

## **Cabinet**

Wednesday 19 April 2023

**10:00**

Oak Room, County Buildings, Stafford

The meeting will be webcast live which can be viewed at any time here:

<https://staffordshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

John Tradewell  
Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services  
11 April 2023

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## **Agenda**

1. **Apologies**
2. **Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16**
3. **Decision notices of the meetings held on 8 and 15 March 2023** (Pages 1 - 10)
4. **Leader's Update**  
Oral report of the Leader of the Council
5. **Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 5 April 2023** (Pages 11 - 12)
6. **Staffordshire Means Back to Business - Oral Update**  
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills
7. **Staffordshire Better Care Fund 2022-2024** (Pages 13 - 24)  
Cabinet Member for Health and Care
8. **Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers** (Pages 25 - 26)
9. **Forward Plan of Key Decisions** (Pages 27 - 30)

## 10. Exclusion of the Public

The Chairman to move:-

“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”.

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### Part Two

(All reports in this section are exempt)

## 11. Staffordshire PSN Current Contract Exit Strategy and New Contract (Pages 31 - 58)

(Exemption paragraph 3)

Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters

Membership	
Alan White (Chair)	Jonathan Price
Philip White	Mark Sutton
Mark Deaville	Simon Tagg
Julia Jessel	David Williams
Paul Northcott	Victoria Wilson
Ian Parry	

## Notes for Members of the Press and Public

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## **Recording by Press and Public**

Recording (including by the use of social media) by the Press and Public is permitted from the public seating area provided it does not, in the opinion of the chairman, disrupt the meeting.





**Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 8 March 2023**

**Attendance**

Mark Deaville	Alan White (Chair)
Julia Jessel	Philip White
Jonathan Price	David Williams
Mark Sutton	Victoria Wilson
Simon Tagg	

**Cabinet Support Member in attendance:** Paul Northcott

**Apologies:** Ian Parry

**PART ONE**

**113. Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16**

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

**114. Decision notice of the meeting held on 15 February 2023**

**Decision** – That the notes of the meeting held on 15 February 2023 be approved.

**115. Staffordshire Electoral Review - Staffordshire Boundary Proposals**

**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider the progress made to date on the County’s Electoral Review together with the Council’s proposals for Stage 2 of the Review which considers division arrangements and to make recommendations to Full Council thereon.

**Decision** – (a) That the progress made to date on the County’s Electoral Review be noted.

(b) That it be recommended to Full Council that they agree to the proposals for Staffordshire’s boundary changes:

- i. Requests a single member per division review
- ii. Review the boundary changes proposed
- iii. Removal of one elected member in Tamworth
- iv. Addition of one elected member in East Staffordshire

(c) That it be recommended to Full Council that they agree that the Leader of the Council and the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate

Services be authorised to finalise the proposals prior to submitting to the Boundary Commission.

**Alan White**  
**Leader of the Council**

## Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 March 2023

### Attendance

Mark Deaville	Simon Tagg
Julia Jessel	Alan White (Chair)
Ian Parry	Philip White
Jonathan Price	David Williams
Mark Sutton	Victoria Wilson

**Cabinet Support Member in attendance:** Paul Northcott

### PART ONE

#### 116. Declarations of Interest in accordance with Standing Order 16

The following Member declared an interest in accordance with Standing Order 16.5:-

Member	Minute Nos.	Interest	Reason
Julia Jessel	127	Personal	Trustee of the John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust

#### 117. Leader's Update

**Decision** – That the oral report of the Leader of the Council giving an update on a range of issues including thanks to the gritting crews who were out round the clock to keep the County's main roads moving safely; the Government's announcement of a national plan and funding to improve support for children with special educational needs and disabilities which will enable the Council to recruit 10 more educational psychologists; more than 9 out of 10 parents in Staffordshire to receive a place for their child at their preferred secondary school next year; the help available to small businesses through the Council's Staffordshire Means Back to Business scheme; and the Leader and Chief Executive's recent meeting with the Home Secretary to discuss the placement of asylum seekers in Staffordshire including the case for greater support to accommodate asylum seekers and reduce the impact on those living nearby; be noted.

#### 118. Minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 1 March 2023

**Decision** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Property Sub-Committee held on 1 March 2023 be received.

