

West Suffolk Council

Cabinet Decisions Notice

(Published: Thursday 10 December 2020)

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on Tuesday 8 December 2020 and, if not called in by councillors, will come into operation on Friday 18 December 2020. This procedure does not however, apply to decisions that have been recommended to Council for a final decision (and which are also indicated within the decisions below). An executive decision may be called in, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules contained within Part 4 of the Council’s Constitution, by at least five councillors submitting the required call-in request form to the Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services) (e-mail: democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk) **by 5.00 pm on Thursday 17 December 2020**. Should you have a query regarding any of the decisions taken, contact should be made with the named officer in the first instance, the relevant portfolio holder or via Democratic Services, West Suffolk Council, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk, IP33 3YU, or College Heath Road, Mildenhall IP28 7EY.

Agenda item and report number	Declarations of interest	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for decision(s)	Other options considered and reasons for rejection	Contacts
Item 8 CAB/WS/20/076	None	<p>Recommendation of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 19 November 2020: Delivering a Sustainable Medium-Term Budget</p> <p>Recommended to Council (15 December 2020):</p> <p>That the proposals as detailed in Section 2 and Table 1 of Report number PAS/WS/20/019, be included in</p>	<p>On 21 July 2020, Cabinet approved the next steps and principles for future financial planning across the medium term. The approach was designed to enable the Council to respond effectively to changing circumstances while maintaining a medium-term focus on the Council’s financial sustainability.</p> <p>A flexible and responsive financial recovery plan is now</p>	<p>Report number: PAS/WS/20/019 sets out the rationale behind the key budget assumptions for 2021 to 2022 and where relevant draws out alternative assumptions</p>	<p>Portfolio holder: Sarah Broughton 07929 305787</p> <p>Officer: Rachael Mann Assistant Director (Resources and Performance) 01638 719245</p>

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		the medium-term financial plans.	in development, which will continue to follow the Council's agreed financial strategy and six key medium-term financial strategy themes. A number of key budget assumptions, as set out in the report, have been proposed for inclusion in the medium-term financial plans, which Cabinet has agreed to recommend to Council for final approval and incorporation into the budget setting process.	that have been considered and discounted at this stage in the budget process. Other approaches could be proposed and considered by members; however, it is important to note that the core principles such as deliverability, affordability and risk are considered.	
Item 9 CAB/WS/20/077	None	Recommendation of the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 19 November 2020: Financial Resilience (September 2020)	The Cabinet is required to consider the Financial Resilience Reports, prior to seeking their approval by Council. This particular report provides information	As it is a requirement of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and	Portfolio holder: Sarah Broughton 07929 305787

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		<p>Recommended to Council (15 December 2020):</p> <p>That the Financial Resilience Report (September 2020), as contained in Report number: FRS/WS/20/003, be approved.</p>	<p>on the investment activities for West Suffolk Council for the period 1 April 2020 to 30 September 2020.</p>	<p>Accountancy for Council to approve the Financial Resilience Report, no other options have been considered.</p>	<p>Officer: Rachael Mann Assistant Director (Resources and Performance) 01638 719245</p>
<p>Item 11 CAB/WS/20/079</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Barley Homes Business Plan 2020</p> <p>Resolved: That</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. taking into account the financial and risk implications set out in Report number: CAB/WS/20/079 and Exempt Appendix A attached, the Barley Homes Business Plan 2020, be approved. 2. in order to bring the Barley Homes Business Plan 2020 into effect: 	<p>The Cabinet recognises the good progress made by Barley Homes in achieving its aims and progressing the sites agreed in its business plan approved in December 2019. Cabinet acknowledges that two sites are now under construction in Haverhill, together with progress made with the two further sites agreed at College Heath Road, Mildenhall, and School Lane, Great Barton. Recognition has also been given to the continuing work undertaken to explore future sites for development.</p>	<p>The exempt business plan sets out how Barley Homes, working with the Council, has evaluated potential development opportunities. Opportunities that do not meet the criteria, based on the principles set out in 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 above, and the</p>	<p>Portfolio holder: Sara Mildmay-White 01359 270580</p> <p>Officers: Julie Baird Assistant Director (Growth) 01284 757613</p>

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		<p>a. A further £60,000 be allocated to support the costs of progressing the Great Barton and Rougham sites and the development of future pipeline sites, funded from the Investing in our Growth Fund.</p> <p>b. The existing investment fund available to Barley Homes be increased by £1.75 million to a total of £14.25 million to facilitate the developments within the Business Plan, funded from the Investing in our Growth Fund.</p> <p>c. It be noted that in order to facilitate the developments within the Business Plan, the Council will be required to acquire sites from One Public Estate partners and the market, funded</p>	<p>As a result, several opportunities and future sites have been identified, including a site in Rougham, and are being explored in line with the principles set out in 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 of Report number: CAB/WS/20/079.</p> <p>Cabinet supports the proposals and associated funding requests set out in the report, which will enable Barley Homes to progress both existing and new opportunities set out in the Business Plan 2020. The primary function of Barley Homes is to generate capital and revenue income through the sale of council owned land and the development of new housing for sale in the West Suffolk area. This investment facility provides a means for the Council to obtain income from Barley Homes, through interest (from its loan facility) and</p>	<p>evaluation method established in the 2019 report CAB/WS/19/04 1 have been discounted.</p>	

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		from the £14.25 million investment fund and subsequently dispose of these to Barley Homes at market value at the time of sale.	dividends (from the Council's equity investment).		

Jennifer Eves
Assistant Director (Human Resources, Legal and Democratic Services)
10 December 2020