



## Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **10 October 2023**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 18 October 2023..

### **Agenda item no. 8**

#### **Transport, Environment & Climate Change Select Committee Review of Streetworks & Statutory Undertakers**

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

The Transport, Environment and Climate Change Select Committee agreed to set up a rapid review into Streetworks and Statutory Undertakers at its meeting on 30 March 2023. It was agreed that the review would not commence until May 2023 to allow the service to settle following the change in Highways contract to Balfour Beatty. The review was chaired by the Chairman of the Transport, Environment and Climate Change Select Committee, Councillor B Chapple OBE, and also comprised Councillors Brazier, Caffrey, Carington, Cornell and A Wood.

In June and July 2023, the review group collected evidence through meetings both in person and on Teams. The review group then met to discuss and agree its key findings and recommendations which were detailed at Appendix 1 to the Cabinet report. A series of questions on Streetworks and Statutory Undertakers had also been included as part of a Town and Parish Council survey on Buckinghamshire Council services which ran from 22 May to 13 August 2023, results detailed at Appendix 2 to the Cabinet report.

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

##### **RESOLVED –**

- (1) That the Transport, Environment and Climate Change Select Committee Review Group, as well as the supporting officers, be thanked for their work and subsequent recommendations.**
- (2) That Cabinet's responses to the 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 [here](#).

##### **(b) Reasons for decisions**



For Cabinet to consider the recommendations of the Transport, Environment and Climate Change Select Committee with a view to agreeing improvements to reduce the impact of streetworks and work by statutory undertakers on Buckinghamshire residents travelling on or living along the highway network.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

None. Cabinet was asked to consider these recommendations and provided a response which can be found [here](#)

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

None.

**Agenda item no. 9**

**Buckinghamshire Regeneration Framework and Place Based Regeneration Strategies**

**(a) Decisions**

The Buckinghamshire Regeneration Framework and a series of town centre strategies had been developed to set out a coherent approach to regeneration across the whole of the county. It provided the framework for how communities could organise themselves to determine their local ambitions and set out the regeneration vision for their local area. Three town centre regeneration strategies provided the local vision and place-based ambitions for Aylesbury, Chesham and High Wycombe, which were summarised with more details at Section 2 of the Cabinet report.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the Buckinghamshire Regeneration Framework and the Town Centre regeneration strategies for Aylesbury, High Wycombe and Chesham, as key corporate documents of Buckinghamshire Council, be ADOPTED.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

Adoption of these four documents would set out the emerging Council approach and ambitions for our places, in particular regeneration in Aylesbury, Chesham and High Wycombe, that would provide opportunities for growth and meaningful regeneration projects.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

The council has the option to not have any town centre strategies – however, without a clear articulation or vision, future partnership working would be more challenging and

could hinder any future external funding opportunities.

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

None.

**Agenda item no. 10**

**Adoption of AGT1 Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document**

**(a) Decisions**

Supplementary Planning Documents provided guidance to implement Local Plan policies. Cabinet received a report on the Aylesbury South Site Allocation (D-AGT1) Supplementary Planning Document which it was recommended was approved and would apply to the allocation Aylesbury South (D-AGT1) within the adopted Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (2021). The allocation would contribute to and take forward the principles of the Aylesbury Garden Town initiative, as designated in January 2017. Once adopted, the Supplementary Planning Document would become guidance for developers and decision-makers for the central planning area.

To adopt a Supplementary Planning Document, the Council was legally required to conduct a public consultation for a minimum of four weeks, which had occurred from 22 September to 2 November 2022.

The Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan set out a vision and framework for sustainable growth across the north and central planning areas area for the period up to 2033. It promoted new development to meet identified needs, that would contribute to creating a thriving, diverse, safe, vibrant place to live, work and visit. It also promoted growth that was shaped by strong place-shaping and sustainability principles to create well-designed developments that were sensitive to the areas local character, heritage, scale, land use and design.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the Aylesbury South Supplementary Planning Document (site D-AGT1 of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan) be ADOPTED.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

To provide guidance to applicants and decision makers on Aylesbury South site allocation (D-AGT1), of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

The alternative was to not adopt the Supplementary Planning Document. This would mean that the requirement for the Supplementary Planning Document as set out in the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan would not be met. This option had been considered and it was

concluded that it was not appropriate.

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

None.

**Agenda item no. 11**

**Devolution and Asset Management Policy**

**(a) Decisions**

Buckinghamshire Council made a commitment to devolution of property and assets to Town and Parish Councils and other community organisations as part of the Unitary business case. To support the Council's devolution programme, a Service Devolution and Asset Transfer Policy had been published in November 2019 setting out the approach and arrangements for the devolution of the responsibility for running services and community asset transfer. Over time, the approach to the management of the programme had been refined as the new Council had learnt more about the devolution of assets, particularly following the implementation of five pilot projects.

Cabinet received a report with an updated policy for approval that better reflected the current approach in order that a clear direction of travel was given to Town and Parish Councils and other local organisations who might be interested in pursuing a devolution opportunity. Cabinet Members were asked to note several small changes in the updated policy, as follows:

- A clearer focus on the process for the devolution of assets.
- Reference to freehold only being considered on an exceptional basis, with a final decision made by Cabinet.
- The Devolution Board considering the criteria with which to assess applications on a case-by-case basis.
- Heads of Terms to be agreed at the end of the 'Expressions of Interest' stage to help applicants develop a business case that responds to any specification or terms provided by the Council.
- Car parks owned and/or run by Buckinghamshire Council where they generate income, hold an operational benefit, or retain a commercial interest were out of scope. The previous version had a blanket approach to all car parks being out of scope.

**RESOLVED –**

**That the updated Devolution and Asset Management Policy be AGREED.**

**(b) Reasons for decisions**

The decision would ensure that the Devolution and Asset Management Policy reflected the current approach to the management of the programme.

**(c) Alternative options considered**

The only other option would be to not update the policy. However, it was likely to be confusing or disappointing to Town and Parish Councils or other local organisations interested in a devolution opportunity if the practical approach differed from that which was published.

**(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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