

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday 12 November 2014 by the Cabinet.

Date notified to all members: Monday 17 November 2014

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on Friday 21 November 2014

The decision can be implemented from Saturday 22 November 2014

Item No

8. RESPONSE TO THE PETITION REQUESTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ROAD SAFETY MEASURES ON NORMANTON HILL

8.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report containing the Council's response to a petition, containing 12,571 signatures, requesting a controlled pedestrian crossing and speed restrictions on Normanton Hill and outlining actions taken so far and the road safety measures proposed.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That:-

- (a) the petitioners be thanked for bringing their concerns about this location to the attention of the Council;
- (b) officers inform the petitioners of the intention to install a signalised pedestrian crossing on Normanton Hill by the crossing point to Richmond Park; and
- (c) Cabinet notes the various actions taken to improve road safety and respond to public concerns at this location.

8.3 Reasons for Decision

8.3.1 The proposed road safety measures described in the report will contribute to an improvement in safety on Normanton Hill, in particular at the crossing point to Richmond Park.

8.3.2 Reducing the speed of traffic should reduce the number and severity of collisions and reduce the fear of collisions.

8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

8.4.1 This site is currently a location for a Speed Indication Device (smiley SID). It is Council policy to use these devices for a relatively short period of time and rotate them between other roads in the area, otherwise motorists become used to them and they do not have the desired effect. The speed data from the SIDs at this location shows that average vehicle speeds of 39mph in the downhill direction

which suggests that at this location such a measure is ineffective.

8.4.2 A traffic calming scheme could be considered. However, given existing speeds a localised traffic calming scheme could lead to a loss of control accidents. Therefore, it would probably be necessary to traffic calm the whole length of the road, linking the scheme with the existing measures located between Linley Lane and Coisley Hill. The cost of such a scheme along this length would be very expensive and it would be difficult to justify this, given the overall low collision rate along the length of Normanton Hill.

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

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

8.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Economic and Environmental Wellbeing

9. REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2014/15 MONTH 5 (AS AT 31/8/14)

9.1 The Executive Director, Resources submitted a report providing the month 5 monitoring statement on the City Council's Revenue and Capital Budget for 2014/15.

9.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the updated information and management actions provided by the report on the 2014/15 budget position;
- (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; and
 - (ii) the proposed variations and slippage in Appendix 1 of the report; and notes
 - (iii) the latest position on the Capital Programme including the current

level of delivery and forecasting performance;

- (iii) there was no exercise of delegated emergency approval by the Executive; and
- (iv) the instances where Cabinet Members, EMT or directors of service exercised their delegated authority to vary approved amounts.

9.3 **Reasons for Decision**

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

9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

- 9.4.1 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.

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**

Eugene Walker, Executive Director, Resources

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

Overview and Scrutiny

10. **CITY COUNCIL PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

- 10.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report seeking Cabinet approval for the City Council to enter into a partnership with the Football Association (FA) which will lead to a long term relationship to oversee the planning and investment of around £9.6m in the City's football facilities.

10.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) approves the principle of a partnership agreement between the City Council and the Football Association and delegates authority to the

Executive Director, Place in consultation with the Director of Legal and Governance to enter into an agreement with the Football Association for the purposes of delivering the outcomes set out in the report;

