

Report from the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet

Meeting held on 12 December 2017

This is my report as the Leader of the Council on the work of the Cabinet. It is an overview of the main items of business considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 12 December 2017.

However, it should be noted that two items of business; supplementary capital programme provision for asset acquisitions and calendar of meetings 2018-2019, were recommendations to Council and therefore these have already been considered earlier on this agenda.

1. Petition about train horn disturbance at Shortwood Common footpath crossing

- 1.1 We considered a petition from 88 residents calling on the Council to “seek alternatives to trains using their horns for the Shortwood Common footpath crossing”.
- 1.2 We heard from a representative of the petitioners and noted that meetings had taken place between Council officers from Environmental Health, and Network Rail to look at suitable solutions to address the noise disturbance being caused.
- 1.3 We agreed to note the Petition and keep the matter under review.

2. Outline Budget – Key Decision

- 2.1 We considered a report setting out the Council’s outline budget for the period 2018/19 to 2021/22.
- 2.2 We agreed: the net budgeted expenditure (before investment and use of reserves) for 2018-19 be set at a maximum level of £11.3m; to support the overall strategy for addressing efficiencies and achieving medium term financial sustainability and the financial health indicators set out in the report.

3. Property Investment Strategic Parameters

- 3.1 We approved the property investment strategic parameters which outline the purposes for which the Council invests in property acquisitions, and the conditions which must be met for investing for revenue generation and/or social investment purposes.

4. Spelthorne’s response to the revised draft Airports National Policy Statement

- 4.1 We agreed Spelthorne Borough Council’s response to the revised draft Airports National Policy Statement. Our response will influence the way in which detailed

proposals for expansion of Heathrow, which the Council supports subject to noise, air quality and transport issues being resolved, are assessed.

5. Property acquisitions – Key Decisions

5.1 We considered two exempt reports on the acquisition of sites for investment.

5.2 We approved the acquisition of the investment assets and gave authority to:

- the Chief Executive to undertake any necessary negotiations and complete the acquisitions (in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Finance);
- the Chief Finance Officer to decide the most financially advantageous funding arrangements for the purchases and ensure the acquisitions are prudentially affordable; and
- the Head of Corporate Governance to enter into any legal documentation necessary to acquire the assets.

Councillor Ian Harvey

Leader of the Council

14 December 2017