### **119. Staffordshire Means Back to Business - Oral Update**

**Decision** – That the oral report of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills giving an update on “Staffordshire Means Back to Business” activity including the following matters be noted:

- This month saw an increase of 550 claimants, with the total number of claimants in the county now standing at 15,000. The claimant rate for Staffordshire increased from 2.7% to 2.8% over the last month. The rate in Staffordshire continues to be one of the lowest rates in the West Midlands and far lower than the average for the region 4.8% and, also lower than the average for England at 3.7% of the working age population.
- Contributing to this overall increase in claimants this month, the youth claimant count in Staffordshire saw an increase of 135 to a total of 2,785 young people. The proportion of young people in Staffordshire aged 18-24 that are claiming work-related Universal Credit has increased this month from 4.2% to 4.4%, although this remains lower than the national rate of 4.8% which has increased from 4.7% this month.
- The launch of our new Rural Economic Strategy that sets out our rural economic priorities in the coming years. The strategy offers a framework for policy choices and investment decisions. The successful delivery of the strategy will depend on us continuing to work proactively with a wide range of stakeholders across the public, private, academic, voluntary and community and third sectors.
- The success of the Enjoy Staffordshire Tourism & Good Food Awards where there was opportunity to celebrate many of the fantastic tourism businesses we have within the county. Tourism and leisure businesses make up a significant part of the local economy, and we have an opportunity to build upon our many existing assets, including our renowned attractions that bring millions of visitors to the county every year. This is why we have supported the development of the Visitor Economy Action Plan, which was formally launched at last week’s event. This has been prepared in collaboration between local authority and private sector partners that make up our Destination Management Partnership and includes several key actions to boost our visitor economy including encouraging more people to work within the sector, addressing emerging skills challenges and supporting the development of the local accommodation offer. We have also recently applied to



Visit England to secure Local Visitor Economy Partnership status for Staffordshire and I hope to be able to update on this in future updates.

- The newly formed Staffordshire Jobs and Careers service which provides advice on jobs, careers, training and learning opportunities in the county, and working with local residents and businesses, ultimately connects people to jobs.

## 120. Capital Programme for Schools 2023/24

	<p>“It is essential that we keep our maintained schools in a good condition that allows children to thrive.</p> <p>This year will see more than £43 million spent on maintaining and improving Staffordshire schools to ensure Staffordshire children can learn in surroundings that enhance their education and give them the best possible start in life.</p> <p>The money will also see more schools benefitting from our decarbonisation programme by replacing inefficient systems, improving insulation and making it easier to monitor energy usage, that will directly contribute to our carbon net zero goal.”</p> <p>Jonathan Price, Cabinet member for Education (and SEND)</p>
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**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider approving the Schools Capital Programme for 2023/24.

**Decision** – (a) That the Schools Capital Programme 2023/24 investment proposal, set out in the report and supporting appendices, be approved.

(b) That the Assistant Director for Commercial and Assets monitors progress and makes any necessary in-year alterations in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND).

(c) That authority be delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services to enter into contracts for projects in the Capital Programme which have a value of £2,000,000 or above. Other contract awards and modifications will be in accordance with the Council’s Procurement Regulations.

## 121. Highways and Transport Programme 2023/24



"Staffordshire's huge road network is vital for keeping our county connected and its residents and businesses on the move.

Over the next two financial years the County Council is planning to invest an additional £30M to support our commitment to fix more roads. This year will see a total of over £50 million invested in a range of major projects, vital local improvements, and general road maintenance. The additional investment being made by the County Council will enable five major road reconstruction schemes at key locations into our towns, the resurfacing of nine junctions/roundabouts, an extra 275,000 sq. m of preventative surface treatments and £1M of additional work to repair highway drainage.

We were also successful in securing £19.8M through the Levelling Up Fund for improvements to roads and bus and cycling routes in Staffordshire that will see investment in environmentally friendly buses and active travel between Stafford and Cannock, as well as significant investment around the A38 Branston interchange in Burton upon Trent.

However, we recognise that there is always more to be done and we continue to lobby central Government for the money necessary to keep Staffordshire's roads in the condition we expect and ensure local communities and businesses can see the benefits of an improved highway network."

David Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider approving the Highways and Transport capital investment proposals for 2023/24

**Decision** – (a) That the Highways and Transport capital investment proposal, as set out in the report and supporting appendices, be approved and that it be noted that, at the time of writing, the allocations from the Department for Transport have not been provided.


(b) That the additional investment of £20M by the County Council into highway maintenance to be delivered over the next two financial years

(2023/24 and 2024/25), which when put together with the already approved £5M each year to support minor capital maintenance, makes a total investment of £30M over the next two financial years, be approved.

(c) That the progression of the programme of developer funded s.278/s111 highway improvement projects be approved and that authority be delegated to the Director of Economy, Infrastructure & Skills to agree the details of the works agreements and authorise the contracts for works to be entered into.

(d) The Assistant Director for Highways and the Built County monitors progress of the overall programme and be given delegated authority to make any in-year alterations and additions to the programme in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation.

## **122. Mental Health and Mental Wellbeing Strategy 2023-2028**

	<p>“Having good mental health is important for everyone, and we need to build strong and resilient communities and individuals who are in control of their own mental well-being.</p> <p>This new strategy, which has been produced with the NHS, local communities, mental health professions and those who use the service and their carers, aims to help everyone improve and maintain their mental well-being, and help people of all ages with severe long-term mental health issues to live productive and fulfilling lives.”</p> <p>Julia Jessel, Cabinet Member for Health and Care</p>
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**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider approving the proposed joint Mental Health & Mental Wellbeing Strategy: ‘Good Mental Health in Staffordshire’ 2023-28.

