

**Record of  
Executive  
Decisions  
published  
09/Feb/2022**



Elaine Waugh  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

City Hall  
Sunderland

9 February 2022

## Record of Executive Decisions Published: 9 February 2022

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

**Date decision in force:**

17 February 2022

**Date of decision:**

8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Capital Programme 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2022/2023, including Prudential Indicators for 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 – Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services

**Full description of decision:**

To recommend to Council approval of:

- i. the proposed Capital Programme for 2022/2023;
- ii. the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2022/2023 (including specifically the Annual Borrowing and Investment Strategies);
- iii. the Prudential Indicators for 2022/2023 to 2025/2026; and
- iv. the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2022/2023.

**Reasons for decision:**

To comply with Statutory requirements to approve an affordable Capital Programme, Treasury Management Strategy and Prudential Indicators.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

No alternative options are submitted for Cabinet's consideration.

**Contact Officer:** Jon Ritchie

**Email:** [jon.ritchie@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:jon.ritchie@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Is this a key decision:**

Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:**

No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

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8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2022/2023 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 – Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services

**Full description of decision:**

To:

- recommend to Council the proposals set out in the report including the proposed Revenue Budget for 2022/2023 set out at Appendix J;
- recommend to Council the Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 including Efficiency Strategy as set out in Appendix G and the potential use of Capital Receipts Flexibility set out at section 9 of the report;
- delegate the finalisation of the council tax supplementary information, that will be published on the Council website, to the Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Leader of the Council.
- recommend to Council the council tax levels for 2022/2023 and additional associated matters in accordance with the statutory requirements, including the detailed information set out in section 3.2 of the report, as follows:
  - a) To note the council tax base applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council;
  - b) To approve the estimated amount of the Council's aggregate gross revenue expenditure;
  - c) To approve the estimated amount of the Council's aggregate gross revenue income;
  - d) To approve the estimated amount of the Council's council tax requirement;
  - e) To note the precept of the Parish of Hetton Town Council;
  - f) To note the council tax bands applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council based on the above financial information;
  - g) To note the provisional precept of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria;
  - h) To note the provisional precept of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority;

- i) To approve the draft total council tax levels for 2022/2023 applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council including all relevant precepts;
  - j) To determine that the Council's relevant basic amount of council tax for 2022/2023 is not excessive in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which means a 3% increase to the council tax for 2022/2023; and
- note the views, if any, expressed by residents, the local Business Sector, Trade Unions, Schools Forum, Change Council and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.

**Reasons for decision:**

To comply with statutory requirements to approve a balanced budget for the coming financial year.

To comply with legal requirements, in order to determine the council tax requirement and the applicable basic council tax for 2022/2023.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There are no alternative options recommended for approval as the budget has been developed on the basis of an agreed framework with consultation carried out at appropriate times during the process.

**Contact Officer:** Jon Ritchie

**Email:** [jon.ritchie@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:jon.ritchie@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Is this a key decision:** Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:** No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Councillor K. Johnston declared an interest as an employee of Everyone Active and Councillor Chequer declared an interest as his partner. As a dispensation had been granted to all Councillors in respect of the setting of the council tax and budget, the Councillors remained in the meeting during consideration of the report.

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Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

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17 February 2022

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8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Collection Fund (Council Tax) 2021/2022 – Report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services.

**Full description of decision:**

To note the overall position in relation to the Collection Fund (Council Tax) for 2021/2022 and the Council's share of the surplus.

**Reasons for decision:**

Estimating the Collection Fund balance available at 31 March 2022 for use in setting the Council Tax for 2022/2023 is a legal requirement, which the Council must fulfil, based on information available to it as at 15<sup>th</sup> January, each year.

The Council also has an obligation to notify its major precepting authorities of the estimated surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund within 7 working days of when this calculation has been made.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Not applicable as the report is for information only.

**Contact Officer:** Jon Ritchie

**Email:** [jon.ritchie@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:jon.ritchie@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: 9 February 2022

**Decision Taker:**

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Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

17 February 2022

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8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Consideration of the Draft Bus Enhancement Partnership and Scheme –  
Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

Since the Cabinet agenda was published, the Joint Transport Committee, agreed after direction from the Department for Transport, to pause the consultation on the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership for the time being. The outcome of the regional settlement for the programme was also awaited and was expected before the end of February. Therefore, the report was deferred and it was intended to bring the report back to reflect the new information as it became available.

**Reasons for decision:**

Since the Cabinet agenda was published, the Joint Transport Committee, agreed after direction from the Department for Transport, to pause the consultation on the Bus Service Improvement Plan and Enhanced Partnership for the time being. The outcome of the regional settlement for the programme was also awaited and was expected before the end of February.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There were no alternative options to consider.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

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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: 9 February 2022**

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Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

17 February 2022

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8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Extension of the e-scooter trial – Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

To:-

- i. approve extension of the e-scooter trial to align with DfT's revised end date, currently 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022;
- ii. authorise the Executive Director of City Development, in consultation with the Deputy Leader and relevant Ward Councillors, to approve any subsequent amendment and/or extension of the e-scooter trial as required and/or permitted by DfT; and
- iii. authorise the Executive Director of City Development, in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Services and the Deputy Leader, to take all steps necessary to give effect to the continuation of the e-scooter trial.

