

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday 15 October 2014 by the Cabinet.

Date notified to all members: Tuesday 21 October 2014

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on Monday 27 October 2014

The decision can be implemented from Tuesday 28 October 2014

Item No

8. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND ESTATE SERVICES REVIEW

8.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report in relation to the Grounds Maintenance and Estate Services review.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the contents of the report and the services efficiencies and savings that can be achieved for the HRA and General Fund;
- (b) approves the delivery of Housing grounds maintenance by a single service and that is to be achieved by the transfer of Estate Officers from the Council Housing Service to the Parks and Public Realm service with a review of the structures and job descriptions across Parks and Public Realm and Estate services;
- (c) approves the reconfiguration of the remaining Council Housing estate services functions following the transfer of grounds maintenance work to Parks and Public Realm; and
- (d) authorises the Director of Culture and Environment and the Interim Director of Housing and Neighbourhood Services to take the necessary steps to implement these recommendations.

8.3 Reasons for Decision

8.3.1 The recommendations have the potential to improve equality of service delivery, maintain standards and provide financial savings to both the Housing Revenue Account and the General Fund resulting from increased efficiency.

8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

8.4.1 Five alternative options were considered during the options appraisal. The full details of the options appraisal methodology and results of the appraisal are included in Appendices B and C of the report.

8.4.2 In addition, integration of the Parks and Public Realm SLA work for Housing into the Council Housing Service's estate services were considered during the options appraisal. The Parks and Public Realm services were fully merged in 2012. Improvements in efficiency as a result of this merger, led to savings of 11% for employee costs and 6% of other costs. Officers felt that previous efficiencies and savings would be lost if Parks and Public Realm were to be disaggregated and therefore there would be a corresponding rise in costs in these areas.

6.3 This option was discounted by the options appraisal as the cost of delivering the service could increase significantly and therefore did not offer value for money.

6.5 Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted

None

6.6 Reason for Exemption if Public/Press Excluded During Consideration

None

6.7 Respective Director Responsible for Implementation

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

6.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Safer and Stronger Communities

9. SHEFFIELD'S RIVERSIDE BUSINESS DISTRICT - TRANSFORMING A KEY ECONOMIC CORRIDOR IN THE CITY CENTRE FROM "GREY TO GREEN"

9.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report in relation to the Grey to Green project.

9.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) approves the proposed scheme, as detailed in the report and with the timeline described in section 4.6 of the report, subject to the required funding package being in place;
- (b) notes that a capital approval submission has been submitted in the Month 4 Budget monitoring report for the necessary authority to undertake and procure the proposed works, in accordance with Council procedures; and
- (c) delegates authority to the Director of Creative Sheffield, in consultation with the Interim Director of Legal Services, Interim Director of Commercial Services and Interim Director of Finance to negotiate and agree any agreements additional to those in paragraph 2 of the report required to deliver the works for the scheme, subject to the required funding being in place.

9.3 Reasons for Decision

9.3.1 This is a final opportunity to access ERDF funding for delivering a high priority scheme. To draw down the full ERDF contribution, the project must start and complete by Autumn 2015. To meet this programme, it was necessary to progress the design and tendering process now hence the request for conditional approval in advance of the final SCRIF decision. The detailed design work had to be undertaken concurrently with the approval process but will be completed by the Cabinet date.

9.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

9.4.1 A more traditional reclamation and renewal of redundant carriageways could be undertaken and this group of highways was due for renewal in 2017 under the current Streets Ahead programme. However, this would simply replace like with like and a similar maintenance cost and would not deliver the transformative benefits outlined in the report.

9.4.2 Do nothing. For the reasons mentioned in Section 7 of the report this was not be a viable option. It would lead to further decline in the area, depressing property prices, sustainability of businesses which in turn would affect the Council's National Non Domestic Rate income. Finally, because of higher risk of flooding, marginal it may be, translated into both lack of an appetite for new investment and higher insurance premiums. The Council's own property in this area would suffer directly.

