



**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting  
of the Executive held on Monday 23 June 2014**

1. Date of publication of this summary: 24 June 2014
2. Decisions (if any) taken as a matter of urgency under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in the Constitution (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 27 June 2014
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.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk)) or from 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.

**Sue Smith  
Chief Executive**

Agenda Item and Recommendation	Decision	Reasons	Alternative Options	Conflicts of Interest Declared and Dispensations Granted by Head of Paid Service
<p><b>Agenda Item 7 Corporate Equalities Annual Update</b></p> <p>Report of Head of Transformation</p> <p><b>Purpose of report</b></p> <p>To review the completion of the annual Self Assessment undertaken by the Council against the Achieving Standard under the Equality Framework for Local Government.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To consider the evidence and information submitted in the Council's Self</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the evidence and information submitted in the Council's Self-Assessment against the 'Achieving Standard' under the Equality Framework for Local Government be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the equalities action plan for 2014/15 noting the areas of good practice upon which it builds and the areas for development that it addresses be noted.</p>	<p>Cherwell District Council has made significant progress delivering against the equalities agenda in recent years. This year the Council received the findings and recommendations following the Public Sector Equality Duty Review (PSED) and its impact upon the work of Corporate Equality Performance. The review arose from the Government's Red Tape Challenge and was established to examine whether the PSED is operating as intended. A key aim of the PSED was to sensitise public bodies to equality while addressing the bureaucracy associated with the previous duties on race, disability and gender.</p> <p>Based on the conclusions</p>	<p>Option 1: To note the report</p> <p>Option 2: To request additional information on items within this report</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>Assessment against the 'Achieving Standard' under the Equality Framework for Local Government.</p> <p>1.2 To agree the equalities action plan for 2014/15 noting the areas of good practice upon which it builds and the areas for development that it addresses.</p>		<p>drawn by the PSED Steering Group and suggestions for improvements raised by participants in the review, the PSED Steering Group developed nine recommendations split across different sectors with the clearest being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It is too early to make a final judgement about the impact of the PSED. Government should consider conducting a formal evaluation of the Duty in three years' time. This would enable the PSED to embed more thoroughly and should consider whether the Duty is an effective means of achieving the goal of sensitising public bodies to equality issues and</li> </ul>		

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		<p>what alternatives there might be. This work could also be informed by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) medium-term work on how the PSED and the more prescriptive specific duties operate in Scotland and Wales.</p> <p>Cherwell District Council continues to adopt a proportionate to equality performance with meaningful and relevant Corporate Action Plans to support this work.</p> <p>The self-assessment identifies areas of strength and key developmental priorities and has been undertaken in line with a</p>		

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		<p>nationally agreed self-assessment model.</p> <p>The updated action plan demonstrates how the Council will continue to deliver its equalities objectives over the coming year. Progress will be reported via the performance management framework on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The three year impact assessment rolling plan also provides assurance that the Council is mindful of policy change and seeks to understand and address the impacts of service and policy change where appropriate.</p>		
<b>Agenda Item 8 Performance Management</b>	<b>Resolved</b>	In this annual report we show that the Council continues to	Option 1: To note the report	None

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<p><b>Framework 2013/14 Annual Performance Review</b></p> <p>Report of Head of Transformation</p> <p><b>Purpose of report</b></p> <p>This report covers the Council's performance review for 2013/14 as measured through the Performance Management Framework.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To note that, despite tough performance targets, a challenging economic environment, and on-going policy and organisational change, Cherwell District Council has met or</p>	<p>(1) That it be noted that, despite tough performance targets, a challenging economic environment, and on-going policy and organisational change, Cherwell District Council has met or made satisfactory progress on 95% of all the performance targets outlined in its performance management framework.</p> <p>(2) That the draft Annual Performance Report be agreed and authority be delegated to the Head of Transformation, in consultation with the Lead Member for Performance and</p>	<p>make strong progress on delivering its ambitions to improve the services delivered to the public and against key projects and priorities. It also demonstrates the Councils proactive performance management of issues raised and the role of Overview and Scrutiny in supporting performance review.</p>	<p>Option 2: To request additional information on items and/or add to the work programme for review and/or refer to Overview and Scrutiny.</p>	

