

Cabinet

Tuesday, 2nd February, 2021 at 3.30 pm in the Remote Meeting on Zoom and available for the public to view on WestNorfolkBC on You Tube - Zoom and You Tube

Reports marked to follow on the Agenda and/or Supplementary Documents

- MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET FROM OTHER BODIES (Pages 2 3)
 - Recommendations from the Joint Panel Meeting held on 26 January 2021 Budget and Capital Programme
 - Recommendations from the Environment and Community Panel Meeting held on 26 January 2021 – Garden Waste Procurement

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RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET 2 FEBRUARY 2021 FROM THE JOINT PANEL MEETING HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2021

BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Click here to view the recording of this item on You Tube.

Members received a presentation on the Budget and Capital Programme from the Assistant Director (Section 151 Officer). A copy of the presentation is attached.

It was noted that the Budget and Capital Programme would be presented to Cabinet at its meeting on 2nd February 2021.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director for her presentation, and invited questions and comments from those present at the meeting.

Officers responded to questions about Alive West Norfolk, and explained the financial support available to them.

Officers and the Leader of the Council responded to questions relating to the Internal Drainage Boards explaining how drainage boards were funded, outlined the contributions made to them and how the contributions were displayed on council tax bills. Members were reminded that there were Borough Council representatives on Internal Drainage Board.

In response to a question it was confirmed that there were currently no plans for redundancies in the financial plan.

In response to a question on whether there was a rule of thumb percentage increase in costs which would need to be met as a result of increases in the council tax base the Chief Executive explained that the budget included increases in costs within specific service areas. In addition other income would be generated, for example brown bins and other fees and charges, however there was no rule of thumb on this. Additional contributions towards infrastructure from developers including Section 106 and CIL was also highlighted.

It was also clarified that the Police were limited to a ten pound increase, County Council were limited to 2% with an additional increase of 3% for health and social care over a two year period. There was no limit on Parish Precept increases.

A question was also asked about the Future High Street Fund and it was explained that if this had been successful it would have been included in the financial plan along with any match funding included.

The Leader of the Council also highlighted the role of Policy Review and Development Panels in looking at efficiencies and the councils finances.

The Section 151 Officer and Chief Executive agreed to clarify the processes and lead in time required for a Referendum.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet note the comments from the Panel.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET 2 FEBRUARY 2021 FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY PANEL MEETING ON 26 JANUARY 2021

EC160: OPEN SESSION GARDEN WASTE COMPOSTING PROCUREMENT

Click here to view the You Tube recording of this item.

The Waste and Recycling Manager presented the report, which detailed the procurement exercise completed for a new garden waste processing service to commence at the end of March 2021.

The Chair thanked the Waste and Recycling Manager for his presentation and invited questions and comments from the Panel, as summarised below.

The Waste and Recycling Manager responded to questions relating to the tender exercise and outlined the restrictions on bins including access to households who had bagged collections or lived in rural areas. He explained that there was no cap on the amount of bins available, and there was a huge increase in take up during the first lockdown period.

He also explained the processing process and the role of Serco.

The Panel agreed to move to exempt session to discuss the exempt elements of the report.

EC163: EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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RESOLVED: That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 A to the Act.

EC164: EXEMPT - GARDEN WASTE COMPOSTING PROCUREMENT

The Panel discussed the confidential elements of the report.

The Portfolio Holder for Environmental Services and Public Protection addressed the Panel.

The Waste and Recycling Manager responded to questions relating to the composting process, costs and contractor

RESOLVED: That the Environment and Community Panel supports the Cabinet Recommendation as set out below:

That the Council enters into a contract with the preferred bidder identified in Confidential Appendix 1 for the provision of composting.