



CABINET - MONDAY, 21 JULY 2025

NOTICE OF DECISIONS PUBLISHED ON 23 JULY 2025

Item 5
Fenland Inspire! Civil Parking Enforcement Update
Purpose
To update members on progress made to date by FDC and Cambridgeshire County Council in respect of Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) and the revised estimated timeline, costs and scope of works associated with CPE implementation following the previous Cabinet update paper on 18 th December 2023. To seek member approval to proceed with the implementation of CPE having due regard to the updated estimated implementation and running costs and timeline referenced in schedules 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5.
Decision
<p>AGREED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the updated estimated increase in the overall project delivery costs, timelines and CPE running costs post implementation. • Consent to officers proceeding with obtaining updated corrective works costs from Milestone which is likely in itself to incur a cost (currently unknown but estimated to be within the range of £50k to £100k). • Consent to officers proceeding with the implementation of CPE based on the predicted costs contained within this update report in advance of obtaining actual costs. Estimated costs to be brought back to Cabinet for approval upon receipt. • Provide an officer steer on any previously highlighted red line areas within the previously drafted preliminary agency agreement. • Approve the member/officer CPE project team to agree any red line areas in order to progress the CPE project to implementation. This would include the administration of all highway permits, suspensions, waivers and dispensations.
Reason for Decision
None
Alternative Options Considered
<p>The only alternative option is to continue for now with the policy carrying out any enforcement duties for on-street parking contraventions although this is not seen as a priority area of focus for the police. The high level of defective and non-compliant signs and lines on the public highway network throughout the district would certainly make enforcement in any guise challenging at present.</p> <p>The high cost associated with the implementation of CPE within Fenland is largely associated with the lack of sign and line maintenance over a protracted period of time by the Highway Authority. Two of Fenland's neighbouring local authorities have already introduced CPE and a third is scheduled to go live in 2025.</p>

It is likely that following the implementation of the local government reform agenda and the formation of new councils within Cambridgeshire that the existing CEA SEP order would be amended to include Fenland's administrative area. The cost of implementing CPE within Fenland along with all associated corrective sign and line works would transfer to the new authority from April 2028.
Interests
None
Background Documents
FDC Cabinet Paper 18-12-2023

Item 6
Fenland Inspire! Project: Play Equipment
Purpose
This report sets out the options for the scope and budgetary considerations of the Fenland Inspire! play areas project, asking for Cabinet decisions regarding the scope and also delegations necessary to move the project forward.
Decision
<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <p>1.1 Notes the report and the current comprehensive offer to the community in terms of play areas, skate parks, a splash pad and MUGA's across the District.</p> <p>1.2 Notes the General Fund Budget Estimates and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Report, agreed by Cabinet and Council in February which projects a financial shortfall for 2025/26 of £1.432m increasing year on year amounting to around £3.4m by 2027/28.</p> <p>1.3 Instructs officers, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to assess requirements for new play areas on FDC land close to residential areas, or in the event that there are limited options available, to suggest enhancements to existing play areas with a rationale for the play areas selected. Any final decision on these new or enhanced play areas is to be made in the future by Cabinet.</p> <p>1.4 Approves the development of a new play area to replace the existing poor quality play area at Westmead Avenue in Wisbech, to an adjoining position in the same open space, with a maximum budget of £60,000 from the Fenland Inspire! capital project.</p> <p>1.5 Instructs officers to develop a database of current play equipment with an assessment of the useful life left in each piece of equipment, and that any equipment with a life of less than three years is replaced as part of this project, with the capital funding coming from the Fenland Inspire! capital fund.</p> <p>1.6 Notes that the refurbishment of the Manor Leisure Centre will mean the necessary movement of the skate park at Manor Field in Whittlesey, and that Cabinet notes that this work will form part of this play area project in conjunction with other proposed works. The budget will be from the Fenland Inspire! programme but will form part of the overall Manor Leisure refurbishment project costs.</p> <p>1.7 Authorises the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Fenland Inspire! and the Leader of the Council, in his role as Portfolio Holder for</p>

Finance, to execute and complete all requisite legal and governance documentation in relation to Cabinet decisions made regarding the matters outlined above, and that Cabinet authorises the Section 151 Officer to make all necessary financial arrangements within the Fenland Inspire! capital budget to carry forward decisions made by Cabinet as a result of this report.
Reason for Decision
<p>The Fenland Inspire! initiative details new play areas and this paper highlights how this work may be taken forwards. Alongside this, ensuring the quality of current play areas is also included to ensure that the play areas in Fenland remain fit for purpose into the medium-term.</p> <p>This work will determine a budget necessary to deliver the projects concerned from the Fenland Inspire! capital budget and determine a firm scope for the projects for officers to work within.</p>
Alternative Options Considered
Cabinet has been offered options within this paper, but much work remains outstanding and cannot be determined until approval to proceed is in place.
Interests
None
Background Documents
Open Spaces – play area capital investment policy – Cabinet report of December 2023 February 2025 Budget and Business Plan Agenda Items June 2025 Fenland Inspire! Projects Update Agenda Item

