

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Period: 16 December 2020 - 21 April 2021

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions is prepared on a monthly basis and published at least 28 days before the start of the period covered.

“Key Decisions” are defined as those Executive decisions which are likely:

- (a) to result in the County Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the relevant budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more electoral divisions in the County’s area.

The Forward Plan will contain **ALL** matters which the Leader of the Council has reason to believe will be the subject of a Key Decision to be taken by the Cabinet. It may also include decisions that are not key decisions but are intended to be determined by the Cabinet. Part of the Cabinet meetings listed in this Forward Plan may be held in private where a report for the meeting contains exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. If you would like to make representations about any particular decision to be conducted in private then please email: michael.bradbury@staffordshire.gov.uk. Such representations must be received in advance 6 clear working days before the date on which the decision is scheduled to be taken.

The Membership of the Cabinet consists of:

Leader of the County Council – Alan White
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills – Philip White
Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Wellbeing – Johnny McMahon
Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources – Mike Sutherland
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport – David Williams
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Mark Sutton
Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) – Jonathan Price
Cabinet Member for Commercial – Mark Deaville
Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture – Victoria Wilson
Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change – Julia Jessel

A copy of the Forward Plan of Key Decisions may be inspected, free of charge, at the Member and Democratic Services office, County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford, during normal office hours Monday to Friday. A copy of the notice will also be available on Staffordshire County Council’s Website at www.staffordshire.gov.uk.

Documents submitted for decision will be a formal report which will be available on the County Council’s website at least 5 clear working days before the date the decision is to be made, unless that report is subject to any prohibition or restriction on its disclosure. Other relevant background documents used in compiling the report will also be made available in the same way unless they are subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure.

Minutes of Cabinet meetings will be published within three working days and will be subject to call-in. The call-in period lasts for three working days. If the decision is not called-in it will be implemented on the fourth working day. Special urgency items are exempt from call-in.

John Tradewell
Director of Corporate Services

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Period: 16 December 2020 - 21 April 2021

NOTE:

- (1) The Forward Plan of Key Decisions sets out all Key Decisions intended to be made by Cabinet during the above period.
- (2) The Cabinet date can be provisional and items may move/roll forward to another meeting date but this will be monitored.
- (3) Items should remain on the Notice until a decision is made by Cabinet or is formally removed.
- (4) Where there is an intention to make a decision in private the exemption paragraph relied upon will be included within this notice

Anticipated Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
December 2020	Public	<p>Mitigation Plans for Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (Victoria Wilson)</p> <p>To consider proposals to mitigate the impacts of increased visitor numbers to Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation, including changes to visitor infrastructure at the Council-owned country park such as car parking and site infrastructure.</p>		N/A	<p>Janene Cox (Tel: (01785) 278368)</p> <p>Service Area: Rural County</p>
December 2020	Public	<p>West Midlands Rail Ltd (WMRL) - Governance Evolution (Philip White)</p> <p>Staffordshire County Council has been an active member of West Midlands Rail Ltd (WMRL) since its establishment and has enabled the County Council to have greater local influence and involvement over local rail services including the specification and ongoing management of the West Midlands Rail Franchise. WMRL and trading as West Midlands Rail Executive (WMRE) has developed a strong reputation and has been effective at promoting and delivering change and investment in the region's rail network. However, there is a desire for WMRL to</p>		N/A	<p>Clive Thomson (Tel: 01785 276522)</p> <p>Service Area: Sustainable and Connected County</p>

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		<p>evolve its existing governance arrangements and strengthen its relationship with the Mayor of the West Midlands. This will help to increase its ability to achieve its policy aims and continue to deliver local leadership for local rail services by working with the rail industry to deliver a step change in rail services across the WMRL geography. The proposed amendments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to the Articles of Association, which in summary permit for the Mayor of the West Midlands to become a non-Director, non-voting Chair of WMRL, and also for the creation of two new Vice Chair roles. • The delegation of the powers described in 3.1(i) of the WMRL Articles of Association to the Mayor as Chair of WMRL. This is a wide power that will enable the Mayor as Chair to represent and publicise WMRL through lobbying and related activities and survey to advance WMRL's purpose. As required under the Articles of Association any such changes can only be amended by a Special Resolution of the Members eligible to vote. Under the provisions of the Articles, these Members are defined as the Local Transport Authorities (LTAs). This means the seven Shire and Unitary authorities (Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin and Northamptonshire) and the West Midlands Combined Authority. Following an approval in principle by the WMRL Board of Directors on 			

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		<p>15th September 2020 to the proposed changes to the Articles, it is now necessary for these governance changes to be taken through the individual governance requirements of each of the respective Members as defined above. For Staffordshire County Council to secure approval to cast its vote in favour of the special resolution required under the WMRL Articles of Association to enable the authorisation of the proposed changes to their governance (scheduled to be taken on 19th January 2021 at a special meeting of the Board), a decision is required to be made by Staffordshire County Council Cabinet no later than end of December 2020.</p>			
December 2020	Public	<p>Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021 - 2026 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Mike Sutherland)) To update Cabinet with progress on the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>		<p>In addition to the general budget consultation, any specific consultation, if appropriate, will be determined by the nature of any issues raised in the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy</p>	<p>Rachel Spain (Tel: 01785 854455) Service Area: Finance</p>
December 2020	Public	<p>Communities Principle Update (Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture (Victoria Wilson)) Update on the Communities principle and associated plans</p>		None at this stage	<p>Janene Cox, Andrew Donaldson (Tel: (01785) 278368, Tel: 01785</p>

