

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting  
of the Executive held on 11 October 2010**

1. Date of publication of this summary:-

12 October 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 15 October 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.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell.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;"><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Business Case for a shared management team between Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To hear at the meeting the outcome of the Extraordinary Joint Meeting of Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board and Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> October at which both Committees considered the business case and the comments received during the consultation with unions and staff at both councils.</p> <p>(2) To recommend to Council at its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 that it approves the business case (and the fifteen specific recommendations included in it) for a shared management team between Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire Council, subject to any amendments the Executive make after hearing the outcome of the scrutiny committees at (1).</p>	<p>Recommendations Approved, subject to the amendment to recommendation 2 that the Business Case be recommended to Council on 8 December 2010.</p> <p>Additionally it was agreed:</p> <p>3) That in light of the concerns from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Resources and Performance Scrutiny Board about arrangements for the appointment of the shared Chief Executive and the commitment in the business case to competitive recruitment to the shared roles, the Joint Working Group be asked to consider mechanisms for an open recruitment process to this role and recommend the best way forward to both the Cherwell Executive and South Northamptonshire Cabinet.</p> <p>4) That in light of the concerns from the joint Overview and Scrutiny meeting that a joint IT working group be convened to look at the issues of technology integration, costs and savings that would be required should a shared management team be agreed.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Response to Formula Grant Consultation</b></p> <p>Report of Portfolio Holder for Resources and Communications, Leader and Chief Executive</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended to:</p> <p>(1) Note the contents of the report and response to the consultation (Appendix 1)</p> <p>(2) Continue to lobby to minimise the financial implications of the transfer of funding for concessionary travel</p>	<p>Recommendations Approved</p>

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	to upper tier authorities.	
7	<p><b>Bicester Town Centre Redevelopment - Compulsory Purchase order</b></p> <p>Report of Head of Regeneration and Estates</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To recommend the Council to resolve to make a compulsory purchase order in respect of the land shown coloured pink and in respect of new rights in relation to the land shown coloured blue on the attached plan.</p>	Recommendations Approved
8	<p><b>Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and Implications for Local Service Delivery</b></p> <p>Report of Strategic Director – Planning, Housing and Economy</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended to:</p> <p>(1) Note the implications of the Flood and Water Management Act as set out in the report.</p> <p>(2) Inform the County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) that, for the reasons set out in the report, it is unable to take up their offer of a formal, but unfunded, agency agreement that would allow Cherwell District Council (CDC) to operate on behalf of the LLFA in Cherwell.</p> <p>(3) Additionally inform the County Council that CDC will not be in a position to maintain its existing in house land drainage staff expertise and information systems under the terms of the new arrangements and that the district councils “duty to co operate with</p>	Recommendations Approved

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	<p>the LLFA” included in the Act will implemented solely through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Planning Authority (LPA) consultation on planning policy and development control</li> <li>• Provision of any local information or knowledge currently collated or coming to hand in the future</li> <li>• Potentially, consideration of making an offer of capital funding contributions towards flood defence works required for the District (these to be planned, designed and implemented by the LLFA and the bodies responsible for main rivers)</li> </ul> <p>All other work on land drainage and flooding will cease.</p> <p>(4) Instruct the Strategic Director (Planning Housing and Economy) to report to Personnel Committee on, and implement, the necessary staffing changes arising from these decisions on the FWMA and also from earlier changes to the workload of Cherwell’s engineering service (as noted in the report).</p> <p>(5) Initiate work with the County Council to provide public and partner information to explain the rearrangement of functions, and new local responsibilities and contacts under the FWMA.</p>	
9	<p><b>Self Service Payment at LinkPoint Offices</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended to:</p> <p>(1) Relinquish our PayPoint agent status and discontinue taking payments using Paypoint</p>	Recommendations Approved

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item and Recommendations</b>	<b>Decision</b>
	<p>terminals, but retain our PayPoint client status to enable the public to pay council bills at other Paypoint Agents</p> <p>(2) Agree to stop the facility to deposit cheque payments at the LinkPoint offices and receive cheque payments only by post.</p> <p>(3) Agree a supplementary capital estimate of up to £100,000 for the purchase of automated payment kiosks and their introduction into LinkPoint offices</p> <p>(4) Agree to reduce the Customer Service Advisor establishment by 3 FTE after successful transition to the new arrangements</p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Waste &amp; Recycling Service</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended to :</p> <p>(1) Agree the proposed Waste and Recycling Service Efficiencies set out in Appendix 1;</p> <p>(2) Approve a supplementary capital estimate of up to £130,000 for the acquisition of a glass collection vehicle;</p> <p>(3) Agree the proposed Recycling Initiatives and Service Developments set out in Appendix 2</p> <p>(4) Agree to the changes in practice regarding the types of bins provided; and</p> <p>(5) Note the reduction in waste to landfill and the rise in customer satisfaction levels of the waste and recycling service.</p>	Recommendations Approved
<b>11</b>	<b>Award of Contract for the Supply of External Legal Advice Framework Contract to Oxfordshire Local</b>	Recommendations Approved

<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>Agenda Item and Recommendations</b>	<b>Decision</b>
	<p><b>Authorities</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To grant project approval for and to authorise the Council's entry into a framework contract arrangement under which legal services would be available from a panel of selected external solicitors, such arrangement to be put in place in conjunction with the other Oxfordshire authorities and other public sector bodies.</p> <p>(2) To authorise the award of the framework contract to the eight firms of solicitors specified in 2.5.</p>	
12	<p><b>Service &amp; Financial Planning Process and Budget Guidelines for 2011/12</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended to:</p> <p>(1) Note the service and financial planning process for 2011/12</p> <p>(2) Consider and agree the proposed budget guidelines and timetable for 2011/12 budget process.</p>	Recommendations Approved
13	<p><b>Value for Money Review of Housing</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>The Executive is recommended:</p> <p>(1) To note that the service has delivered £160,000 savings above the £500,000 savings target set in the previous VFM review, and that these have been delivered ahead of schedule</p> <p>(2) To note the achievement of all other recommendations from the previous VFM review, save for those around process</p>	Recommendations Approved

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	<p>benchmarking, and ensure these are pursued during the remainder of 2010/11 to identify areas of greater efficiency</p> <p>(3) To endorse the overall conclusion of the review is that the service is now below average cost for housing strategy and private sector housing, and remains above average cost for homelessness due to local circumstances and activity rather than unnecessary spend. It has high performance in terms of lower use of temporary accommodation, delivery of affordable housing and responding to the recession. It is high quality in terms of high levels of user satisfaction</p> <p>(4) To agree that further improvements in value for money be sought and approve the following recommendations;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce and reconfigured staffing arrangements in line with the revised needs of the service to achieve savings of £60,000</li> <li>2. Review temporary accommodation contract management arrangements with Sanctuary Housing to achieve savings of £40,000 and improve contract performance</li> </ol>	