



Report of the Leader on Decisions taken by Executive Members and the Joint Strategic Committee since the last meeting of Council

A Decisions Taken by Individual Executive Members

Listed below is a summary of decisions taken by the individual Executive Members since the despatch of the agenda for the last ordinary Council Meeting. Full details can be found on the [Executive Members Decisions webpage](#) .

Leader

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Executive Member for Regeneration

Executive Member for Resources

RES/008/19-20 Irrecoverable Debts - Overpaid Housing Benefit

JAW/035/19-20 Redundancies

Executive Member for Customer Services

Executive Member for the Environment

JAW/033/19-20 Field Place Tennis Court Reconstruction Tender Award

(The Adur Executive Member for the Environment agreed to abstain from the above decision as a Worthing matter)

JAW/001/20-21 **Contract for Services - Buckingham Road MSCP**

(The Adur Executive Member for the Environment agreed to abstain from the above decision as a Worthing matter)

Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing

JAW/034/19-20 Going Local - a prescription of a different kind

JAW/036/19-20 2020/21 Adur Community Grants

B. Decisions Taken by the Joint Strategic Committee on 9 June 2020

JSC/005/20-21 Chief Executive's use of Urgency Powers during the Covid-19 Global Pandemic

Before the Committee was a report by the Chief Executive, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 5.

Due to the pandemic situation it had been necessary for the Council's to be able to respond very quickly during the emergency and this had necessitated, on some occasions, needing to make decisions as a matter of urgency.

The Chief Executive had therefore been called upon to use his powers to make urgent decisions and the report advised Members of the Executive of the executive decisions made, and asked for their endorsement of those decisions.

The Committee wished to place on record its thanks to Adur and Worthing Councils Officers for all of their work in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Daniel Humphreys, seconded by Councillor Neil Parkin and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee

1. noted the content of the report and endorsed the decisions made by the Chief Executive; and
2. referred the decision to increase the Treasury Management limits onto Council for noting and endorsement.

JSC/006/20-21 Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan - establishing the network of the future through consultation

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for the Economy, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 6.

The report sought approval to adopt the final version of the Adur & Worthing Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP): a high level, strategic network plan for safe and accessible future cycling and walking infrastructure provision.

The report outlined recently published government guidance for walking and cycling provision relating to the COVID-19 pandemic; and sought member approval for urgent work with West Sussex County Council on local improvements in line with the Adur & Worthing LCWIP.

It was noted that a Draft version of the LCWIP had been presented to the Joint Strategic Committee on 7th November 2019, where Members approved the draft version being taken through Public Consultation between November 2019 and January 2020.

The report outlined the outcomes of the public consultation, in particular, the overwhelming support for improved cycling and walking infrastructure provision (see section 4). It sought approval for amendments made to the Plan as a result of the consultation responses.

The Committee noted that the Plan had been produced with the consistent support and input from the Adur & Worthing Cycling & Walking Group; and oversight and support from West Sussex County Council.

A Member sought clarification regarding the timeline for delivery of the cycle route between George V to Sea Lane 'the Goring Cycleway'. Officers agreed to provide a written response to the question.

During discussion on this item, Members considered a number of issues including:-

- Incentive schemes for getting people out of cars and onto bikes;
- The maintenance of cycling infrastructure;
- WSCC's ability to deliver on a number of ambitious schemes;
- The security of bike stores.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Daniel Humphreys, seconded by Councillor Neil Parkin and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee

(a) In relation to the Adur & Worthing LCWIP:

- (i) noted the outcomes of the Public Consultation;
- (ii) approved the amendments made to the cycling network routes and walking zones listed at paragraph 4.7 (Worthing) and 4.8 (Adur) in response to the consultation; and
- (iii) approved the formal adoption of the Final LCWIP and the utilisation of the document to support funding or investment opportunities on the network; and
- (iv) delegated authority to the Director for the Economy in consultation with the relevant Executive Member to make minor design amendments to the Plan prior to publication.

