

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

To: All Member of Council
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STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS MADE BY CABINET ON 06 DECEMBER 2021

This statement is produced in accordance with Regulation 12 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. Further to the associated public notice of Key Decisions no scrutiny call-in has been received, and therefore the following decisions can be implemented.

The following apply to the decisions listed below:

Reasons for these decisions: As set out in the reports
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=183&MId=2512>

Other options considered and rejected: As set out in the reports
<https://democracy.croydon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=183&MId=2512>

Details of Conflicts of Interest declared by the Decision Maker: None

Note of dispensation granted by the head of paid service in relation to a declared conflict of interest by that Decision Maker: None

The Leader of the Council has delegated to the Cabinet the power to make the decisions set out below:

Decision Title: INDEPENDENT NON-STATUTORY REVIEW: FOLLOW UP - REPORT

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Note the update provided by the non-statutory review team in relation to their original recommendations and milestones; and

2. Note progress made by the Council's response, nine months on, to those same recommendations and milestones.

Decision Title: 2022/23 BUDGET AND THREE-YEAR MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Note the significant progress towards delivering a balanced budget for 2022/23 and future years and the current budget gaps still to close;
2. Consider the contents of paragraph 3.24 of the report in respect of the identified risks to the budget process and make any recommendations in respect of the risks to the budget process;
3. Request that Cabinet request the Corporate Director of Housing to bring a report to the February 7th Cabinet setting out how a reduction to the in-year and future year pressures against the existing Temporary Accommodation budget will be managed and achieved;
4. Request officers to continue to work on reducing growth pressures and report back any changes to the January 24th Cabinet;
5. Support the growth and savings schedules included at appendix 1 of the report, and
6. In principle, to recommend these to Full Council as part of the budget approval process. To note that officers will commence planning for the implementation from April 2022 where appropriate where appropriate, but that any such proposals are subject to approval at February Council;
7. Ask the Corporate Management Team to continue work to identify further invest-to-save opportunities that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Authority, and minimise any service reductions;
8. Request the Corporate Management Team to ensure that there are sufficient resources to deliver the MTFs and report back in this respect in the January and February Cabinet reports;
9. Make any recommendations and comments that will further the ability for the Improvement Panel to make a positive recommendation to the Secretary of State for the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities [DLUHC] in respect of the Council's progress and specifically confirming this year's

£50m capitalisation direction and also next year's £25m (2022/23) capitalisation respectively in order to give financial certainty to the Council (a further £5m capitalisation is budgeted for in 2023/24);

10. Note the Council is undertaking further work in respect of the potential to maximise its capital receipts and the potential use of these to reduce its borrowing requirements subject to Cabinet and Council agreement;
11. Note that the scrutiny sub committees will have had initial discussions prior to this December Cabinet meeting and they and the Scrutiny and Overview Committee will undertake their scrutiny and overview work on the budget proposals and feed recommendations and comments for consideration into the January and February Cabinets;
12. Note the intention to take a report to the General Purposes and Audit Committee [GPAC] about the reserves strategy and its relationship to the MTFs prior to Cabinet taking a decision to recommend a budget to Full Council
13. Note the significant financial implications, approved in the March 2021 Budget at Full Council, from any policy changes and operational enforcement and income modelling changes, in respect of Healthy Neighbourhoods (formally referred to as Low Traffic Neighbourhoods), that will require the Council to find alternative savings in this respect;
14. Note that at this report's dispatch prior to the consideration of the Pensions Committee on 3rd December of a report recommending an actuary supported reduction in employer contributions that are part of the savings in 2022/23 preceding a further triennial pension review that will consider employer contributions for 2023/24 onwards. The savings in this respect are £3.400m in 2021/22 and £2.760m in 2022/23 (reducing as a part saving was already included in existing proposals for 2022/23) should the Pensions Committee scheduled on 3rd December agree to recommend these to Cabinet. An update will be provided at the actual Cabinet meeting;
15. Welcomes the additional 'one off' funding from the Home Office in 2021/22 and the temporary mandate of the national Transfer Scheme and request the Improvement Panel to support the cross party view of the Council in making further recommendations to the Secretary of State to fully fund the estimated circa. £4.5m of additional costs of Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers [UASC] that continue to fall disproportionately on the Croydon Council Tax payer; and
16. Note that officers continue to work on the closure of the draft accounts for 2019/20 and 2020/21 in response to dealing with the external auditors findings as reported to the General Purposes and Audit Committee [GPAC] and that this could have significant implications for the medium Term Financial Strategy and request officers to complete this work as soon as possible and at the latest ahead of the final February Cabinet.

Decision Title: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – MONTH 7 (OCTOBER 2021)

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Note the General Fund is projecting a net favourable movement of £1.020m from Period 6. Service directorates are indicating a £3.030m overspend (Month 6 £4.050m) with this being netted off as in the past six months against the release of a one off Covid Grant (£3.451m released = 31% of the grant) confirmed to Croydon Council for 21/22 by DLUHC as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement;
2. Note that a further number of risks and compensating opportunities may materialise which would see the forecast year-end variance change and these are reported within Section 3 of this report. Should these risks materialise or the mitigations not be effective the Council could overspend by £11.356m (Month 6 £11.063m). However to note the Council does have the £7.799m of covid grant that can be used to offset such pressures.
3. Note the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is projecting a £0.786m (Month 6 £0.733m) overspend for 2021/22. If no further mitigations are found to reduce this overspend the HRA will need to drawdown reserves from HRA balances. There are sufficient balances to cover this expenditure.
4. Note the capital spend to date for the General Fund of £13.593m (against a budget of £188.688m) and for the HRA of £9.915m (against a budget of £183.209m), with a projected forecast variance of £45.472m on the General Fund against budget and £7.184m forecast variance against budget for the Housing Revenue Account;
5. Note, the above figures are predicated on forecasts from Month 7 to the year end and therefore could be subject to change as forecasts are refined and new and updated information is provided on a monthly basis. Forecasts are made based on the best available information at this time.
6. Note that whilst the Section 114 notice has formally been lifted, the internal controls established as part of the S114, such as the Spend Control Panel and Social Care Placement Panels remain. Restrictions have been lifted for ring-fenced accounts such as the Pension Fund, Housing Revenue Account and Coroner's Expenditure as these are directly outside of the General Fund's control. The Spending Control Panel which was set up at the beginning of November 2020 continues to meet on a twice daily basis.

