

North East Derbyshire District Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Thursday, 25 January 2024

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
Item 4	Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28	<p><u>RESOLVED</u></p> <p><u>Council is recommended at its meeting on 29 January 2024</u></p> <p>(1) That the view of the Director of Finance & Resources, that the estimates included in the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2027/28 are robust and that the level of financial reserves are adequate at this time, be accepted.</p> <p>(2) That officers report back to Cabinet and the Services Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis regarding the overall position in respect of the Council’s budgets.</p> <p>General Fund</p> <p>(3) That a Council Tax increase of £6.11 will be levied in respect of a notional Band D property (2.99%).</p> <p>(4) That the Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the General Fund as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved as the Current Budget 2023/24, as the Original Budget 2024/25, and as the financial projections in respect of 2025/26 to 2027/28.</p> <p>(5) That the shortfall in the General Fund budget for 2024/25 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be met from the Resilience Reserve.</p> <p>(6) That the General Fund Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 to the report be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, and as the Approved Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28.</p> <p>(7) That any under spend in respect of 2023/24 be transferred to the Resilience</p>

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		<p align="center">Reserve to provide increased financial resilience for future years of the plan.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</p> <p>(8) That Council sets its rent levels for 2024/25 in consideration of the Social Housing Rent Standard increasing rents by 6% from 1 April 2024.</p> <p>(9) That the Medium-Term Financial Plan in respect of the Housing Revenue Account, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report, be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, as the Original Budget in respect of 2024/25, and the financial projection in respect of 2025/26 to 2027/28.</p> <p>(10) That the HRA Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 4 be approved as the Current Budget in respect of 2023/24, and as the Approved Programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28.</p> <p>(11) That the Management Fee for undertaking housing services at £12.05m and the Management Fee for undertaking capital works at £1.1m to Rykneld Homes in respect of 2024/25 be approved.</p> <p>(12) That Members endorse the section in the financial framework within the Management Agreement which enables the Council to pay temporary cash advances to Rykneld Homes to help meet the cash flow requirements of the company should unforeseen circumstances arise in any particular month.</p> <p>(13) That Members note the requirement to provide Rykneld Homes with a ‘letter of comfort’ to the company’s auditors and grant delegated authority to the Council’s Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer) in consultation with the Leader of the Council to agree the contents of that letter.</p>

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		<p><u>REASONS FOR DECISION</u> - To recommend budgets to Council in respect of the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme.</p> <p><u>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</u> - The Council is required to set a budget each year. There are no alternative options were considered at this time.</p> <p>Please note that this was not a Key Decision and so can be implemented with immediate effect by officers.</p>
Item 5	Publication of the first Biodiversity Net Gain report	<p><u>RESOLVED</u> - That the first Biodiversity Net Gain report be now published on the Council's website.</p> <p><u>REASONS FOR DECISION</u> - To comply with Section 103 of the Environment Act in relation to the publication of annual reports, demonstrating that the Council is meeting its statutory duty.</p> <p><u>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</u> - None. Not publishing publish the report would leave the Council in a position where it cannot demonstrate compliance with the relevant legislation.</p> <p>Please note that this was not a Key Decision and so can be implemented with immediate effect by officers.</p>
Item 6	Delegating authority to officers to enter into Planning Performance Agreements with Developers	<p><u>RESOLVED</u> –</p> <p>(1) That Cabinet approved the use of powers delegated to the Assistant Director of Planning to set up a mechanism allowing applicants to enter into Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs); and</p> <p>(2) That Cabinet agreed the publication of a document on the Council's website</p>

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		<p>explaining the purpose of Planning Performance Agreement to applicants and members of the public, based on the contents of Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p><u>REASONS FOR DECISION</u> - The use of PPAs will allow the Council to recoup a large part of the costs associated with officer time spent on proactively dealing with the large-scale planning applications received by the Council and reduce the cost of the Planning Service to the Council's General Fund.</p> <p><u>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</u> - Alternative options were considered and rejected for the reasons set out in the report.</p> <p>Please note that this was not a Key Decision and so can be implemented with immediate effect by officers.</p>
Item 9	Purchase of 15 units for affordable rent - Oaks Farm, Calow	<p><u>RESOLVED</u> - That Cabinet approved the proposed purchase of the 15 units at Oaks Farm, Calow.</p> <p><u>REASONS FOR DECISION</u> - Purchasing these units will help to meet the affordable housing need in this area and the District.</p> <p><u>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</u> - The option of not purchasing the units was considered but rejected for the reasons specified in the report.</p> <p>This is a Key Decision. The call-in period for the decision will run until Monday 5 February 2024</p>
Item 10	Implementation of a Council Tax Premium for Empty Homes - NOW PUBLISHED	<p><u>RESOLVED</u> -</p> <p>(1) That Cabinet endorsed the implementation of an Empty Homes Premium, as set out in the report.</p>

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		<p>(2) That the implementation of the Empty Homes Premium commences from 1 April 2024.</p> <p><u>REASONS FOR DECISION</u> - The introduction of an Empty Homes Premium will help to reduce the number of current empty homes in the District.</p> <p><u>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</u> - The option of not introducing a Council Tax premium was considered but rejected, given the current rise in empty homes in the District.</p> <p>This is a Key Decision. The call-in period for the decision will run until Monday 5 February 2024</p>