In relation to the COVID-19 guidance from government for interventions on the traffic network and in public spaces to allow for social distancing and active travel:

- (v) delegated authority to the Director for the Economy, in consultation with the Leaders of Adur District and Worthing Borough Councils to:
- Work with, agree proposals and submit representations to West Sussex County Council for the implementation of emergency interventions on the road networks to include emergency traffic regulation and road closure orders.
 - Develop proposals for 'safer public spaces', working with West Sussex County Council where their involvement is required; and also
 - Allocate finance secured through the Business Rate Pool for these interventions in anticipation of the distribution of the £250m government finance allocated for these emergency measures.

JSC/007/20-21 Collaboration with West Sussex County Council on Procurement of a Countywide Electric Vehicle Charging Points Network

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 7.

Ruth O'Brien, West Sussex County Council Sustainability Team, was in attendance at the meeting during the consideration of this item.

In December 2019, West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) adopted their Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy setting out an ambitious vision for EV take up across the county.

The Strategy set out the intention to procure a supplier to deliver, on a concessionary basis, one consistent, affordable, easy to use, reliable, widely accessible and recognisable charging network across the county. The aim was to provide renewable energy charging primarily for those residents who did not have access to off road parking and would be unable to switch to EV without public charging.

Adur & Worthing Councils, along with the other Districts and Boroughs across West Sussex, had been invited to collaborate with WSSCC on this scheme to develop an extensive county-wide network, by nominating and providing potential sites in council ownership to be part of the EV charging network.

The WSSCC EV network solution would improve and expand significantly the provision of electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the Borough and District to

meet existing and future demand and encourage the shift away from petrol and diesel vehicles.

Subject to Member approval, Adur & Worthing Councils (A&WCs) participation in the procurement of an EV network would assist in meeting council commitments to reduce transport carbon emissions, increase EV charging infrastructure and improve air quality, reducing the resources required to achieve these ends.

A Member questioned whether charging points in residential areas would be included in the network. Officers advised that WSCC would explore opportunities for street locations when designing the network plan.

The Committee highlighted the need for competitive charging rates and sought clarification regarding the number of partners in the network.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Daniel Humphreys, seconded by Councillor Neil Parkin and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee:-

- (i) noted the work undertaken by Officers with WSCC to date, in developing a potential site list in the Adur and Worthing areas for the installation of EV points, and authorises the Councils to enter into an Inter-Authority Agreement with West Sussex County Council to install electric vehicle charging points across the county of West Sussex, on Council owned property; and
- (ii) delegated authority to the Director for Digital and Resources in consultation with the Leaders, to commit Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council to a joint procurement for a concessionaire to deliver a rapid and cash payment free roll out of an extensive EV charging network across Worthing Borough and Adur District and to enter into a contractual arrangement with the preferred concessionaire as a result of the WSCC procurement process and;
- (iii) delegated authority to the Director for Digital and Resources in consultation with the Leaders, to enter into a contract and required leases with the successful concessionaire to enable delivery of the charging points and to commit such non cash resources by the Councils as shall reasonably be required by WSCC from time to time under the Inter Authority Agreement.

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for Digital & Resources, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 8.

The report provided an update on the progress made to deliver next generation digital infrastructure across Adur and Worthing council areas - providing widespread ultrafast internet access to homes, businesses and public spaces, creating the most digitally connected places in the south east.

The commercial roll out of fibre to homes and businesses by Cityfibre was progressing well and was on schedule with more than 3,000 homes passed to date.

The report focused on the next stage in the programme which was to provide free Citizen WiFi and an “internet of things” (IoT) network. These were key deliverables in Platforms for our Places and had even greater importance for the post COVID-19 world, where digital connectivity would play a greater part in everyone's lives.

Providing council-run Citizen WiFi to residents and visitors in key public places would put Adur and Worthing in a really strong position to innovate in high street renewal, tourism, creative and digital arts, local business growth and to provide essential access to the digitally excluded. The Councils had become regional leaders in digital infrastructure and with Citizen Wifi and IoT networks, they would add two new highly valuable layers to the civic digital platform.

