

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Tuesday, 14th February, 2017 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Tuesday, 21st February, 2017

With the exception of Decisions 1 to 5 which are subject to Full Council approval on the 2nd March, 2017 the end of the call in period is 5.00 p.m. on Thursday 2nd March, 2017 and therefore, the decisions can be implemented on Friday 3rd March, 2017.

Present:

Chair - Mayor Ros Jones (Mayor of Doncaster with responsibility for Budget and Policy Framework)

Vice-Chair - Councillor Glyn Jones (Deputy Mayor and Portfolio holder for Adult Social Care and Equalities)

Cabinet Member for:

Councillor Joe Blackham	Portfolio holder for Regeneration and Transportation
Councillor Nuala Fennelly	Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools
Councillor Pat Knight	Portfolio holder for Public Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Chris McGuinness	Portfolio holder for Communities, the Voluntary Sector and Environment
Councillor Bill Mordue	Portfolio holder for Business, Skills, Tourism and Culture
Councillor Jane Nightingale	Portfolio holder for Housing

Apologies:-

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Tony Corden.

PUBLIC MEETING – SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS

Public Questions and Statements

Councillor Nick Allen asked the Mayor Ros Jones the following question:-

'Do you think your budget demonstrates value for money? How much of the report was officer led and does the budget reflect your manifesto commitments or the policies of national government?'

In the absence of Councillor Nick Allen, the Mayor said she would provide a written response to his question. The written response sent is:-

“These budget proposals continue to deliver my priority of ensuring the Council is able to provide efficient and effective public services, whilst investing in the future of the borough and its residents, despite the harsh austerity measures imposed on Doncaster by central Government.

The punitive Government cuts will not lower my ambitions for our borough and its people. I have made clear my priorities, to help drive forward our economy, increase job creation, raise education standards, build more homes and support residents and communities across Doncaster. In developing the budget we set a remit to protect, and indeed improve, vital front line services, particularly those which support vulnerable people. To do this, we are living within our means, modernising services and striving to deliver value for money in all of our work. I am proud of the effectiveness we have already achieved, improving services through initiatives like our Smart light programme, whilst making savings that minimise the impact of the Government cuts on our residents.

That said, I am extremely disappointed at the Government’s complete failure to deal with the national funding problems facing adult social care and the health service. Their answer, which is to underfund vital services and yet increase the financial burden on local taxpayers, is frankly outrageous. It places strain on to those who can least afford it, through a regressive tax system that benefits wealthy areas over places like Doncaster and South Yorkshire.

The budget has been developed collaboratively to deliver my priorities and those agreed by the Council and I am grateful for members of Overview and Scrutiny for their input and support for the proposals. I have received no feedback from any other political groups on the Council, which I would have been willing to consider. Given that I published the draft proposals in November to allow for input from all Councillors and it is now mid-February, I assume that there will be no late political games from the opposition and that the budget will be supported unanimously in the Council Chamber in two weeks time.

We are seeing the highest levels of employment for more than 10 years, record house building, improved school standards and a transformation of Council services. All have been positively influenced by our work and these proposals build on the solid foundations that we have put in place over the last three years.

We are sticking to that plan and it is paying dividends for Doncaster”.

Decision records dated 31st January, 2017, were noted.

DECISION 5.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE
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10. Corporate Plan 2017-18.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

- (1) noted and agreed changes to the outcomes and objectives in the Corporate Plan; and
- (2) recommended the updated Corporate Plan for submission to Full Council on the 2nd March, 2017

3. REASON FOR DECISION

It was reported that the Council's current Corporate Plan was due to expire at the end of 2016/17 and at Full Council on 15th September, 2016, it was agreed that the Plan would be updated as part of the Council's annual 'Define and Deliver' cycle. The updated Corporate Plan for 2017/18 was attached at Annex 1 to the report which provided clear direction for the work of the Council for the next year. Members were advised that in doing so, it would bring together the plans and delivery programmes that were already shaping how the Council works, for example the One Doncaster Action Plan, Doncaster Urban Centre Masterplan, Early Help Strategy and the Place Plan.

It was advised that the updated Corporate Plan included four outcomes which are supported by 20 objectives. It shifts the balance from monitoring indicators and service measures to driving delivery, underpinned by a focus on achieving inclusive growth, which means local people are able to benefit from the employment opportunities being created. It was noted that the Corporate performance monitoring in quarter 1 2017/18 will reflect this updated outcomes framework and further detailed work will be undertaken to define delivery programmes and the accompanying service measures.

The Mayor and Cabinet welcomed the report stating that the executive summary was concise highlighting a clear direction of travel and bringing together a number of plans. Significant progress had been made with regard to service delivery which in turn had generated savings and the report had greater focus on what matters most to the citizens of the borough.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

There were no other options considered.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Simon Wiles, Director of Finance & Corporate Services.