

Date of committee: 28 July 2020

Date published 20 July 2020

Date of implementation: 10 August 2020

DECISIONS OF THE DORSET COUNCIL - CABINET
28 JULY 2020

The following decisions were made by the Cabinet on 28 July 2020 and will come into force and may be implemented on 10 August 2020 unless the decision is called in for scrutiny.

In accordance with the council's constitution, any six members of the same relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee may request the Monitoring Officer to 'call-in' a decision for scrutiny. The Monitoring Officer will be provided with written notice that will identify the decision to be called-in and the ground for the call-in when the request is made. If satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for the proposed call-in, the Monitoring Officer will notify the decision-maker of the call-in within 5 clear working days. The deadline for this request is **7 August 2020**

The full call-in procedure is set out in the Constitution or for further information and advice please telephone Kate Critchel on 01305 252234

6 DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS TO ACCELERATE ECONOMIC RECOVERY FROM THE IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Decision

- (a) That the creation of a full business case to accelerate the deployment of full fibre and wireless / mobile connectivity predominately in the rural parts of the Dorset Council area, be supported;
- (b) That the Dorset Council budgetary commitment of up to £1m capital (from the Ringfenced Superfast Broadband budget) and revenue implementation commitment of £285k (funded from the Dorset Council Transformation fund) to leverage in external capital and commercial investment of up to £8.9m, be agreed;
- (c) That the commencement of the required public procurements be agreed;
- (d) That authority be delegated to the portfolio holder for Corporate Development, in consultation with the Executive Director of Place, to submit a full business case, procure and award services and enter into the necessary grant agreements to deliver this programme of activity;
- (d) That the unusually short timescales involved in developing these proposals, and the importance of responding and mobilising quickly to meet delivery deadlines to facilitate economic recovery from the impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic be noted.

Reason for the Decision

To enable the business case process to be submitted, complete due diligence and to facilitate the quickest possible deployment by March 2022.

7 TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUND

Decision

That the proposed spend allocation of the Transport Infrastructure Investment Fund be approved.

Reason for the Decision

That we can invest the Transport Infrastructure Investment Fund in accordance with Department for Transport (DfT) guidelines, to improve road condition, reducing the number of potholes, and to kick start the construction industry and wider economy. This is also intended to assist our recovery from the impacts of Covid 19 and flooding issues arising from the winter.

8 APPROVAL OF YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2020-21

Recommendation to Council

9 DORSET COUNCIL ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGY

Decision

- (a) That the draft Dorset Council Economic Growth Strategy be approved.
- (b) That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Holder of Economic Development and Skills to make any further, minor amendments required following consideration by Cabinet.

Reason for the Decision

One of the priorities in the Dorset Council Plan 2020-2024 is to 'deliver sustainable economic growth, increasing productivity and the number of high-quality jobs in Dorset, creating great places to live, work and visit.' A prosperous and inclusive local economy is vital to achieving the strategic priorities of the Council. The Economic Growth Strategy explains how the Council will seek to deliver this priority and will be accompanied in due course by a detailed action plan.

10 REDUNDANCY MULTIPLIER

Decision

That the current 1.75 redundancy multiplier be extended until 31st March 2021, to ensure parity between those that have already been subject to organisational change and those due to be at risk of redundancy as Dorset Council moves through the remainder of the financial year.

Reason for Decision

This would reintroduce alignment with the additional protection arrangements and the review of terms and conditions. Consultation would take place before 31 March 2021 on the intention of reducing the multiplier thereafter.

11 DORSET COUNCIL BUDGET - QUARTER 1 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

Decision

- (a) That the outturn position for 2019/20 and the impact this had on reserves be noted;
- (b) That the Senior Leadership Team's forecast for Dorset Council's position at the end of Quarter 1 be noted;
- (c) That the position on the capital programme be noted and the projects recommended by officers (as set out in Appendix 1 of the report) be approved;
- (d) That the key milestones lifted from the draft timetable for budget/Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2021/22 be agreed (as set out in Appendix 2 of the report);

- (e) That the inherited and revised draft budget assumptions to allow development of the first iteration of the five-year MTFP be noted (as set out in Appendix 3 of the report);

Reason for the Decision

The Council has responsibilities to deliver against its 2019-20 Revenue Budget and 2019-20 Capital Programme and maintain adequate reserves. These recommendations and accompanying report demonstrate the Council's performance in delivering against these responsibilities.

Cabinet need to understand the significant financial impact and consequences of the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Understanding the financial position at the start of the planning process is key to adopting the most appropriate assumptions in the development of the MTFP. Agreeing an initial set of assumptions will allow officers to develop the first iteration of the MTFP and budget for 2021/22 for consideration and conduct sensitivity testing.

Governance of the financial strategy will be critical as we build the next MTFP and agreeing key milestones for the work and member review/challenge are important at this stage to ensure maximum engagement.

12 ADDITIONAL PROCUREMENT FORWARD PLAN REPORT - OVER £500K (2020-21)

Cabinet agreed:-

- (a) To start each of the procurement processes as listed in Appendix 1 to the report the report to Cabinet of 28 July 2020;
- (b) That in each instance the further step of making any contract award be delegated to the relevant Cabinet portfolio holder, in consultation with the relevant Executive Director.

Reason for Decision

Cabinet is required to approve all key decisions with financial consequences of £500k or more. It is also good governance to provide Cabinet with a summary of all proposed procurements prior to them formally commencing.

13 DORSET COUNCIL - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Decision

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- 1. That the following specific arrangements be agreed:-

- (a) To spend CIL monies within the same geographical charging

area from which they were levied, pre and post 31/8/19.

- (b) The CIL infrastructure spending priorities pre 1/9/19, as laid out in appendix C.
 - (c) The mechanism for prioritisation and spend of CIL funded infrastructure pre and post 31/8/19, as set out in the amended appendix A.
2. That the Terms of Reference for Property Management Group (PMG), be amended, to enable it to scrutinise & prioritise infrastructure projects seeking funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy and provide recommendations to Capital Strategy and Asset Management Group (CSAMG) / the Executive Director of Place regarding which projects should receive such funding.
 3. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Place in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Planning, the approval of the prioritisation, of CIL spend on behalf of the Council as reported to CSAMG.

Reason for Decision:

- i) To provide clarity, transparency and consistency in the allocation and spending of CIL receipts.
- ii) To set out the relationship between the Council as charging authority and key stakeholders and infrastructure providers (internal and external).
- iii) To ensure CIL receipts are spent on infrastructure required to support development, in accordance with the CIL Regulations 2010 specifically as amended in September 2019 ('the CIL Regulations').
- iv) To ensure CIL serves its purpose of supporting the delivery of the infrastructure necessary to support the development in Dorset.

14 DRAFT DORSET COUNCIL CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Decision

That the DRAFT Dorset Council climate and ecological emergency strategy be approved for consultation with the public following the development of a costed delivery plan.

Reason for Decision

Dorset Council have declared a climate & ecological emergency and established a councillor led Executive Advisory Panel (EAP) responsible for gathering information and working with officers to make recommendations to Dorset Council's Cabinet on actions that will help mitigate against climate change.

17 EXEMPT BUSINESS

Decision

The following item was closed to the press and public in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

18 DEFENCE INNOVATION CENTRE - DORSET INNOVATION PARK

Decision

That the recommendations set out in the exempt report of 28 July 2020 be approved.

Reason for Recommendation

One of the priorities in the Dorset Council Plan 2020-2024 is to 'deliver sustainable economic growth, increasing productivity and the number of high-quality jobs in Dorset, creating great places to live, work and visit.'