

## **EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Highways and Transport:-

**MONDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023**

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Haslam	Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
Councillor Ayub	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Hayes	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Sanders	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Wright	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Heslop	Minor Opposition Spokesperson

### **OFFICERS**

Mr. J. Dyson	Director of Place
Mr. D. Lowe	Assistant Director Highways and Engineering
Ms. J. Pollard	Head of Finance
Mrs. N. Raby	Senior Lawyer
Mr. I. D. Mulholland	Deputy Democratic Services Manager

### **20. MONITORING OF DECISIONS**

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions that had previously been taken.

**The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.**

## **21. DIRECTORATE OF PLACE BUDGET REPORT 2023/24**

The Director of Place submitted a report which outlined the portfolio revenue budgets and capital programme within the Directorate of Place for 2023/24.

By way of background information, the report explained that in the recent budget consultation report, 12th December 2022, budget reductions of £4.263m had been allocated to Directorates. This equated to £676,000 for the Directorate of Place.

The final budget report was recommended by Cabinet on 6th February, 2023 for presentation to Council at its meeting of 15th February, 2023.

The report set out the initial plans, expected report dates, cashflow for each option and the approach to managing the associated work programme. The 2023/24 programme would be managed following the same processes and principals as previous savings processes.

**The Executive Cabinet Member AGREED to -**

- (i) Note the proposed revenue budget of £29,864,000 prior to the adoption of savings options .**
- (ii) Note the savings options outlined in Appendix B to this report, totaling £676,000. Following this, the Strategic Budget will amount to £29,188,000.**
- (iii) Approve the savings options, which are included within this report, which are relevant to this portfolio.**
- (iv) Approve increases in fees and charges made by the Directorate as outlined in this report, which are relevant to this portfolio.**
- (v) Note the capital programme of £52,237,000.**

## **22. HIGHWAYS AND ENGINEERING PROPOSALS WINTER MAINTENANCE PROPOSALS, 2021-2023, UPDATED DECISION**

The Director of place submitted a report which set out details of additional funding for the provision of winter maintenance services and repeal the decision taken on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in respect of savings proposals relating to winter maintenance on the highway and the associated service standards.

By way of background information, the report explained that in February, 2021, following consultation, the Council approved further savings options of £37.2m for the 2021-23 period. As part of the Directorate of Place savings options, Highways and Engineering division were tasked with finding £1m. To meet this target a proposal to make changes to the winter maintenance programme was approved by the Executive Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport on the 26 September, 2022.

Following further consideration of key risks and issues (set within the context of the Councils approved Risk-Based strategy for the Winter Maintenance of the highway network) and subsequent discussion at Place Scrutiny, it was determined that implementation of the savings proposal in 2023/24 may put the Council at risk of not meeting its statutory duties in respect of maintenance of the highway network during the winter period. It was also noted that the winter service was already experiencing budget pressures resulting from the removal of the use of red diesel, general fuel cost pressures, and increased prices of salt and haulage.

It was therefore proposed that the planned saving of £257K be added to the Winter Maintenance Budget as the Council's insurance premiums for 2022/23 were lower than originally forecast.

**The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED the proposed budget additions and repeal the decision for a reduction in winter maintenance budget provision and corresponding service delivery arrangements.**

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