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

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

9.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Economic and Environmental Wellbeing

10. INDEPENDENT LIVING SOLUTIONS

10.1 The Executive Director, Communities submitted a report setting out the background to, and ambition for, the first phase of the Independent Living Solutions programme and sought approvals in relation to the proposed procurement strategy.

10.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) approves the commissioning of and procurement strategy for the redesigned equipment service;
- (b) delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning (Communities), in consultation with the Interim Director of Legal and Governance and the Interim Director of Commercial Services to take the necessary steps to agree the pooled budget arrangements with the CCG and amend the Section 75 Agreement;
- (c) subject to agreement being reached with the CCG and the Section 75 agreement being amended, delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning to take the necessary steps to implement the procurement strategy for the redesigned equipment service in consultation with the Interim Director of Commercial Services and the Interim Director of Legal and Governance;
- (d) delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning in consultation with the Interim Director of Legal and Governance to award the contract for the redesigned equipment service; and
- (e) delegates authority to the Director of Commissioning in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Health, Care and Independent Living and the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families, as appropriate, to take such steps as he deems appropriate to achieve the outcomes set out in the report.

10.3 **Reasons for Decision**

10.3.1 The current contract for the supply and loan of equipment to help people live independently ends in June 2015 and we need a replacement arrangement to meet our statutory duties. We also need to refresh the scope and specification of the contract so that we can:

- achieve better outcomes and increased value for money where possible
- deliver against increasing customer expectations
- future-proof the service in light of proposed changes to legislation, guidance and operational requirements e.g. the Care Act, 7-day working commitment in the NHS, the Children and Families Act.

10.3.2 In order to maximise the efficiency of the proposed new service the Council needs to work with the CCG.

10.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

10.4.1 **Do nothing:** This option was not favoured because the Council had legal duties to provide equipment to people in need as set out above.

10.4.2 **Extend the contract with the current provider:** This option was not favoured because it was believed that the service needed to achieve greater value for money and increase its impact. However, proposals would also be welcomed from the current provider on how they could achieve this (as per the new contract specification).

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**

Laraine Manley, Executive Director, Communities

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

Healthier Communities and Adult Social Care and Children, Young People and Family Support

11. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2015/16 TO 2019/20

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

11.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the forecast position for the next five years;
- (b) agrees the approach to business planning targets;
- (c) agrees the following approach to capital planning:-
 - Maximise flexibility in resource pools to ensure priorities in relation to housing can be most effectively achieved, including policies related to affordable housing
 - Manage capital resource pools including New Homes Bonus and Community Infrastructure to ensure that Council wide objectives are achieved
 - Reaffirm the existing Corporate Resource Pool allocation principles

11.3 **Reasons for Decision**

11.3.1 To inform Members of the forecast revenue gap over the medium term and to recommend the appropriate strategy for balancing the budget over the medium

term.

11.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

11.4.1 A number of alternative courses of action are considered as part of the process undertaken by Officers before decisions are recommended to Members. The recommendations made to Members represent what Officers believe 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 is put within the Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme.

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

Eugene Walker, Executive Director, Resources

11.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

12. REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2014/15 MONTH 4 (AS AT 31/7/14)

12.1 The Executive Director, Resources submitted a report providing the month 4 monitoring statement on the City Council's Revenue and Capital Budget for 2014/15.

12.2 RESOLVED: That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the updated information and management actions provided by the report on the 2014/15 Revenue budget position; and
- (b) in relation to the Capital Programme:-
 - (i) approves the proposed additions 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 nominated Officer, as appropriate, to award the necessary contracts following stage approval by Capital Programme Group;
 - (ii) approves the proposed variations and slippage in Appendix 1; and
 - (iii) notes the exercises of delegated authority by EMT and service

Directors, and, the current position on the Capital Programme

12.3 Reasons for Decision

12.3. To formally record changes to the Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme
1 and gain Member approval for changes in line with Financial Regulations and to reset the capital programme in line with latest information.

12.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

12.4. A number of alternative courses of action were considered as part of the process
1 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.

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

Eugene Walker, Executive Director, Resources

12.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee