

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 5</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Business Rates Discretionary Relief
<b>Status</b>	Recommendation Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	That the extension to the local Business Rates Discretionary Relief Policy in respect of charitable and voluntary organisations for one year from 1 April 2021 be approved.
<b>Options Considered</b>	<p>The Council could choose not to extend the scheme.</p> <p>This option has been discounted because of the beneficial impact to local communities of the services provided. In addition, there could potentially be increased demand for Council services should these services be withdrawn.</p>
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	Extending the scheme for charitable and voluntary organisations continues to support a range of organisations providing support to vulnerable groups allowing the Council to foster good relations and enhance equal opportunities.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 6</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Nominations Agreement with Registered Housing Providers
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the revised Agreement between the Council and Registered Providers of Social Housing for Nominations be approved.</li> <li>2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member City Assets and Housing, in consultation with the Director of City Environment to agree future revisions to the Nominations Agreement.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	<p><b>Option 1</b> - to continue with the current agreement which has not been updated to ensure it aligns with the Council's Allocations Policy and so does not provide a clear and consistent approach as to the Council's expectations including on arrangements for monitoring nominations. This could result in the Council not making best use of affordable homes that become available in the city for those in housing need.</p> <p><b>Option 2</b> - to only update the parts of the Agreement where changes to process both in the Allocations Policy and within Wolverhampton Homes Lettings Team have occurred. Whilst this will bring the Agreement in line with both the Allocations Policy and any changes in processes it would not satisfy the need for more effective monitoring of properties offered for nomination by RPs or the need to ensure that those in the greatest housing need are not being overlooked in favour of those with a lesser presentation of housing need.</p> <p><b>Option 3</b> - to adopt the revised Nominations Agreement as detailed in Appendix 1. This will ensure the Council is meeting its legislative requirements and is responding to the current operating environment as reflected by the revised Allocations Policy objectives, including making best use of the Council and RP homes and ensuring those in the greatest housing need have the greatest opportunity for accessing suitable accommodation.</p>

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	Option 3 will provide the Council with a Nominations Agreement that is fit for purpose, aligned to current policy and practice including an improved mechanism for the monitoring of Nominations to ensure that those on the housing register and in the greatest housing need are being fairly considered when nominations are provided to Registered Providers, assisting the Council in making the best use of all affordable housing that becomes available in the city.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 7</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Prescribed Alterations to Specialist Educational Provision
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the proposed prescribed alteration to St Michael’s CE (A) Primary School be approved.</li> <li>2. That the capital allocation and the release of funds to establish new accommodation for a Resource Base at St Michael’s CE (A) Primary School be approved.</li> <li>3. That the outcomes of Pre-publication Consultation and Representation in relation to the proposed prescribed alterations to St Michael’s CE (A) Primary School be received and noted.</li> <li>4. That the Council entering into a Grant Agreement with St Michael’s CE (A) Primary School be approved.</li> <li>5. That the virement from the Special Provision Capital Fund to the St Michael’s CE (A) Primary School Project to fund the establishment of a new Resource Base to cater for pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties be approved.</li> <li>6. That the awarding of a grant to St Michael’s CE (A) Primary School to fund the establishment of new accommodation be approved.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	<p>Whilst alternative solutions exist, the proposed changes offer practical opportunities to maximise the efficient and timely use of resources and align to the Council’s strategic aspirations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Ensure Wolverhampton’s school estate is fit for purpose and meets the full range of more complex needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities now being placed.”</li> <li>• “Develop local provision in order to reduce the number of children needing residential and out of area education, health and care services.” (City of Wolverhampton Council 2016).</li> </ul>

