



**FINANCE & ASSETS COMMITTEE – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020**  
**DECISION LIST**

ITEM NO.	Ref.	Item	ISSUE	DECISION	ACTION BY
6.	V37	Internal Audit Annual Report	To report on the work of Internal Audit and the annual opinion for 2019/20	It was resolved:  That the Internal Audit Report and opinion for 2019/20 be approved.	Finance Manager
7.	V38	Draft Annual Governance Statement	To receive the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20	It was resolved:  That consideration of the Draft Annual Governance Statement for the financial year 2019/20, be deferred until the September meeting of Committee, to allow for issues raised in the meeting to be addressed	Finance Manager
8.	V39	ECDC Environment & Climate Change Strategy & action Plan – Consideration of Resources Required	On 17 October 2019, Full Council passed a 'climate change motion', which declared a climate emergency and agreed a number of actions to take place. On 8 June 2020, Operational Services Committee approved the Council's first 'Environment Plan', which provides a strategy and action plan to deliver on the commitments of the Motion. In approving the Environment Plan, Operational Services Committee resolved that Finance and Assets Committee consider how the actions outlined in the Plan be suitably resourced.	It was resolved unanimously:  That the Committee:  A) Notes and welcomes the recent adoption of the Council's first Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (June 2020);  B) Supports all efforts to embed a strong 'think climate, think environment' culture in all the Council's activities and decision making; and  C) Approves the creation of a new annual budget to deliver on the Actions set out in the Plan, to the sum of £100,000 per annum.(reviewable each year, as part of the normal budget setting process), with such spend in 2020/21 to be broadly in line with the proposed spend set out in this Report. The finance to support the strategy will come from an annual in-year draw from the Surplus Savings Reserve.	Director Operations

9.	V40	Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy 2020-2023	To consider the Council's Draft Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy 2020=2023 for consultation.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>(A) <u>Black Lives Matter Motion</u></p> <p>Motion carried (text of motion at end of Decision List);</p> <p>(B) <u>Equality, Diversity &amp; Inclusion Policy 2020-2023</u></p> <p>That consideration of the Draft Equality, Diversity &amp; Inclusion Policy 2020-2023 be deferred until the September meeting of Committee, to allow for issues raised in the meeting to be addressed.</p>	HR Manager
10.	V41	Little Thetford Community Land Trust (CLT) Grant Application	To consider a grant application from Little Thetford Community Land Trust	<p>It was resolved unanimously:</p> <p>That the £5,000 grant application, to benefit Little Thetford Community Land Trust, be approved</p>	Director Commercial
11.	V42	2019/20 Treasury Operations Annual Performance Review	To report on the Council's treasury operations during the 2019/20 financial year	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To note the contents of this report on the Council's treasury operations during 2019/20, including the prudential and treasury indicators as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report; and</p> <p><b>It was further resolved:</b></p> <p><b>To recommend to Full Council approval of the report.</b></p>	Finance Manager

12.	V43	Finance Report : Quarter 1 2020/21	To provide Members with budget monitoring information for services under the Finance & assets Committee and then, as part of its corporate remit, for the Council as a whole.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To approve the slippages from 2019/20 being added to the 2020/21 budget as detailed on the slippage column on appendix 3.</li> <li>2) To note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Committee has a projected yearend overspend of £553,000 when compared to its approved revenue budget of £4,655,272.</li> <li>• That overall the Council has a projected yearend overspend of £496,000 when compared to its approved revenue budget of £13,278,311.</li> <li>• That the overall position for the Council on Capital is a projected outturn of £5,199,116, which is an overspend of £10,000 when compared to its revised budget of £5,189,116.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Finance Manager
13.	V44	Financial Outturn Report 2019/20	To provide Members with budget monitoring information for services under the Finance & Assets Committee and then, as part of its corporate remit, for the Council as a whole.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To note that this Committee has a yearend underspend of £807,631 when compared to its approved revenue budget of £5,181,667;</li> <li>• To note that overall the Council has a yearend underspend of £1,690,450 when compared to its approved revenue budget of £13,445,801;</li> <li>• To note that the overall position for the Council on Capital is an outturn of £2,363,745, which is an underspend of £8,772,060 when compared to its revised budget.</li> </ul>	Finance Manager

