



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

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RECORD OF DECISIONS AT A MEETING OF THE CABINET

Tuesday, 14th February, 2023 at 10.00 am

Cllr Lucy Stephenson (Chair)	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Policy, Strategy, Partnerships and Economy
Cllr Rosemary Powell (Vice-Chair)	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Planning, Highways and Transport
Cllr Samantha Harvey	Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care
Cllr Karen Payne	Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Performance, Change and Transformation
Cllr David Wilby	Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services

Decisions Published on 14th February 2023

Key Decisions will be implemented on 22nd February unless the Call-in Procedure as outlined in Procedure Rule 149 is invoked.

16a) CATMOSE SPORTS LEISURE CONTRACT

RESOLVED

That Cabinet agreed to rescind its decision of 12th January 2023 and:

- 1) **APPROVED** the extension of the Stevenage Leisure Limited contract for the operation of the Catmose Sports Centre for up to 24 months, to 31st March 2025, to enable the development and implementation of a new model for future provision and in particular to conduct a new tender exercise under which the Council could invite and/or not discount alternative bids that may come with some financial risk and/or contribution to allow such bids to be evaluated.
- 2) **DELEGATED** authority to the Strategic Director for Places in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to agree terms for an extension to the contract with Stevenage Leisure Limited based on an open book approach and underwriting financial risk; and to agree a position on dilapidations.
- 3) **DELEGATED** authority to the Strategic Director for Places in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to explore business continuity arrangements for the duration of the contract extension.

- 4) **APPROVED** the use of the existing £300k provision set aside to exit the facility or fund the extension of the contract to also cover any costs associated with procurement and negotiations.

6 SEND CAPITAL FUNDING

RESOLVED

That Cabinet **RECOMMENDED** to Council:

- 1) To approve the allocation of £1,000,390 from Department for Education Capital Grant funding provided to Rutland County Council to resource Capital programmes and develop additional school facilities locally for children with Special Needs and Disabilities.
- 2) Delegates authority to the Strategic Director for Children and Families and the Strategic Director for Resources to decide how the maximum allocation would be applied.
- 3) Delegates authority to the Strategic Director for Children and Families in consultation with the Director of Legal & Governance, Monitoring Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services, to enter into all necessary agreements to progress the programme.
- 4) Notes that the Capital Grant has conditions and that RCC would have to sign an assurance statement confirming RCC had used the Capital Grant for its intended purpose. Accordingly, any capital programmes would not create any ongoing revenue pressure from use of the Capital Grant and that the programme only support schemes that either reduce or avoid costs.
- 5) Notes the tight grant timelines, the Delivering Better Value Review context and the imperative for agile project working.
- 6) Notes the anticipated projects would likely increase sufficiency of SEND places in Early Years and Primary phase mainstream education and Secondary Phase Alternative provision.

7 HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **RECOMMENDED** to Council the approval of the spend from the Department for Transport (DfT) allocation for the Highway Capital Programme for the Capital Highway Maintenance Block, Integrated Transport, Capital Pothole and Incentive Funds received to the value of £2,843,000 for 2023/24 as per Appendix A.
- 2) **RECOMMENDED** to Council to delegate authority to the Director of Places in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Highways and Transport to agree any substitution of projects if the identified schemes cannot proceed.

8 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT CONTRACT AWARD

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **APPROVED** the procurement model (section 4) and criteria for the award of home to school transport (appendix B) contracts for academic year 23/24.
- 2) **DELEGATED** authority to the Strategic Director for Places in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Highways & Transport to award the contracts resulting from this procurement.

9 FEES AND CHARGES 2023-24

RESOLVED

That Cabinet **RECOMMENDED** to Council:

- 1) To approve the level of fees and charges for 23/24, set out in Appendices A, B and C.
- 2) To approve new fees for:
 - Highways - temporary access vehicle crossing applications and permits on major developments (para 4.3.1)
 - Highways – new developments technical approval process (para 4.3.2)
 - Highways – roadside gullies mapping onto Kaarbon Tech (para 4.3.3)
 - Bulky Waste – including stopping free collections and £3 surcharge (para 4.5.2)
 - Recycling and Residual Waste bins for new build properties (para 4.5.5)
 - A new monitoring and management fee for the First Home Scheme para 4.8.1)
- 3) To note that taxi and private hire vehicle licenses fees will be subject to change based on the outcome of forthcoming consultation through a public notice procedure and be brought back for approval following that consultation.
- 4) To note that Appendix D includes fees set nationally (some are still to be confirmed).
- 5) To note that fees and charges excluded from this report are listed at 2.3.

10 PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022-23

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **NOTED** the contents of the performance report and the progress in delivering the strategic aims within the Corporate Strategy 2022-2027.

11 REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET 2023/24

RESOLVED

That Cabinet **RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL** that it:

- approves the General Fund Budget (Net Expenditure) for 2023/24 of £46.549m (section 9)
- approves budget reductions at service level (service savings, reversal of National Insurance rise and use of earmarked reserves) of £1.735m (Section 9.3) and corporate budget reductions of £1.889m as per section 9.3
- approves budget increases to meet service pressures of £5.401m arising from the inflation, cost of living and demand (Section 9.3) and a pay contingency of £743k
- approves the use of £589k of reserves to subsidise the main budget (Section 9) plus £900k set aside from general reserves to fund the Local Plan, Leisure and High Needs deficit (Section 7.1.4)
- approves the Council Tax resolution in Appendix 9 including an increase in Council Tax for Rutland County Council of 4.99% (2% for the Adult Social Care precept and 2.99% for main council tax) resulting in a Band D charge of £2,013.04 (Section 8)
- approves the award of up to an additional £25 discount on council tax bills for those individuals receiving local council tax support with an outstanding council tax liability to be funded from a Government grant (section 8.2.13).
- notes the outcome of consultation (section 13)
- approves changes to earmarked reserves as per Section 7.1.4
- approves additions/deletions to the capital programme as per Section 10
- notes the position on the Dedicated Schools Grant budget (Section 12)
- notes that additional revenue or capital expenditure may be incurred in 2023/24 funded through 2022/23 budget under spends to be carried forward via earmarked reserves. The use of reserves for budget carry forwards is not currently shown in the budget but will have no impact on the General Fund
- approves the estimated surplus of £38k on the Collection Fund as at 31 March 2023 (Section 8.3) of which £33k is the Rutland share.
- notes that the Director for Resources may ask for additional funds to support those in hardship as requested by Cabinet if required.

13 WRITE OFF IRRECOVERABLE DEBTS

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **NOTED** the action taken to recover outstanding debts.
- 2) **APPROVED** the write off of the debts shown in Exempt Appendix A.

14 DHSC FAIR COST OF CARE & ADULT SOCIAL CARE FEE SETTING FOR CARE HOMES AND HOME CARE

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **NOTED** the outcomes of the Fair Cost of Care exercise.
- 2) **APPROVED** negotiation of fees with providers as set out in Exempt Appendix A
- 3) **DELEGATED** final approval of the fee rates to the Strategic Director for Adult Services and Health, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Care.

15 PUBLIC BUS NETWORK REVIEW

RESOLVED

That Cabinet:

- 1) **NOTED** the longlist of options available for consideration for future public bus network re-design as set out in exempt Appendix 1, the objectives of the review and the evaluation criteria against which any future option on the network redesign would be assessed.
- 2) **APPROVED** the development of a business case to consider the preferred delivery models as set out in section 4 and paragraph 5.14 of exempt Appendix 1 to identify the best option to deliver our public bus network for further consideration by Cabinet in Autumn 2023.