- (b) approves the strategy for hub sites set out in the report and in particular the development of the first two hubs at Thorncliffe Recreation Ground and Graves Leisure Centre;
- (c) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Resources to confirm the funding of a £1.173m contribution from the City Council towards the Phase 1 programme of £9.6m set out in the report. In particular, to seek confirmation of match funding for the two hubs at Thorncliffe and Graves. The City Council funding will be provided from a mix of Capital Programme funding which optimises the Council's Capital and Revenue Budget strategy. This may include borrowing repaid from the anticipated future revenue savings;
- (d) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Place, in consultation with the Director of Legal and Governance and the Director of Finance to enter into agreements for external funding into the Council for the purpose of meeting the costs at Thorncliffe and Graves Leisure Centre and to approve the terms of such funding agreements;
- (e) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Place in consultation with the Director of Legal and Governance and the Director of Finance to take such other steps as he may deem appropriate to achieve the outcomes in the report in relation to the partnership with the FA and specifically the delivery of the Thorncliffe and Graves Leisure Centre projects;
- (f) delegates authority to the Director of Capital and Major Projects to advertise the disposal of public open space;
- (g) delegates authority to the Director of Capital and Major Projects in consultation with the Executive Director, Place:-
 - (i) to agree terms with the FA or its football trust for the disposal of the hubs once completed; and
 - (b) instruct the Director of Legal and Governance to prepare and complete the necessary legal documentation to implement the transaction in accordance with the agreed terms except in relation to any public open space where valid objections had been received to the disposal in which case the matter shall be referred back to Cabinet.
- (h) notes that a capital approval submission had been submitted in the month 5 Budget Monitoring report for the necessary authority to undertake and procure the proposed works at Thorncliffe Recreation Ground and Graves Leisure Centre, in accordance with Council procedures.

10.3 Reasons for Decision

10.3.1 Football is a major participation sport in the City – with over 800 teams, of which over 500 are junior/youth teams. Like every other major City, Sheffield's pitches and changing facilities are under severe pressure from Government budget cuts. The proposed partnership with the FA offers the opportunity for major investment in facilities and the chance to turnaround the long term prospects for the game. This will boost participation and therefore improve health and reinforce the important social role that football plays across all communities in the City.

10.3.2 The report recommends that the first two hub sites be located at Thorncliffe Recreation Ground and at Graves Leisure Centre given that both offer major opportunities for synergy with the impending indoor sports developments at each – in terms of usage levels, construction and operational economies of scale and partnership.

10.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

10.4.1 The City Council and the FA are considering a range of options in relation to the potential investment in the hub sites. These sites will be confirmed in due course. However, there is consensus on the merits of two of the sites being located at Graves Leisure Centre and Thorncliffe. This is based on the following advantages offered by both:-

- Strong locations serving significant catchment populations;
- A critical mass of indoor and outdoor facilities on a single site will create synergy in terms of footfall and income;
- Economies of scale on construction costs via the potential to synchronise the development of indoor and outdoor facilities;
- Opportunities for extensive partnership with Sport England, the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine, the indoor leisure contractor and, in the case of Thorncliffe, with Ecclesfield Parish Council and the operator(s) of the other on site sports facilities;
- The outdoor developments will achieve economies of scale by sharing some of the new infrastructure being constructed for the indoor facilities on each site e.g. access and car parking.

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

Simon Green, Executive Director, Place

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

11. **DECISION BY CABINET AS TRUSTEES OF THE WESTON PARK TRUST CHARITY - PROPOSED WORLD WAR 1 CENTENARY FIELD DEDICATION: WESTON PARK, SHEFFIELD**

11.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report in relation to a proposed World War 1 'Centenary Field' dedication at Weston Park.

11.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet acting in its capacity as trustee of the Weston Park Trust give approval and authority to:-

- (a) formally submit an application to designate Weston Park, Sheffield, S10 2TP as a Centenary Field in conjunction with the Fields in Trust Charity, to provide further protection to ensure that it will continue to be managed as a public park and recreation ground in perpetuity;
- (b) the Director of Capital and Major Projects in consultation with the Director of Culture and Environment, to negotiate the terms of the documentation needed to dedicate the land; and
- (c) the Director of Capital and Major Projects to instruct the Director of Legal and Governance to take all necessary action and complete the documentation needed to dedicate the land.
- (d) subject to recommendations a-c being concluded, the site will be formally dedicated as a Centenary Field in a ceremony to be arranged during next year.

