



# EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

## DECISIONS MADE AT THE SPECIAL EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 7 DECEMBER 2020

**Date of Publication: 9 DECEMBER 2020**

<b>CALL IN PERIOD ENDS 16 December 2020 at 1700</b>
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**Notes:**

- (a) Decisions may be called-in by the Chairman or any three Members of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (b) Requests to call -in must be delivered to the Committee Section (by phone, email or in writing) by the date and time specified.
- (c) In the absence of any call-in, decisions will take effect and can be implemented 5 working days after publication of these Decisions.
- (d) Decision marked \*\* may not be called-in as they were made under special urgency rules.

<b>Committee Section:</b>	<b>Email – <a href="mailto:CommitteeServices@carlisle.gov.uk">CommitteeServices@carlisle.gov.uk</a></b>
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## **EXECUTIVE – SPECIAL MEETING**

**MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2020 AT 4.00 PM**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor J Mallinson (Leader / Chairman)  
Councillor Ellis (Deputy Leader, and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder)  
Councillor Christian (Environment and Transport 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:**

Deputy Chief Executive  
Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services  
Corporate Director of Finance and Resources

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Councillor Birks (Vice-Chair of the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel – until 4.12 pm)

### **REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

A roll call of persons in attendance was taken.

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct Councillors Mrs Mallinson; Mallinson (J) and Ellis submitted declarations of interest in relation to Item A.2: Local Government Reorganisation – Approval of Carlisle City Council's Submission due to the fact that they are Members of Cumbria County Council.

The Members reported that they had received dispensations to discuss local government reorganisation at this meeting.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of the Town Clerk and Chief Executive; and the Corporate Director of Economic Development.

### **PUBLIC AND PRESS**

RESOLVED – That the Agenda be agreed as circulated.

## **CALL-IN AND URGENCY PROCEDURES**

The Leader reported that the Mayor had, on 27 November 2020, agreed that Agenda item A.2 – Local Government Reorganisation – Approval of Carlisle City Council’s Submission should be exempt from call-in since, if a call-in was received, call-in procedures would delay transmission of the final submission on the topic to Government by the 9 December 2020 deadline, thereby prejudicing the Council’s interests.

### **EX.138/20 BUDGET 2021/22 – FEEDBACK FROM THE SCRUTINY PANELS ON THE DRAFT BUDGET REPORTS** (Key Decision – KD.25/20)

**Portfolio** Finance, Governance and Resources

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

#### **Subject Matter**

Speaking at the invitation of the Leader, the Deputy Leader indicated that the Scrutiny Panels had scrutinised the draft Budget Reports for 2021/22 considered by the Executive on 9 November 2020.

The Executive would now consider feedback from the Scrutiny Panels, as detailed within the Minutes of the undernoted Panel meetings, copies of which were submitted:

#### **(a) Health and Wellbeing – 19 November 2020 (HWSP.67/20)**

The Deputy Leader advised that the substantive resolution from the Panel was that more detailed information be provided with regard to the policy which the City Council would pursue in relation to climate change.

The Deputy Leader reported that information had now been incorporated into the Executive’s Budget Proposals, the most significant change being that any carbon reducing schemes would initially have to be funded from resources currently contained in the Council’s existing revenue and capital budgets; with any new climate change initiatives following formal adoption and approval of the Local Environment (Climate Change) Strategy being supported by a robust business case and a cost benefit analysis provided.

The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel had been invited to speak but was not in attendance today.

#### **(b) Economic Growth – 26 November 2020 (EGSP.59/20)**

The Deputy Leader stated that, having scrutinised the Charges Review Report 2021/22 - Community Services, the Panel had resolved that a review of the parking permit scheme at Talkin Tarn be carried out.

He believed that the Executive would agree that consideration should be given to the strategy governing parking at Talkin Tarn in terms of the management of parking and income received therefrom. Accordingly, certain of those proposals would be reviewed.

The Chair of the Economic Growth Scrutiny Panel had been invited to address the Executive but was not present at the meeting.

**(c) Business and Transformation – 1 December 2020 (BTSP.73/20)**

The Deputy Leader highlighted the Panel's request that the Executive give further consideration to the introduction of a pest control charge for dealing with rats and the impact upon households in the event that they could not meet the charge.

In response, the Deputy Leader could confirm that the Executive had taken that on board and that the Charges Review Report 2021/22 – Governance and Regulatory Services (GD.48/20) had been amended to ensure that the intended discount for senior citizens was available for domestic rat and mice treatments.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder confirmed that he had nothing to add at this time.

The Vice-Chair of the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel was pleased to note that the Executive was looking to amend the pest control charges and discounts as alluded to by the Deputy Leader.