**Decision** – (a) That the proposed joint Mental Health & Mental Wellbeing Strategy: ‘Good Mental Health in Staffordshire’ 2023-28, be approved.

(b) That the proposal for the Health and Wellbeing Board to monitor delivery of the associated action plan be endorsed.

## **123. Our People Strategy 2023 and Beyond**



“Our People Strategy is key in helping us be an excellent employer with a welcoming culture, in which people are supported and have opportunities to develop their skills and experience with us.

Importantly, it supports our Strategic Plan, as it guides how we lead our people to deliver first class services and make a positive difference to the people of Staffordshire”.

Alan White, Leader of the Council

**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider approving the refreshed People Strategy for 2023 – 2027.

**Decision** – (a) That the key achievements from the previous People Strategy be acknowledged.

(b) That the evidence-based approach adopted in the development of the strategy be noted.

(c) That the “we will” commitments against the four pillars in the strategy be endorsed.

(d) That the strategy be approved.

## **124. Staffordshire County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy**



“Since the last edition of the Strategy was approved, there have been nine significant flood events between 2018 and 2022. Each one carries a financial and emotional cost for individuals and businesses and the concern must be that climate change will make matters worse.

Working with communities and incorporating recent experience and innovative practice, the updated strategy will include ways of managing and reducing flood risks in Staffordshire, as well as considering how best we can recover quickly if the worst happens”.

Simon Tagg, Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change

**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider approving the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

**Decision** – (a) that the draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy be approved.

(b) That the accompanying documents: Habitats Risk Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, be approved.

(c) That the Director for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change be authorised to sign-off any necessary changes and publish final versions of a) and b) assuming no significant changes necessary. (See point 11 in the reasons for recommendation).

(d) That the strategy be revised again, when implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 makes Staffordshire County Council a SuDS Approval Body responsible for the approval, adoption, maintenance and management of sustainable drainage systems, to take account of this. (See Point 12 in the reasons for recommendation).

## 125. Forward Plan of Key Decisions

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 19 April to 16 August 2023, which detailed the following issues, was approved:

<b>Subject Matter</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Staffordshire Better Care Fund 2022-2024	Name: Helen Trousdale Tel: (01785)
Staffordshire PSN Current Contract Exit Strategy and New Contract	Name: Ian Turner Tel: (01785) 277228
Corporate Delivery Plan 2023/4	Name: John Tradewell Tel: (01785) 276102
Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) Consultation Feedback, Policy Changes, Re-use and HWRC Network Improvements to Date	Name: Clive Thomson Tel: (01785) 276522
'Living My Best Life' - A Strategy for Disabled and Neurodivergent People in Staffordshire 2023-2028	Name: Andrew Jepps Tel: (01785) 278557
Integrated Performance - Outturn Report 2022/23	Name: Rachel Spain/ Wendy Tompson Tel: (01785) 854455/ (01785) 854267
Joint Coroners Service - Legal Framework and Financial Protocol	Name: Catherine Mann Tel: (01785) 278320
Maintenance and Minor Works Framework	Name: Ian Turner

## **126. Exclusion of the Public**

“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 the Local Government Act 1972 indicated below”.

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## **PART TWO**

(All reports in this section are on pink paper)

### **127. Proposal for Delivery of the All Through School (ATS) at the Former Rugeley Power Station Site**

**Note by Clerk:** In accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 (Regulation 16), the Leader of the Council has obtained the approval of the Chairman of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the decision detailed below to be exempt from call-in as any delay caused by the call-in process would significantly risk the County Council’s ability to seal multiple legal agreements to enable the County Council to elect by 31 March 2023 to deliver an All Through School

**Reasons for the Decision** – To consider proposals to secure secondary school places in Rugeley to meet demand, particularly through developing an All Through School (ATS) on the former power-station site.

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

**Alan White**  
**Leader of the Council**

**Minutes of the Property Sub-Committee Meeting held on 5 April 2023**

Present: Alan White (Chair)

<b>Attendance</b>	
Mark Deaville	Philip White (Vice-Chair)

**Apologies:** Ian Parry and Jonathan Price

**Part one**

**67. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest on this occasion.

**68. Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 March 2023**

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**69. Leases of Academies**

Proposals were submitted to lease the site of Bridge Short Stay School, Wissage Road, Lichfield for a 125 year period at a peppercorn rental in line with the expectations of the Department of Education for those schools converting to an Academy status.

