Buckinghamshire Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2023-2024 was produced in consultation with strategic partners. This was done through a series of focus groups which were held with representatives from the police, probation, magistrates, health, and Buckinghamshire Council services, including Children's Social Care, Education and Community Safety, as well as representatives from voluntary organisations such as Barnardo's and 'SAFE!'. The plan was produced in line with guidance published by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

RESOLVED –

That the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2023-24 be endorsed, and it be forwarded to Council who be recommended to adopt it.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The Council is required under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce a "youth justice plan" each year, after consultation with the relevant persons and bodies, and setting out:

- (i) How youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded; and
- (ii) How the Youth Offending Team (YOT) or teams established by them (whether alone or jointly with one or more other local authorities) are to be composed and funded, how they are to operate, and what functions they are to carry out.

Please note: this decision has been forwarded to full Council on 20 September, 2023, and as

such is not subject to call-in.

(c) Alternative options considered

None.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None.

For further information please contact: Ian Hunt on , email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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