

Strategy and Resources Committee Decision Statement

Meeting: 29 March 2022

Published: 30 March 2022

1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Councillors Criswell, Howitt, Hoy and Sanderson.

2. Minutes – 27th January 2022 and Action Log.

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of 27th January 2022 as a correct record. The action log was noted.

3. Petitions and Public Questions

Four public questions were received and taken at Agenda Item No.7.

4. Joint Agreement and Peer Review Action Tracking

It was resolved to:

- a) review the monitoring against actions identified in the joint agreement and peer review action plans.
- b) agree to transfer any remaining open actions to the Council's new Performance Management Framework with monitoring and reporting through appropriate committee governance.

5. Integrated Finance Monitoring Report for the period ending 31st January 2022

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the proposal for the use of £407k from Public Health reserves to support additional work on Health Checks in 2022/23, as set out in section 6.1;
- b) Approve earmarking £1,490k of the underspend on Funding items to invest in the Highways Maintenance Service as set out in section 6.2 and Appendix 6;
- c) Approve the transfer of £830k to earmarked reserves to enable expenditure to take place in 2022/23 for workforce development for the Adult Social Care and Health workforce across the Integrated Care System, as set out in section 6.3;

- d) Approve the transfer of funding into an earmarked reserve for continuing discharge to assess support for Cambridgeshire residents in 2022/23, delegate confirmation of the amount at year end to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of this committee, and delegate to the Executive Director of P&C authority to agree expenditure from this reserve, as set out in section 6.4;
- e) Approve the allocation of the additional unringfenced grant £1.14m Domestic Abuse Act Statutory Duty funding to People & Communities in 2021/22 and £1.14m in 2022/23, as set out in section 6.5;
- f) Note the changes in government grant income of £332k additional Local tax losses 2020-21 grant income, £375k reduction in anticipated sales, fees and charges loss of income compensation 2020-21 and £1.4m of Contain Outbreak Management Fund grant income applied centrally as set out in section 6.6;
- g) Note the changes in forecast income in relation to business rates of an estimated £1.43m Business Rates Retention 2021-22 pool dividend and forecast £202k Alconbury Enterprise Zone Business Rates payment in respect of rates collected for 2021-22 as set out in section 6.7;
- h) Approve the debt write-offs of £29,108 and £27,784 relating to the estates of service users where there is now no prospect of debts being recovered, as set out in section 7.2;
- i) Approve additional prudential borrowing of £389k for 2022/23 for the Swaffham Prior Community Heat Project and £1,099k for 2022/23 for the North Angle Solar Farm scheme, as set out in section 8.6;
- j) Note the update provided on the Council's treasury management activity set out in section 9.10;
- k) Note and comment on the Finance Monitoring Report for Corporate Services (Appendix 4) and
- l) Approve the criteria for accessing the Just Transition Fund (Appendix 5).
- m) Note the updated pricing and business case for the Babraham Road Smart Energy Grid, including the increase in capital cost of £630k, and authorise the Chief Finance Officer to make resulting budget changes in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair and in accordance with the Addendum.

6. This Land Monitoring Update

It was resolved to:

- (a) Note and comment on the report and progress with the action plan;

- (b) Note the areas highlighted for consultation with the Council: potential for collaboration on future developments and risk appetite relative to meeting housing needs;
- (c) Permit and enable sale of properties, owned by This Land, at the sites listed at section 3.5 of this report, and at Horningsea, varying the Council's associated rights and mortgages as set out at section 3.5; and
- (d) Authorise the Section 151 officer, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, to exercise the shareholder rights in relation to appointment of the next Chair of This Land, in accordance with section 2.8 of this report.

7. Asset Management – Property Specific Updates

It was resolved to:

- (a) Agree to commence procurement of student accommodation operator at Brunswick House delegating authority to award a contract to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair;
- (b) Agree to voluntarily register certain land at Shire Hall, Cambridge as a town or village green;
- (c) Agree to progress the scheme for biodiversity net gain at Lower Valley Farm, delegating authority to enter into agreements for that purpose to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair; and
- (d) Agree, in principle, to inclusion of early years provision at the East Barnwell Community Hub, and to bring forward a revised capital budget in due course, following further development of plans for this asset.

8. Procurement of Council Insurance Programme

It was resolved to:

- a) Note and approve the issue of a tender for the Council's insurance arrangements for the period 2022-2027; and
- b) Approve the delegation of the decision on the level of insurance to be purchased and the award of contracts to the Director of Resources in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee.

9. Replacement of Storage Area Network

It was resolved:

- a) Agree to the procurement of replacement infrastructure via an approved framework agreement; and

- b) Agree to delegate the award of this contract to the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee.

10. Water and Wastewater Services Procurement

It was resolved to:

- a) enter into a contract with Wave under the ESPO framework to supply water and sewerage retail services to all sites where Cambridgeshire County Council is liable for the bills, from August 2022. (Option B as detailed in the paper)
- b) increase efforts to understand and reduce water consumption across the Council's properties.

11. No car zones

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the research outcomes from the study undertaken by the Medical Research Council (MRC) Epidemiology Unit at the University of Cambridge;
- b) Support the implementation of additional no car zone / school streets schemes, subject to available funding (outlined in paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7); and
- c) Note the implication of future decision-making by the Council, and its District Council partners, in relation to Civil Parking Enforcement and Traffic Management Act 2004 Part 6 to the potential enforcement of these schemes (outlined in paragraph 2.11).

12. New Shire Hall – Multi Function Room

It was resolved to:

- a) note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and public health impacts of Full Council meetings without social distancing requires the continued use of external venues.
- b) instruct the Assistant Director Property to prepare a detailed report for the committee in September 2022 on issues relating to safety, security and working environment for Members and challenges to the Council's aspirations for public accessibility to its meetings from the current size and configuration of the MFR with detailed options to address the issues.

13. Corporate Risk Register - Update

It was resolved to note and comment on the corporate risk register.

14. Corporate Services Performance Report Quarter 3 2021-22

It was resolved to:

- a) Review the proposed new Corporate Services KPI list and agree the proposed addition to and removal of KPIs from the Corporate Services KPI list.
- b) Monitor progress of Corporate Services, consider whether performance is at an acceptable level and identify remedial action as required.

15. Treasury Management Report – Quarter Three Update 2021-22

It was resolved to note the Treasury Management Quarter Three Report for 2021/22.

16. Strategy and Resources Committee Agenda Plan & Training Plan & Appointments to Outside Bodies & Internal Advisory Groups & Panels

It was resolved to note the Committee Agenda Plan and approve the new remit of the Green Investments and Utilities Advisory Group.

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

For more information contact:

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