

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the  
Cabinet held on Tuesday 11 June 2024**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024
2. Deadline for requests for call-in (detailing reasons for doing so): 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024
3. Earliest date for implementation of decisions: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024
4. Urgent decisions taken and not subject to the call-in procedure: N/A

Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
<p><b>Agenda Item 6 Revenue Monitoring Provisional Outturn 2023-24</b></p>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Noted the provisional outturn position for 2023-24 and associated risks</li> <li>b) Noted the deliverability assessment of West Northamptonshire Council savings requirement for 2023-24 summarised in section 10 and detailed in Appendix B</li> <li>c) Noted the Treasury Management update in Appendix C</li> <li>d) Approved aged debt write off's detailed in section 7</li> <li>e) Approved additions to the 2023-24 Flexible Use of receipts strategy detailed in section 8</li> <li>f) Recommended that Full Council approve amendments to the General Fund capital programme of £5.6m for additional capitalisation identified in 2023-24.</li> <li>g) Delegated authority to the Executive Director – Finance in consultation with the portfolio holder for finance to apply any budget virements required to effectively manage the overall budget.</li> </ul> <p><b>REASONS RESOLVED:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To ensure members are updated on the 2023-24 Provisional Outturn position for</li> </ol>

	<p>the Council detailing service performance against the Council's approved 2023-24 Budget.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. To comply with both legislative and regulatory requirements in ensuring members receive an annual update on both the Council's Treasury Management and Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy including annual performance and changes requiring approval.</li> <li>3. To ensure compliance with the Councils financial regulations by requesting Cabinet approval where required on key financial adjustments.</li> <li>4. To recommend to full Council the capitalisation of costs previously charged to the revenue account which officers believe can be transferred to Capital in order to protect revenue resources.</li> </ol> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Capital Provisional Outturn 2023-24 and Revised Capital Programmes</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Note the 2023-24 provisional capital outturn position for the General Fund and HRA;</li> <li>b) Approved the proposed capital carry forwards for the General Fund capital programme which are required due to rephasing in the 2023-24 programme. These are detailed in appendix B.</li> <li>c) Approved the proposed capital carry forwards for the HRA capital programme which are required due to rephasing in the 2023-24 programme.</li> </ol> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To comply with the policy of the Council and the Council's Constitution;</li> <li>• To ensure that the Authority complies with its financial regulations.</li> </ul> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8 Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP)</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Noted the work undertaken to update</li> </ol>

	<p>the BSIP and the refreshed draft in Appendix A.</p> <p>b) Agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Director for Place &amp; Economy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, to agree the final BSIP prior to submission to the DfT by 12 June 2024, and subsequent publication on the Council’s website.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency with previous decisions to adopt a BSIP in 2021.</li> <li>• To improve bus services in West Northamptonshire and minimise the risk of communities losing their bus service or to lose funding towards routes;</li> <li>• To contribute to the implementation of the Local Transport Plan</li> <li>• To accord with DfT grant funding requirements</li> </ul> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 9</b> <b>ZEBRA 2 Grant Update</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted the update provided on the ZEBRA 2 grant.</li> <li>• Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Finance to approve any and all documentation (including entering into a form of grant agreement with the bus operator) to administer the allocation of the grant funding and ensure adherence to the Department for Transport (DfT) grant funding terms and obligations.</li> </ul> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The future Council (or customers) will receive the maximum benefit from the option proposed</li> <li>• To contribute to the implementation of the Local Transport Plan as well as assisting in the improvement of air quality and the Councils sustainability objectives</li> <li>• Delegating authority to the Executive Director of Finance would ensure compliance with the Constitution and</li> </ul>

