



# Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

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Minutes of a **MEETING of the CABINET** held at Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Tuesday, 12th July, 2022 at 10.00 am

**PRESENT:** Councillor R Powell (Vice-Chair) Councillor S Harvey  
Councillor M Oxley Councillor K Payne  
Councillor D Wilby

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor L Stephenson

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mark Andrews Chief Executive  
Saverio Della Rocca Strategic Director for Resources  
Dawn Godfrey Strategic Director of Children's Services  
John Morley Strategic Director for Adults and Health  
Angela Wakefield Director of Legal & Governance,  
(Monitoring Officer)  
Mike Slater Head of Sustainable Economy and Place  
David Ebbage Governance Officer

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor G Waller

## 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor L Stephenson.

## 2 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND/OR HEAD OF THE PAID SERVICE

Councillor R Powell had one announcement regarding the Levelling Up funding that was approved at the June Cabinet meeting.

Cabinet approved the submission of a joint application for the round two of levelling up funding. It was a condition of this funding that local authorities included in their application various pro formas obliging the Senior Responsible Officer (Project Lead) and the Chief Finance Officer to sign declarations giving several assurances required by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Those pro forma's could not be altered, no additional conditions could be added even though the terms of the declarations did place unreasonable expectations on the signatories.

Officers had signed the declarations based on their current knowledge and with the intention of keeping the obligations under review. Should the Council believe that the

declared obligations could not be met at any point, the Council would have to decide whether it continues with the process or agrees to accept any funding offered. This approach was widely adopted by local authorities elsewhere in the Country in order to enable us to apply for that funding.

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **4 RECORD OF DECISIONS**

Consideration was given to the record of decisions made following the meeting of Cabinet on 14 June.

#### **RESOLVED**

- a) That the record of decisions made at the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14 June 2022 be **APPROVED**.

### **5 ITEMS RAISED BY SCRUTINY**

Councillor R Powell received a comprehensive report from Councillor G Waller following the most recent Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee which was held on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The report was attached to these minutes.

### **6 ANNUAL REPORT ON TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2021/22**

Report No.125/2022 was introduced by Councillor K Payne, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Performance, Change and Transformation.

The report set the Treasury Management Strategy for 2021/22 linked to the Council's Budget, Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Plans. It was inextricably linked to delivering the Council's aims and objectives.

The Treasury Management report was approved by Full Council in February 2022. The Council continued to adopt a low-risk strategy and also confirmed that the Council did not undertake any new external borrowing or repay any external debt as there was not a business case to do so during 2021-22.

The Council had invested with institutions as determined by the revised creditworthiness criteria approved by the Section 151 Officer.

Councillor Payne also mentioned to Members that the Council made a positive return on investment of 0.38% compared to SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average) rate of 0.34%.

It was proposed by Councillor K Payne that the recommendations of report No. 125/2022 be agreed, this was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously agreed.

## RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- a) **NOTED** the actual 2021/22 prudential indicators within the report
- b) **NOTED** the treasury management stewardship for 2021/22 was in compliance with the treasury management strategy.

## 7 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND INVESTMENT PLANS

Report No. 134/2022 was introduced by Councillor D Wilby, Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services.

Councillor Wilby explained to Members that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is the Government's domestic replacement for the European Structural and Investment Programme (ESIF). The Council had been allocated £1,000,000 over 3 years, this was the minimum level of UKSPF investment.

Accessing this funding was dependent on submitting an Investment Plan by 1 August 2022 to be approved by Government in the Autumn.

In addition to the Core UKSPF allocation, Rutland had been allocated £144,324 of 'multiply' funding over the 3 years of 2022/23 to 2024/25 with an anticipated allocation of a maximum of £43,000 in Year 1. This funding was intended to support the delivery of bespoke adult numeracy programmes within local areas.

It was made clear to Members that particular attention would be given to families who would move into Kendrew Barracks within the next couple of years to be included in the target group to help with their key skills.

It was proposed by Councillor D Wilby that the recommendations of report No. 134/2022 be agreed, this was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously agreed.

That Cabinet:

- a) **NOTED** the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus and provisional funding allocation.
- b) **NOTED** the submission to Government of an investment plan for £144,326 of Multiply funding to support adult numeracy programmes by the deadline of 30th June 2022.
- c) **DELEGATED** authority to the Strategic Director of Places and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance, to develop and submit to Government an evidence-based investment plan to access the County's allocation of £1,000,000 allocation of Core UK Shared Prosperity Funding by the 1<sup>st</sup> August deadline.
- d) **NOTED** that Cabinet would be asked to approve any associated terms and conditions.

- e) **APPROVED** the use of the available £20,000 capacity funding to undertake initial preparatory work for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, including developing the local investment plan for submission.
- f) **APPROVED** the use of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund 4% administration allocation to support the productive delivery and administration of the fund.

## 8 **PROCUREMENT OF NEW INSURANCE CONTRACT**

Report No.111/2022 was introduced by Councillor K Payne, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Performance, Change and Transformation.

The Council currently had a contract with Zurich Municipal for all its insurance services which the contract was due to expire on 31 March 2023.

The original term was for 7 years, but the Council extended the original term by two years during the pandemic as resources were diverted.

It was currently anticipated that an insurance framework will be used as it includes the main local government insurers. The Tender term would be for a minimum of 5 years and a maximum of 10 years, with extensions from year 5 and for it to commence in April 2023.

As the new contract needed to be in place by 1st April 2023 and post-tender all of the insurance policy documents would need to be provided and reviewed for compliance, Cabinet was asked to recommend to Council to delegate authority to award the new contract(s) for the insurance cover to the Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

It was proposed by Councillor K Payne that the recommendations of report No. 111/2022 be agreed, this was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously agreed

### **RESOLVED**

That Cabinet:

- a) **RECOMMENDED** to Council to delegate the award of the Insurance Services contract to the Strategic Director for Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance.
- b) **RECOMMENDED** to Council to delegate the finalisation of the evaluation criteria to the Strategic Director of Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Finance, based on the advice of the Insurance Broker to achieve best value, on the proviso that price was maintained at a minimum of 50%.

