



Cabinet decision notice

The following decision(s) were taken by Cabinet at its meeting held on **5 January 2021**. Decisions will (unless called-in) become effective at 5pm on 12 January 2021.

Agenda item no. 7

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2019/20

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual report 2019/2020. A review to consider new local safeguarding arrangements resulted in the implementation of the Buckinghamshire Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements which were agreed and signed off by the Statutory Partners in June 2019, changing the Safeguarding Children Board into the Safeguarding Children Partnership.

RESOLVED: That the progress made by the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership during the last year be noted.

(b) Reasons for decisions

The annual report is an opportunity to highlight the progress that has been made through the year in delivering against the business plan.

(c) Alternative options considered

Not applicable

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 8

Council Tax Base Setting 2021/22

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the Council Tax Base Setting 2021/22.

RESOLVED: That Buckinghamshire Council's tax base for the year 2021/22 is 222,433.04

and that the collection rate for the year 2020/21 is 98.1%.

(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

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 would have to be managed in future years. Changing the assumption around the collection rate from 98.1% to 97% would reduce revenue receipts by c£4m. This would also impact on the receipts of preceptors.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 9

Draft Revenue Budget and Capital Programme

(a) Decisions

Cabinet received a report on the draft revenue budget and capital programme. Given the levels of uncertainty around government funding levels beyond 2021/22 and the difficulties with accurately forecasting the longer-term implications arising as a result of the pandemic the revenue budget proposed within the report is for 2021/22 only. This ensures that the Council does not make decisions based on assumptions which are impossible to estimate at this stage given the international, national and local fiscal impact of the pandemic.

RESOLVED: That the draft revenue budget and capital programme be approved and it be noted that a supplementary report, the formal Council Tax Resolution, will accompany the final Budget to Full Council.

(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 Full Council on the 24th February 2021.

(c) Alternative options considered

There were no other options. The Council is required to set a balanced budget before 10

March in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

Agenda item no. 10

Support to the Provider Market as a result of Covid-19

(a) Decisions

Covid-19 has created a number of challenges in the care market, including rising costs around staffing and PPE; a changing profile of clients for bed-based care, with clients presenting with more complexity; and disruption to the self-funder market. A specific request has been received to provide financial support during the covid-19 crisis. This decision seeks approval for short term financial support in order to come to a planned and sustainable solution in the longer term. The request was considered in confidential session as it contained information relating to financial or business affairs.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agree a package of immediate short-term financial support and to commit to ongoing negotiations with a view to reaching an overall conclusion by March 2021.

(b) Reasons for decisions

To ensure that the Council can meet its obligations under the Care Act 2014 to ensure continuity of care and support in the event of provider failure.

(c) Alternative options considered

The options considered are set out in the confidential report and the recommended proposal has been determined to be the best way to manage risk, provide continuity of care and support the development of a longer term sustainable solution.

(d) Conflicts of interest/ dispensations

None

For further information please contact: Catherine Mackenzie on 01494 421206, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.

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