

CABINET - FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2024**ORDER PAPER****ITEM DETAILS****APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr. N. J. Rushton CC

1. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 12)**Proposed motion**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 October 2024 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. ANNUAL DELIVERY REPORT AND PERFORMANCE COMPENDIUM 2024
(Pages 13 - 134)****Proposed motion**

- a) That the overall good progress in delivering on the Council's Strategic Priorities and Outcomes, as set out in the draft Annual Delivery Report 2024 be noted;
- b) That the Council's current low comparative funding, good but under pressure performance outcomes position, and financial pressures and risks now facing the Authority set out in the Performance Compendium be noted;
- c) That in light of the pressure on the Council's financial sustainability arising from continued service demand and cost pressures, the Council continues to press its case for a fairer funding settlement, noting that the delay in implementation has created significant uncertainties as to how the Council can now address the many service challenges and priorities it faces;

- d) That the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Leader, be authorised to make any amendments to the draft Annual Delivery Report and Performance Compendium prior to its submission for approval to the County Council on 4 December 2024.

5. INVESTING IN LEICESTERSHIRE PROGRAMME ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2023/2024 (Pages 135 - 172)

Proposed motion

That the performance of the Investing in Leicestershire Programme for the period April 2023 to March 2024 as set out in the Annual Report, be noted.

6. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP4) - OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL OF CORE DOCUMENT (Pages 173 - 506)

Proposed motion

- a) That the results of the consultation on the draft Local Transport Plan (LTP4) 2025-2040 be noted;
- b) That the LTP4 Core Document attached as Appendix A to the report be approved;
- c) That the Director of Environment and Transport, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member, be authorised to update the LTP4, including the focused strategies, Multi-Modal Area Investment Plans (MMAIPs), and the County Strategic Transport Investment Plan, as a result of evidence arising from the delivery of the LTP4 Core Document and consideration of future iterations of the Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- d) That it be noted that the next three areas to be prioritised for the development of MMAIPs will be:
 - i. Market Harborough,
 - ii. Hinckley,
 - iii. South-east Leicestershire;
- e) That it be noted that the following focused strategies will also be prioritised as part of the Phase Two development of the LTP4:
 - i. A Safe, Accessible and Inclusive Transport Network,
 - ii. Freight and Logistics,
 - iii. Decarbonising Transport,
 - iv. Adapting the Transport Network to Climate Change.

7. HINCKLEY NATIONAL RAIL FREIGHT INTERCHANGE (Pages 507 - 514)

- *With the permission of the Chairman, Mrs. M. Wright CC will speak on this item as the local member.*

Proposed motion

- a) The current position regarding the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange (HNRFI) application be noted;
- b) The County Council continues to engage with Tritax Symmetry (the Applicant) to as far as possible address outstanding concerns regarding the HNRFI planning application as highlighted by the Secretary of State (SoS) in her letter dated 10 September 2024;
- c) The Chief Executive in consultation with the Director of Environment and Transport be authorised to submit a final response on the additional information to the SoS to meet the 31 January 2025 deadline.

8. STRATEGIC TRANSPORT PLANNING ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE EMERGING CHARNWOOD LOCAL PLAN (Pages 515 - 524 and Supplementary Report)

Proposed motion

- a) That the recent letter from the Local Plan Inspectors (appended to the report) addressed to Charnwood Borough Council in response to its proposal to introduce a Community Infrastructure Levy as a means of delivering the infrastructure required to support the Local Plan be noted;
- b) That it be noted that the letter, dated 5 November 2024, was brought to the attention of County Council officers by the Borough Council on 12 November and that officers will consider the letter and potential implications for the County Council, with further information for the Cabinet to follow in a supplementary report;
- c) That the latest position in respect of the Charnwood Local Plan is noted, including the potential implications for the Local Highway Authority in its role as statutory consultee arising from the Inspectors' letter (as set out in paragraphs 21-37 of the supplementary report) and that the County Council is still awaiting a response from the Borough Council, which has been asked to confirm formally its intended course of action following the letter from the Local Plan Inspectors;
- d) That it be noted that the Borough Council is the authority responsible for making the Local Plan and ensuring its effective delivery and as such, it is required to demonstrate that the identified highways and transport mitigation can be delivered and that the Local Plan objective to increase the use of sustainable travel modes can still be fulfilled;

- e) That it be noted that the main published report to the Borough Council's Plans Committee on 21 November, in relation to an appeal site P/23/1236/2, Land at Melton Road, Queniborough did not refer to the letter from the Inspectors of 5 November 2024, or its potential impact on either the Local Plan timetable or determining applications, and that the County Council will make its representations on this application directly to the Planning Inspectorate by 11 December;
- f) That it be further noted that the Borough Council published an Extras report in relation to appeal site P/23/1236/2, Land at Melton Road, Queniborough on the day of the meeting on 21 November. This report states that it is the Borough Council's view that the letter from the Inspectors on the Draft Local Plan does not have a material impact on the assessment of the appeal proposal and that there should be no change to the recommendation;
- g) That it be noted that the Extras report in relation to appeal site P/23/1236/2, Land at Melton Road, Queniborough states that a paper will be taken to the Borough Council's Cabinet on 12 December 2024 seeking approval to prepare a Community Infrastructure Levy and to revise the Local Development Scheme and that, whilst process and timing will be determined by the Inspectors, at present the Borough Council anticipates that the Local Plan will be adopted during the summer of 2025. It remains to be seen if this projected timescale is achievable;
- h) That it be noted that until the County Council is formally notified of the Borough Council's decision following the Inspectors' letter, and the reasons behind recommendations to its Cabinet, the County Council is unable to take any action to assist in progressing the Local Plan;
- i) That it be noted that the Director of Environment and Transport will review the County Council's responses as statutory consultee on planning applications in Charnwood as appropriate;
- j) That the Chief Executive, the Director of Environment and Transport, and the Director of Law and Governance, following consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Lead Members, be authorised to take any appropriate action necessary to:
 - i. Work alongside, support, and co-operate with the Borough Council as necessary to develop the further evidence requested by the Inspectors as speedily as possible, once the Borough Council formally confirms that it is seeking to take up the option put forward by the Inspectors to progress the inclusion of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in the Local Plan.
 - ii. Participate appropriately in the development and implementation of a CIL charging schedule in line with national guidance and seek to influence the adoption of a CIL as soon as possible, recognising the potential for work to be undertaken at risk ahead of possible further Local Plan examination sessions.

- iii. Mitigate the impacts arising from the potential further delays to adoption of the Local Plan.
- iv. Support the development of skills and knowledge to ensure appropriate infrastructure delivery mechanisms are in place across Leicestershire.

9. PROPOSED TRANSFER OF FUNDING FROM THE SCHOOLS BLOCK TO THE HIGH NEEDS BLOCK OF THE DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (Pages 525 - 536)

Proposed motion

- a) That the outcome of consultation on the proposed funding transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant and the establishment of a SEND Investment Fund be noted;
- b) That the decision of the Schools Forum to refuse the funding transfer be noted;
- c) That the Director of Children and Family Services be authorised to seek permission from the Secretary of State to allow the proposed transfer.

10. ITEMS REFERRED FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

None.

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

None.

Officer to contact

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