

Cabinet Decision Statement	Gloucestershire County Council
Wednesday 12 June 2024 Published	

Agenda Item	Decision	Portfolio
5	<p>FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND RISK MONITORING REPORT</p> <p>Cllr Lynden Stowe updated Cabinet on the Council's outturn expenditure for 2023/24, and sought approval for changes to the Capital Programme in 2023/24 and future years. He reported on the Council's performance and risk during Quarter 4 of 2023/24</p> <p>Having considered all of the information, Cabinet noted the report and</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>1) Note the 2023/2024 revenue budget underspend of £10.045 million, inclusive of £4.410 million arising from additional electricity income generated by the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility (paragraph 14)</p> <p>2) Approve that the £10.045 million underspend is transferred to General Reserves at the year end with £4.410 million from this reserve released in 2024/25 to fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> An allocation of £2 million for highways projects to cover £500k to maintain 8 Find and Fix gangs throughout the year, £500k for refreshing lining across the network, £300k to fund Cheltenham Spa access ramp, £200k for further vegetation cutting gangs to improve safety on the network, £200k towards maintaining footways in our town centres, £100k increase to the schools safety programme, £100k to refresh crossings across the network and £100k to deliver the Merrywalks bus station resurfacing. <input type="checkbox"/> An allocation of £2.41 million to address financial risks arising within the current year's budget including, but not limited to, the cost of children's placements, additional expenditure required to support the forthcoming CQC inspection and the introduction of the Procurement Act. 	Finance and Change

	<p>3) Note other technical reserve movements for 2023/24 as set out in annex 2.</p> <p>4) Note the Council's £1.420 million share of the estimated 2023/24 surplus generated by the Gloucestershire Business Rate Pool and agrees to transfer this surplus to the Business Rates reserve. Included in this surplus is £780k ring fenced to the Strategic Economic Development Fund.</p> <p>5) Note delivery of the £15.891 million of savings against a target of £21.101 million in 2023/24 or 75.31%. This shortfall is funded within the reported outturn position.</p> <p>6) Note the capital outturn position for 2023/24 of £136.059 million against a budget of £161.319 million or 84%, giving an in-year slippage of £25.260 million.</p> <p>7) Approve an increase of £11.763 million in the Capital Programme and additional reallocation of capital funds as detailed in section H of the report.</p> <p>8) Consider this report of the Council's performance and risks and identifies any areas of concern requiring further analysis, assurance or action.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>CHILDCARE REFORMS CAPITAL AND DELIVERY GRANTS</p> <p>Cllr Stephen Davies sought Cabinet approval to accept and receive the Childcare Delivery Grant funding from the Department for Education and also to delegate authority to the Director of Education to distribute it amongst local childcare providers in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services</p> <p>Having considered all of the information, Cabinet noted the report and</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>1. Approve the acceptance and receipt of:</p> <p>a) £4,266,300 in Wraparound Childcare Delivery Grant funding from the Department for Education pursuant to the terms of a Section 31 Grant agreement and associated Memorandum of Understanding; and</p> <p>b) £1,175,969 in Childcare Reforms Local Authority Capital Funding from the Department for Education pursuant to the terms of a Section 31 grant agreement and associated Memorandum of Understanding, for the purpose of increasing early years and wraparound childcare provision as set out in the Government Childcare Reforms described in the main body of this report</p>	<p>Children's Safeguarding and Early Years</p>

	<p>2. Delegate authority to the Director of Education in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children’s Safeguarding and Early Years to:</p> <p>a) Allocate the said Wraparound Childcare Delivery Grant by means of grants to schools and out of school providers that demonstrate a need for additional childcare places and a business model that is sustainable until the end of the grant funding period (on the basis set out in paragraphs 33 to 42 of this report) over a 2-year period (FYs 2023-2026) in accordance with the above-mentioned Childcare Reforms, in order to expand existing and/or develop new out of school provision;</p> <p>b) Allocate the said Childcare Reforms Local Authority Capital Funding by means of grants to schools and out of school providers that demonstrate a need for additional early years childcare places and operate a business model that will be sustainable after the end of the grant funding period (as set out in paragraphs 34 to 43 of this report). Such allocations to be granted to schools and out of school providers in the proportions set out in the DfE Capital Grant LA award letter, over a 2-year period (FYs 2023-2026) in order to expand existing, and/or develop new, Early Years and Out of School wraparound childcare provision.</p> <p>The proposed grants to schools and out of school providers meet the requirements of the UK Subsidy Control Regime.</p> <p>The Capital and Delivery grant is to be allocated and monitored as set out in paragraphs 33 – 42 of this report.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>EARLY YEARS SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS (SEN) CENTRE PROCUREMENT</p> <p>Cllr Stephen Davies sought Cabinet approval to increase the current level of funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant for the purpose of funding the commissioning of Early Years Special Education Needs (SEN) centres for a period of up to 5 years.</p> <p>The Early Years SEN centres will deliver the provision of early education and assessment and intervention for children with SEN as set out in this report.</p> <p>Having considered all of the information, Cabinet noted the report and</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>1. Approves the allocation of £440,000 per year high needs funding for the purpose of funding the commissioning of early years special educational needs centres as described in Recommendation 2.</p>	<p>Children's Safeguarding and Early Years</p>

