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| COUNCIL | AGENDA ITEM No. 10 |
| 28 JANUARY 2015 | PUBLIC REPORT |

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

1. DECISIONS FROM CABINET MEETING HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2015

NEW DELIVERY MODEL FOR PETERBOROUGH LIBRARY SERVICE

Cabinet received a report from the Cabinet Member for City Centre Management, Culture and Tourism.

The purpose of the report was to allow Cabinet to consider the responses received from the first consultation process, and subsequent approval for the next steps on libraries including a second, eight week public consultation on possible, affordable delivery approaches to libraries which would meet the Council's statutory obligations.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the responses received to the first consultation as set out in the report; and
2. To approve the basis for the second public consultation on the future delivery model of library services in Peterborough.

THE ERECTION OF BARRIERS AT NORTHMINSTER MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK

Cabinet received a report from the Cabinet Member for Resources following the receipt of the Coroner's Regulation 28 report dated 30 July 2014.

The purpose of the report was for Cabinet to consider the report submitted by the Coroner and to consider and agree any appropriate action to be taken.

The Coroner issued a Regulation 28 report in respect of a suicide by jumping from one of the Queensgate car parks on 30 July 2014,. Under the Coroners' Regulations 2013, a Coroner has both the power and a duty to raise concerns where the Coroner considers that actions could be taken to prevent future deaths. A Regulation 28 report is addressed to the organisations the Coroner believes can take action to prevent further deaths. Such organisations have a duty to respond to the Regulation 28 report giving details of action taken or proposed to be taken, with a timetable for action. Alternatively, the organisation(s) must explain why no action will be taken.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the content of the Coroner's report dated 30th July 2014 titled "Regulation 28: Report to Prevent Future Deaths" received by the Council;
2. To consider how the findings of the Coroner's Regulation 28 : Report to Prevent Future Deaths relate to the Council owned multi storey car park known as Northminster Car Park, Peterborough (Northminster MSCP);
3. To note that the Council is aware that Peterborough has a higher suicide rate than the England average and is committed to taking action to address this through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Suicide Prevention Strategy and the Stop Suicide Pledge;
4. To note that the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Suicide Prevention Strategy Three Year Action Plan includes a recommendation to reduce the risk of suicide from multi-storey car parks through a multi-faceted approach including suicide awareness training

- for car park staff, signage to direct people to sources of support and promotion of the use of barriers to restrict access to jumping points.
5. To consider the budget implications of undertaking the works set out in the feasibility study to install infill panels and fencing on the upper car park deck and the proposed review processes to determine future decision making.
 6. To confirm that the Head of Corporate Property and Children's Resources, in consultation with the Director of Public Health and the Cabinet Member for Resources, will determine whether the works to install preventative measures on the Northminster MSCP are carried out in whole or part together with the decision making process and timetable associated with these options, subject to sufficient budget allocation.
 7. To approve an addition to the capital programme to include an unbudgeted provisional sum of £250,000 in the event that the Assistant Director – Education, Resources and Corporate Property, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources, concludes that the intervention works are required and barriers and fencing are erected as set out in this report.

LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME

Cabinet received a report following the consultation on proposals for Council Tax Support for 2015/16 launched by a Cabinet Member Decision Notice on 2nd December 2014, including discussion at the Joint Budget Scrutiny on 3rd December 2014, prior to Cabinet on 19th January 2015 making a recommendation to the Council meeting of January 28th 2015.

The purpose of the report was to make a recommendation to Full Council on the Council Tax Support Scheme to be implemented in Peterborough from April 2015.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To note the feedback received to date on the consultation on proposed changes to the council tax support scheme, including the updates tabled at the meeting; and
2. To recommend that Council agrees the Local Council Tax Support Scheme for Peterborough, including the level of reduction in benefit for working age claimants, for which Cabinet recommended that the reduction be kept at 30% (*as detailed within the Executive and Committee Recommendations to Council report at agenda item 9*).

COUNCIL TAX AND NNDR

Cabinet received a report which formed part of the preparation for setting the Council's budget. It needed to be considered so that figures for the tax base, the Collection Fund and the amount of business rates to be collected could be used in setting the Council Tax and business rate income and could be notified to other affected authorities.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To propose the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2015/16 is set at a level of 52,748.5 B and D equivalent properties based on a council tax support scheme of 40%, delegating authority of final confirmation of the Band D equivalent properties to Executive Director Resources following approval of the council tax support scheme by Council on 28 January;
2. To note the estimated position on the Collection Fund in respect of Council Tax as at 31 March 2015 being:

Council Tax £0

3. To note the estimated position on the Collection Fund in respect of business rates as at 31 March 2015 being a deficit position from increasing the appeals provision for the power station:

Business Rates £3.106m deficit

4. To delegate to the Executive Director Resources authority for approving and returning the final NNDR1 return to the Secretary of State by 31 January 2015 to include any further revision to the business rates position 2014/15 and business rate income 2015/16.

