FOR DECISIONS MADE AT THE EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2023

73. St Crispin's Leisure Centre

Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- 1. Noted the findings of the public consultation on the Future use of St Crispin's Leisure Centre.
- 2. Noted the Council's legal responsibility in securing sufficient school places for local residents.
- 3. Approved in principle the closure of St Crispin's Leisure Centre and transfer of the land to St Crispin's School (The Circle Trust) to fulfil the school placement requirements and to continue to deliver 55 extra place each year in the next five years; subject to detailed agreement with the trust with lease arrangement under relevant Academy regulations.
- 4. Noted that the revenue impact of ending the Council's Leisure contractors' utilisation of the premises will be funded through the Leisure Management Equalisation Fund.
- 5. Noted that the capital expenditure of £1m for works is funded from the secondary school's expansion budget already approved as part of the 2023/24 capital programme.
- 6. Noted the Circle Trust is keen to work with the Council and Local Communities to continue the local squash provision in addition to the current community activities the school provide.
- 7. Noted that any repurposing of the school must also include the requirements of the Council to deliver a polling station at the site for elections as per requirements set out.
- 8. Delegated authority to the Director of Resources and Assets and Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment, Sport and Leisure, the Executive Member for Children's Services and the Leader of the Council, to enter into negotiation with Places Leisure to facilitate the closure of St Crispin's Leisure Centre and with The Circle Trust to secure the provision of additional school places and the transfer of the land and buildings from the Council to The Circle Trust.
- 9. Delegated authority to the Director of Resources and Assets and Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment, Sport and Leisure, the Executive Member for Children's Services and the Leader of the Council, to enter into negotiation with Places Leisure with regards to the running of leisure activities at Montague Park Community Centre or elsewhere which will be subject to a financial viability test.

- 10. Noted the attached Appendix that provides additional information to support the proposal, following the consideration by Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14 November 2023.
- 11. Officers be requested to progress the financial viability assessment relating to the Montague Park Community Centre;
- 12. Progress on the agreement between the Council and the Circle Trust, along with all other agreements involving schools and leisure facilities, be the subject of a report to the Committee within 12 months.

Reason for Decision

There is an urgent need for additional secondary school places across the Borough and St Crispin's School (The Circle Trust) has been identified as an opportunity to fulfil the school placement requirements and to continue to deliver 55 extra places each year in the next five years. The local authority has a statutory duty to provide sufficient secondary school places in the area.

Alternative options considered and rejected at time of the decision None.

Any Conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member None.

Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any declared conflict of interest

Not applicable.

74. Local Transport Plan 4 - Draft for Consultation

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive agreed to publish the draft Local Transport Plan 4 for public consultation with the intention in summer 2024, subject to approval of full Council, for the council to adopt the plan as the council's strategic plan for transport over the next 10-15 years.

Reason for Decision

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) is a statutory requirement of the council deriving from the Transport Act 2000. The current Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026 has provided many improvements including the Wokingham Greenways, enhancements to Wokingham town centre, the Arborfield Cross Relief Road, the North Wokingham Distributor Road, upgrades to railway stations and more.

Alternative options considered and rejected at time of the decision None.

Any Conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member None.

Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any declared conflict of interest Not applicable.

75. Treasury Management Mid-Year 2023-24 Report Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive endorsed the Treasury Management Mid- Year Report 2023-24 and recommended it to Council and noted:

- 1) that all approved indicators set out in the Treasury Management Strategy had been adhered to; with the exceptions of;
- Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream General Fund.
- Capital financing requirement Housing Revenue Account.
- External borrowing Housing Revenue Account
- 2) As at the end of September 2023, the forecast for the total external General Fund debt was £129m at March 2024, which reduced to £110m after taking into account cash balances.

Reason for Decision

To demonstrate that the Council's treasury function has effectively managed the Council's debt and cash balances to support the funding of the delivery of the Council's key priorities.

Alternative options considered and rejected at time of the decision None.

Any Conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member None.

Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any declared conflict of interest

Not applicable.

76. Council Plan Extension 2024-25

Chief Executive - Susan Parsonage

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- 1) Agreed to extend the current Council Plan for one year (2024-25)
- 2) Accepted the amendments to the plan as set out in the report and
- 3) Recommended submission to Full Council for approval.

Reason for Decision

The purpose of this report is to give the rationale for extending the current council plan for one year and for making amendments to the plan. It explains the changes made and the anticipated next steps.

Alternative options considered and rejected at time of the decision None.

Any Conflict of interest declared by any Executive Member None.

Any dispensation granted by the Head of Paid Service in respect of any declared conflict of interest

Not applicable

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PUBLISHED ON: Friday 1 December 2023

EFFECTIVE ON: Monday 4 December 2023

CALL-IN PERIOD EXPIRES: Friday 8 December 2023

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