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<p>made satisfactory progress on 95% of all the performance targets outlined in its performance management framework.</p> <p>1.2 To agree the draft Annual Performance Report and grant delegated authority to the Head of Transformation, in consultation with the Lead Member for Performance and Customers to make any minor changes to the document as required before publication.</p>	<p>Communications, to make any minor changes to the document as required before publication.</p>			
<p><b>Agenda Item 9 Provisional 2013-14 Revenue and Capital</b></p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the carry forward</p>	<p>The financial performance in terms of both capital and revenue are underspent on</p>	<p>Alternative options are:  To reject the current</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p><b>Outturn Report</b></p> <p>Report of Interim Head of Finance and Procurement</p> <p><b>Purpose of Report</b></p> <p>This report summarises the Council's provisional Revenue and Capital performance for the financial year 2013-2014 and reports on performance against the procurement action plan. The figures are still subject to further validation work to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and proper accounting practices.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p> <p>1.1 To agree the carry forward of budget</p>	<p>of budget underspends within 2013-2014 to 2014-2015 as detailed in Appendix 1 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute book) be agreed.</p> <p>(2) That the review of reserves as detailed in Appendix 3 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute book) be agreed.</p> <p>(3) That the provisional capital out-turn position for 2013-2014 detailed in Appendix 2 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute book) be noted.</p> <p>(4) That it be agreed that</p>	<p>capital or within set tolerance targets (once revenue carry forwards are processed. The performance demonstrates the Council's ability to respond positively and actively to changing economic circumstances and deliver sizeable capital programmes and effective financial management.</p> <p>The continued focus on monthly budget monitoring and continued use of the "dashboard" has enabled more efficient use of the Council's resources.</p> <p>The variances on the revenue out-turns is within the Council's stated tolerance of 2% of budget. Capital was outside the tolerance of 5% of budget.</p>	<p>proposals and to make alternative recommendations or ask officers for further information.</p>	



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<p>underspends within 2013-2014 to 2014-2015 as detailed in Appendix 1.</p> <p>1.2 To agree the review of reserves as detailed in Appendix 3.</p> <p>1.3 To note the provisional capital out-turn position for 2013-2014 detailed in Appendix 2.</p> <p>1.4 To agree the balances on capital schemes which have slipped in 2013-2014 to be carried forward into the 2014-2015 capital programme as set out in Appendix 2.</p> <p>1.5 To note the Treasury out-turn position for 2013-14.</p>	<p>the balances on capital schemes which have slipped in 2013-2014 be carried forward into the 2014-2015 capital programme as set out in Appendix 2 (annex to the Minutes as set out in the Minute book).</p> <p>(5) That the Treasury out-turn position for 2013-14 be noted.</p> <p>(6) That progress against the Council's Procurement Action Plan be noted.</p> <p>(7) That authority be delegated to the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Interim Head of</p>			

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<p>1.6 To note progress against the Council's Procurement Action Plan.</p> <p>1.7 To delegate authority to the Director of Resources and Interim Head of Finance and Procurement, in consultation with the Lead Member for Financial Management, to consider and implement further changes relating to all aspects of the closedown of the accounts for 2013-14 including: realigning reserves; the transfer of costs from revenue to capital; amendments of the revenue and capital budgets; and</p>	<p>Finance and Procurement and Lead Member for Financial Management, to consider and implement further changes relating to all aspects of the closedown of the accounts for 2013-14 including: realigning reserves; the transfer of costs from revenue to capital; amendments of the revenue and capital budgets; and implementation of a minimum revenue provision accordingly.</p>			