BUDGET 2015/16 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) 2024/25

Cabinet received a report as part of the Council's formal budget process, set out within the constitution and legislative requirements, to set a balanced budget for 2015/16 and medium term financial strategy to 2024/25.

The purpose of the report was for Cabinet to start the second and formal process to set a balanced budget for 2015/16 and medium term financial strategy to 2024/25 in line with the provisional local government finance settlement for 2015/16.

The report set out phase two budget proposals for consultation to enable Cabinet at its meeting on 23 February to make recommendations to be made to the meeting of Council on 4 March 2015.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

1. To start a formal budget consultation that sets a balanced budget for 2015/16 and the medium term financial strategy to 2024/25 in line with the announcement of the local government provisional settlement for 2015/16 that:
 - a. is set in the context of the council priorities;
 - b. takes note of the budget monitoring position for 2014/15;
 - c. presents the draft revenue budget for 2015/16 and proposed cash limits for 2016/17 to 2024/25 (including the investment and saving proposals);
 - d. presents the draft capital programme for 2015/16 and proposed cash limits to 2024/25 and associated capital strategy, treasury strategy and asset management plan;
 - e. proposes a council tax freeze in 2015/16 with indicative increases for planning purposes of two per cent for 2016/17 to 2024/25;
 - f. sets education funding at the level of funding resources available to both schools and the council in 2015/16 and future estimates to 2024/25;
 - g. adequately supports reserves, provisions and robust budget estimates set in the context of the risks outlined in the report; and
 - h. presents the draft fees and charges for 2015/16.
2. To seek feedback from Scrutiny and views from all residents, partner organisations, businesses and other interested parties on the budget and budget proposals outlined in the budget consultation document for phase two appended to this report.
3. To have regard for the continuing uncertainty of national public finances, that will not become known until the start of the next parliament, making it unrealistic to forecast with accuracy future government grants beyond the further grant reductions contained within this report.
4. To note that government grants will not be confirmed until the final settlement is released in February 2015.

CREATION OF A PETERBOROUGH DOMESTIC ENERGY SUPPLY TARIFF

Cabinet received a report to further the Council's strategic aim of becoming an environment capital.

The purpose of the report was to seek approval to enter into a strategic partnership agreement with OVO for the development of an energy partnership in Peterborough and as part of the first project under that strategic partnership, to enter into a tariff agreement with OVO for the provision of domestic energy supply tariffs in Peterborough.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to approve:

1. That the Council enters into a strategic partnership agreement for the development of an energy partnership in Peterborough with OVO Energy Limited ("OVO"); and
2. That the Council enters into a tariff agreement for the provision of domestic energy and supply tariffs in Peterborough with OVO.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL AND AVIC INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION (UK) LTD

Cabinet received a report from the Executive Director Resources.

The purpose of the report was to seek approval to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) regarding a strategic partnership arrangement (SPA) between Peterborough City Council and AVIC International Corporation (UK) Limited (AVIC).

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

To approve the Council entering into a memorandum of understanding regarding a strategic partnership arrangement with AVIC International Corporation (UK) Limited.

OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

Cabinet received a report following the presentation of petitions to Full Council on 17 December 2014.

The purpose of the report was to update Cabinet on the progress being made in response to petitions.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED**:

To note the actions taken in respect of petitions presented to Council (as detailed below).

i. Petition relating to Bushfield Bowls Club

This petition was presented to Council on 17 December 2014 by a member of the public, Mr Bernard Barker, and requested:

1. That Councillors regard senior sport as an important priority because it safeguards the health and welfare of older people;
2. That Council budget decisions should take account of lost capital assets and future NHS costs, rather than focus on immediate savings;
3. That Council continues to support the unique role of Bushfield Bowls Club as the only lawn bowling green in the whole of the Ortons; and
4. That the Council not force the closure of a thriving club that plays an invaluable part in the life of the community.

Amey's Partnership Manager responded stating that "I would like to confirm we have now met with all affected bowls clubs to look at jointly working together on solutions to retain the current bowls provision whilst still making the necessary savings that Council requires to achieve a balanced budget as required by law.

I can confirm that these meetings have been extremely productive and all clubs have offered some constructive ideas.

We are looking to gather all the information early in the New Year and arrange to re-meet with all clubs to establish the best way forward".

ii. Petition relating to Bretton Library

This petition was presented to Council on 17 December 2014 by Councillor Ann Sylvester which opposed any further cuts in library opening hours and staff, or the closure of Bretton Library.

The Council's Client Manager, Culture and Leisure responded stating that "Full Council received a petition with 537 signatures opposing further cuts in library opening hours and staff or the closure of Bretton library on the 17th December. The petition was accompanied by 47 surveys from users of Bretton. As I lead on the review of Peterborough library services, I have taken into account the request made within the petition and I have also added the friends of Bretton Library survey results into the consultation survey the council carried out which ended in October.

