

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the  
Cabinet held on Tuesday 9 July 2024**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024
2. Deadline for requests for call-in (detailing reasons for doing so): 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024
3. Earliest date for implementation of decisions: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024
4. Urgent decisions taken and not subject to the call-in procedure: N/A

<b>Agenda Item and Recommendations</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<p><b>Agenda Item 6</b>  <b>Report of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - scrutiny review of support for unpaid carers in West Northamptonshire</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a) Agreed to consider the report and recommendations of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutiny review of support for unpaid carers in West Northamptonshire</p> <p>b) Agreed to give its formal response to the report and recommendations of the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee scrutiny review of support for unpaid carers in West Northamptonshire at a subsequent Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:  The recommendations were intended to enable the report and recommendations agreed by the Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be presented to the Cabinet for consideration and a response, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the WNC Constitution.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:  None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet approved the carer</p>

<p><b>Carer Strategy</b></p>	<p>strategy for publication.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED: The Care Act 2014 makes provision for the responsibility and statutory duty on a local authority to assess a carer's need for support, to include any possible future support, what those needs may be and how those identified needs will be met having been evaluated and if they meet the eligibility criteria. The strategy aims to improve the council's adherence to those statutory duties and sets the direction of travel over the next five years.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8 Local Transport Plan- Approval for public consultation on draft plan</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet;</p> <p>a) Noted the work undertaken to develop the new Local Transport Plan, and the content of the draft plan for consultation included in Appendix A.</p> <p>b) Agreed for the public consultation on the draft LTP to proceed.</p> <p>c) Agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Director for Place in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, to agree the final draft LTP for public consultation.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED: To accord with legislation or the policy of the Council.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 9 Capital investment in Adults day care service</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet created an additional capital budget of £0.478m, to be added to the Office Optimisation Phase 2A (Towcester) budget for the purpose of providing facilities at the Forum to enable the Day Care facility to be relocated, and for allied purposes.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p>

1. To enable the delivery of better, more efficient and effective services.
2. To enable the alternative use or disposal of the Riverside Centre site with consequential savings and income generation.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

- Option 1: Do nothing. The Adults facility remains in the Riverside Centre. This is clearly possible but would not deliver the benefits of the proposed course of action.
- Option 2: Close the facility entirely. This would require the provision of other, less suitable, solutions for the adults who currently use, or in the future need, an Adults day care facility in the Towcester area. This is likely to be both costly and vulnerable to challenge.
- Option 3: Acquire or construct a replacement facility other than using the Forum. This is clearly possible but offers no advantages compared to the proposed course of action. In particular, it is likely to reduce, and may remove entirely, the service and financial benefits of the proposal.
- Option 4: Proceed with the proposed relocation. This should offer both service and financial benefits, making good use of an existing asset (the Forum).
- Thus Option 4 is recommended. It should be noted that, whilst the issues are mentioned for completeness, decisions about the future use (including disposal) of the Riverside Resource

**Agenda Item 10  
Replacing Digital File Storage**

RESOLVED: Cabinet authorised the Chief Information Officer to award a contract for the provision to the Council of replacement SAN equipment and services, in compliance with the Council's procurement processes, contract procedure rules, and procurement legislative requirements; said

contract to replace existing provision supplying services to the Council.

**REASONS RESOLVED:**

1. The existing SAN equipment was inherited from our one of our predecessors and is going end-of-life, meaning it will not be supported by the manufacturer. This will pose increasing security risks to our data and services, as well as make repairs and replacements harder to source, unless we replace the equipment.
2. At this time, our data management processes are not mature enough to consider a Cloud option without incurring substantially more expense than our present costs; ergo, replacement of physical hardware is the most cost-effective choice at this juncture.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

- Option 1 – Do Nothing. It is possible to continue running the equipment and opt for no support, negating any capital costs of replacement and reducing our revenue cost.
- Option 2 – Renew maintenance only. We may be able to seek a further extension of the maintenance agreement from our existing supplier.
- Option 3 – Replacement. Commence the replacement of both sets of equipment and services as described in this paper.

**Agenda Item 11  
Broadmead Court: Commissioning of a  
Housing Support Provider**

**RESOLVED:** Cabinet.

- a) Approved procurement of a Support Provider to deliver a service that provides people with a history of rough sleeping or at risk of rough sleeping who have multiple complex and high support needs at Broadmead Court for a period of 3 years.
- b) Authorised the Director of Housing and Communities to commence the tender process with the new

contract being put in place by Autumn 2025.

