

NOTICE OF DECISIONS

Meeting:	Executive	
Date:	Tuesday, 18 July 2023	
Place:	Council Chamber, Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage	
Members Present:	Councillors:	Richard Henry (Chair), Jeannette Thomas (Vice-Chair), Sandra Barr, Lloyd Briscoe, Jackie Hollywell, Mrs Joan Lloyd, Loraine Rossati and Simon Speller.

**THE DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN OF ANY OF THE DECISIONS BELOW IS THURSDAY, 27 JULY 2023.
SUBJECT TO THERE BEING NO CALL-IN THE ATTACHED DECISIONS MAY BE IMPLEMENTED WITH EFFECT FROM FRIDAY, 28 JULY 2023.**

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	<p>There were no apologies for absence.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
2	MINUTES - 14 JUNE 2023	
	It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 14 June 2023 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chair	
3	MINUTES OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES	
	<p>It was RESOLVED that the following Minutes of meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Select Committees be noted –</p> <p>Environment & Economy Select Committee – 14 June 2023 Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 20 June 2023 Community Select Committee – 27 June 2023</p>	

4	STATION GATEWAY AREA ACTION PLAN: PREFERRED OPTIONS REPORT - PUBLIC CONSULTATION FEEDBACK	L. Claridge
<p>The Executive considered a report in respect of public consultation feedback on the Station Gateway Area Action Plan Preferred Options report.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the content of the Stevenage Station Gateway Area Action Plan (AAP) Preferred Options Report Consultation Statement, as set out in Appendix A of the report, be noted. 2. That the content of Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) Highways comments on the Preferred Options Report, as set out in the report, be noted. 3. That the next steps for the AAP Preferred Options Report and Local Plan Review set out in the report, including agreeing to consult on Option 2 as the Preferred Option within the Local Plan Review in 2024, be approved. 4. That the revised Local Development Scheme set out at Appendix D to the report be approved, and the timescales for a Local Plan Review be noted. 5. That it be noted that the comments of the Planning & Development Committee will be sought and considered on both the Consultation Statement and the content of the report. 6. That it be noted that informal engagement with key stakeholders will continue, ahead of incorporating the AAP into the Local Plan Review. <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in report.</i> <i>Other Options considered: As contained in report.</i></p>		

5	EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ACTION PLAN (2023 - 2024)	R. Gregory
<p>The Executive considered a report in respect of the proposed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan.</p> <p>In response to a Member’s question about how the Action Plan would be rolled out regarding safeguarding responsibilities under the Children’s Act, the Operations Director stated that it would be part of the work that would be progressed this year (as outlined in the Action Plan) regarding protected characteristic groups, including engagement with disability groups and children and young people. In acknowledging the Council’s requirements under the Equalities Act around children and young people, having an Action Plan of this nature demonstrated that it recognised the needs and issues faced by this group, and was striving to address and tackle those issues in a positive way.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan, as set out at Appendix A to the report, be approved. 2. That an EDI progress report and updated EDI Action Plan be brought back to the Executive in Autumn 2024. 3. That the Stevenage Equalities Commission (SEC) Recommendations Report and SEC Legacy Group Action Plan, as set out in Appendices B1 and B2 to the report respectively, be noted. <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in report.</i> <i>Other Options considered: As contained in report.</i></p>		
6	HOUSING UNDER-OCCUPATION POLICY REVIEW	K. Long
<p>The Executive considered a report in respect of a proposed revised Housing Under Occupation Policy.</p> <p>In reply to a Member’s question, it was confirmed that the policy would apply to specialist housing (such as disabled properties), as well as general needs housing, and appropriate adaptations could be made to certain properties to allow tenants of</p>		

specialist housing to downsize.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the reviewed Housing Under Occupation Policy, as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved and adopted.
2. That the results of the Downsizing pilot, as set out in the report, be noted.
3. That it be noted that the budget for the Downsizing Officer role has been factored into the 2023/24 budget, and that beyond that, a growth bid will be submitted for the 2024/25 HRA Business Plan to maintain this role.

Reason for Decision: As contained in report.

Other Options considered: As contained in report.

7

LOCAL LETTINGS POLICY FOR SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION (OLDER PEOPLE)

K. Long

The Executive considered a report in respect of a proposed Local Lettings Policy for Specialist Accommodation (Older People).

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Local Lettings Policy for Specialist Accommodation (Older People), as attached at Appendix A to the report, be approved and adopted.
2. That it be noted that the budget for the Specialist Support Officer (Lettings) role has been factored in until December 2023, and that beyond that, a growth bid will be submitted for the 2024/25 HRA Business Plan to maintain this role. This was in addition to the Accommodation and Complex Needs Officer post.

Reason for Decision: As contained in report.

Other Options considered: As contained in report.