The Committee welcomed the report and expressed their support for the proposals.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Daniel Humphreys, seconded by Councillor Edward Crouch and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee:

- i) approved a revised capital budget of £3.7m, the increase being funded through external funding, the revenue consequences of which could be accommodated within the existing budgets;
- ii) noted that a procurement for Citizen Wi-Fi would be undertaken once the design lab (see 1.5) was complete;
- iii) approved a budget of £25k in 2020-21, funded from the inflation budget, which would enable the Councils to exploit opportunities in 2020-21 to commence design and pilot testing of Citizen Wi-Fi. This approval would be on the basis that the Councils' return to the Joint Strategic Committee in 2021-22 to update on the progress and status of network consolidation to reduce costs, and revenue generating activities that aimed to address the revenue impact of Citizen WiFi expansion from

2022-23 onwards;

- iv) approved the release of £300k in the period 2021/22 - 2024/25, noting that this would commit the Council to additional £75,000 funding in 2021/22 as previously outlined in the report to members on the 2020/21 budget which would enable the contract to progress.

JSC/009/20-21 Asset Management Plan

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for the Economy, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 9.

The Committee noted that separate to the Councils strategic investment portfolio, there were 939 land and building assets which were managed by the council's estates team.

The report outlined a new strategy for the better management of these assets, focussed on supporting Platforms for our Places: Going Further and to consider how the Councils could best use its assets to meet its communities prosperity and wellbeing.

The new strategy set out a policy approach to the Councils assets and a series of performance indicators for the review of the estate. Following a review, the policy would introduce new processes and a series of tasks to put the Councils in a better position for the management of their assets.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Elizabeth Sparkes, seconded by Councillor Angus Dunn and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

That the Joint Strategic Committee approved the Property Asset Management Plan and agreed the adoption of the policy.

JSC/010/20-21 Adur and Worthing Gypsy & Traveller Encampments - response to the recommendations from the JOSC working group

Before the Committee was a report by the Acting Director for Environmental Services, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 10.

The report provided a response and recommendations to the Joint Strategic Committee on the recommendations contained within the Joint Overview and Scrutiny working group review of 'Adur and Worthing Gypsy & Traveller Encampments', initially presented to this committee in November 2019.

It was suggested by a councillor that a member of the traveller community be invited to participate in the councillor awareness training. Officers welcomed the suggestion.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor Brian Boggis, seconded by Councillor Heather Mercer and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee

- (i) agreed that a review of the impact and value of the West Sussex Transit agreement is brought before the JSC on a 3 yearly basis, with the next formal review being in 2022;
- (ii) endorsed the plan to source member training on these matters to include a refresher on current processes; and
- (iii) agreed that litter bins are not provided at encampment sites.

JSC/011/20-21 Use of s106 contributions to improve Widewater Bridge, Lancing

Before the Committee was a report by the Director for the Economy, copies of which had been circulated to all Members and a copy of which is attached to the signed copy of these minutes as Item 11.

The report sought authority to release s106 funds to deliver an improvement scheme for the Widewater bridge in Lancing.

The majority of funds were held by the County Council but the scheme required £103,773 held by Adur District to fully fund the scheme. Whilst, these funds were specifically held for transport improvement schemes as the total exceeds £100,000 Committee approval to release the funds was required.

The report set out some of the approval processes already undertaken by the County Council and described some of the key improvements to be undertaken to improve accessibility to the seafront cyclepath.

The recommendations in the report were proposed by Councillor David Simmons, seconded by Councillor Neil Parkin and unanimously agreed by the Committee.

Decision:

The Joint Strategic Committee agreed to release £103,773 towards the proposed improvement scheme to Widewater Bridge and agreed that the scheme be added to the capital programme.

C. Joint Strategic Committee - 7 July 2020

Will be distributed following production of these minutes

D. Urgent Executive Decisions Taken

Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2000 as amended. The following is reported to Council:

Local Government Act 1972

Background papers

Reports and Record of decisions of various are available on the Council's web site www.adur-worthing.gov.uk or as indicated in each of the paragraphs above. Some of the reports may contain exempt information and not fully published on the websites.

Councillor Neil Parkin
Leader of the Council