

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday 18 September 2013 by the Cabinet.

Date notified to all members:

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on

The decision can be implemented from

Item No

8. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2014/15 TO 2018/19

8.1 The Executive Director, Resources submitted a report providing Members with details of the forecast financial position of the Council for the next 5 years and recommending the approach to budgeting and business planning that will be necessary to achieve a balanced budget position over the medium term.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the forecast position for the next 5 years;
- (b) agrees the approach to business planning targets;
- (c) agrees to give consideration to reviewing the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2014/15 with decisions based on an assessment of the impact of the reductions made in 2013/14 and the other welfare reforms that have/are being introduced;
- (d) agrees that as part of the business planning process, any increases in specific grant are to be held corporately to assist in balancing the overall budget; and
- (e) refers the report to Full Council for consideration.

8.3 Reasons for Decision

8.3.1 To provide a strategic framework for the development of budget proposals and the business planning process for 2012/13 and beyond.

8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

8.4.1 There were no alternative options presented in the report.

8.5 Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted

None

8.6 Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration

None

8.7 Respective Director Responsible for Implementation

Laraine Manley, Executive Director, Resources

8.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny

9. CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPROVALS 2013/14 (MONTH 3) AS AT 30/6/13

9.1 The Executive Director, Resources submitted a report seeking approval for a number of variations and additions to the 2013/14 Capital Programme, and the approval of two procurement strategies for the delivery of projects in the programme.

9.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) approves the proposed to the Capital Programme listed in Appendix 1 of the report, including the procurement strategies and delegations of authority to the Director of Commercial Services or Delegated Officer, as appropriate, to award the necessary contracts following stage approval by Capital Programme Group;
- (b) approves the proposed variations and slippage in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (c) notes the conditions and obligations of the grant applications listed in Appendix 2 and approves the application for, and if successful, acceptance of those grants;
- (d) notes the variations approved under EMT's delegated authority in Appendix 1;
- (e) notes that the one exercise of delegated authority to vary capital expenditure by a director this month; and
- (f) notes the one approval under the emergency provisions.

9.3 Reasons for Decision

9.3.1 The proposed changes to the Capital Programme will improve the service to the people of Sheffield.

9.3.2 To formally record changes to the Capital Programme and gain Member approval for changes in line with Financial Regulations.

9.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

9.4.1 A number of alternative courses of action were considered as part of the process undertaken by Officers before decisions were recommended to Members. The recommendations made to Members represented what Officers believed to be the best options available to the Council, in line with Council priorities, given the constraints on funding and the use to which funding was put within the Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme.

9.5 Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted

None

9.6 Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration

None

9.7 Respective Director Responsible for Implementation

Laraine Manley, Executive Director, Resources

9.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny

10. SCHOOL PLACES IN SHEFFIELD

10.1 The Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families submitted a report providing an update on the impact of the growth in population and the requirement to provide further additional primary school places from 2014/15. It also sought permission to consult on proposals to increase places in five areas of the City.

10.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet gives permission for officers to carry out consultation in the areas identified and to report back to Cabinet following consultation.

10.3 Reasons for Decision

10.3.1 Providing sufficient primary school places is a statutory duty of the Council. This will mean that Sheffield children reaching primary school age in 2014 and beyond will continue to have a school place in the area of the City in which they live.

10.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

10.4. The consultation process will allow for alternative proposals to be put forward and this would be reported back to Cabinet at the next stage.

10.5 **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None

10.6 **Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration**

None

10.7 **Respective Director Responsible for Implementation**

Jayne Ludlam, Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families

10.8 **Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In**

Children, Young People and Family Support

11. **PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF THE FORMER FIRTH PARK LIBRARY, FIRTH PARK ROAD**

11.1 The Executive Director, Resources and the Executive Director, Place submitted a joint report in relation to the proposed disposal of the former Firth Park Library, Firth Park Road

11.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) resolves that all necessary action is taken in accordance with the powers given to the Council as Trustee under the provisions of Section 15(d) Trustee Act 1925;
- (b) as Trustee of the Firth Park at Sheffield, South Yorkshire Charity, to approve the sale of the former Firth Park Library in accordance with terms of the report and a Surveyor's Report obtained in connection with the sale of the property, in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. The receipt obtained from the sale is retained by the respective Trust;
- (c) authorises the Director of Legal and Governance to prepare and complete all necessary documentation to conclude the sale in accordance with the agreed terms; and
- (d) resolves that notice under Section 121 of the Charities Act 2011 be given in the local press to notify people within the beneficial area that the Charity Trustees intend to dispose of the freehold interest in Firth Park Library.

