

Record of Decisions of the Shadow Executive Committee Meeting Held on 27 October 2020

Subject	Decision	Responsible Officer
Item 04 - Minutes of the meeting held on 22 nd September 2020	RESOLVED: That the Shadow Executive approved the minutes of the meeting held on 22 nd September 2020.	
Item 06 - Programme Director's Update	<p>RESOLVED: That the Shadow Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Noted the high level programme delivery status. b) Noted the update on change readiness and change champion recruitment. c) Noted the communication and engagement update. d) Noted and approved the finance monitoring report. <p>REASONS: The report sets out the progress being made to mobilise the revised programme approach ready for implementation. It includes the finance monitoring report, the approach to change management and an update on the current status of communication completed or underway in relation to the changes to the programme.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: The report is for information only.</p> <p>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: None.</p>	Paul Helsby
Item 07 - Consultation on Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2021-2022	<p>RESOLVED: That the Shadow Executive approved, for consultation purposes only, the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme outlined in this report for West Northamptonshire for the year 2021-2022.</p> <p>REASONS: Each billing authority has discretion as to their local scheme including the maximum level of support available to working age claimants (and therefore the minimum percentage of the bill they are required to pay) and the eligibility criteria for the scheme. Currently in West Northamptonshire, each District and Borough has a different LCTRS that gives different levels of support to working age people. From April 2021 the current schemes will end and a new scheme will need to be agreed.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: Other options for the LCTRS were considered but were not taken forward as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing with the three current schemes after April 2021. This was considered but is not currently feasible as we would need MHCLG to allow us to either defer the implementation of a single scheme or for harmonisation to take place over a period of time. Even if MHCLG allowed either of these options, it is worth noting that this would mean that residents across the new West Northamptonshire Council 	Louise Spolton

	<p>would not be treated the same and this would lead to confusion and differing levels of support for residents based on where the resident lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the level of contribution for working age customers to a lower than breakeven level. This option was considered but would mean that the scheme would become more expensive and this would impact on the finances of the new Council. • Setting the level of Council Tax contribution for working age customers to a higher level. This would mean that the support to claimants would, on average, be less than the current level of support offered to claimants. • Introduction of a banded scheme. This would be based on levels of income grouped into bands. With the wider roll out of Universal Credit having taken place, this scheme could be seen as a simpler way to support people on low income. This has been discounted at this stage. <p>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: None.</p>	
Item 08 – Health and Wellbeing Board	<p>RESOLVED: That the Shadow Executive endorsed the establishment of two HWBBs, one to serve West Northamptonshire and the second to serve North Northamptonshire, ensuring each new unitary authority can deliver against the statutory duties charged to HWBBs with a place based focus.</p> <p>REASONS: This recommendation has been made on the following basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on place - Each HWBB addresses the differences in the health needs of the two Authority areas (and while these could currently be similar, this could change and diverge long term). • Potential to merge ICP and HWBB in their relative geographies to further encourage the integration of health and social care services in each authority area. • BCF and DFG implementation can be more focused in each locality. • Leadership at system level maintained as how the HWBB achieves its statutory duties should not change – the boards should continue to act as a strategic lead for the local health and care system, integrated delivery of health, social care and other services will be made easier when housing, leisure, planning, community engagement is under one Unitary Authority and each board should continue to hold the NHCP to account. 4 Crucially, this recommendation provides the most assurance that each new Unitary Authority meets the legal requirements to have a 	

	<p>HWBB and clear ownership of each board by their respective Authority.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: As the Board discharges a statutory function, there is no reasonable alternative.</p> <p>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: None.</p>	
Item 09 – Covid-19 Response Operating Model	<p>RESOLVED: that the Shadow Executive endorsed the recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To adopt a hosted model for Public Health and Emergency Planning services for a one-year period. 2. For a wider review of service disaggregation and resource requirements to take place during 2021/22. <p>REASONS: The proposed hosted model allows for Public Health and Emergency Planning to maintain their system roles in the current pandemic, winter flu planning for 2020/21 and in any future incidents, affecting areas across North and West Northamptonshire. This avoids the risk of disrupting ongoing work that the safety those who live and work in North and West Northamptonshire.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: Progressing with disaggregation activity. At the current time this creates significant risk of fracturing Covid-19 response.</p> <p>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: None.</p>	
Item 10 – West Northants Customer Services Opening Hours	<p>RESOLVED: that the Shadow Executive approved West Northamptonshire Customer Services opening hours from vesting day to become 9am to 5pm.</p> <p>REASONS: Each sovereign council in the West Northants area have their own services opening hours. In June the Programme Delivery Group approved in principle the harmonisation of hours for the North and West Northants subject to consultation with the public on preferred hours. The consultation took place from the 27th July to the 23rd August. The analysis of this alongside the telephony call volume data has informed the recommendation.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: The consultation was limited to four options to manage expectations and enable the customer services opening hours to be harmonised with minimal impact on resources. Respondents had the options of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8.30 to 4.30pm 9am to 5pm 9.30am to 5.30pm I don't mind. 	

	<p>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: None.</p>	
Item 11 - Assets, Capital Schemes and Reserves Notification Process – Update Report	<p>RESOLVED: That the Shadow Executive, in accordance with the adopted Assets, Capital Schemes and Reserves Notification Process:</p> <p>a) Noted and endorsed the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme Budget</p> <p>REASONS: Under the adopted process, the Shadow Executive is a consultee in relation to notifiable items.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: The Notification process is itself an alternative to a Section 24 notice and allows local needs to be met, such as certain exceptions, and builds on the spirit of collaboration and co-operation in managing resources, investments and assets that already exists amongst the existing councils.</p> <p>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND DISPENSATIONS GRANTED: None.</p>	George Candler

Issued: 29th October 2020