

# CABINET Post-Decision

## Summary of the Decisions taken

**Date of Meeting** Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 **Issued By:-** Nick Pontone

**Date of Delivery to Members:** Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

**Date which any call in must be received by:** Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2024

**Implementation of decisions delayed to:** Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

(Other than those items marked with an asterisk (\*) which need to be implemented urgently and those items marked with a hash (#) which have been considered by scrutiny in the past 6<sup>th</sup> months and cannot be called in).

AGENDA ITEM.	SUBJECT MATTER	DECISION PROPOSED	WARD	PROPOSED TO BE RESOLVED/ RECOMMENDED
1.	Declarations of Interest	None.	-	-
2.	Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th June 2024	Approved.	-	Resolved
3.	Quarterly Recovery and Performance Update	(a) That it be agreed to adopt the Phase 2 Recovery Programme, as set out in Appendix A to the report. The focus has been on establishing the right structure to underpin Phase 2. Officers were currently working on a more in-depth	All	Resolved

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		<p>document that would provide more detailed and specific actions and measures the council will take as part of its recovery, including establishing clear milestones and delivery targets to secure compliance with the best value duty.</p> <p>(b) Ensure a focus on sustainable finances delivering against the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and an Asset Disposal Strategy</p> <p>(c) Agreed to adopt a two-year horizon for the recovery programme required to become a Best Value Council, resulting in a forward plan to deliver change activity now running through until March 2026.</p> <p>(d) Noted the latest updates on recovery and performance as set out in the appendices to the report.</p>		
4.	Productivity Plan	That the Productivity Plan in response to the request from the Minister for Local Government be adopted.	All	Resolved

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5.	Financial outlook and review of the Medium Term Financial Strategy including re-phasing the Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2027/28	<p>That the following be noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the overspend detailed in the Provisional Outturn Report 2023/24 that was presented on Cabinet on 17th June 2024 of £15.5m reflected an underlying overspend of approximately £11.7m. These pressures contribute to an overspend in 2024/25.</li> <li>2. That early indications from budget monitoring work undertaken in the year to date indicate that there were new pressures of approx. £4.1m. This equates to a forecast overspend for 2024/25 of £15.8m prior to any mitigating actions being agreed. This impacts on the overall savings requirement for 2024/25 and future years.</li> <li>3. The Budget Smoothing Reserve has an opening balance in this financial year of £10.7m, and already has commitments against it of £6.0m, £4m to the Transformation Reserve approved by Council in March 2024 and £2m Upton Lodge impairment as per another report at this Cabinet, bringing the effective balance down to £4.7m.</li> </ol>	All	Resolved

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		<p>4. The forecast budget gaps for the next 5 years are £15.0m in the current year, rising to £31.9m by 2028/29 and will require changes to the council's target operating model to achieve a balanced budget.</p> <p>The Cabinet approved:</p> <p>5. The timetable to produce the 2025/26 Budget and 2026/29 Medium Term Financial Strategy, as shown in Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>6. The re-phased General Fund Capital Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28 as shown in Appendix 3 to the report.</p> <p>The General Fund revenue budget was approved at £162.203m and included growth (including inflation) of £18.327m, and savings of £12.206m, of which £12.183m is in the MTFs Savings Plan, and £0.023m relates to fee uplifts. This report rolls forward the period of the MTFs into 2028/29, and the tables reflect this additional year.</p> <p>7. The addition of the following new projects to the capital programme, as detailed in paragraphs 4.10 and 4.15 to 4.17, and Appendix 3 to the report.</p>		

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare expansion</li> <li>• Upton Court Pathway</li> <li>• Cippenham Bridges</li> <li>• Swimming Pool Support Fund initiative</li> </ul>		
6.	Waste Disposal Contract	<p>(a) That the direct award of a contract to Grundon Waste Management Limited for a period of up to 10 years based on the draft terms set out in Appendix A of the report be approved;</p> <p>(b) That the issuing of a voluntary ex ante transparency notice outlining the Council's intention to enter into the contract be approved;</p> <p>(c) That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director of Regeneration, Housing &amp; Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Environment, Environmental Services and Open Spaces and the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial, to complete negotiation for the new contract and enter into the new contract in accordance with the heads of terms at Appendix A following the period of 10 days after publication of the VEAT notice.</p>	All	Resolved