11.3 Reasons for Decision

11.3. The sale of the property will result in the disposal of a surplus property
1 asset for a capital receipt, the removal of an on-going maintenance liability and the purchaser intends to continue with its community use for the foreseeable future.

11.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

11.4. The Council could continue to let the property for community use but this
1 would produce a very low return compared to full market value.

11.5 Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted

None

11.6 Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration

None

11.7 Respective Director Responsible for Implementation

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place and Laraine Manley, Executive Director, Resources

11.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny

12. SHEFFIELD WATERWAYS STRATEGY - ENDORSEMENT

12.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report seeking to gain endorsement for the Sheffield Waterways Strategy to promote the regeneration of the 150 miles of Waterways in Sheffield.

12.2 RESOLVED: That Cabinet:-

- (a) welcomes the Waterways Strategy and thanks the members of the WS Group for their longstanding commitment and ongoing contribution and involvement;
- (b) approves the Strategy as a declaration of intent and a guide to partnership work which will be referenced as appropriate in future Sheffield City Council statutory and regeneration plans;
- (c) authorises the Cabinet Member for Environment, Recycling and Streetscene to sign the City of Rivers Partnership Agreement along with other partners; and

- (d) endorses in principle the proposal for a biennial State of Sheffield's Rivers Conference, the first to take place in 2013-14.

12.3 **Reasons for Decision**

- 12.3. Endorsement of the Strategy will influence and strengthen a range of funding bids for flood defences, walking and cycling routes, waterside regeneration schemes, river restoration, green and open space investments etc.

12.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 12.4. There were no alternatives presented in the report.

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12.5 **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None

12.6 **Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration**

None

12.7 **Respective Director Responsible for Implementation**

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

12.8 **Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In**

Economic and Environmental Wellbeing

13. **AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE THE TERMS OF A NEW LEASE TO ALLOW FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE FOX HILL SITE**

- 13.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report in relation to the negotiation of a new lease to allow the redevelopment of the Fox Hill Site.

13.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) delegates authority to the Director of Capital and Major Projects and the Director of Regeneration and Development Services, in conjunction with the Director of Finance, to negotiate the terms of a new lease or to amend the existing lease, whichever is more appropriate, as are considered necessary for the provision of good quality housing at Fox Hill;
- (b) delegates authority to the Cabinet Members for Homes and Neighbourhoods and Business, Skills and Development to consider the developers final proposals and whether they meet the City

Council's requirements and to make a decision as to whether or not to proceed with those proposals; and

- (c) delegates authority to the Director of Capital and Major Projects to instruct the Director of Legal Services to complete all the necessary legal documentation, subject to the decision being made to proceed with the proposals.

13.3 Reasons for Decision

13.3. The City Council wanted to ensure that a new developer was secured who
1 could deliver high quality housing for Fox Hill.

13.3. The report requests that officers are authorised to continue with the
2 existing negotiations and agree either a new lease or a variation of the existing lease to allow a scheme of development which will still maintain the high quality standards required.

13.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

13.4. The City Council had been cooperating with KPMG to allow them to secure
1 a new developer. They had carried out some extensive market testing but interest in the site with the present obligations under the lease had been weak, resulting in only one positive expression of interest in 2012.

13.4. If the Bank of Ireland did not find a purchaser for the lease or the purchaser
2 did not comply with the obligations in the lease the City Council could require that the lease was assigned to it for £1 and could seek to identify another developer. However, following the market testing already carried out, this was unlikely to result in any further interest. In the meantime the City Council would be responsible for all security and health and safety costs and no funding was available for this.

13.5 Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted

None

13.6 Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration

None

13.7 Respective Director Responsible for Implementation

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

13.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Safer and Stronger Communities