

Cabinet Executive Decisions Notice

Committee: Cabinet
Date of meeting: Tuesday, 18 February 2025
Date of publication: Midday on Thursday 20 February 2025
Call-in period to expire: Midnight on Thursday 27 February 2025

NOTE: The publication of this document constitutes notice of the various decisions made by the Cabinet as required by the Constitution and, except where otherwise stated, those decisions will take effect five working days after they are published, unless an overview and scrutiny committee objects to them and they are called in.

Agenda item 5: Youth Voice: a process for hearing the voice of young people in Cheltenham

RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. the update on progress made to date by No Child Left Behind - set out in Section 3 of the report - is noted;**
- 2. the outcome from recent engagement with young people (see Section 4 and Appendix 4 – “In their own words – youth survey report”) is noted;**
- 3. the work ahead to support the NCLB Year of Youth Action – see Section 5 of the report – is endorsed;**
- 4. the principles of the national Hear by Right are endorsed, and completion of a self-assessment is agreed (see Section 6).**

Subject to call-in period: No

Agenda item 6: Local Validation Checklist

RESOLVED THAT:

- the draft Local Validation List is approved (with its final published form/format/ appearance delegated to Head of Planning, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control).**



Subject to call-in period: Yes

Agenda item 7: Delivery of Vacant Units and Town Centre Land Use Efficiency Action Plan - update

RESOLVED THAT:

- the report updating on progress against delivery of the vacant units action plan to date is noted.

Subject to call-in period: No

Agenda item 8: Volunteering Policy and Processes

RESOLVED THAT:

1. the following policies and processes are adopted:
 - The Gloucestershire Volunteering Collaborative definition of volunteering (see Section 3.1)
 - Cheltenham Borough Council's updated Volunteer Policy (Appendix 3)
 - Template partnership agreement with constituted groups (Appendix 4)
 - Cheltenham Borough Council's updated Volunteer Handbook (Appendix 5).
2. authority is delegated to the Participation and Engagement Team Leader in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Safety and Communities and the Council's Leadership team to keep the policy and supporting documentation under review and to make changes as necessary to reflect best practice and legal and operational requirements.

Subject to call-in period: No



Agenda item 9: Dedication Agreement at Pittville Park - A435 Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve Cycleway

RESOLVED THAT:

- the council should enter into the Deed of Dedication which contributes to the fundamental priorities of the Corporate Plan and Net Zero ambitions.

Subject to call-in period: No

Agenda item 10: Corporate Risk Register - update

RESOLVED THAT:

- the Corporate Risk Register is noted.

Subject to call-in period: No

Agenda item 11: Business Rate Reliefs

RESOLVED THAT:

1. Discretionary Rate Relief Policy set out in Appendix 3 is approved;
2. the Head of Revenues and Benefits is authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets, to implement any changes to the temporary relief schemes detailed in Appendix 3, as required by Government, or to ensure the successful operation of the schemes;
3. decisions relating to the award of Discretionary Rate Relief in section 2, Hardship Relief in section 3 and Partly Occupied Relief in Section 4 of the policy in Appendix 3 are delegated as follows:
 - Awards of up to £20,000 to be determined by the Head of Revenues and Benefits with reconsiderations being determined by the Deputy Chief Executive
 - Awards between £20,000 and £100,000 to be determined by the Deputy Chief Executive with reconsiderations being determined by the Cabinet Member Finance and Assets



4. **due to the volume of cases, decisions in respect the award of temporary reliefs detailed in Appendix 3 are delegated to the Head of Revenues and Benefits and officers in the Business Rates team. In the case of a dispute, reconsideration will be made by the Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer;**
5. **the Monitoring Officer is authorised to make the necessary changes to the Council's Constitution.**

Subject to call-in period: Yes

Agenda item 12: Housing Revenue Account Revised Forecast 2024-25 and Budget 2025-26

RESOLVED THAT: Cabinet recommends that Council:

1. **Approves the final HRA budget proposals for 2025/26 shown at Appendix 2;**
2. **Approves a rent increase of 2.7% for social rent homes, affordable homes and shared ownership homes and changes to other rents and charges as detailed within this report;**
3. **Approves the HRA capital programme as shown at Appendix 3 and the detailed capital programme in Appendix 4;**
4. **Notes the revised HRA forecast for 2024/25 and impact on the HRA balance.**

Subject to call-in period: Yes

Agenda item 13: Final General Revenue & Capital Budget Proposals 2025-26 and Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report October-December 2024

RESOLVED THAT: Cabinet recommends that Council:

1. **Approves the revised budget for 2024/25 which is reported as part of the budget monitoring process for 31 December 2024 in Section 6 and Appendix 17.**
2. **Considers the budget assessment by the Section 151 Officer at Appendix 2 in agreeing the following recommendations.**



- 3. Approves the final budget proposals including a proposed council tax for the services provided by Cheltenham Borough Council of £244.79 for the year 2025/26 based on a Band D property (an increase of 2.99%), as detailed in paragraphs 9.1 to 9.6.**
- 4. Approves the savings / additional income totalling £1,130,000 and the budget strategy at Appendix 4.**
- 5. Approves the revenue growth items totalling £392,647 at Appendix 5.**
- 6. Approves the capital programme at Appendix 6.**
- 7. Approves the use of reserves and general balances and note the projected level of reserves, as detailed at Appendix 7.**
- 8. Approves the programmed maintenance programme at Appendix 8.**
- 9. Approves the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) detailed in Appendix 9.**
- 10. Approves the flexible use of capital receipts strategy as detailed in Appendix 10.**
- 11. Notes the Council position in relation to the Gloucestershire business rates pool for 2025/26.**
- 12. Approves the Pay Policy Statement for 2025/26, including the continued payment of a living wage supplement at Appendix 11.**
- 13. Notes the responses to the questions raised during the budget consultation in Appendix 12.**
- 14. Approves the proposed fees and charges schedule for 2025/26 at Appendix 13, subject to appropriate consultation where required.**
- 15. Approves the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy 2025/26 at Appendix 14;**
- 16. Approves a level of supplementary estimate of £100,000 for 2025/26 as outlined in Section 18.**

Based on the information included in Section 15 of this report:

- 17. Approves the delivery of the Mobility Hub as a single-phase construction and increase the Councils commitment under the Development Funding Agreement to facilitate this change.**



18. Notes that a single-phase delivery is forecast to generate a further £4.8m in land receipts to the Council.

19. Notes that despite an increased funding commitment under the Development Funding Agreement, this is more than offset by the provision of £20m in Levelling Up Funding; overall borrowing is circa £10.6m lower than previously approved.

20. Delegates authority to the Deputy Chief Executive (Section 151 Officer) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Major Developments and Housing Delivery to finalise the terms of a Deed of Variation to the Development Funding Agreement.

Subject to call-in period: Yes

Agenda item 14: Local Development Scheme

RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. the updated Local Development Scheme for Cheltenham Borough, attached to the report at Appendix 3, is adopted with immediate effect;**
- 2. authority is delegated to the Director of Community and Economic Development, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning and Building Control, to prepare the Local Development Scheme for publication, correcting any minor errors of spelling, grammar, and typographical and formatting changes that do not affect the substantive content of the Local Development Scheme.**

Subject to call-in period: Yes