



CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 20 JANUARY 2021

DECISIONS

PRESENT:	Councillor Nunn (Chair); Councillor Larratt (Deputy Chair); Councillors Eldred, Hadland, Hallam, J Hill and Hibbert.
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Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Wednesday, 20 January 2021. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

These decisions will come into force and then may be implemented on the expiry of three working days after the publication of this list.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Democratic Services 01604 837722.

THIS LIST OF DECISIONS PUBLISHED:	<u>THURSDAY 21 JANUARY 2021</u>
DATE OF EXPIRY OF CALL IN:	<u>TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2021 AT 17:00 HOURS</u>

Agenda Item No **Declaration/Conflict of Interests:**
None

A. RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW - IMPACT OF THE MOVE OF THE UNIVERSITY

2.1 Cabinet:

- (a) Accepted Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 in the Overview & Scrutiny Panel's report on the Impact of the move of the University; and
- (b) Accepted Recommendations 4 and 5 but agreed to keep these under review as noted in the report.
- (c) Congratulated the task and finish group on a high quality and comprehensive report and thanked the group for the time and effort given to produce it.

Agenda	Declaration/Conflict of Interests:
Item No	None

B. RESPONSE OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW - NORTHAMPTON POST-UNITARY

- 2.1 Cabinet agreed the Overview and Scrutiny recommendations detailed below:-
- 2.1.1 The Mayor of Northampton is retained and if necessary a Charitable Trust is set up for the Mayoralty. The Mayoralty is also retained at the Guildhall to protect Civic traditions and to promote our heritage.
- 2.1.2 A Civic Quarter is created that includes our Civic assets.
- 2.1.3 Should a Town Council be established, the Town Council should be located in the Guildhall, along with Mayoralty and its regalia to ensure the secure protection of the historic assets of the Borough Council.
- 2.1.4 To protect civic pride in a wider Northampton area and consider that the proposed Unitary Council for the West of Northamptonshire should be called the Greater Northampton Council.
- 2.1.5 It is ensured that the Maces, known as North, South, East and West, are retained in Northampton's Museum, in the borough and that all silver assets are made secure.
- 2.1.6 Oak Apple day is a Borough Council tradition and it should be recaptured by the Borough. This would be the opportune time to reintroduce some of the civic events that have over time disappeared, for example May Day celebrations and celebrate other cultural celebrations.
- 2.1.7 Other key roles of the Mayoralty must be protected, including:
- The Mayor is the Chair of the Housebound Fund
 - The Mayor is the President of Town Twinning
 - The Mayor is the President for St John's Home
 - Honorary Freeman take place just once every civic term
 - Hereditary Freeman take the oath from the Mayor
- 2.1.8 The re-establishment of the roles of Major's Serjeant and Town Serjeant, as Honorary roles, for example the office of Alderman or former Councillor are investigated and introduced.

2.1.9 Publicity and marketing of the Mayoralty is good; but it should be widened further to include proactive use of leaflets at locations such as the train station and libraries and more use of social media. 2.1.10 Cabinet is informed that it is the aspiration of the Scrutiny Panel that Northampton is a City of Culture by 2025.

nb. Cabinet noted that the Mayoralty and all the attached regalia were transferred by the relevant Statutory Order of the 24th February, 2020 to the new Northampton Town Council to take effect on the 1st April, 2021.

Agenda Item No	Declaration/Conflict of Interests: None
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C. RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW - FOOD POVERTY

Cabinet agreed the Overview and Scrutiny recommendations detailed below:

- 2.1.1 That a Working Group, owned by the Community and Engagement Team, is set up and tasked with analysing the gaps in foodbanks within Northampton and the Working Group works with Partners to seek solutions to increasing food provision within these areas.
- 2.1.2 That child poverty needs are included in any Strategy in relation to poverty, note that the process of developing an Anti-Food Poverty Strategy can of itself have wider impacts such as:
- Raising the profile of food poverty, especially with local decision-makers
 - Developing a shared positive vision
 - Creating a sense of empowerment for experts by experience
 - Empowering diverse groups to raise their voices to call for food justice
 - Ensuring the local council and other partners take ownership of agreed actions
 - Sharing of good practice across local authority boundaries to support specific projects
 - Raising the profile of food poverty, especially with local decision-makers
 - Developing a shared positive vision
 - Creating a sense of empowerment for experts by experience
 - Empowering diverse groups to raise their voices to call for food

justice

- Ensuring the local council and other partners take ownership of agreed actions
- Sharing of good practice across local authority boundaries to support specific projects

2.1.3 That Food Poverty Champions, who can identify the partners, who have the motivation and drive to bring all together lead on the production of an Anti-Food Poverty Strategy, which must include all demographics, ensuring that it is an all-inclusive Policy is investigated.

