

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
13/Oct/2022**



Elaine Waugh
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

City Hall
Sunderland

13 October 2022

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

13 October 2022

Date of decision:

13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:

Honorary Freedom of the City – Report of the Chief Executive

Full description of decision:

To recommend to Council that:-

- (i) in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972

- Gary Bennett MBE
- Stephanie Darby MBE (Steph Houghton); and
- Jill Scott MBE

as persons of distinction who have, in the opinion of the Council, rendered eminent services to the city, be admitted as be Honorary Freemen of the City; and

- (ii) authority be given for the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree all appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony at an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held at the earliest opportunity.

Reasons for decision:

The proposal will formally recognise the achievements and contribution of Gary Bennett MBE, Stephanie Darby MBE (Steph Houghton) and Jill Scott MBE and the respect that the people of Sunderland hold for them.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option would be to not agree the proposal, however conferring honorary freedom is considered to be appropriate in order to recognise the outstanding contribution made by the nominated individuals.

Contact Officer: Beverley Poulter

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

13 October 2022

Date of decision:

13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:

Performance Report – Quarter 1 of 2022/23 - Report of the Chief Executive

Full description of decision:

To note and accept the performance information in relation to Quarter 4 performance of 2022/23.

Reasons for decision:

To ensure Cabinet is informed of the current performance position for the council against the City Plan 2019-2030.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options recommended.

Contact Officer: Beverley Poulter

Email: Beverley.poulter@sunderland.gov.uk

Is this a key decision:

No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

21 October 2022

Date of decision:

13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:

Capital Programme Second Review 2022/2023 (including Treasury Management) – Report of the Assistant Director of Finance

Full description of decision:

To:

- In respect of the second capital review for 2022/2023 to approve the inclusion of additional schemes or variations to existing schemes for 2022/2023 detailed at Appendix A, as a variation to the Capital Programme; and
- In relation to the Treasury Management Strategy, Cabinet is asked to note the progress in implementing the 2022/2023 Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators.

Reasons for decision:

As included in the Council's constitution, Cabinet is required to exercise control over capital spend and resources and receives quarterly reports to support this. This report notes the inclusion of additional capital schemes since approval by Cabinet on 14th July 2022.

Cabinet is also requested to note the progress in implementing the Treasury Management Strategy for 2022/2023, which is in line with the approved Treasury Management Policies.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

No alternative options are proposed.

Contact Officer: Paul Wilson

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:

21 October 2022

Date of decision:

13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:

Second Revenue Budget Review 2022/2023 – Report of the Assistant
Director of Finance

Full description of decision:

To:

- Note the contents of the report; and
- Approve the contingency transfers proposed at Section 3.4.

Reasons for decision:

To respond to variations in expenditure and income which have arisen in
2022/2023 and enable effective budgetary control to be exercised.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

No alternative options are proposed

Contact Officer: Paul Wilson

Email: paul-s.wilson@sunderland.gov.uk

Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:
Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

Date decision in force:
21 October 2022

Date of decision:
13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:
Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/2024 –
2026/2027 – Report of the Assistant Director of Finance

Full description of decision:

To:-

- note the summary MTFP set out at section 3 of the report and note that the full MTFP 2023/2024 to 2026/2027 will be presented to Cabinet in February 2023;
- approve the proposed Budget Planning Framework set out at section 4 of the report which will guide the preparation of the Revenue Budget for 2023/2024;
- approve the consultation / communication strategy for the budget 2023/2024 as set out at section 6 of the report; and
- recommend to Council approval of the Capital Strategy.

Reasons for decision:

- Adoption of the Budget Planning Framework forms an essential part of the process of the preparation and compilation of the Revenue Budget for 2023/2024; and
- To enable constitutional requirements relating to the development of the Revenue Budget to be met.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options recommended for approval.

Contact Officer: Paul Wilson

Email: paul-s.wilson@sunderland.gov.uk

Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:
Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny
Committee

Date decision in force:
21 October 2022

Date of decision:
13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:
Playing Pitch Plan – Joint report of the Executive Director Health Housing and Communities, and the Executive Director City Development

Full description of decision:

To:-

- a) Adopt the Playing Pitch Plan as a citywide document
- b) Endorse the proposed Action Plan and priorities outlined in the PPP.

Reasons for decision:

The PPP will provide a framework from which to guide investment, attract external funding and subsequently increase satisfaction, participation and volunteering levels in sport and physical activity. In addition, by adopting a strategic joined up approach, this will contribute to maximising the benefits that physical activity can bring to residents. Specifically, the PPP will complement the outcomes associated with the city's approach to develop an ***Active Sunderland - a city where everyone is as active as they can be*** which was approved by Cabinet in 2018.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The option exists not to adopt the PPP, however, in doing so, this would result in the loss of potential future investment both for local sports clubs as well as the City Council. In addition, the absence of a robust PPP can lead to a fragmented approach towards facility development, which will significantly challenge the Council's ability to raise standards in satisfaction and participation.

