



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 16th November 2023

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 15th November 2023 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

Present: Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Dawkins, Harness, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn

DN.41 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received for this meeting.

DN.42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

DN.43 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on the 20th September 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.44 COUNCIL PLAN RESOURCES AND FINANCE REPORT – QUARTER TWO 2023/24

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets providing key information and analysis of the Council's finance and resources position at the end of quarter two.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the content as set out in the report now submitted be noted.**
- 2. That the report be referred to all Scrutiny Panels for further consideration and oversight.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The report is important in informing Cabinet of the performance and financial position of the Council and highlighting risks and opportunities.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - Not applicable to monitoring report.

DN.45 TREASURY OUTTURN HALF YEAR REPORT 2023/24

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder Finance, Resources and Assets detailing the treasury management arrangements, activity and performance during the 2023/24 financial year.

RESOLVED – That the treasury management activity during the first half of 2023-24 as set out in the report now submitted be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION –

The Council's treasury management activity is guided by CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management ("the Code"), which requires local authorities to produce annually Prudential Indicators and a Treasury Management Strategy Statement on the likely financing and investment activity. The Code also recommends that members are informed of treasury management activities at least twice a year with interim updates on performance against Prudential Indicators reported quarterly. We therefore report in full after Quarter 2 and year end with Prudential Indicators being reported additionally after Quarters 1 and 3 in the Commissioning and Resource Report.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

These were set out on Page 28 of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

DN.46 REFRESH OF THE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY & SOCIAL VALUE POLICY

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder Finance, Resources and Assets seeking to adopt and approve the revised version of the Procurement Strategy (Appendix A) and the 'Valuing North East

Lincolnshire' Social Value and Community Benefit Policy (Appendix B) for immediate implementation.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the revised version of the Procurement Strategy (Appendix A) and the 'Valuing North East Lincolnshire' Social Value and Community Benefit Policy (Appendix B) for immediate implementation as set out on the report now submitted be approved for adoption.**
- 2. That the Executive Director Place and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resource and Assets be delegated responsibility to implement.**

REASONS FOR DECISION –

The Procurement Strategy requires a refresh to reflect changes in national strategy and to ensure that it reflects local priorities. It is also an opportune time to review and refresh the Social Value policy to ensure consistency of approach, and to strengthen the Council's commitment to achieving community benefits through commissioning and procurement activity.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Options as to how to best deliver the requirements of the national Procurement Strategy and Social Value Act have been considered as the strategy and policy has been developed. Feedback from partners, the community, and Communities Scrutiny Panel have also been taken on board and included within the strategy and policy.

DN.47 CORPORATION ROAD BRIDGE REFURBISHMENT GRIMSBY

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport seeking approval for additional council capital funding.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the additional capital funding as set out at Option 1 of the closed appendix to this report, which may be required to complete the refurbishment of the bridge be approved.**
- 2. That accepting the estimated nature of the possible costs, that authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Executive Director Place and Resources (as s151 Officer) and also in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport to make any required adjustments in the above funding to the maximum**

being the amount as set out at Option 3 of the closed appendix and implement all actions necessary to bring the required works to fruition and to take all ancillary actions reasonably arising.

REASONS FOR DECISION –

The authority has identified Corporation Road Bridge as a priority for repair particularly in respect of its heritage and economic value to the town. The Council has set aside committed funds of £1.83million to enable a 40% contribution of the overall scheme costs, which total £4.967million. Funding was also secured from the Department for Transport (DfT) to enable completion of the scheme.

Price increases due to inflation, coupled with extensive unforeseen steelwork repairs being identified to the underside of the bridge, additional assessment and design work for replacement of steelwork components, hand working around Northern Powergrid cables, and other items in relation to unforeseen repairs, have all increased the repair costs over and above the funding approved for completion of the refurbishment in 2020. Detailed assessments of the full extent of steelwork repairs are currently underway. The results of which will identify in more detail the full extent of additional funding required.

However, having regard to the timescales for completion of the works and to ensure the funding is available to allow work to continue on site with no additional delays, additional funding is now sought, which will cover the estimated cost for the repairs and additional costs outlined below and provide a contingency. Further detail is provided in section 1 of this report and the closed appendix.

It should be noted, that until the assessment and design work for replacement of steelwork components are completed of the underneath of the six spans of the bridge, the full extent and costs of the repairs will not be known. The costs identified in this report are the known costs at the time of producing the report and the costs may be greater if the deterioration of the steels is worse than envisaged.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

1. Stop assessments - Without completion of the assessments the highway authority will not know the level of loading the bridge is able to take following any repairs, and the repairs themselves would be unable to be completed. The Principal Contractor will be unable to determine what areas of steelwork can be safely removed for repair and replacement, so the works would effectively stop on site. This option has therefore been discounted due to the extent of work already undertaken to date and the requirement to ensure the bridge is refurbished and fit for purpose for future use.

2. Source alternative external funding - No other external funding opportunities have been identified at this time to enable the additional funding to be sought from external funding streams.
3. Safety Critical works only – The works on site are already past the point of only undertaking the safety critical works. The deck repair, control room works, lifting mechanism and all blasting above deck level are all non-safety critical and have already commenced on site. Therefore, this option has been discounted.
4. Hybrid Safety Critical and Non-Safety Critical works – Continue with the non-safety critical works to a point where they can be satisfactorily completed and only undertake safety critical works to the underneath of the bridge. This approach has been discounted as there would be a need to introduce a weight restriction to the bridge when opened.

DN.48 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

DN.49 CORPORATION ROAD BRIDGE

Cabinet considered an appendix to the report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources & Assets referred to at DN.47 above.

RESOLVED – That the appendix to the report, pursuant to the decision at DN.47 above, be noted.