

Monday, 6 January 2020



MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISIONS NOTICE

**DECISIONS BY THE MID SUFFOLK CABINET
CALL IN DEADLINE 5:00PM ON 13 JANUARY 2020**

The following decisions have been taken by the Cabinet and will come into effect on 14 January 2020 unless the call-in procedure is activated. For clarity, where an item is 'to be noted', 'received' or recommended to Council for a decision, this is deemed not to be a formal Executive decision and so the call-in provisions will not apply.

MCa/19/31 THREE YEAR FUNDING FOR MID SUFFOLK CITIZENS ADVICE

It was **RESOLVED:-**

- 1.1 That a three-year funding agreement for the Mid Suffolk CA be approved.
- 1.2 That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director, Planning and Communities sign off the agreement following discussion with the Cabinet Member for Communities.

Reason for Decision: To provide the Mid Suffolk CA with greater certainty about three-year funding from Mid Suffolk District Council, consistent with the Council's support for the value and impact that it achieves.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

1. Cease revenue funding the Mid Suffolk CA
2. Continue with an annual revenue funding agreement
3. Commence a three-year funding agreement.

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: **None**

Any Dispensation Granted: **None**

MCa/19/32 INTRODUCTION OF A COUNCIL TAX PENALTIES POLICY

It was Resolved:-

- 1.1 That the implementation of a policy for the issuing of Council Tax penalties be approved.

Reason for Decision: The Council is committed to a pro-active approach in preventing and reducing the risks associated with fraud, error and other irregularities in the administration of Council Tax. Implementation of this policy supports this commitment.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

- 1.2 **To continue service delivery as is, without utilising the opportunity to use Council Tax penalty regulations as part of an anti-fraud strategy.**
- 1.3 **Implement a policy for the issuing of Council Tax penalties as part of an anti-fraud strategy in order to maximise the tax base and protect the public purse.**

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: **None**

Any Dispensation Granted: **None**

MCa/19/33 COUNCIL TAX - CITIZENS ADVICE COLLECTION PROTOCOL

It was RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the adoption of the Citizen Advice Council Tax Protocol detailed at Appendix (a) of the report be approved.

Reason for Decision: The protocol reflects best practice at a local level and is intended to facilitate regular liaison with the Council, its Enforcement Agents and Citizens Advice on practices and policy concerning Council Tax collection.

In setting down clear procedures and keeping these regularly under review, all parties to the protocol can ensure that arrears are dealt with appropriately whilst complaints are handled efficiently.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

- 1.1 To adopt the Citizen Advice protocol.
- 1.2 To not adopt the Citizen Advice protocol and wait for Government reforms.

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: None

Any Dispensation Granted: None

MCa/19/34 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) - CIL EXPENDITURE BUSINESS PLAN JANUARY 2020

It was **RESOLVED:-**

That the CIL Expenditure Business Plan (December 2019) and accompanying technical assessment of the CIL Bid (M14-18) forming Appendices A and B of the report and which includes a decision on that valid Bid for Cabinet to make and approve as follows: -

Decision approved by Cabinet: Ringfenced funds for the Stowupland catchment only, Strategic Infrastructure Fund and Local Infrastructure Fund

CIL Bid, Location and Infrastructure Proposed	Amount of CIL Bid and total cost of the Infrastructure	Delegated Decision
M14-18 Stowupland High School Expansion to the High School (in the form of a new Sixth form block with 15 additional Sixth Form places) and the creation of 125 secondary school places at the High school.	Amount of CIL Bid £2,446, 575.00 Total cost £2,979,718.00 (excluding VAT costs which are recoverable by the SCC)	Cabinet approved CIL Bid M14-18 at Stowupland High School subject to the completion of a Community User Agreement.

Cabinet noted and endorsed this CIL Business Plan which includes the position in respect of approved CIL Bids from Rounds 1, 2 and 3.

Reason for Decision: Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies have been collected since the implementation of CIL on the 11th April 2016. The CIL Expenditure Framework originally adopted in April 2018 and reviewed with amendments adopted on the 18th March 2019 requires the production of a CIL Business Plan for each District which contains decisions for Cabinet to make or note on CIL Bids for CIL expenditure. These decisions relating to the expenditure of CIL monies form one of the ways in which necessary infrastructure supporting growth is delivered.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: There is a diverse spectrum of approaches to CIL expenditure across the country from Unitary Authorities who have absorbed CIL into their individual Capital Programmes to others who ringfence all funds to be spent locally. A range of different approaches was identified in Appendix A of the Framework for CIL Expenditure report provided to Cabinet's on the 5th and 8th of February 2018 and discussed in full during the workshops with the Joint Member advisory panel. Members adopted the documents set out in paragraph 1.1 above by Council decision in April 2018 which were subsequently reviewed and adopted on the 19th March 2019 (Babergh) and 18th March 2019 (Mid Suffolk).

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: **None**

Any Dispensation Granted: **None**

MCa/19/35 DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE DURING THE PRE-ELECTION PERIOD UNDER DELEGATED POWERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION

It was RESOLVED:-

That the decision taken under delegated powers by the Chief Executive to approve the Regulatory Reform Order during the pre-election period be noted.

Reason for Decision: **The Cabinet Meeting has been cancelled due to the 'pre-election period' for the General Election taking place on 12th December 2019. This meant that the Policy could not be considered until January 2020 which could result in funding being delayed.**

Under Part 2 of the Constitution, Delegations to Officers, Paragraph 7.2 (page 68-69), the decision must be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the appropriate Committee/Cabinet.

Any Declarations of Interest Declared: None

Any Dispensation Granted: None