

EXECUTIVE

MONDAY 2 AUGUST 2021 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor J Mallinson (Leader / Chair)
Councillor Ellis (Deputy Leader, and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Higgs (Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Mrs Mallinson (Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Nedved (Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder)

OFFICERS:

Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Corporate Director of Economic Development
Legal Services Manager
Revenues & Benefits Operations Manager
Health and Wellbeing Manager

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Christian (Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder), the Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services and the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Mallinson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda item A.10 – Application to Sustainable Warmth Competition (LAD Phase 3 and Home Upgrade Grants (HUG)). The interest related to the fact that Councillor Mrs Mallinson was a private landlord and she would leave the meeting prior to consideration of that item of business.

Councillor Mallinson (J) declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda item A.10 – Application to Sustainable Warmth Competition (LAD Phase 3 and Home Upgrade Grants (HUG)). The interest related to the fact that Councillor Mallinson was a private landlord. He would leave the meeting prior to consideration of that item of business, and the Deputy Leader would assume the chair.

PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That the Agenda be agreed as circulated.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 6 April and 2 June 2021 were signed by the Chair as a true record of the meetings. The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July were agreed.

CALL-IN AND URGENCY PROCEDURES

The Leader reported that the Mayor had, on 23 July 2021, agreed that item A.10 - Application to Sustainable Warmth Competition (LAD Phase 3 And Home Upgrade Grants (HUG)) be exempt from call in as call-in procedures would overlap the deadline for the submission of the application.

EX.65/21 DRAFT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2022/23 TO 2026/27 (Key Decision – KD.08/21)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation
Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder presented the Medium Term Financial Plan (RD.28/21) which set out the current framework for planning and managing the Council's financial resources, to develop its annual budget strategy and update its current five-year financial plan. The Plan linked the key aims and objectives of the Council, as contained in the Carlisle Plan, to the availability of resources, enabling the Council to prioritise the allocation of resources to best meet its overall aims and objectives. The MTFP would inform the budget process and would be updated for changes when known.

Following consideration by the Executive and the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel, final recommendations would be made to Council on 14 September 2021.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder moved, and the Leader seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected none

DECISION

That the Executive had given consideration to the draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2026/27 as appended to Report RD.28/21; and made it available for consideration by the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel on 26 August 2021.

Reasons for Decision

To consult with the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel on the draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2022/23 – 2026/ 27.

EX.66/21 DRAFT CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2022/23 – 2026/27 (Key Decision – KD.08/21)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder submitted the Council's draft Capital Investment Strategy which was intended to direct the Council's Capital Programme and the allocation of resources for the five-year period 2022/23 to 2026/27 (RD.29/21). The guidance in the strategy complements and supplements the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

Following consideration by the Executive, the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel would consider the draft on 26 August, with final recommendations to Council on 14 September 2021.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder moved, and the Leader seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected none

DECISION

That the Executive had considered the draft Capital Investment Strategy 2022/23 to 2026/27 as appended to Report RD.29/21; and made it available for consideration by the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel on 26 August 2021.

Reasons for Decision

To consult with the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel on the draft Capital Investment Strategy 2022/23 to 2026/27.

EX.67/21 DRAFT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2022-2027
(Key Decision – KD.14/21)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder presented the draft Asset Management Plan 2022 to 2027 which was being updated to reflect the key issues and changes affecting the management and use of the City's property resources. (GD.47/21). The Plan also reported on the current position and performance of the Portfolio, and the Asset Disposal Programme.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder moved, and the Leader seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected none

DECISION

That the Executive:

1. Noted the position as set out in Report GD.47/21.
2. Approved the update to the draft Asset Management Plan in order for it to proceed for consideration by the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel, before coming back to the Executive and then full Council in September 2021.

Reasons for Decision

To update the Council's Asset Management Plan and the position of the property portfolio in the light of the Asset Review Business Plan and Disposal Programme and other corporate initiatives.