8	CORPORATE PERFORMANCE QUARTER 4 2022/23, ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23 AND CORPORATE PERFORMANCE SUITE 2023/24	R. Protheroe
<p>The Executive considered a report in respect of Corporate Performance for Quarter 4 of 2022/23, the proposed Annual Report for 2022/23, and the proposed Corporate Performance Suite for 2023/24.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the draft Annual Report 2022/23 (Appendix A to the report) and Summary Action Plan/Plan on a Page (Appendix B to the report) be agreed, with final sign off delegated to the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Leader of the Council. 2. That the significant progress in the delivery of priorities which form the Future Town, Future Council Programme and strong performance of the Council across the key themes for Quarter Four 2022/23, together with the latest achievements, be noted (as set out in Appendices C and D to the report). 3. That the proposed Corporate Performance Suite 2023/24 (as set out in Appendix F to the report) be agreed. <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in report.</i> <i>Other Options considered: As contained in report.</i></p>		
9	4TH QUARTER REVENUE MONITORING 2022/23 - GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT	C. Fletcher B. Moldon
<p>The Executive considered a report in respect of 4th Quarter Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022/23 for the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p>		

General Fund

1. That the 2022/23 actual General Fund net expenditure of £10.423Million be noted, subject to the 2022/23 audit of the Statement of Accounts.
2. That the 2022/23 actual core resources of £9.470Million be noted (as set out in Paragraph 4.4 of the report), subject to the 2022/23 audit of the Statement of Accounts.
3. That carry forward/spend requests totalling £504,650 be approved for the General Fund (as set out in Paragraph 4.3.1 of the report).
4. That the Transfer to reserves of £0.696Million be approved for the General Fund (as set out in Paragraph 4.7.2 of the report).
5. That the changes to the 2023/24 General Fund budget savings totalling £95,000 be approved for the General Fund (as set out Section 4.6 of the report).
6. That the changes to the 2023/24 General Fund budget to reflect the additional cost associated with the Shared Revenue and Benefits service of £89,000 and adjustment to NDR Levy of £51,000 be approved for the General Fund (as set out in Section 4.6 of the report).
7. That the inflationary pressures outlined in Paragraphs 4.6.4 and 4.6.5 of the report be noted.
8. That drawdown of £272,000 from reserves to fund Revenue Contribution to Capital within the amount included in the General Fund working budget be approved (as set out in Paragraph 4.6.2 of the report).
9. That delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director (CFO), following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Transformation, to appoint the Council's insurers, following the completion of the tendering exercise (as set out in Paragraph 4.8 of the report).

	<p>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</p> <p>10. That the 2022/23 actual in year HRA deficit of £469,241 be noted, subject to the audit of the Statement of Accounts.</p> <p>11. That new carry forward requests totalling £922,000 and an ongoing budget saving of £6,300 be approved for the HRA (as set out in Paragraph 4.13.1 of the report).</p> <p>12. That the Transfer to reserves of £17.244Million be approved for the HRA (as set out in Paragraph 4.15.2 of the report).</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in report.</i></p> <p><i>Other Options considered: As contained in report.</i></p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>2022/23 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OUTTURN</p>	<p>C. Fletcher B. Moldon</p>
	<p>The Executive considered a report in respect of the 2022/23 Capital Expenditure Outturn.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the 2022/23 General Fund Capital expenditure outturn (£17.814Million), as summarised in Paragraph 4.1.1 of the report, be noted (subject to the completion of the 2020/21 and 2021/22 and 2022/23 external audit of accounts). 2. That the 2022/23 HRA Capital expenditure outturn (£43.966Million), as summarised in Paragraph 4.4.1 of the report, be noted, (subject to the completion of the 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 external audit of accounts). 3. That the funding applied to the 2022/23 General Fund Capital programme, as summarised in Paragraph 4.2.1 of the report, be approved. 4. That the funding applied to the 2022/23 HRA Capital programme, as summarised in Paragraph 4.5.1 of the report, be approved. 5. That the 2023/24 General Fund Capital programme increase of £6.796Million, as set out in Paragraph 4.3.1 of the report, 	

	<p>be approved.</p> <p>6. That the 2023/24 HRA Capital programme decrease of £1.628Million, as set out in Paragraph 4.6.1 of the report, be noted.</p> <p>7. That the appropriation of Brent Court garage block (red book valuation to be obtained) in 2023/24 from the General Fund to the HRA, as detailed in Paragraph 4.7.1 of the report, be approved.</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in report.</i> <i>Other Options considered: As contained in report.</i></p>	
11	URGENT PART I BUSINESS	
	None.	
12	EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
	<p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <p>1. That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in Paragraphs 1 – 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act as amended by Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.</p> <p>2. That the reasons for the following reports being in Part II were accepted, and that the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.</p>	

13	PART II MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 14 JUNE 2023	
	It was RESOLVED that the Part II Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 14 June 2023 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chair.	
14	REGENERATION PROGRAMME UPDATE AND SG1 PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION	D. Wells
	<p>The Executive considered a Part II report in respect of an update on the Regeneration Programme and implementation of the SG1 project.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the recommendations set out in the report be approved.</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in report.</i></p> <p><i>Other Options considered: As contained in report.</i></p>	
15	URGENT PART II BUSINESS	
	None.	