

Decision Notice (date 11 July 2024)

Published 18 July 2024

This document lists the decisions taken by Cabinet at a meeting held on Thursday, 11 July 2024. The list covers key and non-key decisions. A decision may be implemented with immediate effect, unless it is eligible for call-in as identified below, whereupon a decision will not be implemented until five working days have elapsed.

Agenda Item No	Decision	Reasons for Decision	Any Options Rejected?	Declared Conflict of Interest	Eligible for call in?
<p>A11</p>	<p><u>Outturn 2023/24</u></p> <p>Key decision? No</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet:</p> <p>A Endorses the outturn position for 2023/24 of £244,000 surplus, as set out within the report in respect for General Fund year ending 31 March 2024</p> <p>B Endorses the outturn position for 2023/24 of £1,023,000 deficit as set out within the report in respect for Housing Revenue Account year ending 31 March 2024.</p>	<p>A The Council is obliged under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make proper arrangements for the management of its financial affairs.</p> <p>B The report compares the actual outturn with the current budget as at 31 March 2024, across the General fund account, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Programmes and provides explanations for the variances in the attached appendices.</p>	<p>The council must report its annual year end position, so there are no other options to consider.</p> <p>The cabinet could choose not to approve the general fund carry overs, or reprofile the capital programme, but this would make less</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No</p>

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	<p>C Endorses the Non Housing Capital Programme (NHCP) outturn for 2023/24 is £26.071million and the Housing Capital Programme (HCP) outturn for 2023/24 is £64.633 million as set out in the report.</p> <p>D Endorses the Earmarked Reserves summary in Appendix E and Delegated authority is given to Deputy section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance to agree the final reserve position upon completion of the Statement of Accounts 2023/24.</p> <p>E Approves £144,000 from the general fund surplus to be contributed to a transformation earmarked reserve for identified projects within the</p>	<p>C To seek approval for the recommendations set out in the report in relation to earmarked reserve summary and the carrying forward of resources to ensure that the services those resources were intended to deliver are available for that purpose in 2024/25.</p>	<p>monies available for projects within 2024/25.</p> <p>The cabinet can choose not to contribute to a climate change reserve or transformation reserve, but this would make less monies available to resource this activity.</p>		

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	<p>transformation programme.</p> <p>F Approves £100,000 from the general fund surplus to be contributed to a climate change earmarked reserve to support the delivery of the climate change action plan.</p> <p>G Approves the Period 12 reprofiling into 2024/25 within the Non-Housing and Housing Capital Programmes included within Appendices C and D.</p> <p>H Approves the carry forward of resources from 2023/24 to 2024/25 as set out in Appendix F.</p>				
A12	<p><u>Performance, Finance and Risk - May</u></p> <p>Key decision? No</p> <p>RESOLVED that Cabinet notes:</p>	<p>A To ensure the council reviews performance against its budget position for General Fund, Housing Revenue Fund and Capital programmes.</p>	<p>No other options were considered, the noting of performance, finance and risk supports</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No</p>

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	<p>A The performance of key performance indicators for May and quarter one of performance for annual delivery plan.</p> <p>B The Finance position as at May (period 2) of 2024/25 financial year.</p> <p>C The current strategic risks for the council's operations.</p>	<p>B To ensure the council understands the strategic risks that affect the organisation, and control measures in place to mitigate these.</p>	<p>the Cabinet's role to review the use and allocation of assets and resources as contained within its terms of reference.</p>		
<p>A13</p>	<p><u>Local Government Productivity Plan</u></p> <p>Key decision? No</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A Cabinet notes the Productivity Plan to be submitted to Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities, at Appendix A of this report, and approves it for publication on the council's website.</p>	<p>A The Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC) requested submission and publication of Productivity Plans from all local authorities as part of the final Local Government Finance Settlement for 2024-25.</p>	<p>The council could not publish or submit a productivity plan. This is not recommended as the plan will play an important part in sharing what is working well across local government as well as identifying and</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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			addressing barriers to increasing productivity. The council's corporate mission to deliver high-performing council services will be helped through the publication and monitoring of the productivity plan.		
A14	<p><u>Housing Assistance Policy</u></p> <p>Key decision? No</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>A Cabinet approves the revised Housing Assistance Policy attached as Appendix A to the report.</p> <p>B Subject to recommendation A, delegates authority to the appropriate Assistant Director</p>	<p>A Adopting the proposed policy will give the Council authority to provide greater flexibility to help with home adaptations that is not currently available through statutory Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) and existing policy.</p>	Do not adopt the policy. This would prevent the council from delivering some of the higher cost adaptations and therefore could disadvantage some of our most vulnerable disabled residents. It	None	Yes

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	<p>– Planning and Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Public Protection to minor and inconsequential amendments to the policy and to approve for giving it effect as may be necessary from time to time.</p>		<p>would also restrict the council's ability to accelerate and increase the delivery of grants.</p>		
<p>A15</p>	<p><u>Disposal of 4 Mill House</u></p> <p>Key decision? Yes</p> <p>RESOLVED that Harlow Council sell Flat 4 Mill House, 206 Old Road, Old Harlow.</p>	<p>A In line with current Regulations, the Council has a policy that encourages the disposal/reallocation of properties that are no longer fit for purpose and/or require extensive investment. This policy is especially potent where investment would not deliver a suitable social or economic return.</p> <p>B The age of the property, condition, limitations (specifically its location within a conservation area) and suitability, lend this property for sale given the scale of, and low level of</p>	<p>Do nothing – with the property remaining empty and not generating any income.</p> <p>Invest in the property – bringing property up to minimum letting standards and meeting associated environmental, health and safety requirements.</p> <p>Sell the property</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Yes</p>

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		return on required investment.	and reinvest receipt into Housing Programme – preferred option. NB. Demolishing the property, as it is a flat within a block, is not a viable option.		
A16	<u>Debt Write Offs</u> Key decision? Yes RESOLVED that irrecoverable Non Domestic Rates amounting to £158,473.81 be written off.	A The Cabinet’s approval is required to write off irrecoverable debts over £20,000.	There are no other options other than to write off these debts as all other options for recovery have been exhausted.	None	Yes
A17a	<u>Referral from Licensing Committee - Review of Hackney Carriage Tariffs</u> Key decision? No RESOLVED that:	A Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 gives local authorities power to determine maximum rates and fares charged by Hackney Carriages.	None	None	Yes

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	<p>A The Hackney Carriage Tariff Schedule, as attached in Appendix A to the report, be adopted.</p> <p>B The Assistant Director Planning and Environment be authorised to take the necessary steps as stated in the original report to implement the tariff changes with effect from 5 August 2024.</p>	<p>B Representatives of the Hackney Carriage trade recognised by the Council for consultation purposes have proposed increases to the Hackney Carriage Tariffs.</p> <p>C Officers collated an Equality Impact Assessment, benchmarking information and figure from previous tariffs.</p>			