

Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board

Recommendations from the meeting held on 02 August 2016

Council Cabinet Agenda – 03 August 2016

Item 8 Reconfiguration of Children Centre Services

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People and Strategic Director for People's Services to note the completion of and responses to the public consultation on re-configuring seven of the Children Centres in the city. The Cabinet Member outlined the detail of the report and informed the Board that the report also asks for Council Cabinet agreement to reconfigure seven of the 17 Children's Centre buildings and progress formal negotiations with schools on the process for handover of management, running costs and responsibility of seven Children's Centre buildings to the relevant schools.

Members of the Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board were very supportive of the proposals and noted that this was a fantastic result for children in Derby. Councillors were keen to ensure that those groups continuing to provide these services in Derby would be offered continued support to allow them to do this.

No recommendations to Council Cabinet were made by the Board, however the Board wished to commend officers on the resulting proposals put forward to Council Cabinet on this item.

Item 9 Libraries Strategic Review: Options for a new service delivery model

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Communities and City Centre Regeneration and Strategic Director for Communities and Place on a number of proposals being put forward as a result of the completion of the Derby Libraries Strategic Review Phase 1 Public and Stakeholder Consultation Final Report.

The Director for Leisure, Culture and Tourism informed the Board that the report asked Cabinet Member to agree the 'Option B' outlined as the Council's preferred option, and to authorise a 'phase 2' public and stakeholder consultation on the preferred service delivery option and the three other options described in the report. It was also reported that the stage 2 consultation would also see feedback on the proposal to close the Central Library and deliver a replacement city centre lending service from Derby Riverside Library at the Council House and the working assumptions described in the report for the operation of Community Managed Libraries.

Following a number of discussions on the report and the proposals outlined, it was concluded that Members Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board were generally supportive of the proposals and were keen to be kept informed of the progress of these proposals following the stage 2 consultation. The Board also requested that officers develop a contingency plan as part of any proposals resulting in the running of libraries by communities.

The Board recommended to Council Cabinet that contingency plans are drawn up as part of any proposals resulting in the running of libraries by communities.

Item 10 Health and Care System Sustainability and Transformation Plan for Derby City and Derbyshire

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Integrated Health and Care and Strategic Director for People Services to approve the further development and delivery of the Derby City and Derbyshire Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).

The Director for People Services also informed the Board that the report also asks Council Cabinet to: approve joint working with other system leaders in NHS and local government in support of meaningful health and care integration; approve the development of clear and agreed system wide governance arrangements in support of an effective STP; and approve consultation on an integrated delivery model for Home First services.

The Board were in support of these proposals and recommendations put forward to Council Cabinet in this report.

Item 11 Outdoor Football Pitch Provision

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Communities and City Centre Regeneration and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to approve the implementation from 2016/17 of the proposed rationalisation programme noting the key objectives to achieve service savings and deliver recommendations within the current Outdoor Sports Strategy while continuing to meet the demand for football pitch provision in the city.

Members queried the geographical distribution of remaining football pitches across the city and the methodology used to decide which pitches would remain. The Board was informed that methodology included looking at both quality of pitches and levels of usage, as well as infrastructure and trying to maintain a fair provision across the city. Members were informed that the use of deprivation indices were not included as part of this methodology.

The Board questioned officers on the potential for community groups to take over the maintenance and operation of their own home pitches, which were not included as part of the remaining provision. It was reported that the Outdoor Recreation Development Officer is currently working with Legal and Estates services to develop a license process and agreement to allow groups to do this. Members were also informed that these would be 12 month agreements so as to allow for groups to review these arrangements.

It was resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that the rationalisation process includes options to allow local teams and groups to continue to use and operate on home pitches not included in the remaining provision if they are willing and able to meet the financial and legal requirements of license agreements.

Item 12 Single Discretionary Award Scheme

Members considered a report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Policy for Urban Renewal and Chief Executive to note the responses to the public consultation on the Single Discretionary Award Scheme Policy, which ran from 24 February 2016 to 23 May 2016. Members were also informed that the report requests agreement from Council Cabinet to agree an implementation date of 30 August 2016 for the introduction of the Single Discretionary Award Scheme Policy and service as outlined at Appendix 4 of the report.

Members were in support of the proposed, however were keen to ensure that any changes to the welfare system would not result in applicants to the Single Discretionary Award Scheme being disadvantaged. The Board was reassured by the Director of Finance that the Council is working closely with other organisations and will assess the impact of any major changes and re-examine the proposals if necessary. The Board was also keen to ensure that any learning from the introduction of the Single Discretionary Award Scheme Policy would be passed on to others when appropriate in relation to the introduction of Universal Credit.

It was resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet:

- 1) that the scheme would be reviewed in light of any changes to the welfare system to ensure that applicants to the Single Discretionary Award Scheme are not disadvantaged; and**
- 2) that any learning from the introduction of the Single Discretionary Award Scheme Policy would be passed on to others when appropriate in relation to the introduction of Universal Credit.**

Item 13 Quarter 1 Capital Budget Monitoring 2016/17 – 2018/19

Members considered a report of Leader of the Council and Chief Executive providing detail on the revised financial position for the 2016/17 Capital Budget for Quarter 1 was summarised for the Board by the Director of Finance. It was highlighted to the Board that Quarter 1 acts as a baseline position and outlines a realistic level of spend.

The Board was informed that the report also highlights a Capital programme of £92,592,000 for 2016/2017 and programme risks on deliverability of the programme together with mitigation and a RAG rating.

The Board queried the deliverability of the Capital Programme as outlined in the report and raised concerns in relation to slippage, which had been significant in the previous financial year, and wished to highlight this issue for the Audit and Accounts Committee.

No recommendations to Council Cabinet were made by the Board on this item,

however the Board wished to recommend to the Audit and Accounts Committee that particular attention is given to the quarterly Capital Programme reports to highlight and deal with issues around slippage and delivering elements of the programme within the timescales identified at quarter 1 as early as possible.

Item 14 Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report

Members considered a report of the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive on items that require reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules.

It was reported that items included the addition of £64,133 to the Corporate Contingency budget which is proposed as funding for the part year effect of the Living Wage supplement in 2016/17. Members were informed that future implications of annual increases in the Living Wage will be addressed in the Medium Term Financial Plan. The Director of Finance also highlighted that the report includes changes to the Corporate Capital Receipts Policy on the Our City Our River (OCOR) project allowing capital receipts generated from the re-sale of land acquired, to be reallocated to the OCOR project.

Members were also informed that whilst awaiting an ERDF funding decision for a project to offer a unique pre pre-start up programme to help local entrepreneurs launch new enterprises, a procurement exercise was undertaken to secure a delivery body, which proved the market could deliver the project outputs for around half of the anticipated cost. It was therefore proposed that the Council pursues the delivery of this project using funding from the Derby Enterprise Growth Fund Reserve without ERDF match funding, avoiding further costs associated with a re-tendering exercise which would otherwise be required.

No recommendations to Council Cabinet were made by the Board on this item, however the Board requested that it is kept updated on the future position in relation to the delivery of the Living Wage and potential impacts on the Council's pay line.