**Resolved** – That approval be given to the grant of 125 year lease, at a peppercorn rental as indicated.

**70. Underlease of Little Bridge Primary Centre, School Road**

The Sub-Committee were informed that due to the imminent Academisation of the Bridge Short Stay School, it was necessary to enter into an underlease to enable their continued use of the Little Bridge Primary Centre, School Road, Rugeley. Details were given of the proposed terms of the underlease and the nature of the agreement which would have to be entered into with the holders of the head lease.

**Resolved** – That:

- (i) approval be given for an underlease of the Property detailed above for a peppercorn rental period that is to be coterminous with the head lease that expires in September 2029.

(ii)the Assistant Director for Commercial and Assets be authorised to negotiate and agree the final details for any subsequent head leases with Perry Hall MAT (and successors) and underleases at peppercorn rent to the Bridge Short Stay school (and successors).

## **71. Exclusion of the Public**

**Resolved** – 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 paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972”

**Chairman**



## Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday 19 April 2023

### Staffordshire Better Care Fund 2022-2024



**Councillor Julia Jessel, Cabinet Member for Health and Care said,**

“The Better Care Fund continues to enable us to provide joined-up health and social care services, meaning people are supported to remain in their own homes for as long as they are able.

Progress over the past year includes a new social care workforce strategy, helping to support the recruitment and retention of home care staff by offsetting some cost pressures, improving the quality of care on offer in our care homes, and supporting home-first discharge to improve outcomes for people

leaving hospital.

We will continue to use the Better Care Fund to improve and integrate social care and NHS services for our residents, and to improve the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our county.”

#### **Report Summary:**

This report includes an update on the Staffordshire Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2022-23, a summary of arrangements for development of the BCF Plan for 2023-24, and delegation of authority to enter into the legal agreements required to implement the BCF Plans.

#### **Recommendations**

I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. Note the progress of the Staffordshire Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2022/23 and the associated expenditure.
- b. Note allocation to Staffordshire County Council (the Council) and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) by HM Government of the Adult Social Care (ASC) Discharge Grant to the sum of £6,368,757 in 2022/23, and the subsequent inclusion of this within the BCF Section 75 agreement.

- c. Note that the Council have transferred the 2022/23 Disabled Facilities Grant to the District and Borough Councils as required by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities).
- d. Note that the Health and Well-being Board delegated final approval of the Staffordshire BCF Plan for 2023-24 to the Health and Well-being Board Chairs, including the Cabinet Member for Health and Care.
- e. Delegate authority to the Director of Health and Care to enter into legal agreements for 2023/24 and 2024/25 under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 in order to implement the respective BCF Plans.

## **Cabinet – Wednesday 19 April 2023**

### **Staffordshire Better Care Fund 2022-2025**

#### **Recommendations of the Cabinet Member for Health and Care**

I recommend that Cabinet:

- a. Note the progress of the Staffordshire Better Care Fund (BCF) Plan for 2022/23 and the associated expenditure.
- b. Note allocation to Staffordshire County Council (SCC) and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) by HM Government of the Adult Social Care (ASC) Discharge Grant to the sum of £6,368,757 in 2022/23, and the subsequent inclusion of this within the BCF 2022/23 Section 75 agreement.
- c. Note that the Council have transferred the 2022/23 Disabled Facilities Grant to the District and Borough Councils as required by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities).
- d. Note that the Health and Well-being Board (HWB) delegated final approval of the Staffordshire BCF Plan for 2023-24 to the Health and Wellbeing Board Chairs, including the Cabinet Member for Health and Care.
- e. Delegate authority to the Director of Health and Care to enter into legal agreements for 2023/24 and 2024/25 under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 in order to implement the respective BCF Plans.

**Local Member Interest:** N/A

#### **Report of the Director for Health and Care**

#### **Reasons for Recommendations:**

##### **Introduction**

1. The Better Care Fund was introduced in 2013, to support integration of health and adult social care. It requires the NHS and Local Authorities to agree a joint Plan for achieving shared outcomes using pooled and aligned budgets to fund services. Plans are required to be approved by Health and Well-being Boards and then by NHS England (NHSE).