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					278399) Service Area: Corporate
December 2020	Public	<p>SEND Strategy (Jonathan Price) The new SEND and Inclusion Strategy sets out our vision for people with Special Educational Needs in Staffordshire. Cabinet will be asked to consider approval of the new Strategy, noting the engagement and consultation process completed during its development, and subsequent to this to support implementation of the Strategy, and ensure that it is used to inform commissioning of services.</p>		Parents, Professionals, Children and Young People	Julie Day (Tel: 01785 895372) Service Area: Vulnerable Learners
December 2020	Public	<p>North Staffordshire Ministerial Direction for Nitrogen Dioxide - Project Update (Julia Jessel, David Williams) Officers from Newcastle Borough Council, Stoke City Council and Staffordshire County Council (SCC) are jointly working under a ministerial direction. to improve transport related air pollution in North Staffordshire. DEFRA have advised that nitrogen dioxide emissions must be brought within EU levels of compliance in the shortest possible time. The program to deliver the business case that will finance remedial transport interventions has been reviewed and refreshed. SCC Cabinet are asked to approve it.</p>		N/A	Clive Thomson (Tel: 01785 276522) Service Area: Connected and Sustainable County

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December 2020	Public	<p>Digital Strategy and Programme (Mike Sutherland)</p> <p>Digital is a constantly evolving and reshaping element of the environment in which we live and work, and as an authority we want to develop and embrace the opportunities that digital offers us. We want to develop our digital services so that people find them the most straightforward and convenient options. Our Digital Strategy and Programme sets out the vision for a digital first organisation and the steps that we will take to develop this.</p>		Corporate Services	Andrew Donaldson (Tel: 01785 278399) Service Area: None
December 2020	Private	<p>Waste Disposal Arrangements in the North of Staffordshire from 2025 (Julia Jessel, Mark Deaville)</p> <p>Options for the future involvement of SCC with the project to replace SOTCC Hanford ERF plant, to ensure capacity is available to SCC for the disposal of its waste into the future.</p>		None	Clive Thomson (Tel: 01785 276522) Service Area: Sustainability and Waste Management
January 2021	Public	<p>Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021 - 2026 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Mike Sutherland))</p> <p>To update Cabinet with progress on the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>		In addition to the general budget consultation, any specific consultation, if appropriate, will be determined by the nature of any issues raised in the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy.	Rachel Spain (Tel: 01785 854455) Service Area: Finance

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January 2021	Private	<p>Contract for the Supply of Gas and Associated Services (Mark Deaville) The contract covers the supply of gas and associates services to the SCC (20%) and Entrust (80%) portfolio. The spend value is estimated at £5m per year across 800 supply points.</p>		N/A	Ian Turner (Tel: 01785 277228) Service Area: Commercial and Assets
January 2021	Public	<p>Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2021 - 2026 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Mike Sutherland)) To update Cabinet with progress on the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>		In addition to the general budget consultation, any specific consultation, if appropriate, will be determined by the nature of any issues raised in the Strategic Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy	Rachel Spain (Tel: 01785 854455) Service Area: Finance
February 2021	Public	<p>Integrated Performance Report 2020-21 - Quarter 3 (Mike Sutherland, Alan White) This Quarterly Integrated Performance Report provides an overview of Staffordshire County Council's progress, performance and financial position in delivering against our Strategic Plan.</p>		N/A	Rob Salmon, Andrew Donaldson (Tel: (01785) 27 6354, Tel: 01785 278399) Service Area: Corporate Services
February 2021	Public	<p>Implementation of the updated Staffordshire County Council Education Infrastructure Contributions Policy (SEICP) (Jonathan Price) Legislation requires that housing</p>		Families and Communities SLT, Local Planning Authorities, Neighbouring	Tim Moss (Tel: 01785 277963) Service Area: Families and Communities

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		<p>development should mitigate its impact on community infrastructure, including schools. "Developer contributions" towards new school places should provide both funding for construction and land where applicable. Following the publication of new Department for Education (DfE) guidance on "Securing developer contributions for education", the team established a policy working group to update the current policy. If adopted, the updated policy "Staffordshire Education Infrastructure Contributions Policy (SEICP)" will enable additional developer contributions, for funding for construction and land, to be secured towards the provision of Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) places, home to school travel (mainstream) and home to school travel (SEND).</p>		<p>Authorities, Internal colleagues from relevant disciplines, planning portal regular consultees, SCC members, The Knot publication, Reps from local Diocese.</p>	
February 2021	Public	<p>Climate Change Action Plan Update (Julia Jessel) An update for Cabinet on the delivery of the County Council's Climate Change Action Plan.</p>		N/A	<p>Tim Cooper (Tel: 01785 276204) Service Area: Economy, Infrastructure and Skills</p>
March 2021	Public	<p>Capital Programme for Schools 2021/2022 (Jonathan Price) Schedule of school projects to provide additional places through the expansion or construction of new schools to meet the need. The works will be procured via Staffordshire County Council's construction framework agreement.</p>		N/A	<p>Ian Turner (Tel: 01785 277228) Service Area: Strategic Property</p>

Anticipated Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Background Documents	Consultation	Contact Officer
April 2021	Public	<p>Integrated Performance Report 2020-21 - Quarter 4 (Mike Sutherland, Alan White) This Quarterly Integrated Performance Report provides an overview of Staffordshire County Council's progress, performance and financial position in delivering against our Strategic Plan.</p>		N/A	Rob Salmon, Andrew Donaldson (Tel: (01785) 27 6354, Tel: 01785 278399) Service Area: Corporate Services