

To enable the County Council to meet its statutory requirements with respect to setting a budget and Council Tax precept for 2016/17 and to provide a basis for the planning of services over the next four years.

Modelling of the Business Rates Pool is being undertaken and a decision on whether to proceed will need to be taken before 14th January 2016.

To ensure that the Council's views, in particular regarding the damaging effect of the settlement on the delivery of vital public services, are made known to the Government.

ITEM 5

PROPOSAL TO CHARGE SELF-FUNDERS A FEE FOR ARRANGING CARE SERVICES - OUTCOME OF THE CONSULTATION.

Director of Adults and Communities

- (a) That the outcome of the consultation on the proposed arrangement fee for self-funders be noted;
- (b) That from 4 April 2016 an annual fee of £236 be charged for arranging care services to meet eligible needs for those people who have financial assets over the upper capital limit set by the Government;
- (c) That it be noted that the fee will be reviewed annually to ensure that it covers the actual costs of arranging care;
- (d) That it be noted that work will take place with service users affected by the changes to ensure that they are aware of their options and supported to make informed choices.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

Implementing an arrangement fee for self-funders is expected to generate in excess of £100,000 per annum additional income for the Council.

Although the expected additional income is relatively small in the context of the Adult Social Care annual service user income budget of £38 million per annum, it would enable the Adults and Communities Department to generate some income and to use its resources more effectively to assist vulnerable service users.

It is acknowledged that the majority of responses to the consultation did not agree with the proposal to

implement an arrangement fee for self-funders. However, Section 14 of the Care Act 2014 allows the Council to charge self-funders for arranging non-residential care services, and the fee level is set to cover the Council's costs only and does not include any profit element.

ITEM 6

DRAFT COMMUNITIES AND WELLBEING STRATEGY 2016-2020.

Director of Adults and Communities

- (a) That the draft Communities and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-20 (attached as Appendix A to the report) be approved for consultation;
- (b) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet in June 2016 regarding the outcome of the consultation and presenting the final Communities and Wellbeing Strategy for approval.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

Financial challenges outlined in the County Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) require a clear strategic direction on which to base decisions for any future delivery model for the Communities and Wellbeing Service within the budget envelope available.

The Director of Adults and Communities requires the Cabinet's permission to undertake a formal consultation exercise on the principles and model for the delivery of services. The draft Communities and Wellbeing Strategy has been developed to fulfil statutory duties, meet efficiency targets, and provide a basis for the planning, commissioning and delivery of services over this four-year period.

The views of customers and stakeholders are necessary to inform the further development of the Strategy and its subsequent implementation.

ITEM 7

ENERGY SUPPLY SERVICE FOR LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE.

Director of Corporate Resources

That the Director of Corporate Resources, following consultation with the Lead Member for Resources, be authorised to:

- (a) Set up a partnership agreement with Leicester City Council in respect of the energy supply service;

- (b) Accept delegation from Leicester City Council to carry out procurement on behalf of both councils in order to find a licensed supplier and;
- (c) Award the contract to the preferred supplier following the conclusion of the procurement exercise.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

Fuel poverty is an issue that affects a large number of County and City residents and setting up an energy supply service will help alleviate this by enabling residents to obtain cheaper gas and electricity.

ITEM 8

LEICESTERSHIRE'S POLICY ON ADMISSIONS TO MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS: DETERMINATION OF ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS.

Director of Children and Family Services

- (a) That Leicestershire's School Admission Policy for entry September 2017 remains unchanged;
- (b) That Leicestershire's oversubscription criteria and the three co-ordinated schemes for the normal round of transfers remain unchanged.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

The County Council, as an admitting authority, is required to ratify school admissions arrangements, even if there are no changes, by 28 February 2016.

No changes to Leicestershire's School Admission Policy are proposed due to the Government's decision to begin a consultation in 2016 on changes to the National School Admissions Codes, the outcome of which will come into effect from 2017 and will be likely to affect Leicestershire's local admissions policy.

ITEM 9

EXCEPTION TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES FOR DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY SAFEGUARDS (BEST INTEREST ASSESSMENTS) - URGENT ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

Director of Adults and Communities

That the urgent action taken by the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Leader, to grant an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules be noted.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

Rule 6 (b) (ii) of the County Council's Contract Procedure Rules states that an exception to the Rules

may be made within the relevant law and with the authority of the Executive [the Cabinet] where it is satisfied that an exception is justified on its merits. In an urgent case the Chief Executive after consultation with the Council Leader or Deputy Leader (save where this is not practicable) may direct that an exception be made subject to this being reported to the next meeting of the Executive.

ITEM 10

REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) - REVISED POLICY STATEMENT.

County Solicitor

- (a) That the Council's use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 for the period from 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015 be noted;
- (b) That the County Council's Policy Statement on the use of RIPA powers (appended to the report) be agreed;
- (c) That the Cabinet continues to receive annual reports from the Corporate Governance Committee on the use of RIPA powers and whether the Policy remains fit for purpose.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

The Policy Statement required updating to reflect legislative changes regarding the supply of nicotine inhaling products that have taken place since its previous consideration by the Cabinet in December 2013.