	<p>2. Delegates authority to the Director of Education, in consultation with Cabinet Member for Children’s Safeguarding and Early Years, to:</p> <p>a) Conduct a competitive procurement process in respect of a contract for the supply of early years special educational needs centres in Gloucester city and Cheltenham/Tewkesbury locality. The proposed contract shall continue for an initial period of 3 years and include an option to extend its term for a further period of not more than 2 years.</p> <p>b) Award such contract to the preferred tenderer; and</p> <p>c) Determine whether to exercise the option to extend the term of the said contract on its third anniversary.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>COMMUNITY AND ACCOMMODATION BASED SUPPORT: TWO-YEAR OPTION TO EXTEND EXISTING CONTRACTS</p> <p>Cllr Stephan Fifield sought Cabinet approval to exercise the final 2-year option to extend the term of the council’s existing Community and Accommodation Based Support (CABS) contracts described in Appendix 1, following the expiry of their initial 3-year term and the first 2-year extension term on 31st March 2025.</p> <p>Having considered all of the information, Cabinet noted the report and</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>Approve the final 2-year extension to the term of the council’s call-off contracts described in Appendix 1 hereto under the council’s Multi Provider Pseudo Framework Agreement for the provision of Community and Accommodation Based Support Services for Homelessness and People in Vulnerable Circumstances that was awarded pursuant to a decision by Cabinet dated 30th January 2019. Such extensions shall commence on 1st April 2025 and be effected in accordance with the extension option provisions of such call-off contracts.</p> <p>Provider and contract details are outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.</p>	<p>Adult Social Care Delivery</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>COMMUNITY AND ADULT SKILLS PROGRAMMES 2024 – 2025</p> <p>Cllr Philip Robinson sought Cabinet approval to:</p> <p>1. Run a competitive procurement process using a bespoke 2-year framework for the provision of adult learning services and then to</p>	<p>Education, Skills and Bus Transport</p>

	<p>award call off contract(s) of varying lengths up to a maximum of 12 months, depending on the type of courses or piece of work, for the 2024 – 2025 academic year.</p> <p>2. Enter into the funding agreement with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for the purpose of funding the delivery of Community Learning and the Adult Skills Programme during the 2024 -2025 academic year.</p> <p>Having considered all of the information, Cabinet noted the report and</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>Delegates authority to the Executive Director of Economy, Environment, and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport to:</p> <p>1. Enter into a funding agreement with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) under which the council has received ESFA funding for the purpose of delivering Community Learning and Adult Skills Programmes during the 2024 – 2025 academic year (1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025).</p> <p>2. Conduct a mini-competition process, under each of the following Lots of the council’s bespoke Community and Adult Skills Framework Agreement, in respect of 5 call-off contracts for the supply of adult learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Steps • Employability • Adults with Learning Disabilities and/or Difficulties (ALDD) • Steps into Work (Supported Internships) • Local Flex (Responding to identified/emerging local need) <p>Each call-off contract shall continue for a period of 12 months or less, according to the type of courses or pieces of work required in the 2024 – 2025 academic year.</p> <p>3. Award each Call-Off Contract to the preferred tenderer.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>SOLAR PV INSTALLATIONS USING SALIX FINANCE LOAN</p> <p>Cllr David Gray sought Cabinet approval for a £1,000,000 two phase programme for the delivery of photovoltaic solar panels across the GCC estate.</p> <p>Having considered all of the information, Cabinet noted the report</p>	<p>Environment and Planning</p>

and

RESOLVED to:

1. Approve the use of £550k for the purpose of part funding the contract(s) described in Recommendation 3(b) relating to the design, supply and installation of photovoltaic solar panels at the following eleven GCC- owned properties during the initial phase of the programme described in paragraph 2 of this report (the "PV Panel Programme"):

- a. Quedgeley Library, Gloucester
- b. Lydney Library
- c. Newent Library
- d. Whaddon Youth Centre, Cheltenham
- e. Cheltenham Library
- f. Hesters Way Library, Cheltenham
- g. Oakwood Children's Centre, Cheltenham
- h. Gloucestershire Heritage Hub, Gloucester
- i. Coroners Court, Gloucester
- j. Tewkesbury Youth Support Centre
- k. The Vibe, Coney Hill, Gloucester

2. Approve the use of £450k for the purpose of funding a further phase of the PV Panel Programme under the contract(s) described in Recommendation 3(b).

3. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning and the Deputy Leader/Cabinet Member for Finance and Change to:

a. Approve business cases for the design, supply, and installation of Solar PV panels (with or without battery storage), as part of the second phase of the PV Panel Programme, provided the total value of such works does not exceed £450k and that the works are in line with the council's and Salix's (i.e., the loan provider's) approved Return on Investment and best value obligations.

b. Conduct a competitive procurement process in respect of contract(s) for the design, supply and installation of solar PV panels (with or without battery storage) under both phases of the PV Panel Programme

c. Awards such contract(s) to the preferred tenderer.

The decisions published above will come into force and may be implemented on , unless a request is made for the decision to be called-in.

CALL-IN PROCEDURE

A decision may only be only called-in if one or more of the following conditions are satisfied: -

- 1) The decision conflicts in whole or part with any existing policy that has been formally approved or adopted by the Council;
- 2) The decision would not be wholly in accordance with the Council's budget;
- 3) In making the decision, the Cabinet, the Leader of the Council, or a Cabinet Member or Officer under delegated powers, has taken account of an irrelevant matter or failed to take account of a relevant matter, which in the opinion of the Chief Executive, had (or would have), a significant bearing on that decision;
- 4) The Cabinet, the Leader of the Council, or a Cabinet Member or Officer under delegated powers, acted contrary to the Cabinet Procedure Rules, the Access to Information about the County Council's Formal Business, and/or the principles of the decision making set out in Part 2, Article 7.02 of the Council's Constitution.

At least **five members** of the council must give notice in writing of their request to call-in a decision.

The request, including reasons for the call-in, must be delivered to the Chief Executive before the end of the fifth working day after the day on which the decision is published.

The request for a call-in of any of the decisions above should be made to Stephen Bace by **5 pm on 19 June 2024**.

For information on the contents of this Decision Statement, please contact: -
Stephen.bace@gloucestershire.gov.uk