



Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **13 October 2020**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 20 October 2020.

Agenda item no. 8

Director of Public Health Annual Report

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received the Annual Report on the health of the Buckinghamshire population from the Director of Public Health.

RESOLVED

Cabinet NOTED the Director of Public Health Annual Report and ENDORSED the recommendations below and the draft action plan.

Recommendations within the Director of Public Health Annual Report for Buckinghamshire Council

- a) The council to consider adopting a 'health in all policies' approach whereby relevant policies and decisions consider how residents health could be improved and poor health prevented as part of business as usual, e.g. when planning new developments or considering transport policies.
- b) The council to consider opportunities to develop its role as an anchor organisation.
- c) The council to continue to roll out training to front line staff to encourage residents to make simple changes that could improve their health, wellbeing and independence and ensure staff can signpost people to community assets that can support this.
- d) The Buckinghamshire Council public health and prevention team should support Community Boards to consider the health needs of their population and what simple practical steps they could take to improve health in their local area.
- e) To continue to promote the health of the council workforce with good workplace health policies.

Recommendations for Community Boards

- f) Community Boards should work with local communities, public health and wider partners to identify the health and wellbeing issues in their local area and take effective action to address them. Community boards should use their pump-priming wellbeing fund to help improve health and wellbeing in their area.

Recommendations for the NHS and primary care networks

The NHS should:

- a) Increase their focus on preventing ill health and tackling inequalities and ensure this is built into every care pathway.
- b) Consider how to build a health in all policies approach and opportunities to act as an anchor organisation.
- c) Consider how the NHS can best support effective place-based working and community-centred approaches.
- d) Ensure front line staff are trained to support people to make simple changes to improve their health and wellbeing and to signpost people to community assets that support this.
- e) Continue to promote and protect the health of their workforce through effective workplace policies.

Primary care networks:

- a) Should work with their local communities, Buckinghamshire Council public health, Community Boards and other partners to understand and improve the health in their local area.
- b) Ensure front line staff are trained to support people to make simple changes to improve their health and wellbeing and signpost people to community assets that can support their health.
- c) Continue to promote and protect the health of their workforce.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The report aimed to provide a baseline overview of the health of Buckinghamshire residents for the new unitary council to inform their plans. It highlighted the multiple ways the council and members could improve the health and wellbeing of residents. It met the council's responsibility for improving and protecting residents health and supported the councils strategic plan. An early draft of an action plan was included in the report which would be completed with input from partners, community boards and members.

(c) Alternative options considered

The recommendations in the report aimed to capitalise on the opportunities afforded by the formation of a new unitary council, community boards and primary care networks to help maintain or improve the health of the population. If the recommendations were not supported and implemented there was potential that valuable opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of residents was missed. The COVID pandemic has had a profound impact on society. The people who have had the most serious outcomes from COVID include those with often preventable long term conditions including diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and obesity so it is important help prevent these conditions for the benefit of residents and to help keep them safe from COVID.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

Bill Chapple declared a personal interest as his son worked in the Children's Services Department for Buckinghamshire Council.

Agenda item no. 9

Youth Justice Strategic Plan

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the Youth Justice Strategic Plan which was produced every year to set out how youth justice services in the local area were to be provided and funded; and how the Youth Offending Team (YOT) or teams established by them (whether alone or jointly with one or more other local authorities) were to be composed and funded, how they were to operate, and what functions they were to carry out.

RESOLVED: Cabinet AGREED the 2020/21 Youth Justice Strategic Plan.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The Youth Justice Strategic Plan was produced in compliance with Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The local authority must carry out its statutory obligations in compliance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40. In addition, the local authority must also carry out its statutory obligations in respect of safeguarding children and young people, as set out in the Children Act 2004 and in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

(c) Alternative options considered

Not applicable

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 10

Handy Cross Park and Ride Car Park - Introduce Charges

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the Handy Cross Development which commenced in May 2014 with the intention of introducing charges in the 396 space park and ride car park once the car park was finished. The purpose of introducing charges was to enable the car park to be effectively managed and encourage customers to park at this location and use the park and ride facility.

