



Cabinet – 20 October 2021

DECISIONS

PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY 21 OCTOBER 2021: Decisions set out below cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days after publication of this notice which is FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2021

Part I – Public session

Item	Recommendation
1. Apologies	Councillor Bird, Councillor Butler, Councillor Wilson
2. Minutes – 8 September 2021	Approved
3. Declarations of Interest	None
4. Local Government (Access to Information) Act	Resolved that the public be excluded during consideration of the items in the private session.
5. Petitions	No petitions were received.
6. Questions	No questions received.
7. Forward plan	That the forward plan be noted.
8. Amendments to the Black Country Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement (Cllr Perry on behalf of Cllr Bird)	1) That Cabinet approve the proposed amendments to the <i>Collaboration Agreement in relation to the Black Country Executive Joint Committee for the funds secured by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership dated 7 May 2014</i> as set out in further detail in the report, with the proposed revised version of the Collaboration Agreement at Appendix A of the report.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director, Resources and Transformation, to authorise the sealing by the Council of a Deed of Variation in respect of the proposed amendments to the Collaboration Agreement. 3) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to take part in any further negotiations and to make any minor amendments to the above Collaboration Agreement prior the Council endorsing changes to it by entering in to the Deed of Variation.
<p>9. Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital programme 2022/23-2025/26</p> <p><i>(Cllr Perry on behalf of Cllr Bird)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To note the revised financial assumptions and projections within the draft revenue budget, the uncertainty around core funding, and that these assumptions will change as the budget progresses. Along with savings already identified and reported within the Budget report to Council in February 2021, this represents a balanced budget for 2022/23. 2) To note the policy proposals for 2022/23 as set out in section 4.30(i) and Appendix 2A. 3) To Approve the operational savings for 2022/23 to 2023/24 set out in appendix 2B of this report, and instruct officers to implement these under officer delegations, subject to any required consultation, equality impact assessment, and any changes arising as a result of the latter two, including the reprofiling of £888k for saving OP3 Early Help restructure into 2022/23, as referred to in section 4.30(ii). 4) To Approve as a basis for consultation the current draft capital programme of £62.27m for 2022/23 in section 4.32 to 4.46. 5) To Refer this report to Scrutiny Overview Committee on 13 December 2021, to enable the Committee's comments to be considered by Cabinet. All Scrutiny Committees will also receive proposals relating to the individual remit of each Committee. 6) To Note that the medium term financial outlook position assumes an increase in council tax of 1.99% in 2022/23 and future years, the assumed level of "reasonableness" in respect of the current referendum principles. This currently assumes no precept for Adult Social

	<p>Care. Any changes will be reported back to Cabinet in December 2021.</p> <p>7) To Refer the budget for Statutory Consultation with National Non Domestic Rate (NNDR) payers in respect of the current council tax assumptions and potential implications should the referendum principles change.</p> <p>8) To Note that the level of contingency funds and general reserves will need to be in line with the levels set out within the council's MTF, the final level to be based on a detailed risk assessment, which will be reported to Cabinet and Council in February 2022.</p>
<p>10. Corporate Financial Performance</p> <p><i>(Cllr Perry on behalf of Cllr Bird)</i></p>	<p>1) To Note the total Covid-19 funding available to Walsall in 2021/22 of £30.35m as set out in section 4.5 and Appendix 1 of this report, and that this may be insufficient to cover the additional costs of supporting the council's Covid-19 response beyond the short term.</p> <p>2) To Note that of the £30.35m grant, £16.15m is ringfenced for specific activity as set out in Appendix 1 and this is expected to be fully spent, with the exception of the Winter grant of £36k and LA Practical Support grant of £372k.</p> <p>3) To Note the forecast impact of Covid-19 to August of £4.78m and total forecast of £14.31m for 2021/22 based on known assumptions in relation to costs not covered by specific grant, as set out in section 4.5 to 4.10, and the estimated financial impact on the delivery of 2021/22 approved savings as set out in sections 4.11 to 4.12 and Appendix 3. This results in a marginal overspend of c£111k against the £14.20m unringfenced grant, which will require funding from reserves.</p> <p>4) To Approve the additional use of £1.44m of Covid-19 funding from unringfenced grant to support Adult Social Care placement costs and legal fees as referenced in section 4.10.</p> <p>5) To Note the non Covid-19 forecast overspend £2.42m related to demand and other service pressures as set out in 4.14 to 4.24, and actions being taken to address these. This is a £2.07m reduction on the previous position reported to Cabinet in July of £4.49m which demonstrates that</p>