Contact Officer: Gerry Taylor

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Is this a key decision:	Yes
Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:	No
Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:	None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:
Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Children, Education and Skills
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:
21 October 2022

Date of decision:
13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:
Review of Policy and Process for Kinship Carers Allowances in Children's Services – Report of the Director of Children's Services

Full description of decision:
To agree the revised Special Guardianship Support Policy 2022 for implementation by Together for Children, such Policy to be reviewed every 2 years to ensure it remains compliant with national Regulations and good practice.

Reasons for decision:
Three options were considered by the working group (see section 6, below for information). Option 3 was agreed by the group. Payments would be funded for 2 years. Changes are made to ensure a robust framework of review is established jointly between the Finance and Connected Carers Teams. If carers do not respond to the request for the review, within the timescale advised in the letter, the payments are ceased after 28 days. Foster Carers who have children living with them on the basis of a plan of permanence will be provided with the opportunity to obtain an SGO, allowances will be paid at the current fostering rate for the child, which varies depending on their age, minus what is known, as the boarding out allowance.

The group felt that the changes were needed for a number of reasons:

- Ensures efficient and effective use of available resources
 - Provides a method of joint review from finance and Connected Carers Teams, to ensure that the needs of the child will continue to be met
- Allowances do not continue to be paid, when there is no evidence that a child continues to be safely cared for by the carer

Alternative options considered and rejected:
The policy review considered 3 options. Two other options were considered and discounted:

Option 1- No changes are made to policy. This would mean that the current process, would continue for current and future carers. As a result, there would be the continued and increasing costs to budgets to support carers, without the evidence of need and improved oversight of how the child's needs were being met.

Option 2- Payments are funded for a fixed period of 3 years, with an annual financial review and then ended on the basis that this allows a transition period for carers to make any changes to their lives, thus enabling them to provide the support long-term, without financial assistance from Together for Children. This was not considered to be suitable as it could potentially leave families in significant financial difficulty and could result in the family breaking

down and the child returning to the care of Together for Children. There would be a negative emotional impact on the child, who would again experience a loss of carers, potentially a change in schools, friendship groups and provision of key health services. It would also result in increased costs to Children's Services, with the provision of internal or external foster carers and children's homes, legal costs for further Court proceedings and costs of allocating a Social Worker and Independent Reviewing Officer, with associated costs of permanence planning. If the child is in an external provision, this may be some distance from the child's home, resulting in increased travel costs for Children's Service's staff and family time.

Contact Officer: Jill Colbert

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13 October 2022

Decision Taker:
Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Economic Prosperity Scrutiny
Committee

Date decision in force:
21 October 2022

Date of decision:
13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:
Winter Service Policy 2022/23 - Report of the Director of Environmental
Services

Full description of decision:
To:

- i) Approve and adopt the Winter Service Policy 2022/23; and
- ii) Approve the publication of the Winter Service Policy 2022/23 on the
Council's Website

Reasons for decision:
Under the Highways Act 1980 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 there is a requirement for the Council, as Local Highway Authority, to introduce systems to ensure the safe and expeditious movement of traffic by ensuring, so far as is reasonably practical, safe passage along the highway without danger from snow or ice, the proposed Winter Service Policy ensures that clear and appropriate plans are in place to meet the required legal duties.

Alternative options considered and rejected:
That the Council does not adopt a Winter Service Policy - this option was considered and rejected as without a Winter Service Policy the Council would fail to meet its legal duties as it would have no structured plans or management arrangement in place.

Contact Officer: Graham Scanlon

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Is this a key decision:	Yes
Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:	No
Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:	None

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Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny
Committee

Date decision in force:

21 October 2022

Date of decision:

13 October 2022

Title and author(s) of written report:

International Advanced Manufacturing Park Area Action Plan (IAMP AAP)
Review – report of the Assistant Director of Economic Regeneration

Full description of decision:

To:-

- i) Endorse the findings of the IAMP AAP Review (Appendix 1) and agree that it continues to be up to date for the purposes of managing development within the IAMP area;
- ii) Approve publication of the review on the Council's website and authorise notification of the review outcome to the Planning Inspectorate; and
- iii) Note that South Tyneside Council's Cabinet are scheduled to consider a similar report on 5 October 2022.

Reasons for decision:

In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the Council is required to undertake a review of its Local Plan at least every five years. The IAMP AAP forms part of the Sunderland Local Plan and was adopted by the Council in November 2017 and is therefore required to be reviewed before November 2022. Subject to Cabinet approval, publication of the Plan Review would discharge the Council's obligations in accordance with national policy.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option would be not to publish the Plan Review. However, this would result in the Council not meeting its statutory obligations to review its Local Plan at least every five years. This would result in the policies contained within the IAMP AAP being considered out-of-date for decision making purposes and, as a result, any planning applications within the IAMP AAP area being determined against national planning policy. This would significantly restrict the Council's ability to ensure the comprehensive development of the IAMP in a coordinated and controlled manner.

Contact Officer: Catherine Auld

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

Councillors G. Miller and C. Rowntree together with Patrick Melia, Chief Executive and Peter McIntyre, Executive Director of City Development, declared interests as representatives on the board of IAMP LLP and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the report.