EX.68/21 ST CUTHBERT'S GARDEN VILLAGE – PROGRESS REPORT AND KEY NEXT STEPS
(Key Decision)

Portfolio Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Economic Growth

Subject Matter

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder gave an update on the progress of the planning and delivery of St Cuthbert's Garden Village, the key next steps and set out details of the proposed workstream and funding profile which required authorisation. In addition authorisation was also requested to enable the Corporate Director of Economic Development to progress procurement, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and to award contracts in keeping with the Councils procurement guidelines with the exception of being satisfied it was on the basis of best value as opposed to simply lowest cost (ED.23/21).

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder thanked the Head of Planning Policy and the team for their continued hard work.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder moved, and the Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected not to give authorisation to the Corporate Director of Economic Development

DECISION

That Executive:

1. Noted progress on the project including key achievements to date;
2. Approved the proposed next steps and hence indicative work programme for advancing the St Cuthbert's Garden Village project, including proposed indicative funding profile, set out at Section 4 of report ED.23/21;
3. Delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Economic Development to progress procurement, including contract awards, where in keeping with the indicative work package and budgets, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy, Enterprise and Housing.

Reasons for Decision

Approval for the indicative work packages and funding profile was required given the values involved and the need for transparency given the proposed expenditure of external grant funding. It also reflected that as a major corporate project that Executive were comfortable with both the progress of the project and the future direction of travel.

EX.69/21 USE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMUTED SUM FUNDING
(Key Decision – KD.18/21)

Portfolio Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Subject Matter

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder outlined the opportunity to use affordable housing commuted sum funding held by the Council, sourced from developers' planning obligations, to provide grants to Brampton Rural Housing Society, in order to bring long-term empty properties back into use in Brampton and Hallbankgate, to be let at an affordable rent to local people. The proposal would provide the combined benefits of bringing long-term empty properties back into use and delivering rural affordable housing (ED.25/21).

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder thanked the Housing Development Officer and the Empty Properties Officer for their work in securing the funding.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder moved, and the Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected not to approve the proposal

DECISION

That the Executive:

1. Approved the proposal to provide grants to Brampton Rural Housing Society, from affordable housing commuted sum funding, towards the cost of acquiring and refurbishing long-term empty properties in Brampton and Hallbankgate, to be rented to local people at affordable rents.
2. Granted delegated authority to the Corporate Director for Economic Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, to approve individual grants to speed up the process

Reasons for Decision

The proposal met the Carlisle Plan priorities to address current and future housing needs to protect and improve resident's quality of life.

EX.70/21 NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-Cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 2 July 2021 was submitted for information.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the paper.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That, subject to the above, the Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 2 July 2021 be received.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.71/21 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE LEADER / PORTFOLIO HOLDERS
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

Details of decisions taken by the Leader / Portfolio Holders under delegated powers were submitted.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the paper.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the decisions, attached as Appendix A, be noted.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.72/21 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY OFFICERS
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

Details of decisions taken by Officers under delegated powers were submitted.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the paper.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the decisions, attached as Appendix B, be noted.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.73/21 JOINT MANAGEMENT TEAM
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 5 July 2021 were submitted for information.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the Minutes.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 5 July 2021, attached as Appendix C, be received.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.74/21 **APPLICATION TO SUSTAINABLE WARMTH COMPETITION (LAD PHASE 3 AND HOME UPGRADE GRANTS (HUG))

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, The Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Councillors Mallinson (J) (Chair) and Mrs Mallinson, having declared disclosable pecuniary interests, retired from the meeting and took no part in the consideration of this item of business.

The Deputy Leader assumed the Chair.

Portfolio Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing

Subject Matter

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder submitted a report seeking permission from the Executive for the City Council to make an application to BEIS Sustainable Warmth Competition as the lead authority of a Cumbrian consortium of district councils. (GD.46/21)

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder reported that the Sustainable Warmth competition was Phase 3 of the Local Authority Delivery of Green Homes Grants (LAD3) for mains gas connected homes and Home Upgrade Grants (HUG) for off- mains gas homes. It was proposed that the City Council would apply for around £25 million of funding on behalf of the Cumbrian consortium to address fuel poverty and improve energy efficiency and carbon savings in at least 1,000 mainly private sector properties.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder moved, and the Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected not to make an application

DECISION

The Executive agreed for Homelife HIA to apply on behalf of a Cumbrian consortium for the award from Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for the Sustainable warmth competition.

