

**Tuesday, 3 October 2023**



**BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**DECISIONS NOTICE**

**DECISIONS BY THE BABERGH CABINET  
CALL IN DEADLINE 5:00PM ON 12 OCTOBER 2023**

The following decisions have been taken by the Babergh Cabinet and will come into effect on 13 October 2023 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.

**BCa/23/16 VARIATION OF AGREEMENT OF THE SHARED REVENUE PARTNERSHIP**

It was **RESOLVED**: -

That Cabinet authorised the Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance to enter into the Deed of Variation at Appendix A to the report.

**REASON FOR DECISION**

To enable changes to be made to the Partnership Agreement dated 7 January 2011 to ensure the continued effective operation of the Joint Committee

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

The recommended option is set out in the Recommendations. There are no other available options.

**Any Declarations of Interests Declared:** None

**Any Dispensation Granted:** None

**BCa/23/17 COST OF LIVING: REVIEW OF 6 MONTH PLAN AND BEYOND**

It was **RESOLVED**: -

**To note phase 3 of the Cost of Living Action Plan and endorse the commitment to develop a longer term approach to preventing poverty which seeks to understand the underlying drivers of poverty across both Districts at a hyper local level through continued work with internal and external stakeholders and to include wider engagement with Town and Parish Councils.**

### **REASON FOR DECISION**

The Cost of Living Action Plan is a proactive response to the quickly changing nature of the cost of living crisis and has been developed in partnership with internal and external stakeholders to ensure a holistic approach.

Our approach must continue to work across systems to consider the needs of our residents and the work being delivered across our organisation and by partners. Failure to sufficiently coordinate our approach risks missing opportunities to work more efficiently and in a way which reduces duplication and will mitigate gaps in support for the most vulnerable.

Equally, while the delivery of support to residents experiencing crisis is crucial at this time of heightening financial pressures, we are mindful that it would be prudent to balance crisis support with the need to work more preventatively. Without comprehensive work to understand and address the underlying drivers and mitigations of poverty across our districts, we cannot sustainably equip our communities with the tools they need to remain resilient to economic shocks in the longer term.

### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Option 1: To consider ending our co-ordinated and locally focused approach to the Cost of Living crisis, and to rely only on co-ordinating and promoting any national government support going forward.

Option 2: To note the phase 3 Cost of Living Action Plan and continue with six monthly updates to the plan going forward, which focus primarily on relieving and preventing crisis for those households who have been acutely impacted by the increase in the cost of living, but which does not seek to develop a long term, preventative, approach to addressing and preventing poverty across the districts.

**Any Declarations of Interests Declared:** None

**Any Dispensation Granted:** None

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## **BCa/23/18 CORPORATE PLAN REFRESH**

**It was RESOLVED: -**

**To endorse engagement on the emerging vision and strategic priorities as set out in Appendix A.**

### **REASON FOR DECISION**

To enable the progression of the refresh of the Corporate Plan.

### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

1. Do nothing: proceeding without reviewing strategic priorities. This was not considered feasible as there are new challenges for our districts that the Council needs to respond to.
2. Refreshing the strategic priorities without engaging our stakeholders. This was not considered a suitable option as the refreshed plan would lack valuable insight from the stakeholders the plan is working to improve the district for.
3. Approaching our stakeholders with a 'blank sheet of paper' to determine what our priorities should be, but this was considered likely to lead to less meaningful engagement.

**Any Declarations of Interests Declared: None**

**Any Dispensation Granted: None**

## **BCa/23/19 BMSDC ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

**It was RESOLVED: -**

- 1.1 That Cabinet approved that option 1 was taken forward and that the joint Councils' draft EV Infrastructure Implementation Plan be approved.**
- 1.2 That the completion of the final documentation was delegated to the Director for Economic Growth and Climate Change in consultation with Portfolio Holders for Environment, Culture & Wellbeing in Babergh and Thriving Towns and Rural Communities in Mid Suffolk.**

### **REASON FOR DECISION**

- 1.1 The approval of the EV Infrastructure Implementation Plan will support the councils' future ambitions around the growth of EVs .
- 1.2 The EVIIP will support and provide guidance and opportunities for third party investment in the districts, including community organisations.
- 1.3 The EVIIP provides a clear plan for generating future investment and makes the case for external funding.
- 1.4 The EVIIP supports local and national strategies with the future transition to EVs beyond the life of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles.

### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Option 2 – To decide that such a plan is not required, and any such infrastructure growth will naturally result as and when funding opportunities arise.

**Any Declarations of Interests Declared: None**

**Any Dispensation Granted: None**

## **BCa/23/20 EMPLOYER SUPPORTED VOLUNTEERING POLICY**

**It was RESOLVED: -**

**To note and support the implementation of the Councils first Employer Supported Volunteering Policy.**

### **REASON FOR DECISION**

Through research carried out by the National Council of Voluntary and Community Organisations (NCVO), we know that paid work is the number one reason why people do not volunteer. In response to this, by working closely with VCFSE organisations through an Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV) scheme, the councils can strengthen the support and trust between residents, communities and key anchor organisations, whilst also benefitting staff wellbeing, building the strength and capacity of the VCFSE sector and aligning with its own Community and Wellbeing strategies.

### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

To note the report

**Any Declarations of Interests Declared: None**

**Any Dispensation Granted: None**

## **BCa/23/21 REVISED SAFEGUARDING POLICY - CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS AT RISK**

**It was RESOLVED: -**

- 1.1 That Cabinet agreed Option 1 and approve the revised Safeguarding Policy for Children, Young People and Adults at Risk.**
- 1.2 That Cabinet agreed that for the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to have delegated authority to make minor amendments to the Safeguarding Policy in line with outcomes derived from the Annual Section 11 Audit or future Internal Audit Reviews.**

### **REASON FOR DECISION**

To ensure that an overarching approach to safeguarding is embedded across the councils, identifying roles and responsibilities of employees, councillors, and volunteers ensuring the safety of children, young people, and adults at risk.

### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Option 2

The Councils could decide not to adopt the revised Safeguarding Policy for Children, Young People and Adults at Risk. This would leave the Councils reliant on an out-of-date policy and fail to embed appropriate practices and procedure across all services, identify roles and responsibilities of employees, councillors, and volunteers ensuring the safety of children, young

people, and adults at risk.

**Any Declarations of Interests Declared:** None

**Any Dispensation Granted:** None