

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING

held at:

Council Chamber, The Symington Building, Adam and Eve Street,
Market Harborough, LE16 7AG

10 July 2023

commencing at 6.30pm

Present:

Councillors: Beadle, Galton, Graves, Knight, Knowles (Chair), Woodiwiss

Officers: K. Aitken – Business Planning Officer, C. Bland – Head of Financial Services, L. Elliott – Interim Chief Executive, C. Elsasser – Interim Democratic Services Officer, V. Jessop – Interim Director of Communities & Wellbeing, E. Newman – Democratic Services Officer, C. Pattinson – Interim Director of Law and Governance.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Whitmore.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on the 3rd April 2023 be approved as a correct and accurate record.

4. PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY REVIEW REPORT

The Portfolio Holder for Planning introduced the report which presented the outcomes of the Playing Pitch Strategy review.

It was explained that the Playing Pitch Strategy review had been produced in consultation with National Governing Bodies for sports, Sport England, Sports Clubs, Sports Facility Providers and officers of the Council. The Playing Pitch Strategy Review made recommendations for: Football, Cricket, Rugby Union, Hockey, Tennis, Bowls, Outdoor Netball and Rounders.

The overall purpose of the Playing Pitch Strategy review was to update both the evidence base and the strategic direction for the provision of outdoor sporting facilities in Harborough District. The revised Strategy provided a recommendation and action plan to satisfy Sport England requirements and informed future investment in outdoor sport and recreation.

RESOLVED that Cabinet support the adoption of the Playing Pitch Strategy Review and Action Plan.

Reasons for Recommendation

The Review of the Playing Pitch Strategy 2022 updated the adopted Playing Pitch Strategy 2018 and supported the following Corporate Objectives of Harborough District Council:

- Community leadership to create a sense of pride in our place;
- Promoting health and wellbeing and encouraging healthy life choices;
- Creating a sustainable environment to protect future generations;
- Supporting businesses and residents to deliver a prosperous local economy.

As part of the vision the Corporate Plan seeks to 'shape our district to be an outstanding destination for both business and leisure'. Key Activity KA.01.04 seeks an outcome that 'Residents would be able to access local community facilities for sport, physical and community activity to complement the district's leisure centres'.

Critical Outcome CO8 seeks to achieve that: 'Activity will be increased, through the use of active travel routes and the provision of a varied leisure offer throughout the district'.

The updated Strategy would ensure that investment in outdoor sports meets the priorities and demands of each sport and allows clubs to secure external funding where appropriate.

Alternative Options Considered

To not adopt the Strategy was considered inappropriate. This option would mean that there is an uncoordinated approach to sport provision in Harborough District. It would mean that Clubs may be less successful in achieving external funding for sport in the District as Sport England and the Sporting National Governing Bodies would not have sufficient confidence to be certain that grants are being allocated to the right location, the correct facility and sport. In the light of this, far fewer grants would be offered to sporting providers across the District.

5. PERFORMANCE REPORT, QUARTER 4 2022-2023 SCRUTINY

The Portfolio Holder for Strategy introduced the report that covered performance monitoring of the corporate plan for quarter 4 (Jan – March 23).

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Performance Panel consider and comment on the contents of this report.

Reasons for recommendation

The Council's Performance Management Framework required that both Scrutiny and the Cabinet have a role in monitoring the performance of the Council against its Corporate Delivery Plan.

Alternative Options Considered

Not applicable.

6. 2022/23 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – OUTTURN QUARTER 4 (Year ending 31 March 2023)

The Portfolio Holder for Finance introduced the report which set out the financial position (outturn) for the year ending 31 March 2023 for revenue and capital. Revenue was underspent by £4k, a variance of 0.03% to the approved budget. Capital was overspent by £59k.

RESOLVED:

1. Cabinet considered the financial performance report and comments on the Outturn (31st March 2023) as detailed within the report and associated appendices.
2. The Cabinet approves the Revenue Carry Forwards detailed in Appendix 5 totalling £220k into 2023/24.
3. The Cabinet approves the Capital Carry Forwards (slippage) detailed in Appendix 6 totalling £7.184m into 2023/24.

Reasons for Recommendation

Good financial governance required the Cabinet to consider and comment on the financial outturn for 2022/23. Such commentary demonstrated to customers, partners, and stakeholders that the Council were actively considering the financial environment within which the Council were operating.

Alternatives Considered

Not Applicable.

7. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS OF SPECIAL URGENCY (to be decided by the Leader)

There were no matters of special urgency.

The meeting ended at 19:01