

DECISION RECORD SHEETS
FOR
DECISIONS MADE AT THE
EXECUTIVE MEETING
HELD ON
THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2022

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

66. Matters Referred to the Executive

Director, Place and Growth -
Steve Moore

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive agreed that no further action be taken in respect of the referral made by the Council in respect of the petition relating to Car Parking Charges.

Reason for Decision

The Council must act urgently to address its in year forecast overspend and set a balanced budget for next year. Options to reduce expenditure are constrained by the fact that approximately 80% of Council services are statutory. The 2023/24 budget presented to Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee shows a funding gap of just over £4m. This figure already takes into account cost reductions and income generating options across all Council Services, including the assumed increase in car parking charges in 2022/23. Avoiding the opportunity to generate additional income from car parking will increase the calculated budget gap for next year to in the region of £4.6m. The Council will be required to approve a balanced budget for 2023/24 when it meets in February 2023."

Alternative options considered and rejected at time of the decision

1. Using funding from the reserves: Reserves were low, making this option unviable. Depleting reserves would create a significant risk of the council being placed in the hands of central government. In the way that Slough and Thurrock had been, leading to devastating consequences.
2. Closing Park and Rides: Without park and rides, bus services would be at severe risk without further significant financial support from the council. Local bus services allow children to get to school and vulnerable adults to travel to social activities. The concessionary bus pass allows elderly and disabled residents to travel on local bus services. Without bus services, there is a risk of social isolation. For residents travelling to medical appointments, increased pressure for travel assistance would fall on community transport and to the NHS.
3. Reducing Revenue Highway Services: These are services that cover routine safety functions, including emergency work to keep networks safe for the use by the public. The Council is a Highway authority and as such has a statutory duty to maintain the highways. Further, users can claim damages for physical injury or as a result of failure to comply with statutory duties. Taking any finding from this area, poses significant risk of claims.
4. Officers and Members had considered every area of expenditure and all budgets to close the £2m shortfall in budgets.

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

N/A

DECISION SHEET**ACTION BY****67. Draft Tree Strategy Public Consultation**

Director, Place and Growth -
Steve Moore

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive approved an eight week public consultation on the draft Tree Strategy.

Reason for Decision

To give residents of the borough an opportunity to contribute to the development of the strategy and the actions the Council intends to take to improve tree management and maintenance and guide the authority's approach to trees and woodlands across the borough.

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

N/A

DECISION SHEET

ACTION BY

68. Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West Integrated Care Partnership Joint Committee

Director, Adult Social Care and Health - Matt Pope

DECISION

RESOLVED that the Executive:

- i) noted the establishment of a new joint committee – the Integrated Care Partnership covering the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West area – and in principle, the working draft terms of reference for this partnership (See Annex 1 of the report)
- ii) approved the appointment of the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Services to this partnership and the Leader of the Council as substitute.

Reason for Decision

The Health and Care Act 2022 established Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) as legal entities and created new NHS bodies called Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). Within this legislation all ICSs are required to establish new partnership forums called Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs). These bring together ICBs and local authorities with responsibility for Social Care and Public Health in order to integrate the services they plan, purchase, and provide for local 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

N/A

Priya PatelHead of Democratic and Electoral Services

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