

Minutes of the Cabinet

20 October 2020

-: Present :-

Councillor Steve Darling (Chairman)

Councillors Carter, Cowell, Law, Long, Morey and Stockman

(Also in attendance: Councillors Atiya-Alla, Barnby, Barrant, Brooks, Bye, Mandy Darling, Douglas-Dunbar, Hill, Kennedy, Barbara Lewis, Chris Lewis, Loxton, Manning, Mills, David Thomas and Jacqueline Thomas)

126. Communications

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Steve Darling, provided an update on COVID-19 and urged residents to continue to adhere to social distancing. He also thanked colleagues and partners for their continued hard work in responding to the ongoing pandemic.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Tourism and Housing, Councillor Long, informed Members that he had an opportunity to tour the New Hampton by Hilton Hotel development on Torwood Street which was due to open in January 2021 presenting a much needed boost to the economy.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Councillor Law, advised that National Adoption Week launched a campaign to address some of the myths surrounding who can adopt children. She encouraged all to visit www.adoptsouthwest.org.uk to find out more.

127. Matters for Consideration

The Cabinet considered the following matters, full details of which (including the Cabinet's decisions) are set out in the Record of Decisions appended to these Minutes.

128. Revenue and Capital Budget 2021/2022 for Consultation

129. Proposal to Merge Torbay Safeguarding Adult Board with Devon Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board.

130. Proposed Structure and Governance Arrangement for Devon Integrated Care System

The Cabinet noted an update on the proposed structure and governance arrangements for the development of an integrated care system for Devon in

particular the establishment of a Devon Shadow Integrated Care System Partnership Board.

131. The Planning White Paper: Planning for the Future

132. Local Plan Working Party - Review of Membership

Chairman/woman

Record of Decisions

Revenue and Capital Budget 2021/2022

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 20 October 2020.

Decision

- (i) that all Members and the Overview and Scrutiny Board consider the draft revenue and capital budgets and implications of the draft service change, income generations and saving proposals. The Overview and Scrutiny Board (through its Priorities and Resources Review Panel) will consider certain specific issues arising from these savings proposals and publish its recommendations by 4 December 2020 on the outcomes of its deliberations and stakeholder representations for the Cabinet to consider;
- (ii) the draft proposals for service change income generation and efficiencies are based upon the latest estimates of central government funding and the ongoing impact of Covid-19;
- (iii) that detailed consultation be undertaken with service users who may be affected by specific proposals and that Equality Impact Assessments continue to be developed as required. (The results from this consultation will be considered by the Cabinet with the Cabinet's final proposals being published on 19 January 2021.);
- (iv) that the Chief Finance Officer be given authority to amend these budget proposals for any technical adjustments necessary between services and within the overall envelope of funding in agreement with the Leader of the Council; and
- (v) that the Chief Finance Officer report to the adjourned meeting of the Council on 11 February 2021 on the implications for 2021/2022 as a result of these proposals currently being considered and in light of the final settlement which is expected in late January or early February 2021.

Reason for the Decision

To enable the consultation process on the proposed Revenue Budget and Capital Plan for 2021/2022 to begin.

Implementation

This decision to publish the draft revenue budget and the savings proposals will come into force immediately, so as to commence the formal six week consultation process on the budget, and to permit specific and detailed consultation to be undertaken where necessary.

Information

The Leader of the Council on behalf of the Cabinet has announced their provisional revenue and capital budget including proposals for service change, income generation and efficiencies for 2021/2022 (as available at www.torbay.gov.uk/budget-202122 to enable the consultation process to start. The savings proposals and development of the budget will support the Council in delivering its ambitions as set out in the Corporate Plan.

Additional supporting financial information will be supplied in due course to help inform the consultation and scrutiny. Information will be placed on the Council 2021/2022 Budget webpage at www.torbay.gov.uk/budget-202122.

