

This report will be made public on 25 April 2022

Report number **A/22/08**

To: Council
Date: 4 May 2022
Status: Non-Executive Decision
Responsible Officer: Amandeep Khroud, Assistant Director – Governance and Law

SUBJECT: ANNUAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES ADOPTED BY CABINET AND AN UPDATE ON URGENT DECISIONS 2021/22

SUMMARY: This report is the annual report of policies and strategies that have been adopted, by Cabinet, during the 2021/22 municipal year.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Council is asked to agree the recommendations set out below, as the Council's constitution (Part 4.1, paragraph 1.2.4) provides that Cabinet is required to submit an annual report, to Council, detailing the policies that have been approved by the cabinet during the previous municipal year. Council shall also have the option of including any of the policies in the Policy Framework

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To receive and note report A/22/08.
2. To remove both the Budget Strategy and the Treasury Management Strategy from the Policy Framework for the reasons set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In accordance with the Folkestone and Hythe District Council Constitution (Part 4.1, paragraph 1.3), Cabinet shall submit an annual report to Council, detailing the policies that have been approved in the previous municipal year, which are not those mentioned in the Policy Framework.
- 1.2 Following consideration of the report, Council shall have the opportunity of including any of those policies or strategies, approved by Cabinet, in the Policy Framework.
- 1.3 In addition, this report will also serve to report to council on the use of urgency powers when the call-in procedure has not applied, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution (Part 6.3, paragraph 19.4).

2. POLICIES AND STRATEGIES THAT HAVE BEEN ADOPTED, REVISED OR UPDATED DURING THE YEAR 2021/22

- 2.1 Policies and strategies that have been adopted, revised or updated by Cabinet during the 2021/22 municipal year, which are not in the Policy Framework are:
 - Corporate Complaints Policy.
 - Housing Compliance Policies.
 - Housing Compensation Policy.
 - Contaminated Land Strategy.
 - Housing Asset Management Strategy.
 - Review of Risk Management Policy.
 - Street naming and numbering policy.

3. UPDATE TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 At the Annual Meeting held on 5 May 2021, a number of policies and strategies were included in the Policy Framework. This included both the Budget Strategy, and the Treasury Management Strategy. On a practical basis, the inclusion of both these Strategies have created some operational problems in terms of the timetabling of financial papers. In addition CiPFA's Prudential Code no longer requires the Treasury Management Strategy to be reported to Full Council, instead the Investment & Capital Strategies now have that requirement which include the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and the Prudential Indicators. Therefore, it is recommended that both strategies be removed from the Policy Framework, although Members can be assured they will continue to have oversight of both papers when they are presented to the Finance & Performance Sub-Committee and Cabinet.
- 3.2 Members also have the option of including any of the policies set out at paragraph 2.1 in the Policy Framework.

3. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER THE URGENCY PROVISIONS

- 3.1 As per paragraph 19.4 of part 6 of the Constitution, there is a requirement that executive decisions taken using Rule 13 (Special Urgency) in the preceding year be reported to the Annual meeting, along with a summary of the matters in respect of which those decisions were taken. There were no decisions taken using Rule 13 in the municipal year 21/22.
- 3.2 There were however 5 urgent decisions taken using Rule 12 (General Exception) and call-in was disregarded for two of those decisions as per paragraph 7 of part 6 of the constitution (Call-in and urgency).

4. LEGAL/FINANCIAL AND OTHER CONTROLS/POLICY MATTERS

4.1 Legal Officer's Comments (AK)

There are no legal comments.

4.2 Finance Officer's Comments

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report: the financial implications of individual policies would have been contained within the specific reports at the time the policies were adopted.

4.3 Diversities and Equalities Implications (AK)

Where necessary, an equality impact assessment has been prepared in support of each policy and is appended to that policy.

5. CONTACT OFFICER AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Councillors with any questions arising from this report should contact the following officer prior to the meeting:

Jemma West, Committee Services Specialist
Telephone: 01303 853369
Email: jemma.west@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

The following background documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report:

None