

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: Cabinet

Decision No: D220115CAB

Decision Type: Non Key

Date: 14 December 2022

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Corporate Strategy - Consultation Draft

(Report of Chief Executive)

The report provided an update on the Corporate Strategy Consultation Draft with particular focus on feedback received from staff and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. In addition, approval to proceed towards a community engagement exercise during winter 2023 was sought.

Details of the feedback received to date was set out in 1.3 of the report and the comments and points raised were noted. As a result, a number of minor changes were proposed and these were summarised in 1.3.4 (Table 2). A five-week period of public and community consultation would start in January 2023 as detailed in 1.4 of the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Corporate Strategy Consultation Draft, as set out in Appendix 1 and including the amendments set out in 1.3.4 (Table 2) be endorsed;
- (2) delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive, in liaison with the Leader of the Council, to approve any necessary further minor changes to the Corporate Strategy Consultation Draft that might be required for reasons of clarity or presentation; and
- (3) the programme for community consultation, as set out in 1.4, be approved.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to Cabinet of 14 December 2022

Signed Leader:

M Boughton

Signed Chief Executive:

J Beilby

Date of publication:

16 December 2022

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5

working days after publication unless it is called in.

Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D220116CAB
Decision Type: Non Key
Date: 14 December 2022

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Lower Thames Crossing - Development Consent Order

(Report of Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health)

The report set out details in respect of an application for a Development Consent Order for the nationally significant infrastructure project at the Lower Thames Crossing. Details of the examination process to be undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate were also set out. It was reported that the Borough Council would be required to prepare a Local Impact Report as part of this process.

Whilst the Borough Council were supportive of the project it was felt that there should be investment in local highways infrastructure to mitigate the impact on the A228 and A229 between the M2 and M20. This was due to the expected displacement of traffic away from the Dartford Crossing, together with additional demand to cross the River Thames, increasing traffic on the local road network.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) delegated authority be granted to the Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health to formally engage with the Lower Thames Crossing Examination and related negotiations with LTC staff and consultants, to support the Borough Councils efficient engagement in the process.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to Cabinet of 14 December 2022

Signed Leader: M Boughton

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 16 December 2022

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

Decision Taken By: Cabinet

Decision No: D220117CAB

Decision Type: Non Key

Date: 14 December 2022

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Household Support Fund (Round 3)

(Report of Director of Finance and Transformation)

Approval was sought for the Borough Council's approach in the use of the current grant of Household Support Fund. Tonbridge and Malling had been allocated £139,263.24 to provide support to vulnerable households struggling with the cost of living. This grant allocation had to be used by 31 March 2023 and any unspent monies could not be rolled over into April, beyond honouring any expenditure committed to before the end of the financial year.

A number of options had been considered, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Innovation and Property, and proposals were set out in the draft Household Support Fund Scheme October – March 2022/23 (attached at Annex 2).

In summary, it was proposed that funding should be used to support:

- food banks (funding allocation of £45,000);
- fuel voucher schemes (funding allocation of £20,000); and
- households facing a disproportionate impact of cost of living increase or exceptional needs (contingency balance of £25,000);

In addition, it was proposed that the balance of funding be targeted at those identified as most in need when the Scheme was evaluated in late January 2023.

Careful consideration was given to the proposals set out in the Household Support Fund Scheme October – March 2022/23 (as set out in Annex 2), together with the Kent County Council plan to assist vulnerable households (as set out in Annex 1) and the legal, financial and value for money implications. Cabinet recognised the role and importance of foodbanks in the Borough, considered alternative solutions for the use of the Household Support Fund and supported the need to help those struggling to afford food, energy and water bills and other related essentials in the current cost of living crisis. In particular, Cabinet supported the distribution of funding as soon as possible as the recent extreme cold weather increased the pressure on family's use of heating.

RESOLVED: That

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| (1) | the Household Support Fund Scheme October – March 2022/23 (attached at Annex 2) be approved; and |
| (2) | delegated authority be granted to the Director of Finance and Transformation to establish an effective operational scheme to disburse funds in accordance with the detail in the approved Policy. |

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to Cabinet of 14 December 2022
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Signed Leader: M Boughton

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 16 December 2022

[In accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15 (i) this decision is not subject to call-in since in the opinion of the Cabinet it is urgent and any delay would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest.]

Decision Taken By: Cabinet
Decision No: D220118CAB
Decision Type: Key
Date: 14 December 2022

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Tonbridge Town Centre Asset Review - Phase 2 Proposal

(Private – LGA 1972 Sch 12A Paragraph 3 – Financial or business affairs of any particular person)

(Report of Director of Central Services and Deputy Chief Executive)

Consideration was given to the proposal for Phase 2 of the Tonbridge Town Centre Asset Review. Details of the work programme, funding arrangements and implications, management of Phase 2 and a parking study were also outlined in the report. It was also noted that expenditure related to the Phase 2 works would be regularly monitored.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Phase 2 proposal (attached at Annex 1) be approved; and
- (2) the various work streams and timescales set out in the report be noted.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to Cabinet of 14 December 2022

Signed Leader: M Boughton

Signed Chief Executive: J Beilby

Date of publication: 16 December 2022

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