

Summary of Executive Decisions taken on 14 December 2023

Part I

Capital Financing Report Financial Year 2023/24 Quarter Two (EX4363) (Item 6.)

Resolved that:

Members are asked:

- To note the quarter two underspend position of £15.4 million and reprofiling proposals of £10.7 million. Reprofiling proposals are included in appendix C.
- To note the budget changes included in the quarter two position detailed in appendix A, which include revisions for schemes approved by Executive at quarter one as well as other variation to grant funded schemes. The changes result in a net increase in expenditure budgets of £4.4 million and an increase in the Council funded element of the programme of £2.2m million.

Members are asked to approve the following recommendation:

- The transfer of £164k of software licence costs from the ICT revenue budgets to be added to the cost of the 2023/24 council funded ICT capital programme:

The Council already capitalise core Microsoft licence costs and the recommendation is to adopt a consistent approach for other similar system licence costs. This would require an uplift in council funded capital expenditure in the current financial year of £164k, with ongoing capitalisation to apply in subsequent financial years, as appropriate (appendix B).

This decision is eligible to be 'called-in'. However, if the decision has not been 'called-in' by 5.00pm on 22 December 2023, then it will be implemented.

2023/24 Revenue Financial Performance Quarter Two (EX4362) (Item 7.)

Resolved that: Executive

- Note the £3.3m forecast overspend, a reduction of £3m from Quarter One.
- Note the implementation of measures included in the report around recruitment, staffing and agency.
- Note the continuation of Financial Review Panel (FRP) meeting weekly to ensure the spending limits are being adhered to.

This decision is not subject to call in as:

If you have any queries regarding these decisions, please contact:

Sadie Owen, Principal Democratic Services Officer Tel: (01635) 519052 or e-mail: sadie.owen1@westberks.gov.uk

Summary of Executive Decisions taken on 14 December 2023

(continued)

- *Report is to note only*

therefore it will be implemented immediately.

2023/24 Performance Report Quarter Two (EX4351) (Item 8.)

Resolved that: Executive

- Note the progress made in delivering the Council Strategy Delivery Plan 2023-2027, maintaining a strong outcome for the majority of the measures, and remedial actions taken where performance is below target.

This decision is not subject to call in as:

- *Report is to note only*

therefore it will be implemented immediately.

Newbury Town Centre Pedestrianisation Extension Trial (EX4416) (Item 9.)

Resolved that: Executive approves

- the making of an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order to extend the hours of pedestrianisation in Newbury Town Centre, subject to any required Secretary of State approval.
- in principle the making of a Traffic Regulation Order to extend the hours of pedestrianisation in Newbury Town Centre subject to formal consultation, should the SoS not give consent to the use of an ETRO.

This decision is eligible to be 'called-in'. However, if the decision has not been 'called-in' by 5.00pm on 22 December 2023, then it will be implemented.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework (EX4354) (Item 10.)

Resolved that Executive:

a) Note the evidence base contained within Appendix C and D for the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework, including the changes within West Berkshire which requires a new approach.

b) Agree the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Framework, as contained within Appendix E, which includes a draft EDI Action Plan for the next 12 months.

c) Agree the new Equality Impact Assessment in Appendix F for use in assessing the impact of decisions and changes on diverse groups within our communities.

d) Agree the updated Action Plan (separate updated document Sept 2023) additional

If you have any queries regarding these decisions, please contact:

Sadie Owen, Principal Democratic Services Officer Tel: (01635) 519052 or e-mail: sadie.owen1@westberks.gov.uk

Summary of Executive Decisions taken on 14 December 2023

(continued)

Appendix G.

This decision is not subject to call in as:

- *the item has been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, or has been the subject of a review undertaken by another body within the preceding six months.*

therefore it will be implemented immediately.

Contract Award for the Provision of Bus Service Network Contract (EX4398) (Item 11.)

Resolved that:

Please see the Part Two Report for decision.

Rural England Prosperity Fund Business Grant Scheme (EX4467) (Item 12.)

Resolved that:

- The proposals for the design of the business grant scheme which are set out in Section 6 are approved; and that the scheme is launched in line with the delivery programme set out in paragraph 6.22.
- If approved by Executive, then the scheme will be launched immediately.

This decision is eligible to be 'called-in'. However, if the decision has not been 'called-in' by 5.00pm on 22 December 2023, then it will be implemented.

Senior Management Restructure (Resources) (EX4471) (Item 13.)

Resolved that Executive:

- Authorise the potential redundancy payments detailed in the Part II Report.

This decision is not subject to call in as:

- *a delay in implementing the decision this would cause the Council serious financial implications or could compromise the Council's position.*

therefore it will be implemented immediately.

Response to Council Motion on the 'Rwanda Scheme' (EX4466) (Item 14.)

Resolved that Executive:

If you have any queries regarding these decisions, please contact:

Sadie Owen, Principal Democratic Services Officer Tel: (01635) 519052 or e-mail: sadie.owen1@westberks.gov.uk

Summary of Executive Decisions taken on 14 December 2023

(continued)

- Write to the Government to request an end to the proposed offshoring of people seeking refuge to third countries and to demand an end to the deal with Rwanda, and
- Offer support where we can to ensure that all refugees are treated with dignity and given the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the economy and cultural life of West Berkshire, and
- Council be updated on the decision of the Executive.

This decision is eligible to be 'called-in'. However, if the decision has not been 'called-in' by 5.00pm on 22 December 2023, then it will be implemented.

Awareness Days (EX4458) (Item 15.)

Resolved that Executive:

- Review and approve the programme of Awareness Days which will be supported in 2024.

This decision is eligible to be 'called-in'. However, if the decision has not been 'called-in' by 5.00pm on 22 December 2023, then it will be implemented.

Contract Award for the Provision of Bus Service Network Contract (EX4398) (Exempt Item 18.)

Resolved that:

Executive resolves to award the contract for the Bus Services Network Contract for the initial period covering 2nd September 2024 to 1st September 2029 (with a further three-year extension clause).

This decision is eligible to be 'called-in'. However, if the decision has not been 'called-in' by 5.00pm on 22 December 2023, then it will be implemented.

Senior Management Restructure (Resources) Potential Redundancy (EX4471) (Exempt Item 19.)

Resolved that:

Executive authorise the potential redundancy payments as detailed in appendix A.

This decision is not subject to call in as:

- *a delay in implementing the decision this would cause the Council serious financial implications or could compromise the Council's position.*

therefore it will be implemented immediately.

If you have any queries regarding these decisions, please contact:

Sadie Owen, Principal Democratic Services Officer Tel: (01635) 519052 or e-mail: sadie.owen1@westberks.gov.uk