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	The proposals would support the Council to develop high quality educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and ensure that community needs can be met effectively.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 8</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Adult Education Traineeship Budget
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Council enters the Contract for Services with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to deliver Traineeships.</li> <li>2. That the creation of supplementary revenue expenditure budgets up to £33,000 fully funded from income to support the Traineeships programme be approved.</li> <li>3. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration, to annually approve entering into a Contract for Services with the ESFA for up to a further three years.</li> <li>4. That it be noted that this contract is anticipated to generate up to £308,000 of income from the (ESFA) for the delivery of Traineeships.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	An alternative option would be to not accept the Contract for Services for Traineeships. This would mean Adult Education could not deliver Traineeships as a pathway for young people to gain employment. It would mean less opportunity for young people to gain work experience and improve their employability skills.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	Approving receipt of the budget and Contract for Services for Traineeships will provide increased opportunities for young people in the city. It will provide valuable work experience and employability skills. It will provide a pathway to employment and form part of the wider offer to young people in Wolverhampton.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 9</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Acquisition of Privately Owned Empty Property by Agreement or Compulsory Purchase: 91 Griffiths Drive, Wolverhampton, West Midlands. WV11 2JW
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Director of City Environment be authorised to negotiate terms for the acquisition of the property 91 Griffiths Drive, Wolverhampton, WV11 2JW and, in default of that acquisition, give authority for a compulsory purchase order (CPO) to be made under Part II Section 17 Housing Act 1985 in respect of the property.</li> <li>2. That expenditure for the potential acquisition of the property, with subsequent capital receipts being recycled within the Empty Property Strategy programme be approved.</li> <li>3. That in the event that the property is improved and re-occupied to the satisfaction of the Director of City Environment, the withdrawal of the property from the CPO be authorised.</li> <li>4. That following any acquisition, the Director of City Environment be authorised to dispose of the property on the open market on condition that the property is refurbished and re-occupied within six or 12 months (as appropriate to the scale of the works).</li> <li>5. That the Director of Governance be authorised to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Take all reasonable steps as soon as it is reasonably practical to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the CPO including the publication and service of all Notices and the presentation of the Council's case at any Public Inquiry.</li> <li>b. Approve agreements with the owners of the property setting out the terms for the withdrawal of objections to the CPO, and/or making arrangements for re-housing or relocation of any occupiers.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Approve the making of a General Vesting Declaration (the property is brought into Council ownership via this process).</li> <li>d. Approve the disposal of the whole and/ or parts of the property by auction, tender or private treaty.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Options Considered</b></p>	<p><b>Do nothing</b> – the property is likely to remain empty, continue to be a wasted housing resource, continue to have a detrimental effect on the amenity of the area and continue to be a drain on the public purse.</p> <p><b>Empty Dwelling Management Order (EDMO)</b> – An EDMO is considered to be a less draconian option than a compulsory purchase. However, the cost of refurbishment could place a strain on the Council’s finances. It may not be possible to recover the cost of initial refurbishment and subsequent management/ maintenance through the rental income generated over the seven years that a Final EDMO could be in place.</p> <p><b>Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO)</b> – The prospect of a CPO often prompts the owner to act leading to the property being refurbished and re-occupied. However, if it is necessary to acquire the property, the proposals for the onward disposal and refurbishment set out at 5.0 of the report ensure that the property is brought back into use.</p>
<p><b>Reasons for Decision</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To ensure that the property provides much needed housing by prompting the owner(s) either act voluntarily or via enforcement through a CPO.</li> <li>b. To ensure that the property does not continue to be a drain on public resources.</li> <li>c. To ensure that the detrimental effect that the property is having on the area is removed.</li> <li>d. To ensure that the property has a positive financial impact on the public purse through additional New Homes Bonus funding.</li> <li>e. The proposal to pursue a CPO is the most cost effective in terms of financial and physical resources for the Council.</li> </ul>

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021

<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 10</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Schedule of Individual Executive Decision Notices
<b>Status</b>	Recommendation Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	That the summary of open and exempt individual executive decisions approved by the appropriate Cabinet Members following consultation with relevant employees be noted.
<b>Options Considered</b>	Not applicable in relation to the summary report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	In accordance with the Council's Constitution a summary of open and exempt individual executive decisions approved by the appropriate Cabinet Members following consultation with relevant employees must be reported to the next available meeting of the Cabinet (Resources) Panel.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	18 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 11</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Exclusion of press and public
<b>Status</b>	Recommendation Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
<b>Options Considered</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	Not applicable.

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 12</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Procurement Award of Contracts for Works, Goods, and Services
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the award of the contract for Arthur Street bridge main works to Eurovia Infrastructure Limited T/A Eurovia Contracting North of Pioneer Close, Wath Upon Dearne, Rotherham, S63 7JZ for a duration of four months from 17 February 2021 to 16 June 2021 for a total contract value of £687,000 be approved.</li> <li>2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Environment, in consultation with the Director of City Environment, to approve the award of a contract for a Fleet Management System when the evaluation process is complete.</li> <li>3. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Environment, in consultation with the Director of City Environment, to approve the award of a contract for streetlighting central management system when the evaluation process is complete.</li> <li>4. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to approve the award of a contract for Asset Valuations when the evaluation process is complete.</li> <li>5. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People in consultation with the Director of Children’s and Adult Services to approve the award of the contract for the Specialist Intensive Therapeutic Support service when the evaluation process is complete.</li> <li>6. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive, to approve the award of a contract for Sandwiches and Food-to-Go when the evaluation process is complete.</li> </ol>