Reasons for Decision

Carlisle had over 2,250 owner-occupied and over 700 privately rented properties which had an EPC rating of E, F or G but which could achieve a minimum C Rating. This did not include the homes which did not have current EPCs but were still eligible for grant funding. The purpose of the Sustainable Warmth competition was to reduce carbon and make homes more energy efficient which would support the Council's credentials as climate change champions and add to the fuel poverty schemes already on offer. The scheme would also help boost the local economy.

Councillors Mallinson (J) and Mrs Mallinson returned to the meeting.

The Leader assumed the Chair.

EX.75/21 CHANGING FUTURES

Portfolio Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing

Subject Matter

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder presented a report which outlined the purpose and principles of the Changing Futures Programme. (GD.45/21).

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder reported that the Council's expression of interest for the MHCLG Changing Futures: changing systems to support adults experiencing multiple disadvantages had not been successful, however, a number of funding streams had been identified based on the existing and emerging projects and there was still momentum behind the proposals with effective partner buy-in and considerable resources in the system across partners.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder moved, and the Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected not to support the multi-agency recommendations

DECISION

That the Executive supported the multi-agency recommendations outlined by the Changing Futures Programme Board:

1. To commit to the purpose and principles of the Changing Futures Programme
2. Agree that the Changing Futures work will require organisations to work outside statutory thresholds to effect change for individuals identified
3. Recognise the realignment of existing and emerging organisational resources is critical to the success of the Changing Futures programme

Reasons for Decision

To address Carlisle's current and future housing needs.

EX.76/21 PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph numbers (as indicated in brackets against the minutes) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act.

EX.77/21 LAND DISPOSALS TO ASSIST WITH DEVELOPMENT OF CARLISLE SOUTHERN LINK ROAD

(Key Decision – KD.17/21)

(Public and Press excluded by virtue of Paragraph 3)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder submitted private report GD.44/21 which provided an update on the negotiations which had taken place for the disposal of property assets which will assist with the development of the proposed Carlisle Southern Link Road.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations, which were seconded by the Leader.

Summary of options rejected that authority should not be granted

DECISION

That the Executive:

- 1) Note the negotiations that had been undertaken to the Acquiring Authority with the acquisition of land required to development the proposed CSLR and authorised the disposal of the Subject Assets. These are shown on the plan attached as Appendix 1 in GD.44/21. The Subject Assets that would be disposed of permanently were shown coloured pink and the ones that will would be disposed of temporarily were shown coloured green / hatched black.
- 2) Authorised the Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services to agree and as necessary finalise the heads of terms for the disposal of the Subject Assets provided that the Property Services Manager was satisfied that the disposals represented best consideration.
- 3) Authorised the Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services to progress further negotiation and finalise heads of terms, at an appropriate time, with the Acquiring Authority in respect of the elements that currently were Reserved Matters provided that the Property Services Manager was satisfied that the agreement of these Reserved Matters represented best consideration.
- 4) Authorised the Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services to complete all necessary and other relevant documentation required to progress the disposal of the Subject Assets and in due course the Reserved Matters.

Reasons for Decision

As detailed within the report.

EX.78/21 OUTCOME OF OLD FIRE STATION TENDER
(Key Decision)
(Public and Press excluded by virtue of Paragraph 3)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder submitted private report GD.28/21 which outlined the outcome of the tender process to find a suitable operator for the Arts, Culture, Entertainment and Catering offer at the Old Fire Station.

The Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder commended officers on their continued hard work in finalising the tender process in such difficult times.

The Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations, which were seconded by the Leader.

Summary of options rejected that the tender was not awarded

DECISION

That the Executive

- 1) accept the preferred supplier Greystone Developments Ltd and the process of entering a lease be commenced.
- 2) agreed that final sign off for the terms for the lease were delegated to the Property Services Manager following consultation with the Health and Wellbeing Manager and Portfolio Holder.

[The meeting ended at 4.17pm]