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implementation of a minimum revenue provision accordingly.				
<p><b>Agenda Item 10</b>  <b>Brighter Futures in Banbury 2013/14 Annual Report</b></p> <p>Report or Director of Community and Environment</p> <p><b>Purpose of Report</b></p> <p>To consider the progress made in 2013/14 of the long term and multi agency Brighter Futures in Banbury Programme and the proposed priorities for 2014/15.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The meeting is recommended:</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the good progress made in the fourth year of the Brighter Futures in Banbury Programme be noted.</p> <p>(2) That the areas of emphasis and proposed activity in 2014/15 be supported.</p>	<p>The Brighter Futures in Banbury Programme has seen continued progress and development in 2013/14. There have been notable achievements in most of the six themes and a number of new initiatives relevant to supporting those most in need.</p> <p>2014/15 requires a continued focus and the need to look at new and innovative means of delivering more effective and targeted services involving a greater range of organisations. In particular, will be the need to review and respond to the emerging</p>	<p>Option 1: Adopt the recommendations as set out</p> <p>Option 2: Amend/add to the areas of focus for 2014/15</p>	<p>None</p>

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<p>1.1 To note the good progress made in the fourth year of the Brighter Futures in Banbury Programme.</p> <p>1.2 To support the areas of emphasis and proposed activity in 2014/15;</p>		<p>changes in the make-up of the ward population arising from the recent census information to ensure that the priorities and activities within each theme are still appropriate. It is also expected that the benefits of the Council's Build Programme will begin to emerge in 2014/15 as three developments sit within the target Banbury wards. In addition, specific proposals are being developed for improved support for the over 50s unemployed, encouraging via the Banbury and Bicester College the skills and talents of primary school children and additional mentoring for young people.</p> <p>The Brighter Futures in Banbury programme as a Council priority falls within the</p>		

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		<p>Council's Place Programme governance arrangements set up to manage multiple projects across both Cherwell and South Northants councils. As such, the Executive will receive further high level reports on this subject through that process along with the quarterly performance reporting requirements.</p>		
<p><b>Agenda Item 11 Urgent Business - Superfast Broadband</b></p> <p>Any other items which the Chairman has decided is urgent.</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That £783,000 of the 2014-15 New Homes Bonus Allocation be allocated for Economic Development across the District.</p> <p>(2) That £500,000 be invested for the</p>	<p>The Council is working closely with the County Council who in turn are working closely with BDUK to increase the coverage of Superfast Broadband throughout the District.</p> <p>A proposal has been received by the County Council which seeks to</p>	<p>Option 1: To not invest £500,000 in the County Council's Superfast Broadband project and miss the opportunity to improve communication infrastructure across the District with the resultant impact on the local economy.</p>	<p>None</p>

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	<p>provision of superfast broadband across the District.</p> <p>(3) That it be noted that a further £500,000 will remain available to consider funding other solutions for the areas of the District not covered.</p>	<p>increase coverage across the County and for Cherwell will extend coverage and requests a contribution of £500,000 from Cherwell District Council.</p>		
<p><b>Agenda Item 13 Proposal for a Joint Legal Service with South Northamptonshire Council and Stratford-On-Avon District Council</b></p> <p>Exempt Report of Head of Law and Governance</p>	<p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>(1) That the responses to the consultation process with the affected staff and trade union representatives be noted.</p> <p>(2) That it be noted that the business case</p>	<p>The business case represents a major milestone in the transformation programme across CDC, SNC and SDC. The proposed joint team will increase resilience (including in the Land Charges function), improve the quality and broaden the range of services provided, increase income earning opportunities</p>	<p>Option One: To reject the proposal meaning the three Legal services continue to operate independently. This would not deliver the benefits or financial savings to any of the three Councils, the improvements to the customer, or the transformational change that is associated with the</p>	<p>None</p>

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	<p>would be considered by the Personnel Committee on 2 July 2014.</p> <p>(3) That approval be given for the implementation of the proposed final business case to share a joint Legal service between Cherwell District Council (CDC), South Northamptonshire Council (SNC) and Stratford-On-Avon District Council (SDC), subject to similar consideration and approval by the respective decision making bodies of SNC and SDC.</p>	<p>and reduce external legal expenditure across the three Councils.</p>	<p>DCLG funding awarded to the Councils as part of the Transformation Challenge award.</p> <p>Option Two: Approve the business case as attached.</p>	