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

	7. That the exemptions to the Contract Procedure Rules approved by the Head of Procurement and Director of Finance from 1 to 31 December 2020 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be noted.
<b>Options Considered</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 13</b>	
<b>Title</b>	49 & 51 School Lane, Bushbury - Structural condition and demolition.
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the demolition of 49 and 51 School Lane, Bushbury and outbuildings due to the structural defects as outlined in paragraph 3 of the report be approved.</li> <li>2. That the award of Home Loss and Disturbance payment to the tenants as outlined in paragraph 2.2 of the report and to pay 25% of the Home Loss payment in advance, when suitable alternative accommodation is offered and accepted be approved.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 14</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Appropriation of Bond House to the Housing Revenue Account
<b>Status</b>	Recommendation Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	That the appropriation of Bond House from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account be approved.
<b>Options Considered</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 15</b>	
<b>Title</b>	New Park Village Redevelopment Programme
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 That the phasing plan of the Ellerton Walk redevelopment area as set out in section 4.0 and Appendix 1 to the report be approved.</li> <li>2 That the demolition of all housing and retail units as set out in the proposed phasing plan for the Estate as shown at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.</li> <li>3. That all initial development project budget spend as outlined in paragraph 5 of the report be approved.</li> <li>4. That the options as shown in Appendix 3 to be offered during negotiations with owners of leasehold and freehold properties within Ellerton Walk, Shawbury Road and Valley Road be approved.</li> <li>5 That the process where owners wish to seek a second property valuation during the negotiation period be agreed.</li> <li>6. That the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1985 as detailed in paragraph 7 and shown coloured pink on Appendix 3 to the report be approved.</li> <li>7. That negotiations be entered into with the freeholder of commercial units as detailed in paragraph 7 of the report, with a view to acquiring the units to incorporate the land into the development site. If negotiations fail, the making of a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) under Part II, Section 17, Housing Act 1985 as shown coloured pink on Appendix 5 to the report be approved.</li> </ol>

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

8. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing in consultation with the Director of City Environment to agree the expenditure on individual property purchases, including payment Home Loss and Disturbance payments, using the Land Compensation Act 1973 as a basis for compensation payments.
9. That replacement units of temporary accommodation within the Council housing stock as they are lost on the estate be approved.
10. That further Statutory Home Loss Compensation of £6500 (in any 12-month period), for each resident that has qualified previously for Statutory Home Loss Compensation be approved. This applies to residents who have already moved from one maisonette block to another suitable property on the estate (including those Maisonettes earmarked for demolition) so that it enables the speedy demolition and redevelopment of the estate.
11. That the Chief Legal Officer or other authorised officers be authorised to execute legal documentation to put the purchases into effect.
12. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing in consultation with the Director of City Environment to approve any other agreements including deed of covenants, collateral warranties, assignments and such other ancillary agreements, including variations as may be deemed necessary to facilitate the redevelopment of the estate.
13. That the progression of a local lettings plan for this development for both temporary decanting and newbuild redevelopment on the estate be approved.
14. That it be noted that an Independent Tenant and Home Advisor for New Park Village Tenant Management Cooperative (NPV TMC) is being procured separately from this report. This is for the use for of NPV TMC and its residents as well as the Council to ensure that residents have access to impartial advice concerning all redevelopment matters on the estate.

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021

	15. That it be noted that further reports on the redevelopment proposals for the New Park Village Estate would be submitted to the Panel.
<b>Options Considered</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	23 February 2021

**City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 February 2021**

<b>Item 16</b>	
<b>Title</b>	Procurement - Mobile Lateral Flow Testing
<b>Status</b>	Recommendations Approved
<b>Record of Decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Director of Public Health, to approve the award of a contract for Mobile Lateral Flow Testing once negotiations are complete.</li> <li>2. That the virement of £597,000 from the Contained Outbreak Management Fund Grant to support the mobile lateral flow testing requirement be approved.</li> </ol>
<b>Options Considered</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Reasons for Decision</b>	As detailed in the exempt report.
<b>Record of Conflicts of Interest</b>	None
<b>Dispensation Granted</b>	Not applicable
<b>Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)</b>	18 February 2021