



Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Statement of Decisions made at a meeting of the Executive on Thursday, 18 November 2021

Published: 22 November 2021

The following decisions were made by the Executive at its meeting on **Thursday, 18 November 2021**. These decisions will come into force on **30 November 2021**. A decision by the Executive may be called-in (in accordance with Procedure Rule 5.14 of the Council's Constitution) by **29 November 2021**. Should you have any queries about any decision that has been made, contact should be made in the first instance to Democratic Services at democratic@reigate-banstead.gov.uk. Any declaration of interest made by any member of the Executive is shown below.

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
4	<p>Environmental Sustainability: Progress Update</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To agree the annual Environmental Sustainability progress report (Annex 1) for publication on the Council website. To agree the proposed additions to the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (Annex 2) To reassert the Executive's commitment to working in partnership with Surrey County Council and other Surrey districts and boroughs to achieve county-wide climate objectives. 	<p>To reiterate the Council's commitment to tackling climate change and sustainability issues, including in partnership with other public authorities, to enable us to provide regular progress reports and to ensure we remain proactive and agile in our response.</p>	<p>Recommendation 1:</p> <p>Option (a): Agree the ES Strategy Progress Update at Annex 1. This option is recommended as it enables us to publish a formal report on progress, ensuring transparency in relation to our continuing activity to lead local action to tackle climate change and other sustainability issues.</p> <p>Option (b): Do not agree the ES Strategy Progress Update for publication. This option is not recommended as it is important that we publicly report our progress on a topic that is of increasing local interest.</p>	<p>Head of Corporate Policy</p>

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
			<p>Recommendation 2: Option (a): Agree the proposed additions to the ES Action Plan at Annex 2. This option is recommended as it enables the Council to continue to evolve its activity to maximise local progress, and ensure a robust and comprehensive approach to tackling the climate crisis. Option (b): Do not agree the proposed additions to the Action Plan. This option is not agreed as it would represent a missed opportunity to expand our activity into new and important areas. Option (c): Agree different additions to the Action Plan. Members may wish to agree different additions to the Action Plan, however it is noted that such additions should be subject to an equality impact assessment: consideration would also need to be given to the resources available to implement any different actions.</p> <p>Recommendation 3: Option (a): Agree the recommendation to reassert our commitment to work with other Surrey local authorities to achieve county-wide climate objectives. This option is recommended – climate change is not a local problem and requires combined action across the</p>	

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			<p>wider area, therefore joint working is important.</p> <p>Option (b): Do not agree the recommendation to commit to working with other Surrey local authorities. This option is not recommended as without such joint work the ability of the Council to deliver its borough-wide climate and sustainability ambitions will be considerably constrained.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
5	<p>Merstham Recreation Ground Refurbishment</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Executive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the Merstham Recreation Ground Master Plan as set out in Annex 1 of the report. 2. Approve the phased implementation of the refurbishment as set out in the report. 3. Authorise the Head of Finance to make the necessary arrangements to allocate funds to the first phase of the project in accordance with the exempt information outlined in the report and the approved Capital Programme. 4. Authorise the Head of Place Delivery in consultation with the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Member for Planning and Place Delivery to make a Planning Application for the refurbishment of Merstham Recreation Ground and any other planning applications on other sites that may be required to bring the project forward as necessary. 5. Authorise the Head of Place Delivery in consultation with the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Member for Planning and Place Delivery to procure and make any necessary consultancy and contractor 	<p>The refurbishment of Merstham Recreation Ground meets the key objective of the Council's 'Reigate & Banstead 2025' Corporate Plan to "invest in parks, recreational facilities and countryside in Council ownership, promote biodiversity and encourage greater use of our green spaces". The project also contributes to the Council's priority to regenerate Merstham.</p>	<p>Option 1: Do nothing – (not recommended) The Council could defer the delivery of any major works and spend only existing revenue and capital budgets, as and when necessary. This would negatively impact regeneration progress in Merstham and would damage the Council's reputation with a loss of stakeholder confidence. Existing facilities would also deteriorate further over time and would in time be uneconomic to maintain. It would also represent a missed opportunity to deliver improvements in terms of access to high quality greenspace, biodiversity and water management, and the associated health and environmental benefits</p> <p>Option 2: Limited works (not recommended) The Council has funding to deliver some limited capital replacement of the play equipment. This would provide some improved play facilities but would not bring about more comprehensive improvements to the Recreation Ground that help cater for the needs of a variety of users. Reducing the scale of works would also damage the Council's reputation with a loss of stakeholder confidence. It also represent a missed opportunity to deliver</p>	<p>Director of Place</p>