## **2022/23 Better Care Fund Policy Framework**

2. The 2022/23 BCF Policy Framework and accompanying guidance required the submission of BCF Plans in September 2022, to include an expenditure plan, narrative plan, and a new requirement to complete a high-level overview of expected demand for intermediate care and planned capacity to meet this demand. The content of capacity and demand plans were not assured in 2022/23 but their completion was a condition of BCF plan approval. There was also a new requirement to complete a brief overview on how BCF funding is supporting unpaid carers.
3. The Policy Framework set out four national conditions for all BCF plans:
  - a. Plans to be jointly agreed between local health and social care commissioners and signed off by the Health and Well-being Board: The Plan must set out a joined-up approach to integrated, person-centred services across local health, care, housing and wider public services.
  - b. NHS contribution to adult social care to be maintained in line with the uplift to CCG minimum contribution: A demonstration of how areas will maintain the level of spending on social care services from the CCG minimum contribution in line with the percentage uplift to the CCG minimum contribution to the BCF.
  - c. Agreement to invest in NHS commissioned out-of-hospital services: Set out the approach to delivering this aim, and how NHS and local authority partners will work together to deliver it.
  - d. Implementing the BCF policy objectives: Agree a joint plan to deliver health and social care services that support improvement in outcomes against the fund's 2 policy objectives:
    - i. enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
    - ii. provide the right care in the right place at the right time
4. BCF Plans were required to agree ambitions on how spending will improve performance against the following BCF 2022 to 2023 metrics:
  - a. avoidable admissions to hospital
  - b. admissions to residential and care homes
  - c. effectiveness of reablement
  - d. hospital discharges that are to the person's usual place of residence
5. BCF Plans were required to include expenditure of the Improved Better Care Fund transferred from HM Government to local authorities. The

grant conditions remain broadly the same as in 2021-22. This funding could only be used for:

- a. Meeting adult social care needs
  - b. Reducing pressures on the NHS, including seasonal winter pressures
  - c. Supporting more people to be discharged from hospital when they are ready
  - d. Ensuring that the social care provider market is supported
6. BCF Plans were required to include expenditure of the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), which was paid to upper-tier authorities. However upper tier local authorities were also required to transfer the DFG to housing authorities in order to allow them to meet their statutory duty to fund adaptations to the homes of those people with disabilities who qualified.
7. In November 2022 DHSC published guidance about an Adult Social Care (ASC) Discharge Fund, to support safe and timely discharges from hospital by increasing capacity in social care services in the community. An addendum to the 2022 to 2023 BCF policy framework and planning requirements was published which set out the following conditions for use of the Grant:
- a. Local Authority and ICB allocations should be pooled into local BCF Section 75 agreements with plans for spend agreed by chief executives and signed off by the HWB
  - b. Funding allocated to ICBs should be pooled into HWB level BCF Section 75 agreements. ICBs should agree the distribution of this funding with LAs in their area and confirm the agreed distribution to the BCF team.
  - c. Funding should only be used on permitted activities that reduce flow pressure on hospitals, including in mental health inpatient settings, by enabling more people to be discharged to an appropriate setting, with adequate and timely health and social care support as required;
  - d. Funding should prioritise approaches most effective in freeing up the maximum number of hospital beds and reducing bed days lost within the funding available, including from mental health inpatient settings.
  - e. ICBs should ensure that support from the NHS for discharges into social care is available throughout the week, including at weekends;
  - f. ICBs, hospital trusts and local authorities should work together to improve all existing NHSE and local authority discharge data collections including related situation reporting data and discharge data submitted as part of the commissioning data set.

### **Staffordshire BCF Plan 2022/23**

8. The Staffordshire BCF Plan 2022/23 was developed in line with the Policy Framework and approved by the Health and Well-being Board and NHSE.

9. Expenditure is summarised in Table 1 and Table 2. Key priorities for 2022-23 have included the following:
- a. Workforce: We have co-produced a new workforce strategy for the whole social care workforce with a range of stakeholders. We are also taking actions to support the wider care workforce. Our wellbeing hub and wellbeing offer are available to social care staff as well as NHS staff, and the Council has extended many elements of its lifestyle discounts offer to staff across the whole adult social care sector.
  - b. Home care: A key priority remains to enable more capacity in the home care market, maximise current capacity, and to help providers with issues around recruitment/retention. The Council awarded a recurrent fee uplift of 12% from April 2022 to reflect cost pressures facing home care providers. This has supported recruitment and retention and helped to reduce the number of people waiting for home care. We have set up an Independence at Home provided in-house to provide additional capacity to meet people's needs in a timely way and offer reablement for some to increase their independence.
  - c. Care homes: Our overarching strategic priorities for care homes include:
    - i. Improving the quality of care in Staffordshire - supported by targeted quality assurance and quality improvement actions.
    - ii. Ensuring timely access to care home placements when required - measured by the proportion of placements sourced to timescale.
    - iii. Ensuring affordability of care home placements - We are increasing the number of block booked beds we have in care homes which ensures a level of financial stability for providers, an affordable rate for the council, and guaranteed capacity for commissioners. We continue to promote innovation and assistive technology.
10. Supporting Hospital Discharge: Our Home-First Discharge to Assess service across the county, is commissioned to support safe timely discharges from hospital, improve outcomes for people leaving hospital, and support people to remain at home and maintain their independence. A key priority continues to be ensuring we have the right capacity in place, and that the services are improving outcomes for people who use them.
11. Following approval an amendment was made to the BCF Plan to include an additional £11.6 million of non-recurrent funding to improve and sustain health and social care services, as summarised in Table 3.

