

Decision Schedule



Cabinet

TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL

Decision Schedule published on 9 March 2022

The Chair of Cabinet Member took the following decision on 9 March February 2022. The decision will become effective at Noon on 17 March 2022, with the exception of any particular decision, which is the subject of a valid "call-in".

The deadline for submission of a 'Call-in' request form is 4.00 pm on 16 March 2022.

Reports relating to staffing issues/Confidential reports are not circulated to all members of the Council as part of the consultation/call-in processes.

Leader 19/22

Education Achievement Service Business Plan 2022/25

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

This document contained the main priorities that the EAS believed to be relevant to focus upon in the next iteration of the regional Business Plan for 2022-2025. The EAS delivered, through this agreed Business Plan, a wide range of school improvement services to all schools (all key stages, including all through schools and special schools), pupil referral units and funded non-maintained nursery settings on behalf of each LA. This plan supported the role LAs have in delivering their statutory function, addressing their individual improvement priorities and promoting improved pupil outcomes. This document contained the main priorities that the EAS believed would be relevant to focus upon in the next iteration of the regional Business Plan for 2022-2025.

Decision

That Cabinet:

- Received the report for information and took the opportunity to comment on the contents of the Business Plan as part of the consultation process; and
- Considered the main strengths and areas for development within Newport, and considered how LA services could be aligned with the priorities contained within the document, therefore ensuring all pupils met their full potential.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change

Implemented by: Chief Education Officer

Implementation Timetable: Immediate

Leader 20/22

Revisions to the South East Wales EAS Collaboration and Members Agreement (The CAMA)

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

The current CAMA was agreed by all five local authorities in 2013 (following the establishment of the EAS in 2012), at that time the structure of the organisation and the public funding arena were different to current operating model. It became apparent that there remained a risk (albeit one that was not quantified at this time) that the current funding did not make allowances for the abnormal cost burden that could be incurred in the event of staff severance arrangements being necessary. These severance costs, which may be incurred due to the continued need to implement efficiencies, could force the company into liquidation. Revising the CAMA arrangements would reduce this risk.

Decision

Cabinet agreed to the revised form of wording in paragraph 1.11, agreeing that Newport City Council (as one of the five local authorities) pay pro rata EAS employee severance costs remaining, after the company had used 50% of its previous year end reserve balance to pay the first portion of these severance costs.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change

Implemented by: Chief Education Officer

Implementation Timetable: Immediate

Leader 21/22

Corporate Risk Register (Quarter 3)

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

The Council's Corporate Risk Register monitored those risks that may prevent the Council from achieving its Corporate Plan or delivering services to its communities and service users in Newport.

At the end of quarter three, there were 18 risks recorded in the Corporate Risk Register that were considered to have a significant impact on the achievement of the Council's objectives and legal obligations. At the end of the quarter there were no corporate risks closed or risks escalated to the Corporate Risk Register.

Overall, there were 10 Severe risks (risk scores 15 to 25); 5 Major risks (risk scores 7 to 14); 2 Moderate risks (risk scores 4 to 6); and one low risk (1-3) that are outlined in the report.

As set out in the Council's Risk Management Policy, Cabinet reviewed the Corporate Risk Register on a quarterly basis ensuring procedures were in place to monitor the management of significant risks.

Decision

Cabinet considered the contents of the quarter two update of the Corporate Risk Register.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change

Implemented by: Head of People, Policy and Transformation
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

Leader 22/22

Climate Change Plan

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

Climate Change was one of the defining global challenges of our generation and there was an urgent need for the world to decarbonise, to limit global temperature rise and avert the worst impacts of climate change.

Newport City Council Climate Change Organisational Plan set out themes, priorities, actions and milestones that we need to take as a Council over the next five years to:

- Reach net zero as an organisation by 2030.
- Review the services we provided to ensure they support the city's journey to net zero and adaptation to climate change.

Decision

Cabinet approved the attached draft council organisational Climate Change Plan.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change

Implemented by: Strategic Director, Environment & Sustainability and Strategic Director, Transformation & Corporate
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

Leader 23/22

Covid 19 – Response and Recovery Update

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

Following February's update to Cabinet, Wales has further eased restrictions to reflect the falling case rate across Wales. In Newport and Gwent the case rate across the community was also reducing but Covid continues to be prevalent. The Welsh Government's advice remained for people to self-isolate and to also wear face masks in indoor venues such as shops.

Newport Council continued to monitor the situation and there continued to be services seeing disruption and ongoing demand on front line services. Newport Council continued to follow Welsh Government's guidance for staff to work from home unless it is required for their role.

The report also included a summary of activity across Council services in February 2022.

Decision

Cabinet considered and noted the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change

Implemented by: Chief Executive and Head of People, Policy and Transformation
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

Leader 24/22

Post EU Transition (Brexit) Update for Newport City Council

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

Since the UK left the European Union in December 2020 the UK and Wales was adjusting to the trade arrangements and reacting to the wider global economic impacts and Covid restrictions. For businesses and households across Newport and Wales the last year was very challenging as it saw the overall cost of living increase. These impacts were affecting low-income households with the cost of living due to increases in the cost of food, goods, and energy prices. In response the Council's Cabinet committed £100k to support food banks in Newport. The Welsh Government also announced a £51.7m Winter package that would give households on certain benefits a contribution to mitigate some of these costs.

Newport Council continued to face ongoing pressures on the cost of goods and services as increases in costs were being passed onto the consumer. The Council alongside other sectors were also facing pressures on staffing and recruiting staff into key roles especially in Social Services, housing & support, and City Services.

Decision

Cabinet considered and noted the contents of the report and for Cabinet / Cabinet Members to receive updates from officers as part of their portfolio.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change

Implemented by: Chief Executive and Head of People, Policy and Transformation
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

Leader 25/22

Cabinet Work Programme

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

The Leader presented the Cabinet Work Programme.

Decision

Cabinet agreed the Cabinet Work Programme.

Consultation

Senior Officers, Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance, Head of People and Business Change.

Implemented by: Governance Team Leader

Implementation Timetable: Immediate

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, COUNCILLOR J MUDD

9 March 2022

This document is available in welsh / Mae's ffurflen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg