

## Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday, 7 August 2023



**Notice dated: 08/08/23**

Issued to all councillors and senior officers.

Please refer to the relevant cabinet agenda and reports when reading this notice. The minutes of the meeting of the cabinet will be published in due course. To view the cabinet reports please click [here](#).

These decisions will come into force on the expiry of three working days after the publication of this decision notice unless implemented sooner for reasons of urgency.

### **DECISIONS:**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Matter</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Reason(s) for Decision</b>
5	Finance Peer Review	<p><b>That:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Cabinet thanks the Local Government Association Peers for their time and input to assisting the Council to address its financial challenges and the impact of the local housing crisis which is impacting on the budget so significantly.</b></li><li><b>2. That Cabinet note the actions taken since the Peer review in March.</b></li><li><b>3. That Cabinet agree the council's response and the future actions set out in the table in appendix A.</b></li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Budget Council report in February 2023 set out the issues impacting on the Council's financial stability. Most notably these are as a result of the massive increase in costs of providing temporary accommodation for those homeless people to whom we owe a legal duty.</li><li>2. The Budget report also set out the council's strategy to tackling the budget deficit, address the housing budget spend and identified that if these plans are achieved, the council would be in a</li></ol>

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			<p>position of financial stability by 2025/26.</p> <p>3. In order to provide the council with confidence in its plans, the Local Government Association was invited to visit in March 2023 and undertake a Finance Peer Challenge. The Peer Team’s final report and recommendations have been received and are presented together with the council’s response. Details are included in the table in appendix A of the progress made to date in addressing the council’s financial challenges, implementing the LGA recommendations as well as further planned actions.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p>Treasury Management Update - 2023/24 Quarter 1</p>	<p><b>Cabinet recommends the following to Full Council:</b></p> <p><b>1. Note the report, the treasury activity and recommend approval of any changes to the prudential indicators.</b></p>	<p>To ensure that Members are fully aware of the activities undertaken in the last quarter, that Codes of Practice have been complied with and that the Council's strategy is effective and doesn't currently need revising.</p> <p>Under the Code adopted the Full Council are required to consider the report and any recommendations made. There will</p>

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			<p>be a further report forthcoming on Treasury Management for 2023/24 including the Mid-year Review, Quarter 3 Treasury Management Update Report and Outturn Report.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>Land and Property Disposal Programme</p>	<p><b>1. Add Land at rear of 419 to 447 Bexhill Road, Mayfield E, 12/13 York Buildings and land at Upper Wilting Farm, to the Council’s Land and Property Disposal Programme.</b></p> <p><b>2. Approve the disposal of the sites in accordance with section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 Local Government Act 1972 (legislation.gov.uk).</b></p> <p><b>3. Delegate authority to the Property &amp; Commercial Assets Manager in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Finance Portfolio Holder to take all actions to dispose of the sites and agree the terms of the sales.</b></p>	<p>1. Ahead of the wider Council strategic asset review we have conducted an initial review of the Council’s assets and identified these sites can be brought forward for immediate sale for the reasons outlined in the report.</p> <p>2. The sales will generate capital receipts currently estimated to be worth in the region of £3m. These capital receipts would then be reinvested into funding the capital programme and reduce external borrowing. This would therefore reduce our borrowing costs such as MRP (Minimum revenue Provision) as well as costly interest charges which are continuing to rise with interest rates.</p> <p>3. This would have a beneficial impact on our revenue position and take some of the pressure off the Council services and general reserve balance which is</p>

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			continuing to be used to fund the revenue budgets for areas such as Homelessness.
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