7. Note that the Council has received a one off financial sum of £2.36m from the Government to help cover the pressures related to Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) and care leavers which Croydon bears disproportionately to other local authorities due to the siting of the Home Office's Lunar House. However this means the Council and Croydon tax payers still fund £1.615m of disproportionate costs in this financial year post the Grant support. These costs will continue throughout the MTFS for which the Government has not indicated any financial support to date.
8. Note that in addition to the UASC pressures, Croydon Borough has taken on c1000 asylum seekers who have been placed in eight hotels by the Home Office without consultation with the Council. The hotel costs are funded by the Home Office, however the Council is be responsible for further ancillary services particularly around safeguarding, public health, children & youth provision and broader community support. These additional costs, which are currently being calculated have been flagged within the unquantified risks section of this report, and could clearly result in further financial pressures for the Council.

Decision Title: CROYDON COUNCIL'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION REVIEW 2021/2022 TO 2022/2023

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, the associated confidential part B report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To request that the Scheme Actuary certify the change in contribution rates via a revised Rates and Adjustments Certificate.

Decision Title: CROYDON LOCAL PLAN REVIEW - PUBLICATION OF THE PROPOSED SUBMISSION DRAFT

Key Decision no.: 4721CAB

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Approve the publication of the Proposed Submission draft of the Croydon Local Plan review (Appendix 1) its associated additional Sustainability Appraisals (Appendix 2) and updated additional supporting evidence for six weeks for representations to be made upon it, in accordance with Regulation

19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012;

2. Approve that the Proposed Submission draft of the Croydon Local Plan be recommended to Full Council for submission to the Secretary of State upon conclusion of the statutory 6-week publication period; and
3. Delegate minor and/or factual changes to the Proposed Submission draft of the Croydon Local Plan including the Policies Map, prior to publication to the Director of the Director of Planning and Sustainable Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Culture and Regeneration.

Decision Title: CROYDON SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To note the Annual Report of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board (CSAB).

Decision Title: DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG) SCHOOL FUNDING 2022/23 FORMULA FACTORS

Key Decision no.: 5021CAB

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To approve the provisional funding formula for Croydon schools for the financial year 2022/23 for maintained schools, and the academic year 2022/23 for academies, in line with the recommendations of the School Forum:

- a. to agree for the phased implementation of the National Funding Formula in 2022/23 to ease the potential turbulence of moving to a hard formula at a later stage; and
- b. to agree the funding formula factors set out in Table 2 and paragraphs 4.5.1 to 5.5 of this report already voted on at schools forum.

Decision Title: INVESTING IN OUR BOROUGH

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To note

1. The request for approval of the contract extension and variation for the Young People and Care Leavers Service as set out at agenda item 11a and section 5.1.1 of the report.
2. The request for approval of the award for Parking ANPR cameras as set out at agenda item 11b and section 5.1.1 of the report
3. The contracts between £500,000 and £5,000,000 anticipated to be awarded under delegated authority from the Leader by the nominated Cabinet Member, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Resources and Financial Governance and with the Leader in certain circumstances, before the next meeting of Cabinet, as set out in section 5.2.1 of the report.
4. The list of delegated award decisions made by the Director of Commissioning and Procurement since the last meeting of Cabinet, as set out in section 5.3.1 of the report.
5. Property lettings, acquisitions and disposals to be agreed by the Cabinet Member for Resources and Financial Governance in consultation with the Leader since the last meeting of Cabinet, as set out in section 5.4.1 of the report.

Decision Title: CAYSH YOUNG PEOPLE AND CARE LEAVER'S SERVICE - EXTENSION OF CONTRACT

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Approve (in accordance with Regulation 30 of the Council's Tenders and Contracts Regulations) an extension by way of variation of 'The Young Person & Care Leavers Service' contract awarded to CAYSH for an extension period of 12 months to 30th September 2022 at an additional cost of £567,240 for a maximum aggregated contract value of £5,386,703.00

2. Note that the Contracts and Commissioning Board has endorsed the above recommendation.

Decision Title: PARKING ANPR CAMERAS CONTRACT AWARD

Key Decision no.: 2021CAB

Details of decision:

Having carefully read and considered the Part A report, the associated confidential part B report, and the requirements of the Council's public sector duty in relation to the issues detailed in the body of the reports, the Cabinet

RESOLVED: To

1. Approve the award in accordance with Regulation 28.4(c) of the Council's Contracts and Tenders Regulations for the contract for the provision of ANPR cameras, back end IT system to manage and control the camera network and images, associated support and maintenance and hosting of the camera management system for a contract term of 10 years (with breaks in years 3,6 and 8) to the Provider and for the contract value stated in the Part B report on this agenda.
2. Note the contractor name and contract value will be published following contract award.

Signed: Interim Monitoring Officer

Notice date: 14 December 2021