She explained that the Scrutiny Panel had also asked that the Executive look at introducing an element of flexibility for waste services charges to assist households that were struggling financially. The feeling at the meeting was that collections from households were increasing. A cost benefit analysis may therefore be useful since, if people were able to dispose of their waste, that may be beneficial from a fly tipping perspective.

The Vice-Chair concluded by questioning whether the Executive was also prepared to look at that issue.

The Deputy Leader replied that investigation into some of those charges would comprise a larger piece of work than could be undertaken within the timescales to date. He did not, however, think that the Executive was opposed to looking into the matter.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder reported that he had discussed the issue with Officers. One alternative to bulky household waste collection was the County Council's household waste sites which took items free of charge. Clearly, however, not everyone could avail themselves of that service.

The Portfolio Holder added that work would be required to try to understand the manner by which a scheme could be put in place, and that the matter was under consideration.

The Vice-Chair thanked the Deputy Leader, and the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder for their responses.

The Leader wished to place on record his thanks to the Scrutiny Panels for their consideration of the draft Budget Reports and for their comments and recommendations. He was also appreciative of the Vice-Chair's attendance today.

The Executive would give detailed consideration to the issues and recommendations raised prior to putting forward their draft Budget Proposals for consultation on 14 December 2020.

The Leader so moved and the Deputy Leader duly seconded.

**Summary of options rejected** None

## **DECISION**

That the Scrutiny Panels be thanked for their scrutiny of the draft Budget reports; and their comments / recommendations, as detailed within the Minutes submitted, be taken into consideration as part of the Executive's deliberations on the 2021/22 Budget.

## **Reasons for Decision**

The views of the Scrutiny Panels be taken into consideration as part of the 2021/22 Budget process.

*The Vice-Chair of the Business and Transformation Scrutiny Panel left the meeting*

**EX.139/20    \*\*LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION – APPROVAL OF  
CARLISLE CITY COUNCIL'S SUBMISSION**  
(Key Decision – KD.32/20)

(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)

**Portfolio**    Cross-cutting

**Relevant Scrutiny Panel**            Business and Transformation

## **Subject Matter**

The Leader submitted report CE.07/20, the purpose of which was for the Executive to consider the views and decisions taken at the special meeting of the City Council held on 1 December 2020, relating to Local Government Reorganisation and delegate approval of the final submission to the Chief Executive and himself.

Copies of the Cumbria Local Government Reorganisation Case for Change – December 2020 submission document and an Excerpt from the Minutes of the special Council meeting (C.133/20) had also been circulated.

The Leader was pleased to move the report, adding that the Executive believed that Carlisle City Council's submission represented the best way forward for local government reform in Cumbria. The arguments were well rehearsed at the full Council meeting and he did not propose to reiterate the same.

Whilst the decision was clearly one to be taken by the Executive today, the Leader was further pleased that Council had been consulted; and, whilst one could not claim total unanimity, he could record that only one vote was recorded against the option before the Executive at full Council on 1 December 2020.

The Leader truly believed that the Executive's preferred north / south option, which provided the correct balance between economies of scale and community cohesion, was the one which would best serve Cumbria for decades to come. It would be one of four submissions and he felt sure that it would be judged to be the strong and compliant bid that it was. He had numerous discussions with fellow District Leaders and numerous other people since February 2020.

The Leader was grateful to Members of this Council for their support and, in particular, wished to record thanks to the Chief Executive and his Team, without whom a submission of that quality would not have been possible.

The Leader concluded his presentation by moving the recommendation that the Executive approve the Carlisle City Council's draft proposal for local government reorganisation, attached to the report and delegate submission of the final document, with any minor amendments and corrections, to the Chief Executive in consultation with himself.

The Deputy Leader seconded the recommendation.

The Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder also wished to support the recommendation. It was currently a very exciting time, a time to put right the 1992 Maud Report which saw Cumbria come into existence.

Cumbria was too large and diverse, with the north looking to Scotland and the north-east for their television and hospital services, and the south of the county very much looking towards Manchester for service provision.

The Portfolio Holder emphasised the diverse nature of the county, believing that local government reorganisation would present jobs and opportunities for the residents of Cumbria. People, including herself, were looking forward to discussing the matter in due course, including the potential for two unitary councils to be created in Cumbria so that we could look to the locality working which the District Councils were exceptionally good at.

**Summary of options rejected** that the draft proposal and delegation should not be approved

## **DECISION**

That the Executive approve the Carlisle City Council's draft proposal for local government reorganisation, attached to Report CE.07/20 and delegate submission of the final document, with any minor amendments and corrections, to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

## **Reasons for Decision**

To enable Carlisle City Council to submit its proposals for Local Government Reorganisation to UK Government before the deadline on 9 December 2020

**EX.140/20 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 9 November 2020 was submitted for information.

**Summary of options rejected** None

**DECISION**

That the Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 9 November 2020 be noted.

**Reasons for Decision**

Not applicable

[The meeting ended at 4.19 pm]