



**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the
Cabinet held on Friday 23 September 2022**

1. Date of publication of this summary: Insertdate
2. Deadline for requests for call-in (detailing reasons for doing so): Insertdate
3. Earliest date for implementation of decisions: Insertdate
4. Urgent decisions taken and not subject to the call-in procedure: Insertdate

Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
<p>Agenda Item 5 Corporate Plan Performance Report - 2022-23 Q1</p>	<p>RESOLVED: that Cabinet:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) Noted the content of the appendix covering the first quarter of 2022-23</p> <p>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:</p> <p>This report is for information purposes and discussion only, there are no direct decisions to be made following the report • The council is required as part of Local Government Act 1972 to report performance of the council to members.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:</p> <p>This is a report for information and discussion and therefore there are no choices to be made.</p>
<p>Agenda Item 6 Revenue Monitoring Quarter 1 - Financial Year 2022-23</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) Noted the forecast outturn position for 2022-23 and associated risks</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b) Noted the deliverability assessment of West Northamptonshire Council savings requirement for 2022-23 summarised in section 7 and detailed in Appendix B</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">c) Delegated authority to the Executive Director – Finance in consultation with the portfolio</p>

	<p>holder for finance to apply any budget virements required to effectively manage the overall budget.</p> <p>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS: To update members on the financial position of the Council and ensure that the Authority complies with its financial regulations.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p>Agenda Item 7 Quarter 1 General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Monitoring Report 2022-23</p>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>that the Cabinet:</p> <p>a) Noted the latest capital monitoring position for the General Fund and HRA.</p> <p>b) Noted the new capital schemes and changes to the Capital Programme since the report that was considered by Cabinet in July 2022.</p> <p>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION: In order to continue to ensure sound management of the council's finances.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None</p>
<p>Agenda Item 8 Treasury Management Update Quarter 1, 2022-23</p>	<p>RESOLVED: that the Cabinet noted the report and treasury activity for the first quarter of the 22-23 financial year</p> <p>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS: To ensure that the Authority complies with its financial regulations and Treasury management policies.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED: None</p>
<p>Agenda Item 9 West Northamptonshire Housing Strategy (2022-2025)</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet</p> <p>a) Noted the outcome of the consultation and how this has been reflected in the Housing Strategy.</p> <p>b) Approved the West Northants Housing Strategy 2022-2025 for adoption.</p> <p>c) Approved the adoption of a robust Delivery Action Plan, aligned to the priorities set out in the housing</p>

strategy, which will be produced with the continued engagement of partners and subject to the approval of the Cabinet member for Housing, Culture & Leisure

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the strategy will provide the strategic direction of the Council and will support the delivery of key priorities for the Council, including the Corporate Plan (2021-2025).

Local authorities are encouraged to create a document that clearly states their housing ambition and provides a clear and strategic direction for planning and delivering housing in their area and improving housing outcomes for residents.

The housing strategy will ensure that housing is considered at a strategic level so housing related services and plans are delivered efficiently and effectively in a joined-up way.

The strategy has been developed through robust communication and consultation channels. The outcome of the consultation was largely positive and there was strong support for the themes and priorities from residents and well as our partners and wider stakeholders.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Cabinet could choose not to approve the housing strategy and consider an alternative focus for future action. To note by not adopting the West Northamptonshire Council Strategy will result in the council not providing the strategic leadership and focus for our partners and wider stakeholders.

**Agenda Item 10
Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act
2000 (RIPA)**

RESOLVED:

- That the Cabinet:
- a) Noted the revised RIPA Surveillance Policy set out at Appendix A
 - b) Agreed to designate the Council's Audit

and Governance Committee as the responsible statutory committee for overseeing the operation of RIPA surveillance policies.

c) Noted that an external training provider has been identified to provide in-depth training to nominated staff (i.e. Authorised Officers and employees of the Council who may use surveillance).

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Council must have a policy in place to ensure that such directed surveillance is carried out in compliance with the law and does not breach the human rights of any of the surveillance subjects, and that surveillance in or around the workplace is also carried out in compliance with the law. The updated RIPA Investigatory Policy is set out at Appendix A.

The Council must also designate a committee as the responsible statutory committee for overseeing the operation of RIPA surveillance policies.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

It is mandatory for the Council to have a RIPA Surveillance Policy which applies to all surveillance carried out by the Council, including external surveillance covered by RIPA authorisations, communication data acquisitions covered by the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 (IPA) and internal surveillance covered by the Employment Practice Codes.

