



CABINET



20th DECEMBER 2023

NOTICE OF DECISIONS

Publication Date of this Notice: - Thursday, 21st December 2023.

Deadline Date for Call-in of any decision: - 8.45 a.m. Friday, 5th January 2024 (to take account of the Christmas Closure) up to that deadline the Chief Executive shall call-in a decision for scrutiny (except for matters of urgent business and decisions for Council) if so, requested by the Chairman or any three Members of the Scrutiny Committee. If there is no call-in the decision will come into force on that deadline.

PART I

(Business taken in public)

Agenda Item 2 (Minute No.58) - Members' Interests:

There were none.

Agenda Item 3 (Minute No. 59) - Minutes

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 15th November 2023, were approved and signed as a correct record.

Agenda Item 4 (Minute No. 60) – Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation

Cabinet considered a report seeking Cabinet approval to undertake consultation on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012.

The Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee had undertaken a comprehensive review of the document and changes had been incorporated into the document before the meeting.

The report also provided a context for how the Council could potentially deliver and monitor BNG when it reached the delivery phase. Further reports and decisions were likely to be required on this matter.

A revised report and recommendation had been published and circulated to take account of the change to the date of the Ordinary Council meeting in March.

Resolved:

1. To note the outcome of the Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee.
2. The Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document is published for public consultation in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended) and the consultation plan .
3. In consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, the Chief Executive and Director of Place and

Communities are authorised to make any final amendments to the Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document and the consultation materials prior to consultation.

4. The outcomes of the consultation and any resultant updates to the Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document are reported for approval and adoption by Council in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012.

Agenda Item 5 (Minute No. 61) – Essex Parking Guidance Consultation 2023

Cabinet considered the report setting out the response issued on behalf of the Council to the consultation undertaken on the Essex Parking Guidance.

Resolved:

To note and endorse the response issued on behalf of the Council to the consultation undertaken on the draft Essex Parking Guidance.

Agenda Item 6 (Minute No. 62) – Corporate Performance Scorecard Quarter 2 2023/24

Cabinet considered the performance figures for the Corporate Performance Score card Quarter 2

Resolved:

To note the performance and continue to monitor performance.

Agenda Item 7 (Minute No. 63) – the Paddocks -update on Progress of Refurbishment Works

Cabinet considered the report providing an update on the Paddocks refurbishment project and seeking approval to draw down from reserves the funding required to proceed with all works in the initial works package.

The increase in the cost of the works was as result the impact of the economy on the construction industry and increasing costs of inflation and materials.

Resolved:

1. To note the contents of this report.
2. To approve a withdrawal from the Priority Initiatives reserve up to a maximum value of £625,000 so that the works at the Paddocks can be fully progressed.

Agenda Item 8 (Minute No. 64) – Business Support Update

Cabinet received a report on the work being undertaken to provide better support for businesses and to stimulate economic growth in Castle Point.

Resolved:

To note the work being undertaken to improve support for businesses and business engagement in Castle Point.

Agenda Item 9 (Minute No. 65) – Transforming Together – the Council's Modernisation Programme Update

Cabinet considered a report providing an update on the Council's transformation programme which would implement change and enable its modernisation.

Resolved:

To note the update and progress of the Transforming Together(TT) Programme.

Agenda Item 10 (Minute No. 66) – Review of the New Draft Constitution – Report and Recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee

The item was brought forward and deal with at the beginning of the meeting.

Cabinet considered a report on the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations following scrutiny of the draft Constitution.

Resolved:

1. That the composition of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee should be 15 members instead of the suggested 11 members; politically balanced.
2. That any time limit for public meetings should be 2 hours rather than the 3 hours proposed, provided that the drafting makes clear that this rule could be suspended by a majority vote of members present if the meeting needed to continue.
3. That there should be no change to the total number of public questions to be taken at a meeting of full council.
4. That the drafting for the number of public questions to be asked by a member of the public at full council makes clear that a question may be reasonably multi-faceted but must be directly related in subject matter to qualify as a single question. It is also proposed that the decision of the Chief Executive as to whether a question or part of a question is admissible be final.
5. That the drafting for Motions on Notice makes clear that:
 - a. Motions on Notice be admitted to the agenda on a first come first served basis as determined by the Chief Executive;
 - b. Where there are more than 5 valid Motions on Notice submitted, then if in the discretion of the Chief Executive (in consultation with the Mayor) there is sufficient agenda time to take more than 5 Motions on Notice, then additional Motions on Notice should be added to the agenda;
 - c. Where there are more than 5 valid Motions on Notice submitted, and there is not sufficient agenda time, then those additional Motions on Notice will be deferred to the next meeting of Council if they are not withdrawn; and
 - d. That the operation of these provisions should be kept under review and come back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for formal consideration no later than the end of January 2025.

6. That there should be no change to the number of members required to support a Motion on Notice.
7. That, outside of the Constitution, to consider implementation of a service standard to enable circulation of minutes of decision-making public meetings to members within a timely period following that meeting.
8. That the Cabinet commissions a review of the constitutional arrangements for the operation of Development Management Committee.

Agenda Item 11 (Minute No. 67) – Unauthorised Encampment Conference Update

The Cabinet Member for People and Community presents a report on the conference he had attended on 28th November 2023.

Resolved:

To note the report.

Agenda Item 12 (Minute No. 68) - Matters to be referred from/to the Standing Committees

There were no matters.

Agenda Item 13 (Minute No. 69) - Matters to be referred from/to Policy & Scrutiny Committees

Agenda Item 4 (Minute No. 60) – Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation contained a report back from the Environment Policy & Scrutiny Committee.

Agenda Item 10 (Minute No. 66) – Review of the New Draft Constitution – Report and Recommendations from the Scrutiny Committee.

Under this item Cabinet agreed to request the Place and Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee to review the Council's approach to promoting tourism opportunities in Castle Point and make recommendations back to Cabinet on what the Council should do as a Council and in partnership with others to improve the promotion of the local tourism offer and support local businesses in the tourism and leisure sectors.

CONSULTATION

Agenda Item 4 (Minute No. 60) – Biodiversity Net Gain Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation – approved arrangements for consultation.

Angela Hutchings
Chief Executive