12. This amendment was in line with permissions in the BCF guidance and was agreed by the Health and Well-being Board, ICBs, Staffordshire County Council, and West Midlands BCF manager.
13. Following the announcement of an ASC Discharge grant and the addendum to the 2022 to 2023 BCF policy framework and planning requirements, the Council and the ICB developed expenditure plans for our respective grant allocations. Expenditure plans have been signed off by the Council and ICB Chief Executives in line with Grant conditions. Plans were approved by the HWB chairs in line with their delegated approval.
14. ASC Discharge Grant allocations to local authorities and the ICB in Staffordshire are shown in Table 1. The Grant can only be spent on activity up to 31 March 2023, but can include backdated eligible expenditure from 22 September 2022.
15. The Council's Legal Services have assisted with drafting of a legal agreement under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 to include all of the expenditure in the Staffordshire BCF Plan 2022/23. Cabinet delegated authority to the Director of Health and Care on 18th May 2022, to enter into this legal agreement in order to formalise arrangements to implement the BCF Plan 2022/23
16. The Council and the ICB will be required to complete an end of year template to report on progress made in 2022-23 across the BCF schemes and the required metrics. The template and associated timescales for completion have not yet been released by NHSE&I.

**Table 1: Original BCF Funding 2022-23**

<b>NHS recurrent contribution to adult social care</b>	
NHS RNF transfer to SCC for adult social care services	£21,182,872
NHS cash transfer to SCC for carers	£705,683
NHS cash transfer to SCC for costs of Care Act 2014	£2,319,929
<b>Total NHS transfer to SCC</b>	<b>£24,208,484</b>
NHS directly commissioned adult social care	£145,047
<b>Total NHS recurrent contribution to adult social care</b>	<b>£24,353,531</b>
NHS aligned revenue funding	£58,741,950
ICB ASC Hospital discharge grant allocation	£3,417,120
<b>TOTAL NHS FUNDING</b>	<b>£86,512,601</b>
iBCF	£32,709,077
DFG	£10,005,365
SCC ASC Hospital discharge Grant allocation	£2,951,637
<b>TOTAL SCC FUNDING</b>	<b>£45,666,079</b>
<b>TOTAL BCF FUNDING</b>	<b>£132,178,680</b>

**Table 2: Original BCF Funding by Scheme Type 2022-23**

<b>Core BCF Funding - Expenditure by scheme</b>	<b>£</b>
Home Care or Domiciliary Care	£33,526,930
Residential Placements	£22,130,885
Community Based Schemes	£11,324,290
DFG Relates Schemes	£10,005,365
Bed based intermediate Care Services	£8,405,265
Reablement in a persons own home	£7,984,081
High Impact Change Model for Managing Transfer of Care	£7,195,141
Integrated Care Planning and Navigation	£6,153,096
Assistive Technologies and Equipment	£6,137,094
Prevention / Early Intervention	£5,986,494
Other	£4,301,789
Care Act Implementation Related Duties	£2,425,974
Carers Services	£233,518
<b>Total</b>	<b>£125,809,923</b>

<b>ASC Discharge Grant Expenditure by Scheme</b>	<b>£</b>
Reablement in a Persons home	£1,757,349
Other	£1,649,100
Home Care or Domiciliary Care	£1,273,800
Residential Placements	£904,361
Bed Based Intermediate Care	£342,200
Assistive Technologies and Equipment	£170,000
Local Recruitment Initiatives	£105,000
Contingency	£103,260
Administration	£63,687
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,368,757</b>

<b>Total BCF Expenditure</b>	<b>£132,178,680</b>
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**Table 3: BCF Funding 2022/23 - additional £11.6 million**

<b>Expenditure by service</b>	<b>£</b>
Home First Reablement	£7,900,000
Additional Beds to support closures due to covid	£2,100,000
Care Home Beds to support Discharge to Assess	£1,600,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£11,600,000</b>

<b>NEW 2022/23 BCF TOTAL</b>	<b>£143,778,680</b>
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## Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) - Transfer of money to districts

17. As with previous years, in two-tier areas DFG funding is paid to the upper-tier authorities (county councils), while the statutory duty to provide adaptations to the homes of those eligible people who qualify, continues to sit with local housing authorities (district and borough councils).
18. In two-tier areas, decisions around the use of the DFG funding will need to be made with the direct involvement of both tiers working jointly to support integration ambitions. DFG funding allocated by Central Government must be passed down to the relevant housing authorities (in full, unless jointly agreed to do otherwise) to enable them to continue to meet their statutory duty to provide adaptations and in line with these plans.
19. Table 4 details Staffordshire's DFG allocated funding for 2022-23. The Council have passported these monies to the district/borough Councils as required by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for the Disability Facility Grant (DFG).