11.3 **Reasons for Decision**

11.3.1 Weston Park is felt to be the most significant and accessible high profile City park that Sheffield has to offer which best matches the national Centenary Field designation criteria. The historic local links and memory of the Sheffield City Battalion/ the Sheffield Pals and Yorks and Lancaster Regiment are significant. Nominating this site does not further increase the Council's current revenue commitment for maintenance or require any new capital investment. The designation further compliments the charitable status and is consistent with the objects of the Charity. Fittingly, Weston Park is recommended as the City's flagship nominated site for WW1 Centenary Field designation.

11.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

11.4.1 Sheffield City Council has been directly approached by the Fields in Trust/The Royal British Legion to nominate a suitable site within the City's boundary to be part of this national initiative. The City Council does not have to nominate a site but the report provides the City the opportunity and option to now do so.

11.4.2 The Fields in Trust/Royal British Legion Centenary Fields initiative is specifically about the centenary of World War 1 (1914-18). Any site nominated needs to have an appropriate historic link and value. Following desktop research, the Sheffield General Cemetery, Chapelton Park and the rural Redmires Practice trenches have also been considered as having significant local historical merit because of their WW1 associations and connections. At this stage, however, it is envisaged that each would require further site investment to increase their profile to become more suitable as a promoted visitor attraction/ feature as part of this national initiative and as the City's flagship.

11.4.3 Some locally significant WW2 associated park sites were also identified in the desktop research undertaken, including Endcliffe Park. In further consultation with the Fields in Trust, the Council had subsequently been advised and confirmed that the primary focus of the 'Centenary Field' programme and associated designation is for WW1 associated sites and memorials.

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

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

Economic and Environmental Wellbeing

12. BUSINESS SERVICES SOURCING STRATEGY

12.1 The Executive Director, Resources submitted a report in relation to the Business Services Resourcing Strategy.

12.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the content of the report;
- (b) approves the continuation of the Capita provision of the following managed services for a six year period from January 2016, with break points in January 2018 and January 2020:
 - Information and Communication Technology (with flexibility within the contract to market test elements of provision with other suppliers)
 - Revenues and Benefits transactional services
 - Human Resources transactional and payroll services
 - Finance business transactions;

- (c) approves the development of a strategy/ies, in line with the Council's Corporate Plan, to set out the Council's future requirements for these managed services, and other currently outsourced contracts, in order to inform subsequent sourcing decisions, in time for the first break point in the contract in 2018;
- (d) approves the move in-house (i.e. from Capita to Sheffield City Council) the delivery of the Revenues and Benefits front office (contact centre and face to face) from January 2016, and to integrate with the Council's Customer Services function;
- (e) accepts Capita's guarantee of revenue savings from January 2015 onwards, in line with the schedule set out at paragraph 8.1 of the report, the guarantee on Council Tax collection rates set out at paragraph 8.3 of the report, and notes the potential additional savings arising from business change activity, also set out at paragraph 8.3 of the report;
- (f) delegates authority to the Interim Executive Director, Resources, in consultation with the Interim Director of Commercial Services and the Interim Director, Legal and Governance, and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to enter into final negotiations with Capita on this basis, and to finalise the relevant changes to the current contract;
- (g) delegates authority to the Interim Executive Director, Resources, in consultation with the Director of Human Resources, Director of Customer Services, the Interim Director of Finance, and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources to make arrangements to secure a robust transition of the services set out at (d), including ensuring compliance with relevant legislation to minimise the risk of disruption to the organisation or public; and
- (h) delegates authority to the Interim Executive Director, Resources to establish the revised governance arrangements set out in section 7 of the report and to make arrangements to monitor the performance and delivery of the contract over its lifetime.

12.3 **Reasons for Decision**

- 12.3.1 Each element of the proposed package has been considered on its merits. The proposals are being recommended as providing an appropriate balance between:
- Providing quality services, which meet the expectations of customers (both internal customers and the public)
 - Making a considerable, and ongoing, contribution to the Council's savings target, over and above what was envisaged as part of the 2008 contract
 - Maintaining risk (financial, legal, reputational and delivery) within acceptable limits
 - Being affordable and representing best value to the organisation within the short and long term
 - Supporting the organisation to transform its services and deliver differently

12.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

12.4.1 For each element of the proposal, a number of other options were considered. These are noted at the relevant sections of the report, along with the recommended option.