**Reasons for decision:**

Since the e-scooter trial commenced in Sunderland, Government Ministers have approved a further extension of the nationwide trials to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The trial extension will allow extra time for trials to reach capacity and for the DfT to gather additional data.

The evidence gathered in the trial will guide final decisions about whether and, if so, how to fully legalise the use of e-scooters. It is important that Sunderland continues to take part in the trial, as data collected will contribute to deciding the long-term vision of sustainable and active travel in Sunderland and the UK.

E-scooters form a key part of the promotion of active and sustainable modes of transport and support the three core themes of the City Plan, as well as helping achieve the low carbon ambitions of the City, to become a carbon neutral city by 2040 and a Carbon neutral Council by 2030.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

An alternative option is to not extend Sunderland's e-scooter trial, ending the trial on 31st March 2022, removing the e-scooters from operation, terminating the contract with Neuron Mobility (United Kingdom) Limited and no longer participate in gathering data for DfT - This option is rejected on the basis that the absence of sustainable travel choices would not accord with the Council or City ambitions on becoming Carbon Neutral or the City Plan aims.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:** [peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk)

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



## Record of Executive Decisions Published: 9 February 2022

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

17 February 2022

**Date of decision:**

8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Unauthorised Encampment Policy - Report of the Executive Director of  
Neighbourhoods

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the Unauthorised Encampment Policy.

**Reasons for decision:**

This policy is required to provide a framework of activity in the management  
and welfare of Unauthorised Encampments

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

To continue with the previously approved Unauthorised Encampment Policy  
was considered and rejected as there were concerns that a new updated  
policy was required to meet equality, welfare, and best practice in the  
management of unauthorised encampments.

**Contact Officer:** Fiona Brown

**Email:** [Fiona.brown2@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.brown2@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: 9 February 2022

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

17 February 2022

**Date of decision:**

8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Grant Funding for Specialist Domestic Abuse Provision - Report of the  
Executive Director of Neighbourhoods

**Full description of decision:**

To:-

- (i) approve the award of grant funding for specialist domestic abuse provision for a period of 2 years; and
- (ii) authorise the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Healthy City Portfolio Holder to subsequently award grant funding to the local delivery partners.

**Reasons for decision:**

The grant funding ensures continued provision of and access to specialist accommodation and support for domestic violence and abuse victims with complex needs across the six Northumbria local authority areas and is in line with the statutory requirements of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Do not provide grant funding – this option is rejected as the grant finding contributes to a regional Consortium and if funding is not provided Sunderland services would cease to be provided, which would impact on the regional approach.

**Contact Officer:** Fiona Brown

**Email:** [Fiona.brown2@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.brown2@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Is this a key decision:**

Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:**

No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

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Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

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**Date of decision:**

8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Council Housing Rent Increase 2022/23 - Report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the increase in housing rents to be applied for Sunderland City Council tenants with effect from 4 April 2022 in accordance with the Government's Policy Statement on Rents for Social Housing 2019.

**Reasons for decision:**

In June 2020 Cabinet approved the Housing Service Policy Framework. Within this Policy Framework was the Council's Rent and Service Charge Policy which set out that rents will be set in accordance with relevant Government policy and legislation and adhere to the Regulator of Social Housing Rent Standard. This Rent Standard states that Registered Providers must set rents from 1 April 2022 in accordance with the Government's Policy Statement on Rents for Social Housing 2019. Cabinet approval is required to determine the rent increase to be applied for 2022/23.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The option of a lower rent increase to CPI+1% was considered and rejected as the annual rent increase needs to align and ensure that repairs and maintenance costs, housing management costs etc are adequately funded. The proposed increase is in accordance with the Government's Policy Statement on Rents for Social Housing 2019.

**Contact Officer:** Fiona Brown

**Email:** [Fiona.brown2@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.brown2@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Is this a key decision:**

Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:**

No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

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8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Disposal of the Norfolk Hotel, Norfolk Street, Sunnyside, Sunderland – Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

To agree to the disposal of the Property shown edged red on the plan at Appendix 1, to the company and at the price detailed in the report or on terms otherwise to be agreed by the Executive Director of City Development in consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Services, Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:** [peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Is this a key decision:**

Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:**

Yes

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

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Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

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8 February 2022

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Siglion Business Plan 2022 - Report of the Executive Director of City  
Development

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the Siglion Business Plan 2022.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:** [peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk)

**Is this a key decision:** Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:** Yes

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Councillor G. Miller and Patrick Melia, the Chief Executive declared interests as members of the Siglion Board and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the report.