	<p>the terms of the grant funding from DfT granted to WNC.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 10</b> <b>Landlord Services 2023-24 Annual Performance Report including the Housing Ombudsman Self-assessment</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Noted the contents of the report and Appendix A on the performance of Housing Landlord Services provided by NPH.</li> <li>b) Noted the outcome of the Tenant Satisfaction Survey results as detailed in Appendix B and associated NPH Improvement Plan detailed in Appendix C, ahead of the results being submitted to the Regulator of Social Housing.</li> <li>c) Noted the contents of Appendix D on the performance of complaint handling services provided by NPH.</li> <li>d) Approved the self-assessment detailed in Appendix E for submission to the Housing Ombudsman and for publication on the Council's website.</li> <li>e) Noted Appendix F, NPH's Complaints and Feedback Policy ensuring compliance with the Code.</li> <li>f) Approved the appointment of the Cabinet Member for Housing as the Member Responsible for Complaints in relation to complaints in scope of the Housing Ombudsman code.</li> <li>g) Noted the nomination of the Head of Housing Strategy and Partnerships as the senior lead person accountable for complaint handling under the Housing Ombudsman code.</li> </ul> <p>REASONS RESOLVED: Regular reporting to Cabinet on the performance of NPH is necessary to ensure the Council receives the necessary assurance as landlord and Registered Provider that its housing stock is being managed in accordance with the provisions within the Management Agreement and in line with the Council's expectations, and in accordance with relevant legislation and regulation.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>

<p><b>Agenda Item 11</b>  <b>Avenue Campus - Disposal of Bassett-Lowke Building</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a) Authorised the Assistant Director Assets &amp; Environment in consultation with the Executive Director of Finance (Chief Finance Officer) to dispose of the Bassett-Lowke building and associated land subject to satisfactory due diligence.</p> <p>b) Noted the use of further funds from the HRA to undertake the above recommendations where applicable.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:  Disposal of the Bassett-Lowke building and associated land at a competitive price will make a significant contribution to making the site more financially viable.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:  None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 12</b>  <b>Additional Capital Funding for Highway Maintenance</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:  That Cabinet would recommend to Full Council to provide an increase in the capital programme of £10 million additional funding/borrowing to deliver additional Maintenance.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The additional funding will fund a programme that will slow the decline of our network and in many areas see improvement.</li> <li>• The programme has already been confirmed as deliverable as part of the continuity planning by officers during this year's budget setting.</li> <li>• There is little mobilising costs and delivery can be combined with existing work programmes and via the already let, Highways Maintenance Contract.</li> <li>• The additional funding will allow repair of the worst affected areas as well as prevent the further decline of our most vulnerable areas prior to the next winter season.</li> <li>• There is a clear indication from both members and residents alike that the condition of our roads is a top priority and that there is mass support for both increased funding and removing</li> </ul>

	<p>obstacles to repair.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 13</b> <b>Royal &amp; Derngate Theatre RAAC</b> <b>remediation works</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recommended to Council that a budget of £1.1 million is created for the Royal &amp; Derngate roof works.</li> <li>2. Authorised procurement of the works.</li> </ol> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Council is liable for the maintenance of the roof under the lease, and accordingly it is liable to carry out works to ensure the safety of the roof.</li> <li>2. The recommended course of action (the support system) is the most cost-effective and causes the least disruption to the theatre and therefore to the financial position of NTT. It is also in line with the Council's Construction &amp; Maintenance Climate Strategy by supporting what is present and thereby minimising the use of new materials.</li> </ol> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Option 1</u>: The full removal of the RAAC and a new roof system installed. This would entail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Works period of around 46 weeks</li> <li>➤ Cost circa £2.3 million.</li> <li>➤ Putting extreme pressure on the NTT's revenue position due to the time that the building would be closed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Possible additional closure of spaces within the theatre.</li> <li>• Would provide a 25-30 year warranty and should last for at least 60 years in practice.</li> <li>• <u>Option 2</u>: Installation of a steel and timber support matrix fitted beneath each individual RAAC panel, supported by the existing structure, which has sufficient strength to do so. This would entail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Works period of around 20 weeks.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- Cost within £1.1 million.
- Would reduce the scale of the Royal & Derngate revenue income loss.
- Phased works allow for the maximum space to be open.
- The roof would then need to be checked annually, but the scheme should extend the life of the RAAC roof planks by at least 30 years.
- Structural engineer design warranty is a standard and approved methodology.
- Lower carbon impact through less use of new materials.