2.1.4 That with the move to the West Northamptonshire Authority, the way forward in relation to the production of an Anti-Food Poverty Strategy including the following adopted actions for local authorities as recommended by Sustain:

NB: The Scrutiny Panel updated some the actions recommended by Sustain so that they are more Northampton based

- Developing a food action plan to tackle food poverty
- Improving the uptake of Healthy Start vouchers
- Promoting breastfeeding via the Baby Friendly Initiative
- Promoting the need for children's centres
- Ensuring low-income families have adequate access to childcare
- Investing and developing children's access to food 365 days a year
- Becoming an accredited Living Wage employer and promoting the Living Wage
- Ensuring all residents have physical access to good food
- Supporting and enhancing meals reasonably priced and the provision of meals to vulnerable people
- Supporting financial advice services and providing crisis support

2.1.5 That a Working Group, led by the Community and Engagement Team, is set up and tasked with identifying areas where holiday hunger is a concern and to seek solutions to increasing food provision for children 365 days a year. In addition, the outcomes that have come out following the Marcus Ashford Scheme within Northampton are continued and built upon to ensure food provision is developed for all children 365 days a year.

2.1.6 That the Manager, HM Revenues and Customs is formally

invited to visit food banks in Northampton, to work with customers and aid regarding budgeting and where further help can be obtained.

- 2.1.7 That the Universal Credit app is widely promoted.
- 2.1.8 That Officers are instructed to work with partners in generating more events such as summer festival where assistance in relation to food poverty can be highlighted.
- 2.1.9 That the Health Start Voucher Scheme is promoted.
- 2.1.10 That the promotion of food poverty is highlighted to allotment holders and shops regarding giving away excess produce as emergency food aid.
- 2.1.11 That it is recommended to Northampton Partnership Homes (NPH) that it considers reviewing Tenancy Agreements to ensure that support is provided to older people to ensure that they are in receipt of the correct pension credits.
- 2.1.12 That the Northampton Community Forums are asked that a presentation is given to each Forum, in particular the Older People's Forum, that promotes the provision of pension credits and how this can be applied for.
- 2.1.13 That it is recommended to the West Northamptonshire Authority that a Grants Officer is engaged with the main role of investigating funding for crisis support and the Grants Officer works closely with all organisations in this respect.
- 2.1.14 That it is recommended to the West Northamptonshire Authority that West Northamptonshire becomes a living wage Authority and a sustainable food Authority.
- 2.1.15 That the West Northamptonshire Authority is asked to lobby for national campaigns and challenge national Policy on food poverty.
- 2.1.16 That a copy of this report is provided to the MPs within West Northamptonshire and the MPs are asked to respond to the recommendations, in particular, recommendations 2.1.14 & 2.1.15.
- 2.1.17 Cabinet thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for its detailed and robust report.

None

D. RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW - HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPERS

2.1 Cabinet:

- (a) Accepted Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10 and 11 in the Overview & Scrutiny Panel's report on Homelessness and Rough Sleepers; and
- (b) Congratulated the task and finish group on a high quality and comprehensive report and thanked the group for the time and effort given to produce it.

Agenda Item No	Declaration/Conflict of Interests:
	None

E. RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW - GANGS AND KNIFE CRIME

Cabinet agreed the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as below:

Collaborative working

- 2.1.3 That the current work and programmes undertaken by the Community Safety Team regarding knife crime is continuous and becomes more strategic
- 2.1.4 That the Community Safety Manager is charged with working with all relevant organisations and agencies so that they collaborate and enhance joint bids for funding in respect of dealing with gangs and knife crime.
- 2.1.5 That Northampton Borough Council works with other Agencies and Groups in the town to coordinate the youth provision/offer in the Borough.
- 2.1.6 That Northampton Borough Council leads on Multi Agency Training, regarding issues relating to gangs and knife crime, to bring all Multi Agency work together.
- 2.1.7 That a meeting with the Community Safety Team, NBC, and Community Courtyard is convened regarding involving its work.

