

CABINET – TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023**ORDER PAPER****ITEM DETAILS****APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr. O. O'Shea CC.
Mr. Rushton CC will attend via MS Teams.

1. MINUTES (Pages 3-14)**Proposed motion**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2023 be taken as read, confirmed, and signed.

2. URGENT ITEMS

None.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of the Cabinet are asked to declare any interests in the business to be discussed.

**4. RECYCLING AND HOUSEHOLD WASTE SITES PROPOSED CONSULTATION
(Pages 15-34)****Proposed motion**

- a) That the commencement of a public consultation exercise on the following proposals be approved:
 - i. the closure of three of the Council's Recycling and Household Waste Sites at Market Harborough, Shepshed and Somerby;
 - ii. a permanent change of opening hours at the Bottesford Recycling and Household Waste Site (RHWS) from five to three days a week;
 - iii. the reduction of the summer opening hours at all RHWS in the County;
 - iv. the introduction of Christmas Eve closure at all RHWS;
- b) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet in April 2024 detailing the outcome of the consultation and presenting the final proposal for approval.

5. LEICESTERSHIRE HIGHWAY DESIGN GUIDE REFRESH – APPROVAL OF POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES (Pages 35-58)

Proposed motion

- a) That the key influencing factors and work undertaken to date during the development of the new Leicestershire Highway Design Guide (LHDG), as set out in the report, be noted, with particular reference to:
 - i. the draft policies and principles developed in the context of changes to national policy and guidance and the potential for subsequent additional maintenance requirements for the Council;
 - ii. the proposed approach to commuted sums and road adoption;
- b) That the draft policies, principles and approaches presented in paragraphs 32-65 of the report and appended for the purposes of consultation on the draft LHDG be approved;
- c) That authority be delegated to make minor changes as needed in advance of the consultation to the Director of Environment and Transport, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member;
- d) That authority be delegated to agree non-material changes to core policy, principles, guidance and standards during future reviews to the Director of Environment and Transport, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member.

6. MELTON MOWBRAY DISTRIBUTOR ROAD SOUTH (Pages 59-80 and supplementary report pages 3-6)

Proposed motion

- a) That the County Council's ongoing commitment to Melton Borough Council's (MBC) Local Plan strategy be confirmed;
- b) That Homes England (HE) be informed that despite the best efforts of the County Council, it is unable to meet the terms and conditions within the Grant Determination Agreement in order to draw down any further grant monies from the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF);
- c) That it be noted that:
 - i. funding of £0.9m has been drawn down out of a total HIF grant offer of £18.2m;
 - ii. there is therefore no unspent funding to be returned to HE;
 - iii. in the absence of further grant to fill the funding gap of a scheme whose total estimated cost is now £70.5m, the County Council will be unable to proceed at present with construction of the Melton Mowbray Distributor Road South (MMDR S), and;
 - iv. MBC and other stakeholders be advised accordingly;

- d) That the County Council's Capital Programme 2023-27 be amended, as set out in paragraph 20 of the Original Report, noting that this will include funding for development of an alternative delivery strategy (£0.5m), costs incurred on the programme which will be unrecoverable (£1.3m) and withdrawal of the existing strategy (£1.7m) for the MMDR S at a likely total cost of £3.5m;
- e) That the MMDR North and East scheme be amended as required;
- f) That the Director of Environment and Transport and the Director of Corporate Resources, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Lead Members, be authorised to pursue discussions to seek additional funding, including with MBC, the local Member of Parliament, the Department for Transport and developers.

7. CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL'S LOCAL PLAN (Pages 81-84 and supplementary report pages 7-20)

Proposed motion

- a) That the latest position regarding Charnwood Borough Council's Local Plan Examination be noted;
- b) That the County Council's initial response to the Charnwood Local Plan consultation, as outlined in paragraphs 36 – 50 of the report, be agreed as a basis for the formal response to the consultation;
- c) That the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member, be authorised to submit the County Council's formal response to the Charnwood Local Plan consultation, setting out its latest position, by 8 November 2023;
- d) That the revisions made to the draft Interim Transport Contributions Strategy (ITCS) designed to manage the risks associated with the delay in implementing the Local Plan be approved;
- e) That a six week consultation exercise be held on the revised draft ITCS;
- f) That the Director of Environment and Transport, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member, be authorised to make such refinements to the revised draft ITCS as might be required to implement it following the consultation exercise;
- g) That the Director of Environment and Transport, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member, be authorised to make such refinements to the ITCS as might be required for it to become the Transport Contributions Strategy, at the point of the Charnwood Local Plan being adopted.

8. LATEST POSITION ON THE HINCKLEY NATIONAL RAIL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER (Pages 85 - 208)

Proposed motion

- a) That the current position regarding the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange (HNRFI) proposal and the upcoming Examination timetable for further consideration of the application by the Planning Inspectorate be noted;
- b) That the County Council's position (as a consultee) regarding the HNRFI proposal be agreed as follows:
 - i. that it has no objection to the principle of Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges;
 - ii. that it accepts the need for a Strategic Rail Freight Interchange to be located in south Leicestershire;
 - iii. that based on the information submitted by the applicant to date, the HNRFI site in Blaby District cannot be endorsed as an appropriate location given the issues raised by the County Council, including in its role as the Local Highway Authority;
 - iv. that given the significant concerns which remain unresolved, particularly in relation to highways and transport matters, the Council objects to the HNRFI proposal as submitted by Tritax Symmetry to the Planning Inspectorate in March 2023 and considers the Examining Authority should recommend refusal to the Secretary of State;
- c) That the County Council enters into a Statement of Common Ground with the applicant setting out the position on the principle of development and other matters as specified by the Examining Authority;
- d) That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Director of Environment and Transport, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Lead Members, be authorised to submit the final Statement of Common Ground to the Planning Inspectorate prior to 8 March 2024 (deadline 8 of the Examination Timetable).

9. ITEMS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

None.

10. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN HAS DECIDED TO TAKE AS URGENT

None.

Officer to contact

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