

General Purposes Committee

Decision Statement

Meeting: 28th January 2020

Published: 29th January 2020



Item	Topic	Decision
	<u>CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS</u>	
1.	Apologies for absence and declarations of interest	<p>Apologies received from Councillor Count (Councillor Howell substituting).</p> <p>Councillor Hickford reminded the Committee that he had an interest in a County Farm of which he was a tenant. He had taken advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer and could confirm that he was not affected by the Business Case set out on pages 300 to 302 of the agenda which formed part of the Business Plan at agenda item 7. He was therefore able to participate and vote on this item.</p>
2.	Minutes – 17th December 2019 and Action Log	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>to approve the minutes of the meeting of 17th December 2019 as a correct record and note the action log.</p>
3.	Petitions	None received.
	<u>OTHER DECISION</u>	
4.	Finance and Performance Report – November 2019	It was resolved to review, note and comment upon the report.

	<u>KEY DECISIONS</u>	
5.	Integrated Finance Monitoring Report for the Period Ending 30th November 2019	<p>It was resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approve additional prudential borrowing of £20m in 2019/20 for Commercial Investments (property) and the use of £20m of capital receipts for investments into the Multi-Class credit pooled fund, as set out in section 5.7; b) Approve the extension of the contract with Virgin Media Business for the provision of IT infrastructure services, as set out in Appendix 3.
6.	Implementation of Software Defined Networking Solution as part of Shire Hall Data Centre Move	<p>It was resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agree the spending for this approach from the budget allocated to the project by GPC on 28th May 2019. b) Delegate approval for procurement of Software Defined Network to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of General Purposes Committee.
	<u>OTHER DECISIONS</u>	
7.	Business Plan 2020-2021 to 2024-25	<p>It was resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the Business Plan, including supporting budget, business cases, consultation responses and other material, in light of all the planning activities undertaken to date. 2. Review the options set out in section 4 of this paper to establish a balanced budget position. 3. Review the following recommendations to Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That approval is given to the Service/Directorate budget allocations as set out in each Service/Directorate table in section 3 of the Business Plan.

		<p>b. That consideration is given to a total county budget requirement and precept level</p> <p>c. That consideration is given to a Council Tax for each Band of property, based on the number of “Band D” equivalent properties notified to the County Council by the District Councils as set out in section 2, Table 6.4 of the Business Plan.</p> <p>d. That approval is given to the Capital Strategy as set out in section 6 of the Business Plan including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitments from schemes already approved; • Expenditure on new schemes in 2020-21 shown in summary in section 2, Table 6.7 of the Business Plan. <p>e. That approval is given to the Treasury Management Strategy as set out in Section 7 of the Business Plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Council’s policy on the making of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for the repayment of debt, as required by the Local Authorities (Capital Finance & Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008. ii. The Affordable Borrowing Limit for 2020- 21 (as required by the Local Government Act 2003). iii. The Investment Strategy for 2020-21 as required by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) revised Guidance on Local Government Investments issued in 2018, and the Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 3 of Section 7 of the Business Plan. <p>4. Endorse the priorities and opportunities as set out in the Strategic Framework including the addition of the new priority – “Net Zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2050”.</p> <p>5. Authorise the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make technical revisions to the Business Plan, including the foregoing recommendations to the County Council, so as to take into account any changes deemed appropriate, including updated information on District Council Tax Base and</p>
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		Collection Funds, Business Rates forecasts and Collection Funds and any grant changes.
8.	No Car Zone – Outside Schools	It was resolved to: approve the trial of no car zones at a minimum of two schools in Cambridge City in the Summer of 2020, as outlined in section 2 of the report.
9.	Transformation Fund Bids	
(a)	Demand Management in Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)	It was resolved to: a) Note the current deficit position within the High Needs Block b) Release £130k from the transformation fund to provide additional resources to undertake an analysis of demand and develop a range of demand management opportunities in SEND
(b)	To Add Capacity to the Financial Assessment Team to carry out Client Financial Assessments in line with agreed client contribution proposals	It was resolved to: Approve the Transformation Bid proposal of £230,000 (for a period up to 18 months) to fund additional resource for the Financial Assessment team to deliver an enhanced client financial assessments service to apply the revised charging policy and secure the additional income due in 20/21 and future years.
10.	General Purposes Committee Agenda Plan, Training Plan and Appointment to Outside Bodies and Internal Advisory Groups and Panels	It was resolved to review the agenda plan.

Notes:

Statements in bold type indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting and strikethrough indicates deletions.

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