In total, 5,110 responses were received to the consultation (the highest response rate to a consultation exercise received in recent years). The question 'what is most important to you about a library service?' received three strikingly significant responses:

- *The books on the shelves (87.2% said extremely important)*
- *The location (70.4% said extremely important) and*
- *Access to information (55.6% said extremely important)*

The consultation has shown that libraries are overwhelmingly a local service, with 75% of library users travelling less than 2 miles to use a library, and 43% of library users walking to the library (rising to 90% for the users of Eye and Thorney library).

The public were also asked what factors would encourage more use of the library service, with accessing the library building outside normal hours receiving the highest response: 35.4% of respondents said this would be extremely important and 39.1% said it was quite important.

The results from the friends of Bretton library survey show that most people value books and the location of their library. These findings have been taken into consideration when developing the new model of library services.

The main findings from the friends of Bretton library survey are as follows:

- *The location of the library (47 responses)*
- *The books on the shelves (41 responses)*
- *Use of Computers (9 responses)*
- *Social activities (8 responses)*

We believe there is a different delivery model for Peterborough library services that will secure a financially sustainable offer, meet the needs of the public and that can be

configured to fulfil the council's obligation under the 1964 Act. This approach is detailed in the report to Cabinet (for its meeting on 19th January 2015) and will form the basis of a second public consultation leading to a decision by Cabinet on 23rd March 2015".

2. CALL-IN BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OR COMMISSION

Since the publication of the previous report to Council, the call-in mechanism has not been invoked.

3. SPECIAL URGENCY AND WAIVE OF CALL-IN PROVISIONS

Since the publication of the previous report to Council, the urgency provisions have not been invoked.

4. CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

| CABINET MEMBER AND DATE OF DECISION | REFERENCE | DECISION TAKEN |
|---|------------------|---|
| Councillor Marco Cereste 9 December 2014 | DEC14/CMDN/110 | <p>Progressing Funding for Peterborough's Future Growth</p> <p>Cabinet gave its approval on 24 February 2014 for the Council to establish a Joint Venture (JV) to regenerate key city centre sites. In order to further that regeneration, the Cabinet Member was recommended to approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An updated Business Case that reflected the evolution of the project; 2. The establishment of a JV Limited Liability Partnership ("LLP") with Lucent Peterborough Partnership SARL ("Lucent"), a partner registered in Luxembourg; 3. The grant of option agreements to be made in favour of the LLP on land sites set out in paragraph 4.4.1 of the CMDN; 4. The Council receiving loan notes in exchange for the land sites transferred to the LLP; 5. An agreement for lease for new offices at Riverside South (Fletton Quays) be made with the LLP; 6. The Director of Growth & Regeneration in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Director of Governance and Executive Director, Resources to exercise delegated authority to agree to all necessary legal agreements with Lucent and the LLP to establish the JV's structure; 7. The Director of Governance, in consultation with the Executive Director, Resources to exercise delegated authority to a) transfer the land sites and b) agree the terms of the agreement for lease and subsequent lease for the new offices; and 8. To appoint the Leader and Deputy Leader as representatives to the LLP. |

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| <p>Councillor Wayne Fitzgerald</p> <p>9 December 2014</p> | <p>DEC14/CMDN/111</p> | <p>Residential and Nursing Care Contracts</p> <p>The Cabinet Member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approved the revised rate the Council pays for standard residential, dementia and nursing placements; and 2. Approved back dating of the revised rate to April 2014. <p>The Cabinet Member was asked to note that the revised rates had been agreed following a consultation with local care homes and service providers and that the exercise should be carried out annually to ensure that the Council pays a fair rate for residential and nursing care for adults.</p> |
| <p>Councillor Marco Cereste</p> <p>15 December 2014</p> | <p>DEC14/CMDN/116</p> | <p>A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvements</p> <p>The Cabinet Member approved the funding contribution of £1.5m to the Highways Agency for the A14 improvement scheme, the payment to take place as equal payments of £60,000 a year for 25 years.</p> |
| <p>Councillor John Holdich</p> <p>17 December 2014</p> | <p>DEC14/CMDN/117</p> | <p>City College Peterborough</p> <p>The Cabinet Member agreed the proposal to strengthen autonomy of City College Peterborough through recognising governing body arrangements and financial delegation formally within the Council.</p> |
| <p>Councillor Marco Cereste</p> <p>19 December 2014</p> | <p>DEC14/CMDN/118</p> | <p>Changes and Nominations to Outside Organisations – In Year Change</p> <p>The Cabinet Member:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approved additional outside organisations to which an appointment opportunity had arisen and discontinued those no longer required; 2. Approved nominations to appointment vacancies and removed those no longer required; and 3. Approved the categorisation of the appointments referred to in recommendation 1 and 2, and arrange for amendment of the Council's partnership database. |

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