

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the  
Cabinet held on Tuesday 12 April 2022**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022
2. Deadline for requests for call-in (detailing reasons for doing so): 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022
3. Earliest date for implementation of decisions: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022
4. Urgent decisions taken and not subject to the call-in procedure: 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
<p><b>Agenda Item 6</b> <b>West Northamptonshire Enhanced Partnership</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: That the Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Made the Enhanced Partnership Plan and Enhanced Partnership Scheme, which form Appendices A and B of this report, as proposed in accordance with Section 138G of the Transport Act 2000.</li> <li>b) Noted the requirement to develop, consult on and publish a policy for subsidising bus services.</li> <li>c) Noted the allocation of additional Government funding to support bus services and the requirement to work with bus operators to co-design a financially sustainable and passenger-focused public transport network, that works for changing travel patterns postpandemic.</li> <li>d) Agreed to reimburse bus operators for concessionary travel at 100% of pre-Covid levels until 30 September 2022 and then at 90% of pre-Covid levels until 31 March 2023.</li> <li>e) Agree to allocate £50,000 of the resultant projected saving in the concessionary travel budget for 2022/23 to work with operators on a marketing strategy for bus services.</li> </ol> <p>REASONS RESOLVED: Meeting the Council's legal duties to</p>

	<p>consult on and publish a policy on subsidised bus services and to provide West Northamptonshire communities with the best possible level of bus service with post-pandemic travel patterns.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7</b> <b>West Northamptonshire Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-2025</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved the West Northamptonshire Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-2025 for adoption and implementation by the Health and Wellbeing Board.</li> <li>2) Approved the continued engagement of our community, partners and community and voluntary sector organisations to develop a robust set of action plans, aligned to the objectives set out in the strategy and the a performance framework which will underpin the strategy.</li> <li>3) Approved the creation of an additional delivery fund to underpin the strategy, namely 'Community Health and Wellbeing Innovation Fund' using available Public Health Grant Reserve. That the strategy includes a commitment to produce an annual summary detailing key achievements and challenges faced in the preceding year.</li> </ol> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approval of the strategy will lead to a fairer and more inclusive West Northamptonshire, where everyone is able to live their best life, prosperous and fulfilling, free from poverty and inequality.</li> <li>2) The strategy will deliver the following outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An improvement in population health and wellbeing.</li> <li>• Fewer households (and children) living in poverty.</li> <li>• An increase in average household incomes and wages</li> <li>• Fewer people unemployed and in receipt of out of work benefits.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increase in the number of people paid at least the real Living Wage.</li> <li>• An increase in the amount of lower cost rented and social housing</li> <li>• Fewer young people aged 16-17 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).</li> <li>• Fewer people with no qualifications or skills training.</li> <li>• Reduce the impact of fuel poverty on families</li> </ul> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8</b> <b>Appointment of an Operator for the Vulcan Works Creative Hub</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet approved the appointment of the preferred bidder following the procurement process for the operation of the Vulcan Works Creative Hub using Competitive Procedure with Negotiation (CPN).</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Allowed the Vulcan Works Creative Hub to become operational as well as a hub for business support for businesses in the creative and cultural industries.</li> <li>b) Ensured the operator was appointed and allow the centre to begin to generate income.</li> </ul> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 9</b> <b>Homes for Ukraine Scheme</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: Cabinet noted the content of this report and associated appendices.</p> <p>REASONS RESOLVED: To support the work being taken by statutory agencies across the county and the approach being taken locally in West Northants.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p><b>Agenda Item 10</b> <b>Towns Fund: 35-45 Abington Street Project- Business Case and Delivery Strategy</b></p>	<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Approved the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the 35-45 Abington Street Project, to draw down on</li> </ul>

£9.7m of Towns Fund funding.

- b) Approved the Procurement and Delivery Strategy (Appendix B) that sets out the recommended delivery route for the 35-45 Abington Street Project (which recommends using a form of Development Agreement to deliver the project).
- c) Authorised the purchase of each of 35-39 Abington Street and 20-28 Wood Street, in each case subject to a red book valuation and satisfactory due diligence on the site, a resultant acquisition being made at no more than a fair commercial price taking account of all relevant factors.
- d) Confirmed it is willing in principle to exercise its compulsory purchase powers to facilitate the development, if necessary.
- e) Noted a further Cabinet report would be brought back upon the completion of the procurement process to seek approval for the preferred bidder.

**REASONS RESOLVED:**

- 1) Allowed the 35-45 Abington Street development site to proceed and to ensure the grant award is spent within the award timescales.
- 2) Maximised the opportunities for the effective use of public money.
- 3) Reduced the likelihood that current owners will attempt to 'ransom' the Council's aspirations for regeneration of the town centre by seeking excessive prices for their properties.

**ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

If this is not approved, this would mean looking at other options that would not meet the objectives in delaying the project which is likely to then result in losing the allocated Government funding which in turn would mean the project would not be brought forward