



CABINET

Summary of Decisions made by Cabinet – Monday 30 January 2023

Agenda Item	Report Title	Decision	Key Decision	Date Forward Plan Published
8	Scottow Enterprise Park Capital Investment Plan	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the Scottow Enterprise Park Capital Investment Plan 2022-2027 attached at Annex 1 of the report subject to, where applicable, Enterprise Zone Pot B and other capital funding to be approved at February County Council. 2. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services to enter into a New Anglia Enterprise Zone Memorandum of Understanding for the capital refurbishment of Scottow Enterprise Park. 3. Agree that the directors of Hethel Innovation Limited (“HIL”) will approve detailed business cases in order to deliver the Scottow Enterprise Park Capital Investment Plan 2022-2027 within the funding available, noting that NCC appointed directors have majority voting rights and that HIL reports activity to the HIL annual Shareholder meeting. 	Yes	9/12/22
9	Herbicide Use Policy	Cabinet RESOLVED to approve the NCC Glyphosate Policy (Appendix 1 of the report)	Yes	7/10/22
10	Norfolk Speed Management Strategy	Cabinet RESOLVED to agree the revised Norfolk Speed Management Strategy (NSMS).	Yes	23/11/22
11	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Funding	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED to agree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Dedicated Schools Grant funding including <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the changes to the schools funding formula; b. the changes to the early years funding entitlements formula; c. agreeing the high needs block budget, noting that it has been assessed to meet our statutory duties and it adds to the DSG cumulative deficit in line with the Safety Valve plan submitted to the Secretary of State for Education for approval; 	Yes	31/3/22

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		2. to delegate decision making powers to the Executive Director of Children's Services, in conjunction with the Lead Member for Children's Services, to agree the final funding cap, or allocation of additional funds, once the final DSG calculations of individual school allocations are known and in line with the principles of Cabinet's decision.		
12	Fee levels for adult social care providers 2023/24	Cabinet RESOLVED to a) Agree to award a £30m increase in fee levels, as described in detail in section 2 of this paper b) As part of the Government's Social Care Reform, commit to moving towards paying the median cost of care within Government's timescales and within the funding afforded to the Council for this specific purpose c) Agree to continue to lobby the Government to make the case for sustainable fair funding for Norfolk	Yes	9/12/22
13	Finance Monitoring Report 2022-23 P8: November 2022	Cabinet RESOLVED 1. To recommend to full Council the addition of £0.427m to the capital programme to address capital funding requirements funded mostly from various external sources as set out in detail in capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.1 of the report as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £0.299m external funding raised for Museum Painting Exhibits and Acquisitions £0.095m increase in the Castle Keep Gateway to Medieval England budget for monitoring and quality assurance mitigation works which was approved at the December 22 Cabinet meeting £0.033m miscellaneous minor adjustments to project budgets 2. To recommend to Full Council the addition of £2.511m to the capital programme for the MyOracle project in 2022-23 as set out in detail in Capital Appendix 3, paragraph 4.3 of the report. 3. Subject to full Council approval of recommendation 1 and 2 to delegate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1) To the Director of Procurement authority to undertake the necessary procurement processes including the determination of the minimum standards and selection criteria (if any) and the award criteria; to shortlist bidders; to make provisional award decisions (in consultation with the Chief Officer responsible for 	No	N/A

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		<p>each scheme); to award contracts; to negotiate where the procurement procedure so permits; and to terminate award procedures if necessary.</p> <p>3.2) To the Director of Property authority (notwithstanding the limits set out at 5.13.6 and 5.13.7 of Financial Regulations) to negotiate or tender for or otherwise acquire the required land to deliver the schemes (including temporary land required for delivery of the works) and to dispose of land so acquired that is no longer required upon completion of the scheme;</p> <p>3.3) To each responsible chief officer authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (in the case of two-stage design and build contracts) agree the price for the works upon completion of the design stage and direct that the works proceed; or alternatively direct that the works be recompleted • approve purchase orders, employer's instructions, compensation events or other contractual instructions necessary to effect changes in contracts that are necessitated by discoveries, unexpected ground conditions, planning conditions, requirements arising from detailed design or minor changes in scope • subject always to the forecast cost including works, land, fees and disbursements remaining within the agreed scheme or programme budget. • That the officers exercising the delegated authorities set out above shall do so in accordance with the council's Policy Framework, with the approach to Social Value in Procurement endorsed by Cabinet at its meeting of 6 July 2020, and with the approach set out in the paper entitled "Sourcing strategy for council services" approved by Policy & Resources Committee at its meeting of 16 July 2018. <p>4. To Approve the proposal to dissolve NCC Nurseries Limited as set out in Appendix 4 paragraph 5 of the report.</p>		