	<p>actions taken to address the overspend are having an impact.</p> <p>6) To Note that there are high risks of £12.83m to the forecast identified within service as set out in Appendix 4. These risks are actively being monitored and action taken to reduce / eliminate them.</p> <p>7) To Note the position in relation to planning services as detailed in section 4.25 and approve up to a maximum of £500k of capacity funding over 2021/22 and 2022/23, funded from reserves, noting that this funding will only be drawn down on the approval of the S151 Officer should the additional costs not be able to be accommodated within existing EE&C budgets.</p> <p>8) To Approve amendments to the capital programme as set out in section 4.26.</p> <p>9) To Note that the forecast for the council funded capital programme is currently expected to be on budget after re-phasing of £91.19m into 2022/23.</p> <p>10) To Note financial health indicator performance as set out in section 4.29 to 4.34 and Appendix 6.</p> <p>11) To Note the prudential indicators as set out in section 4.35 to 4.37 and Appendix 7.</p> <p>12) To Approve the updated Medium Term Financial Framework as set out in section 4.38 and Appendix 8.</p> <p>13) To Approve the write off of debt as detailed in section 4.39.</p>
<p>11. Additional Licensing Scheme for HMOs</p> <p><i>(Cllr Andrew)</i></p>	<p>1) That Cabinet notes and considers the matters raised by the consultees / petitioners and the responses to the same (Appendix 6).</p> <p>2) That Cabinet approve the following: -</p> <p>i. Designate the Wards of Paddock, Palfrey, Pleck and St Matthew's areas shown on Map 1 (Appendix 1) as subject to Additional Licensing under Section 56(1)(a) of the Housing Act 2004 for all private rented Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs):</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that contain three or four occupiers irrespective of the number of storeys; • defined under Section 257 of that Act where the freehold of the whole property belong to the same 'person' and they are mainly or wholly tenanted, including those with resident landlords; <p>ii. That the designations in paragraphs i. above come into force on the 1 September 2022 for a period of 5 years;</p> <p>iii. Authorise the Executive Director Children's Services to sign the Walsall Council Designation of an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation 2021 as attached at Appendix 2</p> <p>iv. Resolve to adopt the proposed fees and charges structure as attached at Appendix 4 and review those fees annually to ensure they remain reasonable and proportionate and address any issues relating to surpluses or deficits in accordance with case law.</p>
<p>12. Walsall Heritage Strategy 2021-26 (Cllr Andrew)</p>	<p>1) That the adoption and implementation of the Walsall Heritage Strategy (2021-2026) (Appendix A) be approved.</p> <p>2) That the implementation of the associated Walsall Heritage Action Plan (2021-2026) (Appendix B) be approved.</p>
<p>13. Climate Emergency Action Plan (Cllr Andrew)</p>	<p>That Cabinet note the progress made in delivering the measures identified in the climate emergency action plan, as detailed in Appendix 1.</p>
<p>14. Domestic Abuse Strategy (Cllr Perry)</p>	<p>That Cabinet approves the Domestic Abuse Strategy (Appendix 1).</p>
<p>15. Violence and All-Age Exploitation Strategy (Cllr Perry)</p>	<p>That Cabinet approves the All Age Exploitation Strategy (Appendix B).</p>
<p>16. Resilient Communities – Safer Streets (Cllr Perry)</p>	<p>1) That Cabinet approves a Safer Streets Programme pilot as part of its commitment to delivering Resilient Communities.</p> <p>2) That Cabinet approves a revenue budget of £50,000 for 2021/22 to support the Safer Streets Programme pilot.</p>

	<p>3) That Cabinet receives a report in April 2022 on the delivery of the pilot areas.</p>
<p>17. Crisis Support for families in financial hardship during Covid-19 – update <i>(Cllr Perry)</i></p>	<p>That the content of the report is noted</p>
<p>18. Intermediate Care Service – Outcome of review <i>(Cllr Martin)</i></p>	<p>1) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care to approve a modification of the existing contracts under Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, to by extending their contractual term for the shortest possible period of 6 months from 1st November 2021 – 30th April 2022 (with the option to extend for up to a further 6 months, if required at an increased rate of £792.59 per bed, per week) to enable the contracts to be replaced via compliant procurement.</p> <p>2) That Cabinet delegates authority to accept tenders and award contracts for the provision of Pathway 2 and Pathway 3 beds, for a period of three years, with the option to extend on an annual basis for a further period of up to two years, to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care following completion of the tender.</p> <p>3) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care to enter into contracts for the provision of Pathway 2 and Pathway 3 beds and to subsequently authorise the sealing of any deeds, contracts or other related documents for such services.</p> <p>4) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director of Adult Social Care in consultation with the Executive Director of Children’s Services and the Portfolio Holders for Adult Social Care and Children’s Services, to authorise any variations to the contractual arrangements or other related documents for such services should this be required throughout the duration of the term of any contracts and provided they are in line with the Council’s Contract Rules and any relevant legislation, including Public Contract Regulations 2015.</p>

	<p>5) That Cabinet note the outcomes of the ICS review including future re-commissioning arrangements required in order to futureproof the Intermediate Care Service.</p>
<p>19. propose Schools Local Funding Formula 2022-23 <i>(Cllr Towe)</i></p> <p>Note: Supplementary report submitted updating recommendations to reflect the outcome of the decision of Schools Forum)</p>	<p>1) That Cabinet approves the Schools Funding Formula Option 1 (Appendix 1 to the previously distributed Proposed Schools Local Funding Formula 2022/23) that was recommended by Walsall's Schools Forum at its meeting on 12 October 2021,</p> <p>2) That Cabinet notes that the Department for Education may request revisions to the school funding formula and that values attributed in the formula may need to change once the Department for Education reviews the October 2021 census data.</p> <p>3) Cabinet approves to delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Education and Skills to amend the formula in line with Department for Education requirements and to comply with all and any relevant Department for Education regulations for the 2022/23 Schools Funding Formula.</p>
<p>20. Mental Wellbeing priorities and investment <i>(Cllr Craddock)</i></p>	<p>1) To approve investment of £333,334 per year for 3 years to improve population mental wellbeing.</p> <p>2) To approve the proposed interventions detailed in the proposal.</p> <p>3) To approve the remaining £20,000 investment to deliver the "No Wrong Door" project.</p>
<p>21. Riverpoint Estate, Willenhall – response to petition. <i>(Cllr Andrew)</i></p>	<p>1) That the report and recommendations from the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received and that the Committee be thanked for their work on this complex issue.</p> <p>2) That a report responding to the recommendations be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting.</p>

Part II – Private session PUBLIC SUMMARY

Item	Decision – public summary
22. Sale of Council land at Ravenscourt, Brownhills.	Cabinet agreed to sell the Council's derelict land within Ravenscourt shopping centre in Brownhills at the previously agreed sale price that now represents less than best consideration, subject to the necessary planning consents, on the basis that the proposed development will contribute to the objective to promote economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area.