

# Portfolio Holder Decisions

Date: Friday, 21 February 2020

Time: 12.00 pm

Venue: Online

## Membership

Items on the agenda: -

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**Monica Fogarty**  
Chief Executive  
Warwickshire County Council

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## Portfolio Holder Decision – ERDF Business Support Programme – Phase 3

<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	<b>Leader</b>
<b>Date of decision</b>	<b>Meeting Date</b>
	<b>Signed</b> 

Decision taken
<p>That the Leader of the Council</p> <p>(1) Approves the submission of an application for up to an additional £0.7 million from the European Regional Development Fund to extend the Council's business support programme for 18 months from January 2022 to June 2023.</p> <p>(2) Subject to approval of the funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Approves varying the contract with Coventry and Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce for the provision of the Warwickshire start-up programme.</li> <li>b. Approves varying the back-to-back agreements with Coventry &amp; Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust and University of Warwick Science Park.</li> <li>c. Authorises the Strategic Director for Communities to negotiate variations to all relevant contracts and agreements on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.</li> </ol>

Reasons for decisions
Bids for external funding require the approval of the Portfolio Holder

Background information
<p>1.0 Key Issues</p> <p>1.1 The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) are the European Union's (EU) main mechanism for supporting economic growth. Coventry and Warwickshire has a notional</p>

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## Portfolio Holder Decision – Developer-funded Scheme Approvals

<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	<b>LeadMember</b>
<b>Date of decision</b>	<b>Deputy Leader (Finance and Property)</b> <b>Meeting Date</b>
	<b>Signed</b> 

### Decision taken

That the Deputy Leader (Finance and Property) gives approval to the addition of the following schemes to the Capital Programme for 2019/2020:

- A452 Europa Way, Warwick. Developer – Barwood Land. Approximate value £150,000
- A46 / C32 Birmingham Road, Stoneleigh. Developers – Coventry City Council and Coventry and Warwickshire Development Partnership LLP. Approximate value £100,000

### Reasons for decisions

On 21 May 2019 Council reconfirmed the delegated power to the Leader, or body nominated by them, to approve the addition to the capital programme of projects costing less than £2.0 million, which are fully funded from external grants, developer contributions or from revenue. The Deputy Leader (Finance and Property) is that nominated body.

### Background information


These schemes will be fully funded by developer contributions ring-fenced for the fees and works specified. In the case of Section 278 schemes there are no alternative uses for the contributions and the addition of these schemes will not affect the overall level of available capital resources.

Where a highway scheme is considered and approved as part of the planning process, the courts have made it clear that the highway / traffic authority is expected to co-operate in its implementation unless some exceptional or changed circumstances call for a different approach.

It has not yet been determined how the construction contracts for these works will be procured. Subsequent reports may become necessary to seek approval to proceed, subject to the

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## Decision Record – School Term Dates 2021/22 Academic Year

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Portfolio Holder for Education &amp; Learning</b>
<b>Date of decision</b>	<b>21 February 2020</b>
	<b>Signed</b> 

### Decision taken

Approval of the school term and holiday dates for the 2021/22 academic year as set out in Background Paper 2.

### Reasons for decisions

A consultation exercise ran between 26<sup>th</sup> November to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019; this consultation was carried out with all state-funded schools, governing bodies, and union representatives.

The term dates of neighbouring authorities affect the preferences of some schools, mainly those close to authority borders. Where neighbouring authorities had published their term dates for 2021/22, these were included in the consultation information.

Two options for the 2021/22 academic year were put forward for consideration. These two options align closely with two options currently being consulted on by Coventry City Council. Option 1 is based on the calendar as previously proposed by the West Midlands Regional School Term Date Group as an option for all regional local authorities. Option 2 differs by having an earlier October half term holiday.

#### Option 1:

- Term 1 – 2<sup>nd</sup> September to 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021
- Half term holiday 1 – 25<sup>th</sup> October to 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021
- Term 2 – 4<sup>th</sup> January to 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Half term holiday 2 – 21<sup>st</sup> February to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022
- Term 3 – 25<sup>th</sup> April to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022
- Half term holiday 3 – 30<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Consultees were made aware that dates very similar to Option 1 have been adopted by Staffordshire and Birmingham authorities, and are proposed by Solihull, Worcestershire and Oxfordshire authorities. They also form part of the Coventry City Council consultation.

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## Decision Record – Amendment to 2020/2021 Admissions Arrangements

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Leader</b>
<b>Date of decision</b>	<b>21 February 2020</b>
	<b>Signed</b> 

### Decision taken

That the Leader approves that the existing 2020/2021 Admission Arrangements are amended in line with the School Adjudicators determination.

### Reasons for decisions

The Office of the Schools Adjudicator considered the admission arrangements for September 2020 for community and voluntary controlled schools in the area of Warwickshire County Council in accordance with section 88I(5) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and found that the provisions in the arrangements relating to the education of children outside their chronological year group, deferred entry to, and part-time attendance in, Reception do not conform with the requirements in the School Admissions Code.

In addition, the Schools Adjudicator also found that other matters regarding an inaccurate definition of 'Looked After' and 'Formerly Looked After' children, and the specific wording regarding the processes concerning changes of address and multiple applications made by separated parents within the published arrangements do not conform with the requirements relating to admission arrangements and require clarification.

All amendments and clarifications required following the Schools Adjudicators determination have been incorporated into the updated 2020/2021 Admission Arrangements.

### Background information

Cabinet approved the 2020/2021 Admission Arrangements and coordinated Scheme on 14th February 2019.

All processes and guidance documentation relating to the education of children outside their chronological year group, deferred entry to, and part-time attendance in, Reception have also been updated inline with the Schools Adjudicators determination and revised Admission

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## Decision Record – Approval for Increasing Fees and Charges in Country Parks

<b>Lead Member</b>	Portfolio Holder for Environment and Heritage & Culture
<b>Date of decision</b>	21 February 2020
	Signed 

### Decision taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Heritage & Culture approves the increases in fees and charges as set out in the report and appendices.

### Reasons for decisions

It is a requirement of the County Council's Constitution that Portfolio Holders approve increases to fees and charges on behalf of the County Council.

This report seeks such approval in relation to the increases in fees and charges relating to Country Parks for 2020/21.

### Background information

Please see Appendices 1 and 2 which detail the proposed fees and charges for 2020/21 in relation to the Country Parks service. Appendix 1 includes a discussion of the rationale applied in making these proposals.

### Financial implications

In determining the proposals for fee and charge increases, consideration has been given both to the impact of price inflation (taken to be 2%) on our running costs and to the impact, including practicality and affordability, of price rises on our customers and communities. These figures will be used in budget forecasts for 2020/21 if approved.

### Environmental implications

There are no implications from the proposals.

<b>Report Author</b>	Vicki Barnard vickibarnard@warwickshire.gov.uk
<b>Assistant Director</b>	David Ayton-Hill
<b>Lead Director</b>	Strategic Director for Communities
<b>Lead Member</b>	Portfolio Holder for Environment and Heritage & Culture

<b>Urgent matter?</b>	No
<b>Confidential or exempt?</b>	No
<b>Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?</b>	No

#### **Lists of reports considered**

#### **List of background papers**

Appendix 1 – rationale for Country Parks fees and charges increases in 2020/21  
Appendix 2 – full Country Parks fees and charges 2020/21

#### **Members and officers consulted and informed**

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Heather Timms

Corporate Board – n/a

Legal – Ian Marriott

Finance – Virginia

Equality – Keira Rounsley

Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Councillor – Heather Timms

Local Member(s): N/A