RESOLVED

Cabinet AGREED to the introduction of parking restrictions and a tariff structure at Handy Cross Park and Ride car park in High Wycombe as set out in the paragraph below and AUTHORISED the making of the orders which are necessary to give effect to this decision:

1. Tariff structure:

- Up to 30 minutes - £0.00
- Up to 4 hours - £1.20
- Up to 10 hours - £3.00
- Up to 24 hours - £4.00
- Up to 48 hours - £8.00
- Up to 72 hours - £12.00
- Up to 96 hours - £16.00
- Maximum stay of 96 hrs

2. Parking Permits priced at £60 per calendar month, purchasable in monthly increments up to a maximum of 12 months for £720.

3. Car park open and chargeable 24hrs per day, seven days a week and 365 days of the year with the exceptions of Christmas Day, official Boxing Day and Easter Sunday, when the car park will be open; but charges will not apply.

4. Car park fees and charges to apply for electric vehicle users to enable electric vehicle bays to be effectively managed and availability of space maximised.

5. Disabled Badge holders park for free; in line with the majority of council owned/managed car parks in Buckinghamshire.

(b) Reasons for decisions

This is a Park & Ride (P&R) car park in a relatively recently developed site (opened in 2015) with adjacent businesses and nearby schools. Since the car park was built the intention has been for it to be chargeable to ensure consistency with other Council owned car parks,

along with ensuring it was available for use for customers travelling on the P&R and other buses/coaches that stop at the site, without parking charges being prohibitive to other members of the public.

(c) Alternative options considered

A number of different tariff options were considered for Handy Cross. However, to make best use of the space and to contribute to the cost effectiveness of the site in terms of income and expenditure, it was believed the proposed tariffs were in the best interest of the Council, local businesses, and visitors.

Consideration was also given to extending the free parking period. The comments received in respect of the consultation showed that the majority of the comments relating to free parking were concerns over dropping off and picking up children from the nearby schools. Due to the close proximity of the schools, it was deemed that 30 minutes was sufficient to accommodate this activity. In addition, there is a Waitrose on the Handy Cross development, which has a car park and permits 90 minutes free parking for their customers. This negates the requirement to extend free parking for customers shopping at Waitrose.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 11

Planning White Paper Response

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report which set out an intended response from the Council to the Government's recent consultation paper entitled 'Planning for the Future'. Cabinet asked that the following comments be taken into account in the draft response:-

- The quality of architecture was a key requirement.
- Consideration needed to be given to reforming the Planning Inspectorate to avoid delays.
- Infrastructure funding was not front-loaded and infrastructure should be provided before expansion.
- Further consideration should be given to health needs with future developments.
- Simplification of local plans were a concern and it was important that local communities were not disenfranchised.
- Concern was raised about architects being used as experts and their view of a good design may not be shared by others.
- Reference was made to thresholds so that the 10 threshold was reduced not increased to 40-50 for affordable housing. This would be an issue for rural areas.
- There was a problem with developers land banking – if planning permission was

granted then developers should be given a time frame to build houses. If no building was carried out further applications could be made on green belt land.

- Concerns were raised about housing targets which would be non-negotiable. The Council could be given a high target which they could not meet because of issues outside of its control e.g. developers not building houses.

RESOLVED

Cabinet AGREED the draft response to the Government consultation as set out in Appendix A of the report, with delegated responsibility for submission of the final response, incorporating the further changes above made at the Cabinet meeting, to the Corporate Director Planning Growth and Sustainability in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Enforcement.

(b) Reasons for decisions

On the 6th August 2020, the Government published the White Paper: “Planning for the Future”, concerning longer term changes to the planning system. The White Paper identified several problems with the current planning system that it intended to address including: that it was too complex; planning decisions were discretionary rather than rules-based; that it took too long to adopt a Local Plan; it was based on 20th-century technology; not enough focus on design; and not enough homes were being built.

The appendix attached to the report responded to the 26 questions set out in the white paper. In addition, because there are a number of areas of planning which were not covered by the White Paper, the Council considered it necessary to provide a written narrative to ensure that the government were made aware of the complexities of the planning system and a comprehensive approach was essential rather than concentrating on just a few headline areas.

(c) Alternative options considered

This report was to set out the intended response from the Council to the Government’s consultation. It would of course be possible to not provide a response to the consultation, but that was not recommended.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

Angela Macpherson declared an interest as Board Member of Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust

Agenda item no. 12

Aylesbury Garden Town - Housing Infrastructure Fund, contract signing

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the Aylesbury Garden Town Housing Infrastructure Fund contract signing. The Council had provisionally been awarded £172,323,426 by Homes England to enable the building of nearly 10,000 new homes in Aylesbury through the delivery of specific key infrastructure projects including roads and schools, subject to entering into the contract. The majority of the funding was to provide infrastructure ahead of the Section 106 monies or income receipt.