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7.	Akzo Nobel	<p>(a) That the accounting treatment of the excess capital receipt arising from the disposal of the Akzo Nobel site in 2022 as outlined in paragraphs 2.14 to 2.16 of the report be noted.</p> <p>(b) That the principle set out in regard to the accounting treatment to be applied for any HRA disposals, should those circumstances apply, as outlined in paragraph 2.17 of this report be agreed.</p> <p>(c) That it be agreed that confirmation be provided to Full Council annually, when setting the HRA budget, that the criteria outlined in paragraph 2.10 of the report had been met.</p>	All	Resolved
8.	Asset Disposal Programme - Surplus Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Assets	<p>(a) That the progress on disposal of HRA assets, as set out in Appendix A to the report, be noted.</p> <p>(b) That it be agreed that those assets listed in Appendix B to the report should be marketed for disposal subject to property, legal and financial due diligence being completed.</p> <p>(c) That it be agreed that those assets in Appendix C to the report should be subject to consultation with tenants and statutory processes in relation to open space to</p>	All	Resolved

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		inform a future decision on whether they should be disposed of following property, legal and financial due diligence.		
9.	Recommendations of Cabinet Committee - Disposal of the Council's land which forms a part of the Stoke Wharf Project	<p>(a) That the Draft Formal Site Development Plan (the Draft Formal Site Development Plan is the form that is presented to Cabinet) be approved.</p> <p>(b) Approved the Council entering into documentation to give effect to the Formal Site Development Plan and which is anticipated to comprise (i) a Deed of Variation to the Council's Option Agreement with Stoke Wharf Development (SWD) LLP; (ii) (in its capacity as a member of Slough Urban Renewal LLP (SUR) the Sale Contract between SWD (of which SUR is a member) and the Purchaser; (iii) (once the Sale Agreement between SWD and the Purchaser has become Unconditional) a Transfer of the Council's land to the Purchaser (pursuant to the Option Agreement); and (iv) (once the Sale Agreement between SWD and the Purchaser has becomes Unconditional) a Works Access Agreement between the Council and the Purchaser.</p>	All	Resolved

AGENDA ITEM.	SUBJECT MATTER	DECISION PROPOSED	WARD	PROPOSED TO BE RESOLVED/ RECOMMENDED
		(c) That delegated authority be given to the Executive Director of Regeneration, Housing and Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Oversight and Council Assets and the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial to (i) approve the final form of the Draft Formal Site Development Plan that is presented to the SUR Business Board for its approval; and (ii) to approve the final terms of the documentation required to give effect to the final form of the Draft Formal Site Development Plan.		
10.	Recommendations of Cabinet Committee - Disposal of Upton Lodge, 2a Yew Tree Road, Slough	<p>(a) Agreed to the Council sale of the asset referred to in Appendix A and known as Upton Lodge, 2a Yew Tree Road, Slough to the bidder named in Appendix A to the report.</p> <p>(b) Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Regeneration, Housing &amp; Environment, in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Oversight and Council Assets and the Executive Director of Finance and Commercial, to negotiate the terms of and enter into the contract and any associated documentation in connection with the disposal consistent with the disposal report and Heads of Terms appended at Confidential Appendix A to the report.</p>	All	Resolved



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		(c) Noted that the Cabinet Committee was asked to note the methodology to be adopted (Appendix D to the report) for assessing assets in the Asset Disposal Programme, prior to launching to the market, to determine minimum sales values. This framework provides an objective methodology for evidencing Best Value.		
11.	Exclusion of Press and Public	The Cabinet agreed to exclude the press and public whilst it considered items the appendices relating to the proposed disposals of Stoke Wharf and Upton Lodge which contained exempt information. The Cabinet then re-convened in public to take the decisions as per items 9 and 10.		Resolved
12.	Waste Disposal Contract Appendices	The Part II appendix was noted.	All	-
13.	Recommendations of Cabinet Committee - Disposal of the Council's land which forms a part of the Stoke Wharf Project – Appendices	The Part II appendices were considered and noted prior to the decisions being taken in Part I of the meeting.	All	-

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14.	Recommendations of Cabinet Committee - Disposal of Upton Lodge, 2a Yew Tree Road, Slough - Appendices	The Part II appendices were considered and noted prior to the decisions being taken in Part I of the meeting.	All	-