

# SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

## POLICY COMMITTEE DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday 27 September 2023 by the Waste & Street Scene Policy Committee.

### **Item No**

#### **8. QUARTER 1 BUDGET MONITORING (2023/24)**

8.1 This report brings the Committee up to date with the Council's outturn position for Quarter 1 2023/24 General Fund revenue position.

8.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee notes the updated information and management actions provided by this report on the Quarter 1 2023/24 Revenue Budget Outturn as described in this report.

#### **8.3 Reasons for Decision**

8.3.1 To record formally changes to the Revenue Budget

#### **8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

8.4.1 The Council is required to both set a balance budget and to ensure that in-year income and expenditure are balanced. No other alternatives were considered.

#### **9. REVIEW OF AMEY PERFORMANCE CHALLENGE**

9.1 To provide an update on contract performance and notify the Committee of proposed new ways of working in relation to a Contract for Highways Maintenance between Sheffield City Council and Amey Hallam Highways (AHH) (subcontracted to Amey LG (Amey) as part of a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract dated 31 July 2012 which is due to expire in 2037 (the Contract)).

9.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee:-

1. notes the Amey Contract Performance Report at closed Appendix 3 together with the proposal for officers to continue to monitor Amey's performance of the Contract considering Appendix 3 and report back to Committee by February 2024 as to progress;
2. notes the trials on new ways of working for street cleansing, leafing and planned drainage programmes;
3. notes areas of improvement to strengthen monitoring and auditing function; and
4. notes full compliance on carriageway and footway surfacing and that Amey

are no longer in default.

### 9.3 **Reasons for Decision**

9.3.1 The reason for this report is for the Committee to note the points outlined above and in the closed Appendix 3 and note Officers proposed way forward.

### 9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

9.4.1 There were no alternatives considered and rejected.

## 10. **GLYPHOSATE REDUCTION TRIAL UPDATE: HIGHWAYS**

10.1 As per item 8 of the Decision taken by the Cooperative Executive on 22 September 2021, the Cooperative Executive resolved to agree that a further report detailing the outcomes of the Council's trials in reducing the usage of Glyphosate be brought to a future meeting for consideration. This Reports brings those outcomes to the Committee's attention.

10.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee:-

1. agrees to the continuation of the city-wide reduction in the use of Glyphosate where viable until December 2025, pending central government guidance and/or legislation on the use of pesticides in the public realm and to bring a further report to committee once that guidance and/or legislation has been published;
2. agrees to implement a suite of educational and informational measures as to what citizens can do to help the Council in delivering a weed free environment to be implemented when seasonally relevant, until December 2025; and
3. requests that a report be brought back to the Committee in February 2024 setting out options for phasing out the use of Glyphosate.

### 10.3 **Reasons for Decision**

10.3.1 Approval of the recommendations will allow:

- A continuous reduction in the use of glyphosate in highway areas across all of Sheffield.
- The opportunity to work with residents in various areas of the city to promote awareness and encourage action in line with the Nature Emergency outcomes. This will achieve an important step in the city's response to the declared Nature Emergency.

- Alignment with the timescales for further central government guidance and/or legislation and future licensing of information on the future licensing of Glyphosate.

#### 10.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

10.4.1 The option to 'do nothing' was considered and discounted considering both the declaration of a Nature Emergency and the support received for the petition against the use of Glyphosate.

10.4.2 The option to cease the use of Glyphosate on all land immediately was considered but discounted due to high level of cost/expenditure. Sheffield has 1,064,045.03 square metres of high usage footways and 8,77,757.67 square metres of lower use footways in the city.

Based on a "worst case scenario" of around 10% of the footway network failing between 2023 and 2037 due to weeds and vegetation this is estimated to cover around £116 million pounds in resurfacing.

Additional Street Cleansing Costs have also been modelled based on 42 additional operatives, additional road sweepers, and other vehicles, and plant machinery being brought into the operation to uplift street cleansing service to manually remove weeds has also been costed at around £2.4 million per year – circa £32 million over the remainder of the PFI contract.

Therefore, the total potential cost implication of complete cessation in a worst-case scenario could be as high as £150 million of additional expenditure. This may however be mitigated should there be a legislative change.

### 11. **CIVIL PARKING AND BUS LANE ENFORCEMENT POLICY**

11.1 The report seeks approval of an updated Civil Parking and Bus Lane Enforcement Policy.

The policy provides updated information and guidance on:

- national regulations and government guidance;
- how enforcement is carried out for parking and bus lane contraventions;
- service objectives for enforcement; and
- the appeals process that motorists must follow to dispute a parking or bus lane ticket and a guide to our cancellation policies.

This is aimed at ensuring our policies:

- reflect national regulations and guidance;
- are transparent; and
- are consistent.

11.2 **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:** That the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee approves the updated Civil Parking and Bus Lane Enforcement Policy as amended and presented by officers at the meeting.

11.3 **Reasons for Decision**

11.3.1 The Department for Transport sets out that civil enforcement policies should be consistent, fair and effective. The existing policies need updating to reflect current regulations and enforcement options available to the local authority.

It is recommended that Members approve the policy in order for the updated recommendations to be implemented

11.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

11.4.1 Leave the observation period for restrictions where loading exemptions apply at 5 minutes but just reduce this to 3 minutes for yellow lines near schools. Initial patterns noted from observations carried out by CEOs suggest that most loading activity is spotted within the first few minutes. Applying 3 minutes generally is more consistent than doing so just at certain locations and would contribute to more efficient enforcement.

**12. CHRISTMAS PARKING OFFER**

12.1 The purpose of this report is to set out, following a request from the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Committee, options for consideration in terms of parking concessions in the City Centre, seeking to increase footfall to support the Christmas retail and hospitality offer.

12.2 **RESOLVED:**

12.2.1 That the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee agrees to option 3 as detailed in the report: that a Christmas parking offer will not be implemented in the city centre.

(NOTE: Councillors Mike Chaplin, Alexi Dimond, Tony Downing, Christine Gilligan Kubo, Mark Jones and Sioned-Mair Richards requested that their votes for the recommendation be recorded.

Councillors Sue Alston, Tim Huggan and Joe Otten requested that their votes against the recommendation be recorded.)

12.2.2 That the Waste and Street Scene Policy Committee notes that the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee may authorise officers to liaise with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to identify potential measures to promote and / or incentivise the use of public transport over the Christmas period, and further recommend that it does so.

(NOTE: Councillors Sue Alston, Alexi Dimond, Christine Gilligan Kubo Tim Huggan and Joe Otten requested that their votes for the recommendation be recorded.

Councillors Mike Chaplin, Tony Downing, Mark Jones and Sioned-Mair Richards requested their votes against the recommendation be recorded.)

### 12.3 **Reasons for Decision**

- 12.3.1 This report sets out options for consideration in terms of parking concessions in the City Centre, seeking to increase footfall to support the Christmas retail and hospitality offer. Any decision to implement such an approach should be made in the context of the potential cost and impact on footfall of the proposed approach.

### 12.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 12.4.1 The Council could choose to support a public transport offer to promote the use of public transport and/or active travel in partnership with transport operators and the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority. It could alternately make a decision to invest in the cost of supporting offers to increase public transport take up.

It should however be noted that this would be a matter for the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee. A decision from that committee would be required so as to take such a proposal forward.

On that basis, this Committee may therefore wish to consider making a recommendation to the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee that it authorises officers to liaise with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority to identify potential measures to promote and / or incentivise the use of public transport over the Christmas period.