

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting
of the Executive held on 6 December 2010**

1. Date of publication of this summary:-

7 December 2010

2. Decisions (if any) taken as a matter of urgency under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16 (and not therefore subject to the call-in procedure):-

None

3. Date by which notice of call-in of any of the following decisions must be received in writing by the Chief Executive (see notes below):-

Noon on Friday 10 December 2010

4. Notes:-

- (a) For background documentation to the following decisions, please refer to the agenda and supporting papers (copies of which are available on the Council's website (www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk) or from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services);
- (b) Notice of call-in must be submitted in writing, by email or text to the Chief Executive by the deadline specified above, and must state the reason or reasons why "call-in" has been requested;
- (c) Call-in can be requested by any six non-executive members of the Council.
- However, if at any point during a municipal year the total number of opposition councillors is six or less the total number of non-executive members required to call-in a decision shall be the total number of opposition councillors less two.
- (d) Decisions not called-in by the deadline specified above will become effective immediately the deadline has expired (unless they are recommendations to the Council).
- (e) The Council has stipulated that the call-in procedure should not be used to challenge decisions as a matter of course and should be used only when fully justified.

**M Harpley
Chief Executive**

Decisions

Agenda Item No.	Agenda Item and Recommendations	Decision
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p>Eco Bicester One Shared Vision</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To consider the contents of the report. (2) To consider the proposed changes following the consultation on the Draft document. (3) To approve the Revised One Shared Vision document contained in Appendix 1 as informal planning guidance for development control purposes. 	<p>Approved</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">6</p>	<p>Local Transport Plan</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That the County Council be commended on the general format of the LTP which addresses concerns raised by this Council previously that the LTP should be organised in a way which focuses on proposals for particular settlements and creates a stronger spatial link with Local Development Frameworks, (2) That in general, subject to the detailed recommendations made in the report, the policies and area strategies in the LTP be supported. (3) That the various detailed recommendations set out in paragraphs 1.16, 1.27, 1.43, 1.52 and 1.58 are submitted as the Council's formal response to the Local Transport Plan, and in particular the Council's comments on:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approach taken by the LTP 	<p>Approved, with the amendments that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy for the rural areas should acknowledge the importance of providing footpath links both within and between villages to public transport and employment areas. • The references in the LTP to major new road links (South East and South West Relief Roads) in Banbury should not be deleted.

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	<p>towards the HS2 proposals in policy PT6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the references to major new road links (the South East and South West Relief Roads) in Banbury • the ways in which the vision for eco-Bicester can best be supported through the LTP • the proposed Water Eaton Parkway station, and how (a) this can best be implemented in a manner that makes it accessible to local communities in Kidlington and Gosford, and (b) future congestion concerns can best be mitigated. 	
7	<p>Disabled Facilities Grant Policy</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Approve the Disabled Facilities Grant Policy. (2) Endorse the proposal that Registered Providers (RPs) (formerly called RSLs or Housing Associations) should be asked to sign-up to a protocol committing themselves to the principles in the Policy and to making a specified financial contribution towards the cost of adaptations for their tenants (see 2.4 in report). 	Approved
8	<p>Final business case for a shared management team between Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To recommend to Council at its meeting on 8th December 2010 	Approved

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	<p>that it approves the business case (and the eighteen specific recommendations included in it) for putting in place a shared management team between Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council by the end of September 2011.</p> <p>(2) To recommend to Council in addition that Council endorses the view of the Executive that, once a shared senior management team is in place, the Council can aspire to continued excellent performance.</p> <p>(3) To confirm that, after consultation with the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is agreed that it is in the Council's interest for this decision to be taken urgently and the right to call-in is waived to enable a binding decision to be taken by Council on 8th December.</p>	
9	<p>Cherwell/South Northamptonshire Building Control Shared Service Proposals</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) Subject to the endorsement of the Cabinet of South Northamptonshire Council who are concurrently considering this report, to agree in principle to implementing joint management arrangements for the Building Control services of Cherwell and South Northamptonshire.</p> <p>(2) To instruct the Head of Building Control and Engineering Services, and Head of People and Improvement to carry out the recruitment of the joint Building Control Manager and Team Leaders for each of the Councils as set out in this report and its appendices.</p>	Approved

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10	<p>Update report and request for approval of funding for Dashwood Road Primary School</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To note the progress made with partnership working at Dashwood Road Primary School, Banbury and approve funding for the scheme from the capital reserves for affordable housing of £200,000.</p>	Approved
11	<p>Corporate Improvement Plan Fear of Crime and Anti Social Behaviour</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To note the findings and conclusions from the Corporate Improvement Plan Project: Fear of Crime and Anti Social Behaviour.</p> <p>(2) To agree the future priorities and draft action plan which should form the basis of the 2011/12 Service Plan.</p>	Approved
12	<p>Value for Money Review Corporate and Democratic Core</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To endorse the overall conclusions of the review</p> <p>(2) To agree that improvements in value for money be sought in Democratic Services and Elections and approve the following recommendations to achieve savings of £124,803;</p> <p>1. Merge the Democratic Services and Elections teams to provide greater</p>	Approved

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	<p style="text-align: center;">resilience and achieve further efficiencies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2. Achieve the schedule of savings set out in Annex 1</p> <p>(3) To agree that improvements in value for money be sought in Corporate Strategy, Performance and Partnerships and approve the following recommendations to achieve savings of £68,270;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delete the post of performance officer and restructure the team to accommodate the loss of this post, reallocating roles and responsibilities to reflect revised local priorities and changes in the national performance regime 2. Reduce the budget for research and consultation, focusing the remaining resources on high priority areas and supporting in house consultation 3. Change the operating arrangements for performance management software to scale back its costs and provide better value for money <p>(4) To agree that improvements in value for money be sought in Treasury Management and approve the following recommendations to achieve minimum savings of £30,000;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the Council's declining investment funds and allocate over two funds, rather than three. 2. Ensure that this allocation is in place by 31 March 2011. 	