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. To recognise the period 8 general fund revenue forecast of a £2.054m overspend (0.44% of net budget), noting also that Executive Directors will take measures to reduce or eliminate potential over-spends where these occur within services to deliver a balance budget by the year end. 6. To recognise the period 8 forecast of 92% savings delivery in 2022-23, noting also that Executive Directors will continue to take measures to mitigate potential savings shortfalls through alternative savings or underspends; 7. To note the forecast General Balances at 31 March 2023 of £24.340m, assuming the Council will mitigate the overspends reported in P8 of the report. 8. To note the expenditure and funding of the revised current and future 2021-26 capital programmes. 		
14	2023-24 Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023-27	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To consider the statements regarding the uncertain planning environment, robustness of budget estimates, assumptions and risks relating to the 2023- 24 budget, and authorise the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance, to make any changes required to reflect Final Local Government Finance Settlement information (if available), or changes in council tax and business rates forecasts from District Councils, in order to maintain a balanced budget position for presentation to Full Council. In recognition of the budget gap forecast for 2024-25, and to enable a final balanced Budget position to be recommended to County Council, Cabinet agreed the following principles: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) that any additional resources which become available should be used to delay the use of one-off funding from reserves from 2023-24 to 2024-25, or b) that any income shortfall should be addressed from the Corporate Business Risk Reserve (to the extent possible). Where the Corporate Business Risk Reserve is insufficient, to 	Yes	31/3/22

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		<p>note that the ultimate source of funding to balance the Budget will be the General Fund.</p> <p>2) To review the findings of public consultation as set out in Section 13 of Appendix 1 of the report, in full in Appendix 5 of the report, and in Appendix 7 of the report in relation to Mobile Libraries, and consider these when recommending the budget changes required to deliver a balanced budget as set out in Appendix 1.</p> <p>3) To consider and comment on the findings of equality impact assessments, as set out in Appendix 6 to this report (also Appendix 7 of the report in relation to Mobile Libraries), and in doing so, note the Council's duty under the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; • Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and • Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. <p>4) To note that the Council has responded to the consultation undertaken on the Provisional Local Government Settlement for 2023-24 as detailed in Section 3 of Appendix 1 of the report.</p> <p>5) To note that the Council will continue to operate a Business Rates Pool for 2023-24 in partnership with Norfolk District Councils on the same terms as the existing 2022-23 Pool and as set out in Section 6 of Appendix 1 of the report, and approve the use of 2022-23 Pool funds as set out and that future Business Rates Pool money should be allocated to economic development.</p> <p>6) To agree to recommend to County Council:</p> <p>a) The level of risk and budget assumptions set out in the Robustness of Estimates report (Appendix 4 of the report), which underpin the revenue and capital budget decisions and planning for 2023-27.</p>		

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		<p>b) The general principle of seeking to increase general fund balances as part of closing the 2022-23 accounts and that in 2023-24 any further additional resources which become available during the year should be added to the general fund balance wherever possible.</p> <p>c) The findings of public consultation (Appendix 5 of the report), which should be considered when agreeing the 2023-24 Budget (Appendix 1 of the report).</p> <p>d) To note the advice of the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services (Section 151 Officer), in Section 5 of Appendix 1 of the report, on the financial impact of an increase in council tax and the sustainability of the Council's medium term position.</p> <p>e) That the Council's 2023-24 Budget will include a general council tax increase of 2.99% and a 2.00% increase in the Adult Social Care precept, an overall increase of 4.99% (shown in Section 5 of Appendix 1 of the report), as recommended by the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services, and resulting in an increased overall County Council Net Revenue Budget of £493.707m for 2023-24, including budget increases of £169.523m and budget decreases of -£139.939m as set out in Table 15 of Appendix 1 of the report, and the actions required to deliver the proposed savings, subject to any changes required in line with recommendation 1 above to enable a balanced budget to be proposed. This would result in a budget gap of £45.920m to be addressed for 2024-25, and £124.127m over the life of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p> <p>f) The budget proposals set out for 2024-25 to 2026-27, including authorising Executive Directors to take the action required to deliver budget savings for 2024-25 to 2026-27 as appropriate.</p> <p>g) With regard to the future years, that further plans, including phase two of the Strategic Review, to meet the remaining budget shortfalls in the period 2024-25 to 2026-27 are developed and brought back to Cabinet during 2023-24 in line with the proposed timetable and that a report on the next steps of the Strategic Review will be brought to the March Cabinet meeting.</p>		

