

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday 11 February 2015 by the Cabinet.

Date notified to all members: Tuesday 17 February 2015

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on Monday 23 February 2015

The decision can be implemented from Tuesday 24 February 2015

Item No

8. REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2014/15 MONTH 8 (AS AT 30/11/14)

8.1 The Interim Executive Director, Resources submitted a report providing the month 8 on the City Council's Revenue and Capital Budget for 2014/15.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the updated information and management actions provided by the report on the 2014/15 Revenue budget position;
- (b) approves the carry forward request for 100+ Apprenticeships Scheme within the Children, Young People and Families Portfolio as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (c) approves the next phase of New Homes Bonus projects as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (d) in relation to the Capital Programme:-
 - (i) approves the proposed additions to the Capital Programme listed in Appendix 3 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) approves the proposed variations and slippage requests listed in Appendix 3 of the report; and notes;
 - (A) the latest position on the Capital Programme including the current level of delivery;
 - (B) the emergency approvals and Director variations under delegated authority; and
 - (C) the slippage requests authorised by the Cabinet Member for Finance

and Resources under his delegated authority;

8.3 Reasons for Decision

8.3.1 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.

8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

8.4.1 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.

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

Eugene Walker, Interim Executive Director, Resources

8.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

11. VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANT AID INVESTMENT 2015-16

11.1 The Executive Director, Communities submitted a report seeking approval for recommended investment in the voluntary and community sector for 2015/16 from the Voluntary Sector Grant Aid budget. This budget is subject to approval of the Council budget for 2015/16 to be adopted at Council on 6th March 2015.

11.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

- (a) having had due regard to the provisions of Sections 149 and 158 of the Equality Act 2010 and Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and to the issues raised by those provisions, approves the grant agreement extension recommendations listed in Section 4 of the report, and detailed further in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (b) endorses the grant agreement extension process described in Appendix 2 of the report and approves the actions, arrangements and

recommendations at Sections 4 and 11 of the report, and the following specific delegations;

- (c) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Communities:-
 - (i) to administer the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund as described in Appendix 1 of the report;
 - (ii) to agree the terms of and authorise the completion of all funding agreements, including amendments to the terms of any existing grant funding agreements, relating to grants made from the Lunch Clubs Small Grants Fund and the Voluntary Sector Grants Fund, together with any other associated agreements or arrangements that she may consider appropriate, provided that if the terms of a proposed funding agreement or amendments to the terms of an existing agreement involve the variation of any standard terms previously agreed by Internal Audit and/or Legal Services, the agreement shall not be completed without the consent of the Chief Internal Auditor and the Director of Legal and Governance;
 - (iii) to review, adjust or suspend grant awards where (a) a change of circumstance affects the ability of an organisation to deliver the purpose of the grant awarded, the Executive Director, Communities considers the performance of the organisation to be below an acceptable standard or (c) an organisation has breached any of the award conditions contained in their funding agreement,
- (d) delegates authority to the Executive Director, Communities, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health to:-
 - (i) agree the amounts, purposes and recipients of any individual grants awarded in year from the Grant Funds, including any additional sums received or returned or unpaid funds;
 - (ii) to withdraw grant awards where (a) a change of circumstance affects the ability of an organisation to deliver the purpose of the grant awarded or (b) the Executive Director, Communities considers the performance of the organisation has breached any of the award conditions contained in their funding agreement, and
 - (iii) to allocate any other additional sums that may be received in year from other parts of the Council or other partners as part of the Voluntary Sector Grant Aid process to fund local voluntary sector activity.

11.3 Reasons for Decision

- 11.3.1 The allocation of this funding to preventative services will fundamentally contribute to the Values, Priorities and Strategic Outcomes of the Council's Corporate Plan 2015-18. In particular:-

Values

- Prioritising those with greatest need
- Working with, and within, communities

Priorities

- Tackling inequalities
- In-touch organisation
- Strong neighbourhoods and communities

Outcomes

- Specifically 'Tackling Poverty and Increasing Social Justice' but also-
- Health and Wellbeing
- Successful children, young people and families
- Housing and neighbourhoods
- Safe and secure

11.3.2 In addition, the allocation of this funding will contribute to the Fairness Commission's recommendations around:-

- Health and Wellbeing for All
- Fair access to High Quality Jobs and Pay
- Fair Access to Benefits and Credit
- Housing and a Better Environment
- A Safe City
- What Citizens and Communities can do

11.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

11.4.1 The proposal and recommendations within the report had been submitted by the Grants Awards Recommendations Panel, which is made up of the Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health, his advisors and the Head of Libraries and Community Services. Details of the whole process used to come to this proposal and recommendations can be seen in Appendix 2 of the report.

11.4.2 In order to inform recommendations on the grant extensions and award amounts to Cabinet, each of the 24 Voluntary Grants Fund current grant recipients were invited to complete an Impact Form. This asked organisations to profile the impact of a 20% reduction in grant on their service and their service users, including an analysis of the impact on different communities of interest within their service users.

11.4.3 Officers made a recommendation on the amount to be awarded to each organisation during the extension period, having regard to the impact form and budget proposal, considering the impact on the service and service users, including an assessment of equality impact, as reported in the impact form, organisational performance, whether the budget was balanced or shows a shortfall, proposals for covering shortfall and the continued viability of the service/project funded in 2015-16 if a reduction was to be applied.

11.4.4 The Grants Awards Recommendations Panel considered the option of reducing the total Grant Aid budget by 20%. As a result of the information provided by organisations (as described in section 9.3 of the report) and having consideration for the statutory Best Value Guidance, the Panel are recommending that the budget is only reduced by 9%.

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**

Laraine Manley, Executive Director, Communities

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

Safer and Stronger Communities