

BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET ON 17 JANUARY 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2023

DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: THURSDAY, 26 JANUARY 2023

NOTES:

A COPY OF THE CABINET AGENDA HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. IF YOU REQUIRE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY ISSUE PLEASE CONTACT, IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR OFFICER NAMED IN THE RIGHT HAND COLUMN.

MEETING OF THE CABINET

17 January 2023

Present:

Councillor Paul Skinner, in the Chair

Councillors Tracey Abbott, Richard Austin BEM, Martin Griggs, Jonathan Noble and Nigel Welton

Officers –

Assistant Director - Regulation, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Assistant Director - Finance (Deputy S151 Officer) and Section 151 Officer

24 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held 7th December 2022 was agreed and signed by the Chairman.

25 APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor Deborah Evans

26 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

27 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None

28 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (STANDING ITEM)*

None

29 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BOSTON TOWN AREA COMMITTEE (BTAC) (STANDING ITEM)

None

30 BUDGET OVERVIEW 2023/24 (INCLUDING BUDGET CONSULTATION) TO DELEGATE APPROVAL TO RELEASE THE BUDGET REPORT FOR CONSULTATION

The Finance Portfolio Holder presented a report which set out the areas of pressure that would need to be considered as part of the year's budget setting process, the details of the Council's Provisional Funding Settlement and gave delegated authority to the Portfolio Holder for Finance to approve commencement of the Councils Budget Consultation. The report also included the proposed level of Council Tax for 2023/24.

The year's budget was being set within a background of unprecedented inflationary pressures and significant changes in resident, customer and business needs. Despite the challenges the Councils financial position means that it is well placed and able to take a considered approach to mitigating those exceptional challenges. In addition the Council had been and continues to be successful in drawing in significant capital and revenue investment for the area. Due to the complex financial environment the budget consultation document was still being finalised and delegated authority is sought for the Portfolio Holder for Finance to approve its release for consultation.

In response to questions Deputy Chief Executive (Corporate Development) & S151 confirmed that an appeal against the Internal Drainage Board settlement has been filed.

The Portfolio holder for Finance informed the Committee that changes to the Car Parking machines, to include a card payment option and price increases to the crematorium in line with completion was being looked into to increase revenue.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet delegates approval of the commencement of the budget consultation to the Portfolio Holder for Finance in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive – s151 officer.

31 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNCIL'S CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURE RULES

The Finance Portfolio Holder presented a report which contained a revised draft set of Contract Procedure Rules with appropriate delegations that provide additional clarity around the procedures to be followed and reflect the Council's management structure. The report also included a recommended change to the Financial Procedure Rules which will allow alignment with the new finance system used across all 3 councils when authorising payments.

The Audit & Governance Committee previously considered the proposed amendments to the Contract Procedure Rules and Financial Procedure Rules at its meeting on 5th December 2022 with a view to making a recommendation to the Council for its consideration.

Whilst agreement of these constitutional changes was a Council function, decisions relating to the award of contracts are Cabinet decisions. Accordingly, the Cabinet was asked to consider and approve the Delegations to Officers that set out the authorisation for decision making in relation to the proposed Contract Procedure Rules.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet;

- 1. Notes the draft revised Contract Procedure Rules at Appendix 1 to this report**
- 2. Notes the revised financial procedure rules for Banking arrangement and cheques as detailed in Paragraph 1.12 of the report**

Approves the Delegations to Officers that sets out the authorisation for decision making in relation to Contract Procedure Rules at Appendix 2 to this report. This approval will be subject to a Council decision to amend the Council Procedure Rules.

32 REVOCATION OF BARGATE BRIDGE AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

Boston Borough Council declared an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in the Bargate Bridge Area in 2005 following modelling and monitoring demonstrated non-compliance with the statutory national air quality standard for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂). An Air Quality Action plan (AQAP) was developed to try and improve air quality within this area, our other AQMA at Haven Bridge and more generally across the town. Air Quality in the Bargate Bridge area has shown improvement for a number of years and NO₂ levels have reduced and now show consistent compliance with the national air quality standard. As a result and in line with the Environment Act 1995 and associated policy and technical guidance the AQMA should now be revoked.

Following questions the Principal Environment Health Officer confirmed that all areas would continue to be monitored.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet agree by Order under the Environment Act 1995 Part IV to the revocation of the Bargate Bridge Air Quality Management area following consistent compliance with the national statutory nitrogen dioxide air quality object. With the addition that yearly monitoring be brought to Cabinet.

The Meeting ended at 7.45 pm

Signed by the Chief Executive



THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2023

These decisions will come into force (and may then be implemented) on the expiry of five clear working days after the date of this notice UNLESS the decisions are subjected to the Call-In procedure or are starred minutes requiring Full Council approval.