RESOLVED:

- 1) Cabinet AGREED to delegate authority to approve the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) Aylesbury Garden Town (AGT) contract to the Corporate Director for Planning Growth and Sustainability (PG&S), and the Section 151 officer (jointly), in consultation with the Leader.**
- 2) Cabinet NOTED the key risks to the Council in agreeing to the contract with Homes England.**
- 3) Cabinet AGREED to the establishment of a new HIF Investment Board (a Member led Board to oversee the HIF Programme), including Aylesbury Garden Town HIF, Princes Risborough HIF, Abbey Barn Lane HIF and A355 Beaconsfield Relief Road HIF. Membership will consist of the Leader, the Cabinet Member for Resources, the Cabinet Member for Transport, the Cabinet Member for Town Centre Regeneration, and the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills. Its role will be to monitor progress, recommend changes in funding allocations between projects and consider the re-allocation of the HIF recycling pot.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

The reason for the decision is to identify the key contractual obligations and risks for the Council in entering into the Aylesbury Garden Town Housing Infrastructure Fund agreement with Homes England and sought delegated authority for the Council to enter into the contract. The contract was a long-term commitment for both parties and ensured that the Authority was seen as both a facilitator and deliverer of new infrastructure and homes in Aylesbury. The report set out a proposal for Member oversight of the HIF Programme. The timescales provided by Homes England to conclude the negotiations have shortened to the end of September to ensure the funding is secured by the end of October 2020.

(c) Alternative options considered

To not enter into the contract would mean that the Council would not be able to draw down any funding and any changes to the contract would have elongated timescales which

would have implications for the project as funding needed to be secured by the end of October 2020.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 15

Winslow Centre Development

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on a proposed scheme of a mixture of housing and community/sports facilities for the Winslow Centre Development. The Business Case had identified that the delivery of a community facility, sports facility, extra-care housing and residential housing would address the significant under- utilisation of the site, alongside meeting increased demand in the area and enabling a significant capital receipt to be realised by the Council.

RESOLVED

1. **Cabinet APPROVED the release of £800k from the Winslow capital project budgets to complete the initial concept design stage for the Winslow Centre Development (a One Public Estate funded feasibility project).**
2. **Cabinet AUTHORISED the Director of Property and Assets in consultation with the agreed Cabinet Member, the S151/Head of Finance delegated authority to take the project through to the end of RIBA Stage 3. This will see completion of the initial concept design stage including:**
 1. **Seeking pre-planning advice, public consultation and submission of the relevant planning application(s); including the development of a planning strategy and a full local member and stakeholder consultation plan;**
 2. **Continuing negotiations with specialist housing providers and public sector partners to inform the business case decision to be brought back to Cabinet;**
 3. **Appointment of Professional Teams and commissioning of further required surveys;**
 4. **The exploration of a property company for the management, rent and or sale of housing units (residential and independent living);**
 5. **Arranging the provision of a temporary library facility to prepare for the existing library decant whilst it is re-provisioned in a new facility.**
3. **Cabinet WELCOMED reengagement with the Clinical Commissioning Group so that they could be involved in the provision of a new, fit for purpose community facility; provided commitment to enhanced sports facilities and confirmed that the project would have due regard to the Neighbourhood Plan.**

(b) Reasons for decisions

Significant due diligence has been undertaken which demonstrates the scheme was viable and

that the recommendation to proceed to a Planning Application was well founded. However further work needed to be done regarding the delivery of the development which needed to take into account;

- the market at the time if Planning consent was obtained
- Options to financially de risk the project by undertaking a mixture of land sales and direct development.
- Post Covid-19 the opportunity for Sport England, RFU and FA funding to become available to support the development.

(c) Alternative options considered

Options for the development have been analysed alongside a “do-nothing” option. The headline figures suggested that a positive net capital receipt might be in the order of £5.5m and £9m depending on the development delivery method chosen. A net capital receipt would support the Councils capital receipts target.

All three options will be re-evaluated and financial viability tested to ensure the most advantageous option (if appropriate) is recommended for approval when the End of RIBA Stage 3 report is brought back to Cabinet.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

For further information please contact: Clare Gray on 01296 531024, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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