**Table 4: Staffordshire DFG allocated funding per district 2022-23**

District	Amount
Cannock Chase	£1,051,224
East Staffordshire	£1,160,392
Lichfield	£1,109,194
Newcastle-under-Lyme	£1,715,114
South Staffordshire	£1,126,662
Stafford	£1,522,033
Staffordshire Moorlands	£1,773,856
Tamworth	£546,890
Total	£10,005,367

20. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 districts now control DFGs within their locality, and the previous SILIS partnership has ended. The majority of referrals will now come through Staffordshire cares, who will continue to process the information and aim to meet any non DFG needs as well. We aim to improve the information we hold by requesting consent from citizens to share any relevant assessment recorded on the Councils Care Director system. Appropriate referrals will then be safely distributed to the appropriate district council enabling a more locality based focus on their population and demonstrate creativity based on this. The Council will be having quarterly DFG meetings and requesting core data to help us identify trends, discuss ideas and encourage peer support.

## Better Care Fund 2023/24

21. The 2023/24 BCF Policy Framework has not yet been published. The current working assumption is that all existing schemes will continue with relevant inflationary uplifts in order to maintain essential health and care services and that therefore most of the funding will follow on from previous years. SCC and the ICB will develop the 2023/24 Staffordshire BCF Plan and take into account any conditions specified in the 2023/24 BCF Policy Framework once this is published.
22. The Health and Well-being Board delegated final approval of the Staffordshire BCF Plans for 2023-24 to the Chairs, including the Cabinet Member for Health and Care. Plans will then be submitted to NHSE when required.
23. Provisional 2023/24 funding is shown in the table below. For 2023/24 the IBCF allocations remains the same as in 2022/23, and the DFG allocation provisionally remains the same until confirmed. NHS minimum allocations have been uplifted by around 5.6%. ASC Hospital Discharge Grant allocations have been confirmed.

**Table 5: Staffordshire BCF funding 2023-24**

<b>NHS recurrent contribution to adult social care</b>	
NHS RNF transfer to SCC for adult social care services	£22,334,301
NHS cash transfer to SCC for carers	£745,625
NHS cash transfer to SCC for costs of Care Act 2014	£2,451,237
<b>Total NHS transfer to SCC</b>	<b>£25,531,162</b>
NHS directly commissioned adult social care	£153,257
<b>Total NHS recurrent contribution to adult social care</b>	<b>£25,684,419</b>
NHS aligned revenue funding	£58,741,951
ICB ASC Hospital discharge grant allocation	£3,757,965
<b>TOTAL NHS FUNDING</b>	<b>£88,184,335</b>
iBCF	£32,709,077
DFG	£10,005,367
SCC ASC Hospital discharge Grant allocation	£4,585,762
<b>TOTAL SCC FUNDING</b>	<b>£47,300,206</b>
<b>TOTAL BCF FUNDING</b>	<b>£135,484,541</b>

## **Next Steps**

24. Cabinet are recommended to delegate authority to the Director of Health and Care to enter into a legal agreements under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 in order to implement the BCF Plans for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

## **Legal Implications**

25. The Council's Legal Services have assisted with the production of agreements to passport the DFG monies to the district/borough councils in accordance with Staffordshire's DFG allocated funding for 2022/23

26. The Council's Legal Services have assisted with drafting of the section 75 agreement for the 2022/23 BCF. This has been agreed and signed off by the ICB governance also. Cabinet delegated authority to the Director of Health and Care on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022, to enter into this legal agreement in order to formalise arrangements to implement the BCF Plan 2022/23.

27. Delegated authority to the Director of Health and Care to enter into legal agreements for 2023/24 and 2024/25 under Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 will enable the Council and the ICB to implement the respective BCF Plans for 2023/24 and 2024/25.

## **Resource and Value for Money Implications**

28. The BCF Funding for 2022/23 and indicative funding for 2023/24 is highlighted in the report. All contributions for 2022/23 are confirmed and are as stated in the table.

## **Climate Change Implications**

N/A

## **List of Background Documents/Appendices:**

N/A

## **Contact Details**

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## Cabinet - Wednesday 19 April 2023

### Decisions taken by Cabinet Members under Delegated Powers

#### Recommendation of the Leader of the Council

1. That the decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers, as detailed in paragraph 3 below, be noted.

#### Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services

#### Reasons for Recommendations

2. To inform Cabinet of recent decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers.

#### Background

3. Cabinet are requested to note the following decisions taken by Cabinet Members under delegated powers:

Cabinet Member	Decision
Cabinet Member Children and Young People	In approving the proposed expenditure, volumes and delivery arrangements for the Household Support Fund, Education Support Fund in Staffordshire.
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport	In approving a pilot of the use of non-prescribed "Kill Your Speed Not a Child" posters to help address local concerns for road safety in Tean and evaluate whether a future countywide policy would be beneficial.