- c) Delegated to the Director of Housing and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Housing to undertake the necessary due diligence to finalise the terms and condition and award a contract for a period of 3 years to the preferred supplier with possible 1 year extension, subject to the success and performance of the service and availability of funds.

**REASONS RESOLVED:**

1. The proposed service aligns to the key themes and priorities contained within the Council's Corporate Plan, Housing Strategy 2022-2025 and Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2024-2027 on preventing homelessness and reducing rough sleeping.
2. Allows WNC to address the gaps in single rough sleeping and homelessness pathway provision and help those with longest histories of rough sleeping or the most complex and high needs to recover from rough sleeping and its associated traumas.
3. Enables WNC to achieve better outcomes for people living at Broadmead Court and empowers them to move on to sustainable and independent living. Additionally, the service will form an essential part of a wider strategic response to homelessness and rough sleeping and will complement internal and external services.
4. Timely conclusion of the procurement via delegated authority to award contract.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

- **Option 1- not recommended.** Do nothing. We have entered into a grant funding agreement with Homes England to deliver the Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme, and as such, this is not a

	<p>recommended option.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Option 2- not recommended.</b> To deliver the support service in-house. This will require significant investment to set up and deliver an in-house specialist support e.g. financial implications as setting up service is likely to cost more than a commissioned service. The complex nature of the client group requires expertise which is not available to the council. Additionally, a review of the provision of services in neighbouring authorities, was unable to identify any local authority delivering these types of services on an in-sourced basis so no benchmark is available from other local authorities. As such, this is not a viable option.</li> <li>• <b>Option 3- recommended.</b> Undertake a competitive procurement exercise and to enter into contract with an external support provider to deliver the service.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 12 Recommissioning of Supported Living</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approved the procurement of a single framework for the provision of supported living care and support in accordance with the Contract Procedure Rules.</li> <li>2. Approved a proposed contract term of five years with an option to extend for up to two years resulting in a maximum framework duration of seven years.</li> <li>3. Approved the extension of the existing contractual arrangements for five years for the CFGL framework and by 96 days for Moray Lodge.</li> <li>4. Delegated authority to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Public Health and Regulatory Services, in consultation with Deputy Chief Executive &amp; Executive Director for People Services (DASS), to take any further decisions and actions required to conclude this procurement, including the approach to implementing the fair cost of care for supported living, and award the contract.</li> </ol> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. WNC to meet its statutory duties under the Care Act 2014.</li> <li>2. WNC to have a robust and equitable purchasing arrangement in place for the future provision of supported living care and support in West Northamptonshire.</li> <li>3. WNC to have continuity of provision up to the new framework start date of 07 April 2025.</li> <li>4. Timely conclusion of the procurement via delegated authority to award.</li> </ol> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 13</b>  <b>Capital approval for replacement of public access computers (People's Network) across the library estate</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet approved the request for £125k capital funding to replace the People's Network public access computers across the library estate.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNC has a statutory duty to provide a “comprehensive and efficient library service” in accordance with the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 and is subject to Judicial Review by the Secretary of state. The provision of access to digital resources and services is considered an essential part of this statutory duty.</li> <li>• If the People's Network is not replaced it will continue to become defunct as the current system and equipment is now 8 years old and is no longer compatible with many digital services.</li> <li>• It contributes to the sustainability plan, corporate strategy, and service plans, specifically, improved life chances, connected communities and thriving villages and towns.</li> <li>• The WNC Library Strategy 2023-2027 states that all digital systems should be updated at 5 yearly intervals to enable the service to remain up-to-date, efficient, and secure.</li> <li>• The recommended course of action is the most cost-effective</li> <li>• The most vulnerable members of the community who are often digitally disenfranchised will have continued</li> </ul>

	<p>free access to the internet and digital services with assistance from Library staff.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 14</b> <b>DBS Checks in relation to Elected Members Protocol</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved the Policy on Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for Councillors.</li> <li>• Approved the referral of the report to the Democracy and Standards Committee.</li> </ul> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To further enhance the Council’s safeguarding approach and to be consistent with safeguarding policies.</li> <li>• To provide a consistent approach in accordance with national guidance and the outcome of the independent review of the Disclosure and Barring Regime (18 April 2023) by Simon Bailey.</li> </ul> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 16</b> <b>Capital Budget for Provision of Relocatable Temporary Accommodation</b></p> <p>Confidential. Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972</p>	<p>RESOLVED: The recommendations as set out in the report, which was exempt from publication, were approved.</p>