Facilities for Young People

- 2.1.8 That all potential funding streams are investigated so that youth clubs, and other facilities for young people are brought back into the town.

- 2.1.9 Funding is the core as all activities cost money and it is ensured that the costs should not be passed onto the young people.
- 2.1.10 That in recognising that the most difficult area appears to be liaising with families, when safe to do so, the Community Safety Team has a stand at a family fun day; or a similar event is organised remotely.

Best Practice

- 2.1.11 That the Community Safety Team liaises with Officers at Merseyside regarding their best practice initiatives in dealing gangs and knife crime and aim to mirror such initiatives in Northampton.
- 2.1.12 That all Councillors are provided with the link to the short film produced by young people, via Free2 Talk - Knives end Lives: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCnUZyfekL4> and encouraged to watch it.

Agenda	Declaration/Conflict of Interests:
Item No	None

F. RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REVIEW - ADULT SOCIAL CARE FACILITIES

2.1 Cabinet:

- (a) Noted the recommendations in the Overview & Scrutiny Panel's report on Adult Social Care Facilities and confirmed that a copy of the report had been shared with Northamptonshire County Council, Daventry District Council and South Northants Council; and
- (b) Congratulated the task and finish group on a high quality and comprehensive report and thanked the group for the time and effort given to produce it.

Agenda	Declaration/Conflict of Interests:
Item No	Councillor Nunn declared an interest as a Director of Northampton BID (appointee of NBC)

7. NORTHAMPTON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT RENEWAL

Cabinet:

- 2.1 Agreed to instruct the Ballot Holder (the Local returning Officer) to

conduct a ballot of local businesses in accordance with legislation, in order to determine whether the proposal for the renewal of Northampton Town centre Business Improvement District may proceed.

- 2.2 Agreed to delegate to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Councillor Hadland, the authority to exercise the council's rights to vote in the ballot on behalf of the Borough Council.

Agenda	Declaration/Conflict of Interests:
Item No	None

8.FUTURE USE OF THE NEWTON BUILDING

- 2.1 Cabinet:

- a) Noted the intention of Northampton Partnership Homes, to relocate from the Westbridge Depot site, to the Newton Building to release the depot for appropriate uses, noting that the Newton Building provides more suitable office accommodation for the Council's Housing delivery partner.
- b) Noted that the Acting Director for Economy and Assets has delegated authority within the constitution to agree commercial terms for leases for less than 21 years, the Heads Of Terms will therefore be progressed using the usual constitutional process, with both sides having legal representation in addition to full consultation with West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) S.151 Officer.
- c) Noted that the Acting Director of Economy and Assets will consult the Director of Housing and Wellbeing, the Chief Finance Officer, the Borough Secretary, the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Enterprise and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Wellbeing, before exercising the delegation referred to in recommendation b above.
- d) Noted that if the lease cannot be concluded by the 1st April 2021 then this work will need to be concluded by the new West Northamptonshire Council through their governance processes.
- e) Agreed to receive further reports in connection with the use of the Newton Building as part of a regular Capital Project Management updates.

Agenda	Declaration/Conflict of Interests:
Item No	None

**9.PROPOSED MAKING OF A PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER
- ALLEYWAY BETWEEN DUNSTER STREET AND ST. MICHAELS
ROAD**

Cabinet:

- 2.1. Resolved to make a PSPO which restricts public access to the alleyway linking Dunster Street and St Michaels Road (“the PSPO”), as shown on the plan attached to the draft PSPO at **Appendix 1** and which is part of the public highway, for a period of three years, in accordance with section 59 of the Act.
- 2.2. Resolved to authorise the Chief Executive to install and maintain gates at each end of the alleyway linking Dunster Street and St Michaels Road in order to restrict public access to that highway, in accordance with section 64 (7) and (8) of the Act, and to obtain planning permission for that installation.
- 2.3. Resolved to authorise the Chief Executive to authorise persons and Northamptonshire Police Constables to enforce the PSPO and issue Fixed Penalty Notices (“FPNs”) of £100 for any breaches of it, in accordance with section 68 (1) of the Act.
- 2.4. Authorised the Borough Secretary to complete all of the statutory processes required to make the Order as set out in section 72 of the Act and regulation 2 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (Publication of PSPOs) Regulations 2014.