Item 7
Fenland Inspire! Project regarding North Drive Recreation Ground - options for new play equipment
Purpose
This report highlights potential options for adding more equipment for young people into the North Drive Recreation Ground in March, following the Cabinet Paper in November 2024 that instructed officers to investigate potential options.
Decision
<p>AGREED that Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructs officers to proceed with a community consultation regarding the option of either a skate park or a BMX Pump track in the location described above on the open space at North Drive Recreation Ground in March. • Notes the original space discussed by Cabinet in November 2024 to be designated as space required for biodiversity net gain following the development of either a skate park or BMX pumping track.
Reason for Decision
None

Alternative Options Considered
Cabinet considered alternative options in the Cabinet paper of November 2024.
Interests
None
Background Documents
<u>November 2024 Cabinet Report regarding North Drive Recreation Ground in March</u>

Item 8
Annual Report 2024/25
Purpose
To present the Annual Report of the Council for Cabinet to note the achievements made in delivering the Council's corporate priorities in 2024/25.
Decision
AGREED to approve the Annual Report of the Council 2024/25.
Reason for Decision
<p>The Annual Report of the Council 2024/25 shows clear performance towards the achievement of our corporate priorities. It is only a summary document; many more projects are ongoing that aim to improve the quality of life for Fenland residents.</p> <p>For Cabinet to note the achievements made in delivering the Council's corporate priorities and for Cabinet to approve the Annual Report of the Council 2024/25.</p>
Alternative Options Considered
No alternative options were considered as the Council has made an ongoing commitment to produce an Annual Report.
Interests
None
Background Documents
Business Plan 2024/25

Item 9
Revenue and Capital Outturn 2024/25
Purpose
To inform Cabinet of the income and expenditure (known as "Outturn") for the Council for 2024/25 and reasons for variations.
Decision

AGREED that:	
(i)	The Outturn for the Council's General Fund services in 2024/25, as detailed at Appendix A and Section 2 of this report be noted and that Members note the transfer of the surplus to the Budget Equalisation Reserve'
(ii)	The reasons for the variations from revised estimate be noted;
(iii)	The current position on the Cambridgeshire Horizons Reserve, as detailed in Section 3 of this report be noted;
(iv)	The proposed Capital Funding schedule for 2024/25 at Appendix B(i) be approved.
Reason for Decision	
None	
Alternative Options Considered	
None	
Interests	
None	
Background Documents	
Budget Setting Reports Monthly Budgetary Control Reports 2024/25 Final Accounts Working Papers 2024/25	

Item 10	
Policy and Procedures for Supporting Residents Experiencing Domestic Abuse	
Purpose	
<p>The Housing Options Team is working towards Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation for the Council. The process entails evidencing our approach to domestic abuse survivors including producing relevant policy.</p> <p>There is a requirement under DAHA accreditation that we will produce a policy and procedures outlining how we will support members of the community who are survivors of domestic abuse.</p>	
Decision	
AGREED to approve the Policy and Procedure set out in Appendix B for supporting residents experiencing domestic abuse.	
Reason for Decision	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy concerned is for supporting residents of Fenland who are experiencing domestic abuse. • The policy and procedure provide advice and information to help support our customers who are experiencing domestic abuse. • The document is based on good practice and meets the criteria set out by DAHA. The accreditation process requires the document to be policy and procedures as opposed to procedures. • Training has been launched as part of a suite of mandatory training to be undertaken by all 	

<p>staff. Two other levels of training have been undertaken by the council Domestic Abuse Champions - level 2 and level 3 by the Council's Housing Options Team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy and procedures will be reviewed in 3 years or before in response to legislative changes or good practice. As part of the review the council will understand any learning when the policy has been utilised.
Alternative Options Considered
No alternative options have been considered as it is to meet accreditation criteria laid down by the DAHA system.
Interests
None
Background Documents
None

Item 13
Port Operations Report (CONFIDENTIAL)
Purpose
To provide Members with an update regarding FDC's ongoing position relating to Wisbech Port, following actions agreed at Cabinet in May 2025.
Decision
AGREED to all recommendations in the confidential report, plus an additional recommendation.
Reason for Decision
N/A
Alternative Options Considered
All options in relation to Wisbech Port have been set out to Members in previous Cabinet reports. This report updates Members on the action to date.
Interests
None
Background Documents
Previous confidential Cabinet papers (19 May 2025, 16 December 2024, 16 March 2023)

Additional information regarding these decisions is available from
Amy Brown – Tel: 01354 622452

The 30 July 2025 at 1700 hours is the expiry date for call-in by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel of any of the above decisions. These decisions will come into force and may then be implemented on 31 July 2025, with the exception of any that the Overview and Scrutiny Panel calls in.