12.4.2 The option recommended in each case depends on the particular circumstances of that element, and evaluated in line with the principles set out in paragraph 5.3 of the report. In broad terms, the options for each element were:

- Proceeding with the proposal made to the Council by Capita (with or without amendments following negotiation)
- Retaining in-house delivery, or moving delivery in-house from the current provider
- Moving delivery of a service currently provided by Capita to a new provider either as a block, or as part of a multi-source arrangement;

12.4.3 For services currently managed by Capita, there was a do-nothing option as the contract would expire in January 2016, with no contingency arrangements in place, resulting in critical (and in some cases statutory) services not being capable of being delivered.

12.4.4 In March this year the Council completed an external benchmark of Capita services via an independent organisation – Information Services Group (ISG) which revealed that, all existing services represent ‘value for money’ and that HR and Payroll could already be considered ‘upper quartile’. ISG forecast that market would reduce approx. 4% year on year and Capita’s new proposal has bettered this position. Therefore, this reinforces the view that continuing with Capita provision of the existing managed services represents good value for money with the authority.

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

13. STREETS AHEAD - SECURING SAVINGS FROM THE FUNDING STRUCTURE

13.1 The Executive Directors, Place and Resources submitted a joint report seeking approval to the Council providing additional Capital Contributions to the Streets

Ahead project and to progress some more complex alternative funding structures on an 'invest to save' basis.

13.2 RESOLVED: That Cabinet approval be given to:-

- (a) Option 2 – providing additional Capital Contributions up to the value of 50% of the existing capital funding of the CIP as set out in section 5.2 of the report;
- (b) the establishment of a budget from the PFI reserves to fund the implementation of the first stage of the preferred alternative funding option and to subsequently progress the second stage to determine the optimum funding structure to be approved by Cabinet;
- (c) fund any abortive costs from the Streets Ahead contingency;
- (d) procure and appoint external financial and legal advisers for the Council;
- (e) develop and submit an OBC to DfT/HMT to seek approval to progress the changes to the funding arrangements;
- (f) make staged payments to Amey in relation to the Contract change due diligence costs subject to costs being auditable; and in accordance with agreed estimates; and
- (g) progress Options 3 and 4 – the second stage of the preferred alternative funding option on the basis that the conclusion of this second stage will be signified by the submission of a subsequent Cabinet report and the submission of a FBC to DfT/HMT; and
- (h) Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director, Resources in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Interim Director, Legal and Governance to implement the first stage of the preferred alternative funding option following the agreement of the commercially acceptable payment terms with Amey; and
- (i) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Resources in consultation with the Executive Director, Place, the Interim Director, Legal and Governance and the Cabinet Members for Finance and Recycling and Streetscene, to take other such steps as he deems appropriate to achieve the outcomes set out in the report.

13.3 Reasons for Decision

- 13.3.1** As outlined in the report, there is a clear strategic and economic case to justify the Council using its prudential borrowing powers and increasing the Capital Contributions to the project in order to secure a saving of circa £0.5m pa. This saving can be achieved with minimal risk to the Council and without impacting on the delivery of the highway maintenance service and the ongoing improvements in the infrastructure asset.

13.3.2 Failure to increase the Capital Contributions will result in more pressure on achieving the Council's current and future budget and may result in more drastic cuts to front line services.

13.3.3 The options to bank refinance the remaining bank debt with alternative bank and/or partial public refinance need to be explored further so as to ensure that an opportunity is not missed to generate additional financial savings to assist with ensuring the Contract is sustainable in the future.

13.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

13.4.1 Alternative options were outlined in the report.

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 and Eugene Walker, Executive Director, Resources

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

Economic and Environmental Wellbeing