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13	<p>Value for Money review of Recreation and Sport</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To endorse the overall conclusion of the review that the service is below average cost for the operation of its leisure centres, according to national benchmarking. It has good performance in terms of its sports development assessment, and is high quality in terms of good and improving levels of customer satisfaction.</p> <p>(2) To agree that improvements in value for money be sought and approve the following recommendations;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Further grants to village halls be withdrawn from 2011/12, saving £39,000 per annum 2. Reductions be made in the service establishment through reduced hours and the deletion of a vacant project officer post, saving £56,817 per annum 3. Additional savings of £33,077 be progressed through reductions to the Leisure Development and Sports Development budgets, as set out in paragraph 2.11 <p>(3) To note that the target savings of £80,000 from the joint use agreements at Coopers School and North Oxfordshire Academy are currently part of the Council's scrutiny activities and subject to negotiation with the management of the two education sites;</p> <p>(4) To agree to progress negotiations</p>	Approved

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	<p>with the sports centres contract operator to achieve savings through changes to the contract specification and through income benchmarking.</p> <p>(5) To request a capital bid as part of 2011/12 budget setting for electricity generation at leisure centres outlining its costs and likely savings.</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p>Value for Money Review of Urban and Rural Services</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To endorse the overall conclusion of the review that the service is low cost in terms of benchmark expenditure comparisons and is good quality in terms of overall positive levels of customer satisfaction.</p> <p>(2) To agree that improvements in value for money be sought and approve the following recommendations;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement the Medium Term Financial Strategy savings proposals set out in paragraph 2.13, saving £73,194 per annum 2. Secure a net saving of £60,000 per annum currently charged for the provision of specialist advice to the planning service by exploring options to achieve this, such as a reduction in the staff establishment, increasing fee income from planning advice and securing new clients to offset costs 3. Create a bus station safety 	<p>Approved</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">officer post to release a vehicle parks warden post to achieve a net income of £16,000 per annum</p> <p>(3) To note the recommendations of Scrutiny with regard to increases to car park charges and recommend the inclusion of an evening tariff to generate further income of £39,640 per annum in addition to the £480,289 already recommended.</p> <p>(4) To note the scrutiny process associated with the introduction of a pay and display parking scheme in Watts Way, Kidlington and the need for further negotiations with a view to implementing the scheme within 12 months if these are successful</p> <p>(5) To consider further the proposal to extend the landscape maintenance contract for a further three years to 2015 and secure potential savings of £135,461 through negotiations with the contractor and an extended client base.</p> <p>(6) To continue the provision of a Shopmobility scheme in Bicester but in future seek to offset a proportion of its costs through service charges to tenants on completion of the town centre redevelopment</p> <p>(7) To explore the feasibility of charging residents for tree inspections to offset costs of arboricultural staff</p>	
15	<p>Budget 2011/12 Draft 1 Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To endorse the draft Corporate Plan for 2011-12 (detailed in</p>	<p>Approved, including all recommendations from Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board as set out in Appendix 5.</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Appendix 2);</p> <p>(2) To endorse the proposed service priorities for 2011-12 (detailed in Appendix 3);</p> <p>(3) To consider the draft budget (detailed in Appendix 1) in the context of the Council's service objectives and strategic priorities;</p> <p>(4) To note the areas of unavoidable revenue growth as detailed in the body of this report detailed in Appendix 1 – para 1.23;</p> <p>(5) To note the areas of additional income or cost reductions that will be considered in order to get to a balanced 2011/12 budget detailed in Appendix 1 – para 1.26 / 1.27;</p> <p>(6) To note the proposal on Council Tax for 2011-12 detailed in (para 2.10)</p> <p>(7) To note the outcome of the pay negotiations on 2011/12 pay deal (para 2.20);</p> <p>(8) To ask officers to prepare a response to the New Homes Consultation and a report detailing the implications;</p> <p>(9) To ask officers to give consideration to the impact of the recent planning fees consultation and the implications on income generation</p> <p>(10) To agree the approach to the overall capital programme and 2011/12 expenditure profile (detailed in Appendix 4);</p> <p>(11) To note the recommendations of the scrutiny reviews of training, fees and charges and capital programme that were considered at the Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board on 30th November 2010 and approve which should be included in the</p>	

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	<p>second draft of the budget: (detailed in Appendix 5 – to follow);</p> <p>(12) To advise of any other matters they would like taken into consideration in producing a balanced budget for the meeting of the Executive on 10 January 2011;</p> <p>(13) To endorse the draft revenue and capital budget and corporate plan as the basis for consultation.</p>	
16	<p>Pre Order Consultation - Car Parking Proposals</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To note the feedback from the pre Order consultation.</p> <p>(2) To authorise formal Order Making on final proposals for implementation on, or as soon after, 1 March as is possible.</p>	<p>This was taken as the second item of business and the meeting was addressed by a speaker on behalf of Bicester Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>Approved, with the amendment that evening parking be at a flat rate of 80p for Banbury and 70p for Bicester and that there should be no parking charges on religious bank holidays.</p>