

DECISION RECORD SHEETS

FOR

DECISIONS MADE AT THE

EXECUTIVE MEETING

HELD ON

THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2022

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

54. Rent Setting Policy

Director, Place and Growth -
Steve Moore

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- i) approved the Rent Setting Policy as set out in Appendix 1 of the report attached to the agenda papers. The 'Rent Setting Policy' primarily relates to the Housing Revenue Account (2567 properties) plus a small number (18 properties) of General Fund properties.
- ii) noted the economic challenges that many of our tenants' face and that the Executive Member for Housing in consultation with the Director of Place & Growth, would explore all opportunities to minimise any increase between now and the budget setting process in February/March 2023.

Reason for Decision

The 'Rent Setting Policy' ensures that the current annual rent setting Process is regularised, it reconfirms that rent setting is part of the annual Housing Revenue Account budget setting process.

The policy requires the council to adhere to the Rent Standard 2020 that in practice means our approach to rent setting continues without any changes to our historical approach.

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.

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

55. Capital Monitoring 2022/23 - Q2

Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- i) noted the position of the capital programme at the end of Quarter 2 (to 30 September 2022) as summarised in the report and set out in detail in Appendix A of the report.
- ii) approved and noted the proposed carry forwards in the capital programme as set out in Appendix B of the report.
- iii) noted that due to the current uncertainty surrounding higher interest rates, as part of our enhanced financial management process, a review is to be undertaken to determine what capital projects can be postponed this year, to minimise exposure to borrowing at high rates. Approval from the Executive will be sought for any proposed postponement.

Reason for Decision

Effective use of our capital resources to meet the Council Plan investment priorities and delivering value for money for residents.

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.

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

56. Revenue Monitoring 2022-23 Q2

Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive noted:

- i) the overall forecast of the current position of the General Fund revenue budget, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) illustrated in the Executive summary and appendices attached to the report.
- ii) delegated authority to the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment, Sport and Leisure to discount or uplift Leisure charges.

Reason for Decision

To deliver the Council Priorities for the Community, ensuring the efficient effective and safe use of resources.

The Council agrees and sets its budget in the February preceding the current financial year and this report seeks to update Executive on the budget position throughout the year and provide an estimate of the outturn position and impact on balances at year-end (31 March 2023).

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.

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

57. Lease for Learning Disability Respite Centre

Director, Adult Social Care and Health - Matt Pope, Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive approved a 15-year lease for the ground floor of the address below. The lease to be signed with Ability Housing Association.

289 Lodden Court,
Wokingham Road,
Earley,
RG6 7ER.

Reason for Decision

Lodden Court is The Council's Respite Centre for adults with learning disabilities run by Optalis. People can stay for one or several nights which gives families a break and enables them to keep caring for their loved one for many years. Without the respite service there would increase in family breakdown and more demand for high cost supported living or residential accommodation.

The existing lease expired in April 2021 and The Council have been negotiating a lease extension period of up to 2035 with a break clause in 2031. The budget for Lodden Court falls within Adult Social Care, however the lease negotiation was completed by the commercial property estates team. Responsibility and authority for signing lease is held within that team. Once the lease is signed then we can request a licence to alter document which will enable the council to proceed with the refurbishment of Lodden Court.

- The lease needs to be signed as matter of urgency. Until the Lease is approved and signed, the council is unable to proceed with refurbishment of the service.
- The refurbishment needs to take place at time where there is minimum impact on clients and income for the council. This is currently due to start in December 2022.
- If the work is unable to take place during that time, then the impact or delay will be significant as it will be difficult to close respite centre during busy times.

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.

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

59.1 Officers' response to the recommendations from the Tree Protection and Biodiversity Task & Finish Group

Director, Place and Growth -
Steve Moore

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive approved the Officers' responses contained within the report.

Reason for Decision

The Report and Recommendations of the Tree Protection & Biodiversity Task & Finish Group were presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on Thursday 17th March 2022 and the committee resolved that the Task and Finish Group's 13 recommendations to the Executive, as amended, should be approved.

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.

Name Priya Patel
Job Title Head of Democratic and Electoral Services

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CONTACT OFFICERS

Email: democratic.services@wokingham.gov.uk