

COUNCIL
THURSDAY, 14TH JULY 2016
MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION

CABINET
THURSDAY, 16 JUNE 2016

6. Councillors' Allowances 2017/18 - Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Minute For Confirmation)

Cabinet considered recommendations submitted by the Independent Remuneration Panel on (i) the level of Councillors' Allowances in Swindon for 2017/2018 and future years, and (ii) a proposed amendment to the Councillors' Allowance Scheme for 2016/17 regarding Special Responsibility Allowances associated with the Health and Wellbeing Board. It was noted that whilst the Council was required by the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 to consider the recommendations of its Independent Remuneration Panel when making decisions relating to its Scheme of Councillors' Allowances, it was not required to adopt all or any of the Panel's recommendations.

Councillor David Renard, the Leader of the Council, introduced the report, taking the opportunity to thank Mr Keith Strickland, the Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel, and the Panel members, for their hard work in support of the review and their preparation of the comprehensive recommendations before the Cabinet.

Resolved – (1) That Cabinet notes the thorough and comprehensive review undertaken by the Independent Remuneration Panel, and thanks the Panel Chair and its members for their work.

(2) That the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel on Councillors' Allowances for 2017/2018 and future years, as set out in paragraph 3.5 of the report, be referred to the Council.

(3) That the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel on Councillors' Allowances for the 2016/17 year, as set out in paragraph 3.7 of the report, be referred to the Council.

(3) That the Director of Law and Democratic Services be authorised to introduce a revised Councillors' Allowances Scheme for 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 and future years, to be based on the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, and as approved and adopted by the Council.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.

15. Swindon Local Transport Plan - Implementation Plan 2016/17 (Minute For Confirmation)

Councillor Dale Heenan, the Cabinet Member for Sustainability, Highways, and Transport and the Head of Highways and Transport submitted a joint report seeking approval for the adoption of the Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan for 2016/17 and for the Local Transport Plan Capital Programme budget apportionment for 2016/17.

Councillor Heenan introduced the report, setting out how it confirmed receipt of £3.9m of government grant along with identifying a pool of schemes on which that money could be spent over the next three years. He added that, if Cabinet approved the recommendations, the Head of Highways and Transport would consult with him to prioritise those schemes set out in the appendix to the main report.

Councillor Heenan advised that the report also sought support to make a submission to the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP) for £1.27m to support work on the proposed Thamesdown Drive Extension, for which the substantive business case had already been prepared. Councillor Heenan explained that the additional funding would be used to pay for the detailed design work, ecological and environmental impact assessments along with preparing the planning application.

Councillor David Renard, the leader of the Council, informed the meeting that this submission would be considered by the SWLEP Board at its July 2016 meeting.

Resolved – (1) That the Local Transport Plan (LTP) Implementation Plan for 2016/17 be approved.

(2) That the Local Transport Plan Capital Programme budget categories and total spend for 2016/17, as detailed in Tables 1 to 7 of the Implementation Plan attached as Appendix 3 to the report, be approved.

(3) That, subject to approval of the Local Transport Plan Implementation Plan by Council :

(a) the Head of Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Sustainability, Highways, and Transport, be authorised to:

- (i) prioritise schemes in accordance with Vision for Swindon priorities,**
- (ii) approve scheme progression in accordance with the updated Protocol (attached to the report at Appendix 2 and originally approved by the Cabinet in July 2010),**
- (iii) amend the Protocol to reflect changing job titles and organisational restructuring,**
- (iv) vary allocations between different budget categories,**
- (v) approve variations in scheme costs,**
- (vi) add/substitute schemes, provided expenditure is contained within the approved total budget, and**
- (viii) vary the allocation of the £200k of previous funding set out in paragraphs 3.10 and 3.11 such that it is returned to the Council's reserves to be used for Corporate priorities.**

(b) the Sustainable Travel Transition Year revenue funding budget categories and allocations for 2016/17, as detailed in table 8 of Appendix 3 to the report, be approved and the Head of Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Sustainability, Highways, and Transport, be authorised to amend budget allocations between the package elements where necessary to ensure delivery of the projects set out in the bid document.

(c) the Head of Highways and Transport, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Sustainability, Highways and Transport, be authorised to work with the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership to submit a bid to the Large Local Major Schemes Fund for development funding for the Thamesdown Drive to Barnfield Link, as set out in paragraphs 3.13 to 3.15 of the report.

The reasons for the decision and alternative options are as set out in the report to the meeting.