**Agenda Item 11
WNC Multiply Funding Investment Plan**

RESOLVED: that Cabinet:

- a) Noted an investment plan to secure the Multiply funding was submitted to the Department of Education on 30 June 2022.
- b) Note the expectation is that DfE will assess the WNC Multiply investment plan and the provisional allocation will be signed off and approved by September 2022.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

- a) To secure the maximum level of

	<p>investment to enhance local skill levels, benefiting the community and economy.</p> <p>b) To ensure West Northamptonshire benefits from this grant funding to enhance the community, boost the economy and support local residents and businesses.</p> <p>c) To maintain ongoing economic growth within the area, particular with the impending loss of EU funding and the need to utilise UKSPF to deliver positive economic development within the community.</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:</p> <p>Not submitting an investment plan for Multiply funding by the deadline would have resulted in a loss of potential investment into local skill levels, addressing existing and potential anti-poverty, impacting the local quality of life, local employment and future of West Northamptonshire residents</p>
<p>Agenda Item 12 UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)</p>	<p>RESOLVED: That the Cabinet:</p> <p>a) Noted an investment plan to draw down the UKSPF was submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) on 1 August 2022.</p> <p>b) Noted the selected interventions which the funding will be allocated to including the expected outputs and outcomes.</p> <p>c) Noted that the DLUHC will review the WNC UKSPF Investment Plan and year one funds are expected to be received in October, following sign off</p> <p>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:</p> <p>a) To ensure West Northamptonshire benefits from this grant funding to enhance the community, boost the economy and support local residents and businesses.</p> <p>b) To maintain ongoing economic growth within the area, particular with the impending loss of EU funding and the need to utilise UKSPF to deliver positive economic development within the community</p> <p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:</p>

To note the requirement to develop and submit an investment plan for the UKSPF to DLUHC has been completed, to develop pride in place and deliver specific interventions within West Northamptonshire, identified based on detailed analysis and engagement with stakeholders within the community.

To note that not developing and submitting an investment plan for the UKSPF by the deadline would have resulted in a loss of major potential investment into the area, which would be used to support the community and place, businesses and people and skills.

**Agenda Item 13
Recommissioning of the Holiday
Activities and Food Programme**

RESOLVED: that the Cabinet:

- a) Noted the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food Programme to date and its benefits to children, young people, and families in West Northamptonshire.
- b) Approved the procurement of a supplier to coordinate the delivery of the Holiday Activities and Food Programme in West Northamptonshire in partnership with the Council from March 2023 in line with the Contract Procedure Rules.
- c) Delegated authority to the Executive Member for Children, Families, Education & Skills in consultation with the Executive Director of Children's Services (DCS) to take any further decisions and actions required to conclude this procurement and award the contract

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

Delivering the Holiday Activities and Food Programme makes best use of resources from central government

The programme will deliver benefits to vulnerable children, young people, and their families

Commissioning a provider to coordinate the programme alongside the council will allow the Council to benefit from the expertise and experience of the successful provider in delivering similar programmes

and working with Community and Voluntary Sector organisations that deliver holiday activity programmes whilst also retaining an element of input and control of the programme

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Officers have reviewed the existing contractual arrangements in conjunction with colleagues from both the Legal and Procurement teams. This has confirmed there are no options to flex or extend the existing contract and therefore a new arrangement must be adopted in advance of 28th February 2023.

An options appraisal has been undertaken in two parts. The first part of the options appraisal considered the delivery model for the service into the future and whether WNC should deliver the service themselves or commission a third party to deliver the service. The second part of the options appraisal considered whether the service should be jointly commissioned with North Northamptonshire Council.

The option not to deliver the service was rejected. Not delivering the service would mean not taking advantage of funding available to the council and not delivering services to children from low-income families who would benefit from the programme.

**Agenda Item 14
Towns Fund: 24 Guildhall Road Phase 2
Works**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet:

- a) approved the business case for 24 Guildhall Road Northampton Project Phase 2.
- b) delegated to the Assistant Director of Place Shaping authority to enter into a contract to appoint a principal contractor for the build.
- c) delegated to the Assistant Director of Assets and Environment authority to enter into a lease in relation to the upper floors of the completed building.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a) to bring the building back into use.
- b) to support creative industries within the area of West Northants and support wider economic growth.
- c) to further the delivery of the wider Northampton Town Centre Masterplan to support wider
- d) to support delivery of the vision to regenerate the town centre
- e) to enable the drawdown of £1.75m of Towns Fund funding and £1.5m WNC capital borrowing and be an essential strategic creative hub building within the Councils portfolio.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

The council could decide to not to use the Towns Fund support, which would render parts of the property unoccupied. Further still, there would be potential the structural integrity and water tightness of the building could be compromised, causing long term damage to the building.

The inclusion of sustainable technologies would greatly help improve the buildings EPC (Environment Performance Certificate). This is an area which needs to be enhanced for compliancy with commercial building lettings in order to lease the property and make necessary revenue savings. Additional grant funds are being explored as part of current project activities.

Should funding not be made available, the building would not meet the legal requirement under the Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard regulations in a couple of years from now, as well as not fulfil the council own energy and building targets.