

DECISION NOTICE

Cabinet Meeting - 20 January 2021

Present: Mark Deaville, Julia Jessel, Johnny McMahon, Jonathan Price, Mike Sutherland, Mark Sutton, Alan White (Chairman), Philip White, David Williams and Victoria Wilson.

Cabinet Support Member in attendance - Gill Burnett

Also in attendance - Charlotte Atkins

PART ONE

68. Decision notice of the meeting held on 6 January 2021

Decision – That the notes of the meeting held on 6 January 2021 be approved.

69. Leader's Update

Decision – That the oral report of the Leader of the Council giving an update on a range of issues including the nationwide Covid-19 vaccination roll out, commencing with people over 70 and the clinically extremely vulnerable; the opening of eight new testing centres across the county for people without symptoms; the Council's on-going work to support Staffordshire businesses, safeguard jobs, creating new apprenticeships and helping people back into the workplace; progress on the Lichfield Southern Bypass and Stafford Western Access Routes – two major schemes that will reduce congestion and unlock land for new business and housing; the recent announcement by Asos that they will be building a new £90m distribution centre in Lichfield, creating up to 2,000 jobs; and the outstanding work our teachers, school staff and early years providers are doing to care for the youngest children in Staffordshire and keep schools open for the children of key workers as well as vulnerable children, at the same time as supporting the majority of children to keep learning at home; be noted.

70. Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 6 January 2021

Decision – That the minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 6 January 2021 be received.

71. Update from COVID-19 Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board

Reasons for the Decision – To consider an update from the COVID-19 Member Led Local Outbreak Control Board including the country entering in a third national lockdown following a rapid and substantial rise in the number of cases of Covid-19 in large part due to the emergence of a new and more infectious strain of the virus; the number of cases in Staffordshire during the first half of January 2021 being higher than at any point during the pandemic; the increased pressure on the NHS with almost half of hospital beds given over to care of Covid-19 patients; the rolling out of the Covid-19 vaccination (with the priority groups for vaccination being people over 70, care home residents and

staff; all other health and care workers, and people deemed 'clinically extremely vulnerable'); and the Council's continuing efforts to prevent and control the spread of the virus including testing for people without symptoms being available to all residents with at least one site in each district and borough.

Decision – That the report be received.

72. Staffordshire Means Back to Business: Investing in our Economy



“It is critical that as a county council we continue to prioritise support for small businesses and people whose jobs or employment prospects have been impacted by the pandemic.

In an area like Staffordshire that has a county council plus district and borough councils with their own COVID-19 funding this support is far more effectively delivered by close collaborative working between councils and a range of other partners to make our respective funding go further. We hope that our three new programmes will enable the Additional Restrictions Grant to reach more people affected by the pandemic. We owe it to businesses and communities to direct all available funding where it is needed most, and vitally to make it accessible as soon as possible.

The new programmes are designed to complement existing support schemes and cover gaps in the assistance already available. We look forward to working with colleagues across our districts and boroughs to get them off the ground imminently.”

Philip White, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills

Reasons for the Decision – To consider the delivery of further investment in our economy, by the County Council and its partners, most notably through enhanced two tier working.


Decision – (a) That it be agreed that £862,000 of Staffordshire County Councils resources are made available to support the following activities:

- Staffordshire 500, Apprentices Wage Support (£500,000)
- Nil Cost Training for Employers Top Up Project (£104,000)
- Small Business “To Thrive” Financial Support (£150,000)
- Additional Capacity (up to £108,000)

(b) That authority be given to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills, in consultation with the Director for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills and the Director for Corporate Services, to amend the proposed allocations and capacity, in light

of ongoing discussions with Staffordshire's Districts and Boroughs within the envelope of resources allocated in (a) above.

73. Protecting Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation for Future Generations

	<p>“Not only is Cannock Chase a place of outstanding natural beauty, it is a home of national and international significance to rare plants and wildlife. Staffordshire County Council has a legal and moral duty to protect that vulnerable flora and fauna while maintaining open access for increasing numbers of visitors.</p> <p>This investment of housebuilders' money over 15 years will improve trails, way signs and interpretation boards, carrying out conservation education in schools and influencing where people park so that we reduce footfall where the landscape and wildlife are most vulnerable and increase capacity where it is more robust.</p> <p>This way we can protect the very things that people come to enjoy, the very things that make Cannock Chase so special and so loved by those who know it”.</p> <p>Victoria Wilson, Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture</p>
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Reasons for the Decision – To consider proposals for Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) to mitigate impacts of recreational pressure associated with a growing resident population. The plans include a range of on-site measures across the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) to reduce pressure on the most sensitive habitats, improve infrastructure and facilities in more robust locations and raise public awareness of the sensitivity of the site.

Decision – (a) That the proposed mitigation plans for Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) be noted.

(b) That the recommended approach and proposed scheme of delegation (as follows) be agreed:

- (i) Operational delivery to be overseen by the Assistant Director - Culture, Rural and Safer Communities; and
- (ii) Agreement of options appraisal / feasibility study outcomes for Chase Road and Marquis Drive by delegated decision by the appropriate Cabinet Member in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Families and Communities.

74. Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers

Decision – That the following decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers be noted:

Cabinet Member	Decision
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People	In approving proposals for the usage of the COVID-19 Winter Grant Scheme

75. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 17 February to 16 June 2021, which detailed the following issues, was approved:

Subject Matter	Contact
Supportive Communities - Update and Delivery Plan 2021/22	Name: Andrew Donaldson Tel: (01785) 278399
Staffordshire History Centre: National Lottery Heritage Fund - Round Two Submission	Name: Janene Cox Tel: (01785) 278368
Implementation of the updated Staffordshire County Council Education Infrastructure Contributions Policy (SEICP)	Name: Tim Moss Tel: (01785) 277963
Digital First – Update and Plan for the Digital Principle	Name: Andrew Donaldson Tel: (01785) 278399
Climate Change Action Plan Update	Name: Tim Cooper Tel: (01785) 276204
SEND Strategy	Name: Julie Day Tel: (01785) 895372
Integrated Performance Report 2020-21 - Quarter 3	Name: Andrew Donaldson/ Rob Salmon Tel: (01785) 278399/ 276354
Specialist Education Provision for Pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) Aged 11-19 Years	Name: Tim Moss Tel: (01785) 277963
Waste Disposal Arrangements in the North of Staffordshire from 2025	Name: Clive Thomson Tel: (01785) 276522
Capital Programme for Schools 2021/2022	Name: Ian Turner Tel: (01785) 277228
Highways and Transport Capital Programme 2021/22	Name: James Bailey Tel: (01785) 276591
Re-Procurement of the Household Waste Recycling Centre Contract	Name: Clive Thomson Tel: (01785) 276522
Integrated Performance Report 2020-21 - Quarter 4	Name: Andrew Donaldson/ Rob Salmon Tel: (01785) 278399/

	276354
Recommissioning of Care Home Services	Name: Helen Trousdale Tel: (01785) 277008

76. Exclusion of the Public

Decision – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of Local Government Act 1972 indicated below.

PART TWO

77. Dementia Centres of Excellence
(Exemption paragraph 3)

Reasons for the Decision – To consider the arrangements for the provision of support for people with dementia throughout all stages of the progression of the condition.

Decision – That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed.

78. Contract for the Supply of Gas and Associated Services
(Exemption paragraph 3)

Reasons for the Decision – To consider arrangements for the procurement of the supply of Gas and Ancillary Services for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2025.

Decision – That the recommendations contained in the report be agreed.

Alan White
Leader of the Council