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		<p>h) Noting Government's assumptions that local authorities will raise the maximum council tax available to them, and that the final level of council tax for future years is subject to Member decisions annually (informed by any referendum principles defined by the Government), to confirm, or otherwise, the assumptions set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS Table 2 in Appendix 2 of the report) that the Council's budget planning for 2024-25 will include for planning purposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) general council tax increases of 2.99% (1.99% from 2025-26); ii) Adult Social Care precept increases of 2.00%(1.00% 2025-26 and 0.00% 2026-27); and iii) that if the referendum threshold were increased in the period 2024-25 to 2026-27 to above 2.99%, or any further discretion were offered to increase the Adult Social Care precept (or similar), the Section 151 Officer would recommend the Council take full advantage of any flexibility in view of the overall financial position. <p>i) That the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial Services be authorised to transfer from the County Fund to the Salaries and General Accounts all sums necessary in respect of revenue and capital expenditure provided in the 2023-24 Budget, to make payments, to raise and repay loans, and to invest funds.</p> <p>j) To agree the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2023-27 as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, including the two policy objectives to be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Revenue: To identify further funding or savings for 2024-25 to 2026-27 to produce a balanced budget in all years 2023-27 in accordance with the timetable set out in the Revenue Budget report (Section 4 of Appendix 1 of the report). ii) Capital: To continue to provide a framework for identifying and prioritising capital requirements and proposals to ensure that all capital investment is targeted at meeting the Council's priorities. 		

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		<p>k) The mitigating actions proposed in the equality impact assessments (Appendix 6 of the report).</p> <p>l) Note the planned reduction in non-schools earmarked and general reserves of 48.94% over five years, from £182.994m (March 2022) to £93.441m (March 2027) (Section 6 of Appendix 3 of the report);</p> <p>m) Note the policy on reserves and provisions in Section 3 of Appendix 3 of the report;</p> <p>n) Agree, based on current planning assumptions and risk forecasts set out in Section 5 of Appendix 3 of the report:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i) for 2023-24, a minimum level of general balances of £25.340m, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">ii) a forecast minimum level for planning purposes of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024-25, £26.590m; • 2025-26, £27.840m; and • 2026-27, £29.090m. <p>as part of the consideration of the budget plans for 2023-27 and supporting these budget recommendations;</p> <p>o) Agree the use of non-school Earmarked Reserves, as set out in Section 6 of Appendix 3 of the report.</p>		
15	Capital Strategy and Programme 2023-24	<p>Cabinet RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To agree the Capital Strategy at Appendix A of the report as a framework for the prioritisation and continued development of the Council's capital programme; 2. To agree the proposed 2023-27+ capital programme of £956.971m, subject to additional amounts for schemes yet to be re-profiled from 2022-23; 3. To refer the programme to the County Council for approval, including the new and extended capital schemes outlined in Appendix D of the report; 4. To recommend to County Council the Council's Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy for 2023-24 as set out in Section 5 of the report; 	Yes	31/3/22

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		5. To note known grant settlements as summarised in Section 3 of the report and agree that future capital grants will be added to the programme when confirmed; 6. To note the forecast of estimated capital receipts to be generated to achieve the target of £18m, subject to market conditions, over the next three years to support schemes not funded from other sources, as set out in Table 5 of the report.		
16	Annual Investment and Treasury Strategy 2023-24	Cabinet RESOLVED to endorse and recommend to County Council the Annual Investment and Treasury Strategy for 2023-24 as set out in Annex 1 of the report, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Capital Prudential Indicators included in the body of the report • The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2023-24 in Appendix 1 of the report • The list of approved counterparties at Appendix 4 of the report • The Treasury Management Prudential Indicators detailed in Appendix 5 of the report For inclusion within the policy framework	Yes	31/3/22
17	Reports of the Cabinet Member Delegated Decisions made since the last Cabinet meeting	Cabinet RESOLVED to note the Delegated Decisions made since the last Cabinet meeting	No	N/A

Call-ins should be submitted to committees@norfolk.gov.uk using the call-in form by no later than 4.00pm on Monday 6 February 2023. Further information about the call-in process can be found in [Part 7.4 of the Council's Constitution](#).

In circumstances where a decision is taken by Cabinet but needs to be implemented urgently, the call-in procedures will not apply. These will be identified on the Cabinet agenda and the decision notice.

Any Decisions called-in from those made by Cabinet on 30 January 2023 will be considered at a Scrutiny Committee to be held on Wednesday 15 February 2023.