



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 9th September 2022

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 8th September 2022 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

Present: Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Furneaux, Harness, Shepherd and S. Swinburn

DN.34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology of absence was received from Councillor Shreeve for this meeting.

DN.35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There was a declaration of a personal and prejudicial interest from Councillor Shepherd for item DN.41, as he was a trustee of Foresight.

DN.36 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on the 20th July 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.37 CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE STATUTORY COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Children and Education providing an overview of the activity and analysis of complaints and compliments for the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That Children’s Social Care Statutory Complaints and Compliments Annual Report for 2021/22 be accepted and received.**
- 2. That the Children’s Social Care Statutory Complaints and Compliments Annual Report for 2021/22 be referred to the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel for their consideration.**
- 3. That subsequent to recommendation 2 above, delegated responsibility be given to the Deputy Chief Executive & Executive Director for People, Health and Care in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People to publish the annual report.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – It is a requirement of The Children Act 1989 Representation Procedure (England) Regulations 2006 to produce an annual report regarding the representations made about social care statutory services. The purpose of the attached report was to inform the general public, elected members and Council officers about the effectiveness of the statutory complaints procedure.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – It is a statutory requirement that an annual report is completed for these complaints and the activities undertaken in responding to the complaints follows current guidance. The current approach was set out in the attached report.

DN.38 QUARTER 1 FINANCE MONITORING REPORT 2022/23

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets which provides key information and analysis of the Council's position and performance against its Finance and Commissioning Plan for the first quarter of the 2022/23 year.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the reported position and the risks and opportunities over the forthcoming financial planning period be noted.**
- 2. That the Financial Monitoring Report be referred to Scrutiny for consideration.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The report was important in informing Cabinet on the financial position and performance of the Council and highlighting key risks and opportunities.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – Not applicable to monitoring report.

DN. 39 QUARTER 1 COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022/23

Cabinet received a report from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Net Zero, Skills and Housing providing elected members with oversight of performance against the plan.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the content of the report in Appendix A be noted.**
- 2. That the report be referred to all Scrutiny Panels for further consideration and challenge.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The report was important in informing Cabinet and Scrutiny panels on the performance of the Council in delivering its' key strategic priorities.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - Not applicable to performance report

DN.40 LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – SCOPING AND ISSUES

Cabinet received a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport providing information on the review of the North East Lincolnshire Local Plan

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the publication of the Scoping and Issues paper set out in appendix 1 be approved.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport to commence the requisite engagement exercise.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The Council has a duty to maintain an up-to-date local plan. The National Planning Policy Framework stipulates local plans should be reviewed at least every five years and then updated as necessary. The original decision to commence the review of the adopted 2018 Local Plan was made by Cabinet in June 2020.

An informal decision to pause key elements of the review work was made after the Government published its Planning White Paper in August 2020. This proposed significant and wide-ranging reforms to the planning system, including the process of preparing a local plan and to its form and content.

A further cabinet decision in October 2021 recommended that work on the review be restarted. The publication of the Scoping and Issues paper marks the first stage in that review process.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - The preparation of the Scoping and Issues paper (Appendix A) marks the initial stage of the local plan review process and represents an informal stage in the preparation process. The content of the paper was designed to highlight those key area that have been identified as needing review and to establish the overall scope of the review. This was considered a valuable first step in the review process and would set the stage for the more formal statutory consultation stages. No other options were considered.

DN.41 LESS THAN BEST CONSIDERATION – LEASE RENEWAL OF SCARTH O COMMUNITY CENTRE, 26 WALTHAM ROAD, GREAT GRIMSBY, DN33 2LX

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets seeking authority to renew lease of the Scartho Community Centre, 26 Waltham Road, Great Grimsby, DN33 2LX.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That principle of a full, repairing, and insuring lease of the subject Site for a term of 25-years at a peppercorn rent (£1 per annum if demanded) to the current tenant Scartho Village Community Centre (SVCC) be approved;**
- 2. That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director of Environment, Economy and Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets the responsibility to ensure that all necessary actions be carried out in order to complete and approve the detailed terms of the disposal;**
- 3. That delegated authority be given to the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets (Monitoring Officer) authorisation to complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above;**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The current tenant, a Charitable Company, has been occupying the Site by way of a lease over the last 15-year term which has now ended. The lease included the right for renewal, therefore, was currently holding over. A proposal has been received from the Group which has been considered as part of the Council's approach to Community Asset Transfers (CAT). The proposal, by way of a full Business Case, has been agreed in principle which could result in the transfer of the Site by virtue of a new 25-year full, repairing, and insuring lease. The lease would enable the asset to continue to be used by the Group for the benefit of the community on the basis that their proposal is sustainable and viable over the term.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - To do nothing was not an option as the Group were keen to continue with the responsibility of the Site and under the terms of the current lease have a right to renew the lease. The Business Case provided the necessary assurance the Site use would continue to be managed as is, for the benefit of the Community, including all associated costs being that of the Group.

The freehold disposal of the Site has not been considered at this time. This was in respect of the Council's continued interest in the use of the Site and mitigating risk in the event the Group were unable to continue with maintaining the Site. In such circumstances where the proposal was no longer viable, which impacts on the on-going use of the Site, the Council could take action to seek an alternative use of the Site or to prevent any unauthorised uses of the Site which a freehold disposal would remove.

DN.42 TREASURY OUTTURN REPORT 2022/23

Cabinet received a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets containing details of treasury management arrangements, activity and performance during the 2021/22 financial year.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL – That the report be received and the treasury management activity during 2021/22 be noted.

REASONS FOR DECISION - The Council's treasury management activity is guided by CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management ("the Code"), which requires local authorities to produce annually Prudential Indicators and a Treasury Management Strategy Statement on the likely financing and investment activity. The Code also recommends that members were informed of treasury management activities at least twice a year with interim updates on performance against Prudential Indicators reported quarterly. We therefore report in full after Quarter 2 and year end with Prudential Indicators being reported additionally after Quarters 1 and 3 in the Commissioning and Resource Report.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - These are set out on Page 28 of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

DN.43 COVID ADDITIONAL RELIEF FUND

Cabinet received a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets seeking authority on the process that will ensure the relief be distributed and targeted to the businesses intended by the Government.

RESOLVED – That the introduction of the Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund discretionary scheme be approved, and delegated

authority be given to the Executive Director Place, Environment, Economy & Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets, to so implement.

REASONS FOR DECISION - Approval was sought to distribute relief to eligible businesses, considering which businesses were eligible and at what financial level (appendix 1 refers). Two different approaches to distribute the relief have been considered;

- to design and implement an application-based process or
- to employ local knowledge and utilise the Office for National Statistics (ONS) data which measure gross value added (GVA) and the special category codes held by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) to identify the most impacted businesses and apply relief direct to Business Rates accounts.

The latter approach was recommended. Distributing the relief directly to businesses without the need for an application process will allow the Council to support ratepayers identified as most in need of support in the most efficient way.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - Design and implement an application-based process inviting businesses to put a case forward as to why they should be considered for discretionary relief.