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	<p>appointments for the project, to prepare the necessary documentation and to obtain competitive tenders for the design and build as set out in the report.</p> <p>6. Authorise the Head of Place Delivery in consultation with the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Member for Planning and Place Delivery to award, finalise, agree, sign and execute construction contracts relating to the project.</p> <p>7. Authorise the Head of Place Delivery in consultation with the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services and the Executive Member for Planning and Place Delivery to alter the scope of works as necessary, should further project funding be secured or if necessary, to ensure that expenditure remains within the budget set out in the exempt part of the report.</p>		<p>significant benefits to the local area.</p> <p>Option 3: As proposed, deliver the base infrastructure and facilities with the available budget and deliver the ‘other works’ in future phases, once funding is secured (recommended option)</p> <p>This option would allow the delivery of the main infrastructure in Merstham Recreation Ground and all the highest priority uses and facilities that residents have said that they want. It also enables additional facilities to be delivered as and when funding is available.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
6	<p>Draft Horley Business Park Supplementary Planning Document for Consultation</p> <p>RESOLVED to DEFER approval for the SPD for public consultation.</p>	<p>To allow further consideration as to how the SPD would relate to existing and future development on the site.</p>	<p>Option 1: Approve the draft SPD for public consultation. This option is recommended as it would assist in the planning and on-going functioning of the allocated development site.</p> <p>Option 2: Do not approve the draft SPD for public consultation. This option is not recommended.</p>	<p>Head of Planning</p>

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
7	<p>Service & Financial Planning 2022/23</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the national and local policy context (Annex 1) and significant financial uncertainties at this stage in the budget-setting process be noted. 2. That the service proposals set out in the report which seek to respond to this context and deliver our corporate priorities, be endorsed. 3. That the draft service business plans for 2022/23 to 2024/25 be approved, and that Heads of Service be authorised to finalise the plans for their service areas, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holders. 4. That the following be approved for consultation under the Council's budget and policy framework: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Medium Term Financial Plan Summary (Annex 2); b) Revenue Budget Savings and Additional Income proposals totalling £0.566 million (Annex 3); c) Revenue Budget Growth proposals totalling £0.567 million (Annex 3) ; d) Forecast ongoing income budget pressures in 2022/23 as a consequence of the COVID-19 	<p>Recommendations (i) to (vii): To ensure that the Council continues to plan and manage its resources well, deliver high standards of service and meet the aims and objectives of its Corporate Plan for 2020-2025.</p> <p>Recommendation (viii): To ensure that council tax policy continues to support delivery of Council objectives.</p>	<p>Option 1: Approve the proposed budget and financial planning changes set out within the report, for consultation under the terms of the Constitution. Also, to approve the proposed review of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme during 2022/23. This option is recommended for approval, to ensure that service and financial plans are agreed in good time to adopt a balanced budget for 2022/23. Also, that the Local Council Tax Support Scheme remains fit for purpose.</p> <p>Option 2: Only approve some of the proposed budget and financial planning changes set out within the report, for consultation under the terms of the Constitution. This option is not recommended, as it would undermine the service plans and would present a risk to closure of the forecast budget gap for 2022/23.</p> <p>Option 3: Reject the proposed budget and financial planning changes set out within the report, and request that further work be undertaken to develop new proposals for consultation under the terms of the Constitution. This option is not recommended as it would delay the budget consultation process, undermine service planning</p>	Interim Head of Finance

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	<p>pandemic totalling £1.300 million (Annex 2);</p> <p>e) Revenue Reserve Balances at 1 April 2021 of £41.738 million (Annex 6.1);</p> <p>f) A forecast Revenue budget gap for 2022/23 of £0.718 million after taking account of the Service and Central budget growth and savings proposals in this report, plus the additional requirement to invest £0.269 million in IT Resilience, resulting in a total forecast gap at this point in the budget-setting process of 0.987 million for 2022/23.</p> <p>5. That the Fees & Charges Policy (Annex 5) be approved.</p> <p>6. That the Reserves Policy (Annex 6.2) be approved.</p> <p>7. That the Medium Term Financial Plan forecast for 2023/24 onwards (Annex 2) and proposed actions to address the forecast revenue budget gap be noted.</p> <p>8. That the Local Council Tax Support Scheme be reviewed during 2022/23 and the outcome reported as part of Service & Financial Planning for 2023/24.</p>		<p>and leave the Council and risk of failing to adopt a balanced budget for 2022/23.</p>	

	Item	Reason for Decision:	Alternative options:	Lead officer:
8	<p>Appointment to the Board of the Banstead Commons Conservators (Casual Vacancy)</p> <p>RESOLVED that Mr Mockford be appointed as the representative, for the period until March 2022, to fill the vacant position on the Banstead Commons Conservators, after consideration of the applications under Exempt business.</p>	<p>To ensure that positions on the Board of the Banstead Commons Conservators are suitably filled.</p>	<p>Option 1: The Executive have the authority to appoint a nominated person.</p> <p>Option 2: The Executive may ask officers to seek new nominations.</p>	<p>Head of Legal and Governance</p>