#### List of Background Papers:

Cabinet Member Delegated Decisions No. 557 - 558

#### Contact Details

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**Forward Plan of Key Decisions  
Period: 17 May 2023 - 20 September 2023**

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](mailto: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 and Care – Julia Jessel  
 Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change – Simon Tagg  
 Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters – Mark Deaville  
 Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport – David Williams  
 Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources – Ian Parry  
 Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture – Victoria Wilson  
 Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Mark Sutton  
 Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) – Jonathan Price

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 <https://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**  
**Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Corporate Services**

**Forward Plan of Key Decisions**  
**Period: 17 May 2023 - 20 September 2023**

**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

Predicted Date of Decision	Public or Private Decision	Title and Description	Consultation	Contact Officer
17 May 2023	Public	<p><b>Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) Consultation Feedback, Policy Changes, Re-use and HWRC Network Improvements to Date (Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change (Simon Tagg))</b></p> <p>To agree to the Household Waste Recycling Centres policy changes following the outcome of the consultation, and to note progress on re-use and improvements made to the HWRC network since the service was brought in-house.</p>	N/A	<p>Clive Thomson (Tel: 01785 276522) <b>Service Area:</b> Household Waste Recycling Centres</p>
21 June 2023	Public	<p><b>Integrated Performance - Outturn Report 2022/23 (Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources (Ian Parry), Leader of the Council (Alan White))</b></p> <p>This final Integrated Performance Report for 2022/23 provides an overview of Staffordshire County Council's progress and performance in delivering against our Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan, and our financial outturn in relation to our Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>	N/A	<p>Rachel Spain, Wendy Tompson (Tel: 01785 854455, Tel: 01785 854267) <b>Service Area:</b> Finance</p>



21 June 2023	Public	<p><b>Joint Coroners Service - Legal Framework and Financial Protocol (Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture (Victoria Wilson))</b></p> <p>It is proposed that Staffordshire County Council and Stoke on Trent City Council's Coronial areas are merged to form a single jurisdiction. The Legal Framework and Financial protocol for the merged area will be tabled for approval.</p>	There will have been a consultation organised by the Ministry of Justice.	Catherine Mann (Tel: 01785 278320) <b>Service Area:</b> Regulatory Services and Community Safety
21 June 2023	Public	<p><b>Maintenance and Minor Works Framework (Cabinet Member for Commercial Matters (Mark Deaville))</b></p> <p>Framework Agreement for the Provision of Maintenance and Minor Works consisting of a Building, Electrical and Mechanical Lot</p>	None at this stage	Ian Turner (Tel: 01785 277228) <b>Service Area:</b> Strategic Property
21 June 2023	Public	<p><b>Volunteering for Staffordshire County Council (Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture (Victoria Wilson))</b></p> <p>Volunteers play a vital role in empowering our communities, adding real value to the work of the council and helping to improve our offer for residents across the county. We want to make sure people who volunteer for the council have a positive and consistent experience. With this in mind, Cabinet will be asked to consider and approve a new set of 'volunteering principles'. These principles will be applied across the organisation to support our volunteers and help reinforce their importance to us and our communities. Alongside the new principles, a set of practical guidance and support documents have also been produced for staff responsible for managing and supporting our volunteers.</p>	Current SCC Volunteers	Catherine Mann (Tel: 01785 278320) <b>Service Area:</b> Strategy & Transformation

21 June 2023	Public	<p><b>Community Learning Ofsted Inspection and Accountability Agreement 2023-2024 (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Skills (Philip White))</b></p> <p>The report highlights the recent Ofsted inspection and the contribution to Staffordshire priorities and seeks approval of the Accountability Agreement for the next academic year.</p>	None.	<p>Anthony Baines (Tel: 01785 895984) <b>Service Area:</b> Skills and Employability</p>
19 July 2023	Public	<p><b>'Living My Best Life' - A Strategy for Disabled and Neurodivergent People in Staffordshire 2023-2028 (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People (Mark Sutton), Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND) (Jonathan Price), Cabinet Member for Health and Care (Julia Jessel))</b></p> <p>Staffordshire County Council and the Integrated Care Board have jointly developed a five year (2023-2028) 'Living My Best Life - A Strategy for Disabled, Autistic and other Neurodivergent People in Staffordshire' strategy which will replace the existing Staffordshire Whole Life Disability Strategy (2018-2023). The new strategy is being submitted for final consideration and approval.</p>	<p>Integrated Care Board, general public, carers, health and social care professionals, health and social care organisations, special interest groups (representing disabled and neurodivergent people), Healthwatch, local businesses (private, public and voluntary sector), disability partnership board and Cllrs Julia Jessel, Mark Sutton and Jonathan Price.</p>	<p>Andrew Jepps (Tel: 01785 278557) <b>Service Area:</b> Health and Care</p>

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of the Local Government Act 1972

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