## 9 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was moved by the Chair that the meeting remain in a public session as it was felt Cabinet would be able to consider Report No.136/2022 without divulging the contents of the confidential appendices to the reports. This was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously carried.

## RESOLVED

- a) That the meeting continue in a public session without exclusion of the press or public.

### 10 WASTE AND STREETSCENE SERVICES (INCLUDING WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL) - STRATEGY AND PROCUREMENT

Report No.136/2022 was introduced by Councillor M Oxley, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Environment and Climate Change.

The report asked for approval to re-procure the waste and streetscene services (including waste and recycling collection and disposal) as detailed in the pre-procurement business case. The report also requested approval of a new Waste and Recycling Strategy for Rutland 2022-2035, which was attached at Appendix B within the report.

The Councils existing waste collection and disposal contracts was due to end on 31st March 2024 and cannot be further extended.

The new collection service would introduce a separate weekly food waste collection and separate fortnightly collections of a mix of paper and cardboard and separate dry mixed recycling (glass, cans and plastic). Fortnightly garden waste collections would be continued in the present format.

Cabinet also approved a reduction in the capacity for residual waste, however, in addition to the proposed 140 litre bins to be collected fortnightly, required a variant bid of 240 litre bins to be collected 4-weekly to be explored in the procurement.

The Growth, Infrastructure and Resources (GIR) Scrutiny Committee considered the design of the waste and recycling collection service during a series of meetings from September 2021 to February 2022 as reported back to Cabinet in March 2022.

Members were aware of the potential cost risks associated with the new contract and would not know the total cost of the service delivery until it went to procurement.

It was proposed by Councillor M Oxley that the recommendations of report No. 136/2022 be agreed, this was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously agreed

## RESOLVED

- a) **APPROVED** the re-procurement of the integrated Waste and Streetscene services (including waste and recycling collection and disposal) contract as detailed in the Pre-Procurement Business Case attached at appendix A.
- b) **DELEGATED** authority to the Strategic Director of Places in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder with responsibility for Environmental Services to finalise the tender and contract documentation.
- c) **APPROVED** the Municipal Waste Management and Streetscene Strategy 2022-2035.

d) **NOTED** that the Council has invoked a contractual option to extend (Biffa Contract) and an option to extend under Regulation 72 (1)(b) PCR 2015 (FCC Environment; Casepak and Mid-UK contracts), so that all contracts have a co-terminus end date and expire on the 31 March 2024. There was no further extension options available.

e) **NOTED** that the Clinical waste service would be procured in a stand-alone contract in advance of the main consolidated waste contract re-procurement.

## **11 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by the Chair that the public and press be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as the following item of business as was likely to lead to disclosure of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person. This was seconded and upon being put to the vote the motion was unanimously carried.

### **RESOLVED**

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

## **12 PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE PROPOSALS**

Consideration was given to Report No.126/2022 from the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Highways and Transport, following consideration it was moved by Councillor R Powell and seconded that the recommendations be approved. This was seconded and being put to vote the motion was unanimously agreed.

### **RESOLVED**

That Cabinet:

**APPROVED** the recommendations of Report No. 126/2022.

## **13 ANY ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business.

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**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.58am.**

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## **Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Report to Cabinet/Council**

Date of Strategic Overview & Scrutiny Committee Meeting: 7 July 2022

Agenda Item: 3 Actions Arising

- There is limited interest in undertaking work on The Customer Experience (see recommendation below)
- There was some confusion over the status of The Culture Review (see recommendation below) but Cllrs G. Brown and G. Waller are interested in looking further into this.

Agenda item: 9 Dental Services

- The September meeting is the Focus of the review of Dentistry but at this meeting we had helpful information from the portfolio holder and identified the key lines of enquiry we would be using for September. We have requested the portfolio holder attends on 8 September.

Agenda item: 13 Waste and Street Cleansing

- Committee questioned why Bring Banks were to be included in the contract as their use has declined with increased kerbside recycling. Is this likely to increase contract price?
- Committee agreed educating the public on recycling and also what to put into each bin was worthwhile but a clear list of what not to put in bins, especially the recycling and food waste bins, was essential. Members applauded the initiative of sticky labels for bins.

- There was much discussion on the possibility of a waste transfer station. Members asked that the outline business case due at Cabinet on 5 September (?) be brought to scrutiny prior to cabinet making a decision. A waste transfer station would require significant investment and given the Council's current financial situation the Scrutiny Commission feels it is something it should consider.
- Members felt a 240ltr black bin collection every month was not desirable given items such as nappies and incontinence pads (for those who were not registered as needing them and thus having clinical waste collections) should not be left a month before collection.

### **Recommendations:**

- Cabinet member provide some guidance to scrutiny as to what they think a review of the customer experience might look like and when, ideally, they would like it done.
- Cabinet provide scrutiny with the report on cultural provision produced whilst Cllr Stephenson was portfolio holder, and any more recent thinking on culture. Scrutiny is keen to see enhanced cultural provision as an asset to tourism and for our cultural facilities to, at the very least, break even. Portfolio holders for Culture and Finance work with Cllr G. Brown (who is leading Scrutiny's interest in this area) and Cllr. G. Waller to scope scrutiny's involvement with culture.

- Cabinet ensure the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers initial work on a waste transfer station in a timely fashion.
- Cabinet ensures a log of customer questions relating to what to put in each bin is kept and used to inform RCC's waste collection web page and future notices to residents.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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