14.	V45	Bus Services and Cycling and Walking Routes Consultation Update	To receive an update on the Bus Services and Cycling and Walking Routes Consultation.	It was resolved: That the report be noted.	Infrastructure & Strategy Manager
15.	V46	Assets Update	To receive an update on Council owned assets.	It was resolved: That the update on Council owned assets be noted.	Director Commercial/Open Spaces & Facilities Manager
16.	-	Forward Agenda Plan	To receive the Forward Agenda Plan for the Committee	It was resolved: That the Forward Agenda Plan and the comments made thereon, be noted.	Democratic Services Officer (Committees)
17.	-	<b>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS &amp; PUBLIC</b>		It was resolved:  That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of the remaining items because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Categories 1, 2 & 3 of Part I Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).	
18	V47	Appointments, Transfers & Resignations	To provide the Finance and Assets Committee with: (i) details of staff appointments, transfers and resignations for the period 1 February to 31 July 2020; and  (ii) A summary of the Exit Questionnaire responses.	It was resolved:  That the content of the information report be noted.	HR Manager
19	V48	Asset Matter in the Parish of Ely	To consider the proposed course of action as set out in the submitted report.	It was resolved:  To approve the proposed course of action, as set out in the submitted report.	Director Commercial

### **Black Lives Matter**

#### Council notes:

1. In the UK 26% of instances of police using firearms are against Black people, despite Black people making up only 3.3% (1) of the population. 51% of young men in custody in the UK are from Black, Asian or minority ethnic backgrounds, despite these groups making up only 14% (2) of the UK population.

The 2017 Lammy Report concluded that “BAME individuals still face bias, including overt discrimination, in parts of the justice system”. Most recently, we’ve seen that BAME people are 54% (3) more likely than white people to be fined under the new coronavirus lockdown laws.

2. Here in East Cambs, Black people face being stopped by police just because they are Black. An example of this happening in Ely was recently posted on social media. Data from Stop Watch shows that in 2018/2019, police officers in Cambridgeshire subjected Black people to stop and search at a rate of 6 (4) times more than white people.

3. The police killing of George Floyd in June 2020, has led to protests against the killing of Black people by police everywhere from Floyd’s home of Minneapolis, to the UK, Japan, and New Zealand. The world knows George Floyd’s name, and his death has fuelled a movement to end police violence against Black people.

(1) [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/764894/police-use-of-force-apr2017-mar2018-hosb3018.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/764894/police-use-of-force-apr2017-mar2018-hosb3018.pdf)

(2) [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf)

(3) <https://www.itv.com/news/2020-06-17/bame-people-50-more-likely-to-receive-coronavirus-lockdown-fines-mps-told/>

(4) <https://www.stop-watch.org/your-area/area/cambridgeshire>

East Cambridgeshire District Council believes that:

A. Racism in all forms, both structural and in individuals, continues to be a serious and often unseen problem throughout the UK, including in East Cambridgeshire. The needs and challenges of Black people may differ from those of Asian people and also those of other minority ethnic groups and the Council will ensure that this is reflected in our approach to equality, diversity and inclusion.

B. Although progress has been made in combating racism in all its forms, more work is needed to eradicate it entirely.

This Council, representing people in East Cambridgeshire, welcomes its duty to actively lead that work locally.

Council resolves to meet the challenge head-on with immediate action to:

- I. Review and recommend concrete actions on ensuring that we maintain an actively anti-racist outlook within the area of BAME access to housing and to homelessness & welfare support.
- II. Commit to taking an active part in Black History Month.
- III. Write to the Minister for Schools asking the government to provide resources to schools to support them in providing further historical context for events normally only seen through the lens of white British history.
- IV. Ask the Covid-19 Working Group to produce and publish a report on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on BAME communities in East Cambridgeshire by the end of 2020, to be reviewed by the Finance and Assets Committee, and shared with BAME community representatives.
- V. Ask the police to put in place measures to ensure that arrest and custody measures are proportionate and to report on what measures have been put in place to reduce the disproportionality of BAME people affected by the use of stop and search powers and how often these measures are reviewed, and to provide a regular report on their website as to initiatives and progress.

On a long term basis Council believes there is a need to further address racism, and therefore resolves to, over time:

- VI. Ask officers to regularly review our progress on the measures above, report progress to Finance & Assets Committee and recommend to Council any additional steps required to achieve these goals.

- VII. Review and examine the internal structures of East Cambs District Council to ensure Black Asian and Minority Ethnic people are not disadvantaged. Understand specifically how many minority ethnic people the council employ, where are they working, what barriers, if any exist to their career progression and recommend any changes required to our staff policies and procedures to ensure that they are inclusive.
- VIII. Ask the Combined Authority to produce a toolkit for businesses to help broaden their understanding of race inequality in the workplace, including but not limited to materials, signposts to relevant local groups and training that can be provided for staff, and links to relevant networks.

Proposer: Cllr David Brown

Seconder: Cllr Ian Bovingdon.

***Please Note: These decisions will come into effect on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2020 unless any 3 Members object and call-in the decision. The call-in must be in writing to the Chief Executive and be received by Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020.***

***Recommendations of the Policy Committees to other bodies (or to Council) cannot be called-in, nor can any decisions categorised as urgent in accordance with the call-in procedure.***