Members and officers have been considering the impact of the significant reductions to government grant and, as a result of these reductions, the Council is faced with a number of difficult decisions to ensure services can be delivered within a much reduced financial resource base compared to previous years. The proposals have been set in recognition of the need to ensure resources are prioritised in accordance with agreed plans but mindful of the further reductions to local government grant.

The Cabinet wishes to hear the views of all Members of the Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Board and external stakeholders together with specific service users on their proposals before finally recommending a budget to the Council in February 2021.

Councillor Steve Darling proposed Councillor Cowell seconded a motion, as set out above which was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

Alternative options were not considered.

Is this a Key Decision?

Yes

Does the call-in procedure apply?

No

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

Published

23 October 2020

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Record of Decisions

Proposal to Merge Torbay Safeguarding Adult Board with Devon Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 20 October 2020.

Decision

That the Torbay Safeguarding Adult Board (TSAB) merging with the Devon Safeguarding Adult Partnership (DSAP) be approved.

Reason for the Decision

It is recognised that some partners have a remit over the wider Devon geographical area and are therefore servicing up to three or more Safeguarding Adults Boards at present (Devon, Torbay, Plymouth). It is also recognised that partners work closely with other strategic partnerships and that as much alignment as possible would greatly improve efficiency, effectiveness and wider benefit to the communities of Torbay and Devon.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 2 November 2020 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

The Torbay Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) and the Devon Safeguarding Adults Partnership (DSAP) both recognise the changing landscape of safeguarding and the growing overlaps in themes for each strategic partnership board within the geographical boundary of Devon. The TSAB and DSAP understand and recognise the shortfalls that can result from silo working and the benefits that can be maximised from a focussed, joined up approach to deliver the business priorities. Therefore a fundamental aim of the proposed amalgamation of Safeguarding Adult Boards is to ensure that we maximise the opportunities to keep people in local communities safer.

Councillor Stockman proposed and Councillor Carter seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously by the Cabinet, as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

The alternative options were set out in the submitted report.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

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Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Record of Decisions

The Planning White Paper: Planning for the Future. Draft Consultation Responses

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 20 October 2020.

Decision

That Torbay Council's draft consultation response to the Planning White Paper 'Planning for the Future', as set out at Appendix 1, be approved, with the Assistant Director of Planning, Housing and Climate Emergency being given delegated authority to make final changes in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Culture.

Reason for the Decision

By responding to the Planning White Paper the Council seeks to influence Government in its shaping of a new planning system thereby ensuring that the views of Torbay's residents are heard and their interests are taken into account.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 20 October 2020. The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinator was consulted and agreed that the decision was urgent and it would not be in the Council or the public's interest for call-in to apply.

Information

The Planning for the Future White Paper proposes a major overhaul of the English planning system and requiring a new Town and Country Planning Act. The Government has released the white paper and commenced consultation on the changes. The deadline for the submission of responses to the consultation is Thursday 29 October 2020.

The Cabinet considered a report that set out the draft response from Torbay Council following presentation and discussion with Members and representatives of the Neighbourhood Forums.

Councillor Morey proposed and Councillor Long seconded a motion that was agreed unanimously, as set out above.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

There were no alternative options considered.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

No

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

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Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet

Record of Decisions

Local Plan Working Party - Review of Membership

Decision Taker

Cabinet on 20 October 2020.

Decision

That the membership of the Local Plan Working Party be amended to 3 Conservatives, 3 Liberal Democrats and 3 Independents.

Reason for the Decision

To enable the membership of Local Plan Working Party to reflect the political balance of the Council.

Implementation

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on 2 November 2020 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

Information

On 14 July 2020 the Cabinet established the Local Plan Working Party, the membership of the working party reflected the political make-up of the Council. As a result of changes to the political balance of the Council, the Cabinet have sought to amend the membership of the Local Plan Working Party.

Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision

None.

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Does the call-in procedure apply?

Yes

Declarations of interest (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None.

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Leader of Torbay Council on behalf of the Cabinet