

COUNTY COUNCIL – 11 SEPTEMBER 2018

REPORT OF THE CABINET

N.B. Please note that decisions are set out below under the relevant Cabinet Member at 17 July 2018. Where responsibility has moved following the changes to Cabinet Member portfolios this is indicated under the individual item)

Cabinet Member: Leader

1. Engagement of External Advisory Services

(Cabinet, 17 July 2018)

Cabinet considered a report seeking the agreement of Cabinet to the principle of engaging an external provider to deliver expert advisory services to the Council over the next three years on the Fit for the Future programme and other associated strategic change initiatives. The report also set out the proposed procurement approach

Cabinet approved entering into an agreement to the Islington procurement framework.

Cabinet Member: Adult Social Care

2. Innovation Funding

(Cabinet, 17 July 2018)

The Innovation Fund for Daytime support 2018-19 was open to applications from all community and voluntary organisations to deliver new innovative projects for daytime support in Oxfordshire.

As per the agreed cross-party decision-making process, the cross-party panel reviewed the applications and assessed them against grant criteria.

Cabinet considered a report setting out the final cross-party panel recommendations and agreed funding to the following projects/groups

- (1) Witney Day Centre
- (2) Green Pastures
- (3) My Life My Choice
- (4) Age UK Oxfordshire
- (5) Faringdon Sensory Garden
- (6) Marston Community Gardening
- (7) Oxfordshire Chinese Community & Advice

Cabinet Member: Public Health & Education

3. Follow-up to Call in - Home to School Transport and Travel Policy

(Cabinet, 17 July 2018)

(Following the changes to Cabinet Member Portfolios this is now the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Education & Cultural Services)

At their meeting on 5 July 2018, the Performance Scrutiny Committee considered the decision of Cabinet made on 19 June 2018 following proper notice of a call in. The Committee referred the decision back to Cabinet for it to consider in the light of material concerns.

Cabinet agreed to defer the decision on transport for Special Educational Needs as originally set out at Minute 68/18, resolution 1(a) and (b) until late Autumn school term to allow discussion; they reconfirmed the remaining decisions subject to the removal of reference to the new Post 16 Home to School/College Transport Policy. Cabinet further agreed that a Cabinet Advisory Group be set up to consider the issues raised

Cabinet Member: Environment

4. Performance Scrutiny Household Recycling Deep Dive Recommendations

(Cabinet, 17 July 2018)

The Performance Scrutiny Committee had led a deep dive into Oxfordshire's falling household recycling rates and deteriorating performance outlook to understand the underlying reasons for this and to commend remedial action.

Cabinet considered and responded to a report detailing the recommendations arising from the deep dive and instructed that their response be reported to the next meeting of the Performance Scrutiny Committee.

Cabinet Member: Finance

5. Financial Monitoring and Medium Term Financial Plan Delivery Report - May 2018

(Cabinet, 17 July 2018)

Cabinet considered a report that set out the forecast position of the revenue budgets as at the end of May 2018. The report also included an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan savings, reserves and balances.

Cabinet approved virements; noted the use of the £7.5m iBCF ringfenced grant funding in 2018/19; approved the transfer of the Troubled Families Payment by Results Grant Funding into the Government Initiatives Reserve for use by Children's Services; approved the transfer of £3.9m from the

Budget Priorities Reserve to the Transformation Reserve; approved the bad debt write-offs and fees and charges.

6. Capital Programme Monitoring Report - May 2018

(Cabinet 17 July 2018)

Cabinet had before them the first separate capital programme update and monitoring report. The report focused on the delivery of the 2018/19 capital programme based on projections at the end of May 2018 and new inclusions within the overall ten-year capital programme.

Cabinet approved the updated Capital Programme and in particular gave approval to:

- the basic need programme;
- the School Structural Maintenance Programme for 2018/19;
- the inclusion of the budget requirement for the developer led new primary schools for Crab Hill, Wantage, North Curbridge, West Witney and Graven Hill, Bicester;
- the commencement of the re-provision of Maltfield House;
- the stage 0 budget requirement towards the Children Services Phase 2 electronic social care record system;
- the revised two-year Highways Structural Maintenance Programme;
- the additional Highways Structural Maintenance Programme for 2018/19;
- the production of a business case to support the significant borrowing investment in the Council's assets;
- the inclusion of funding for the investment in the Street Lighting estate;
- the inclusion of the Botley Road Corridor scheme as part of the Growth Deal Infrastructure Programme;
- the inclusion of the budget requirements towards the Housing Infrastructure Fund bid projects for Didcot Garden Town and A40; and
- the inclusion of the budget requirement towards improvements to facilities at Didcot Library.

Cabinet Member: Property & Cultural Services

7. Cogges Manor Farm

(Cabinet, 17 July 2018)

(Following the changes to Cabinet Member Portfolios this is now the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Transformation)

Cogges Heritage Trust (the Trust) have provisionally been awarded circa £1m of Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) to undertake work / improvements to the Cogges Manor Farm buildings which are owned by the County Council and leased to the Trust. The Council retains responsibility for structural repairs.

The current lease terms do not align with HLF policy and consequently the HLF have asked the Council to vary the lease terms. The HLF requirement to make changes to the lease has brought an opportunity to reconsider the future of Cogges Farm and negotiate other changes. An alternative proposal

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has been put to the Trust, and this was submitted by the Trust to the HLF Board on 26 June 2018. Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to the proposals which is required to enable the Council to proceed if agreement on terms can be reached.

Cabinet agreed to declare the property surplus to requirements and approved the principle of transferring Cogges Manor Farm to the Cogges Heritage Trust, on terms that accord with the Council's statutory obligations or if terms cannot be agreed, to grant a new lease upon terms that satisfy the Council's and HLF requirements. Cabinet further agreed subject to the transfer of Cogges Manor Farm, to approve the transfer of £1m to Cogges Heritage Trust in full and final settlement of all the Council's liabilities and obligations under the lease.

IAN HUDSPETH

Leader of the Council

August 2018