

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday 15 April 2015 by the Cabinet.

Date notified to all members: Friday 17 April 2015

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

The decision can be implemented from Friday 24 April 2015

Item No

8. BEST START SHEFFIELD

8.1 The Executive Director, Children, Young People and Families submitted a report in relation to the Early Years Best Start Strategy.

8.2 **RESOLVED:** That Cabinet:-

(a) approves the draft strategy; and

(b) delegates authority to the Director of Children and Families, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families to make minor amendments to the draft strategy.

8.3 Reasons for Decision

8.3.1 The experience and outcomes for very young children can be very different. Inequalities in early learning, early achievement, health and wellbeing has led to a gap in the overall attainment of children from disadvantaged homes compared to those more advantaged. The key protective factor to enable infants to reach their potential is the quality of the interactions they receive from their caregivers. We know that parents and carers want the best for their children; this is much harder when families are concentrating on making ends meet financially. In Sheffield we want to make it a priority to support parents/caregivers and make life easier for people from the earliest opportunity.

8.3.2 There is a need to respond to the increasing birth rates and the changing demographics across the City to ensure high quality flexible childcare at the time of need. This is one of the critical elements of the refreshed Tackling Poverty Strategy. High quality flexible childcare enables adults to learn and work and provides the best foundations for children to a future free from poverty. This strategy will be integral to the wider public health priority of encouraging good health, early learning and wellbeing from an early start as well as supporting the Tackling Poverty Strategy.

8.3.3 It is necessary to build up local community capacity and resilience, develop active and vibrant partnerships to engage families in developing and delivering services

to give all children in Sheffield a great start in life.

8.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

- 8.4.1 To continue with existing service delivery without a joint coherent strategy. This alternative would be unacceptable as there are inequalities in early learning, achievement and health and a need to narrow the attainment gap for children at the foundation stage.

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

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

8.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Children, Young People and Family Support

9. IMPLEMENTING THE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) IN SHEFFIELD

- 9.1 The Executive Director, Place submitted a report in relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

9.2 RESOLVED: That Cabinet:-

- (a) notes the recommendations of the CIL Examiner's Report, received on 25 February 2015, that the CIL charges proposed are appropriate (with three amendments) and that the Charging Schedule be approved and resolves to recommend to Full Council that the CIL Charging Schedule is approved with an implementation date of 15 July 2015;
- (b) agrees to offer an Instalment Policy and Exceptional Circumstances Relief for CIL, as set out in the documents attached to the report;
- (c) agrees to the production of a Supplementary Planning Document on CIL and Planning Obligations, to be referred to Cabinet for subsequent approval following public consultation; and
- (d) agrees that the Interim Regulation 123 List will be adopted as the Council's list of infrastructure projects or types of infrastructure that it intends will be, or maybe, wholly or partly funded by the CIL (the Regulation 123 List);

- (e) agrees that Cabinet shall take recommendations from the Council's various internal programme and outcome boards to create, and update as required:-
- (i) the priorities for the Infrastructure Delivery Plan; and
 - (ii) the Regulation 123 List; and
- (f) agrees that projects funded by the CIL shall be approved by Cabinet as part of the Council's capital and revenue financial approval procedures.

9.3 **Reasons for Decision**

9.3.1 The CIL will help deliver the City's strategic priorities for infrastructure provision, will be generated by economic growth and reinvested into economic growth and infrastructure. Specifically it will:-

- Be fairer, faster and more transparent than Section 106;
- Give the Council and local communities freedom to set infrastructure priorities that are justified;
- Be a predictable funding stream making infrastructure delivery more efficient;
- Give developers certainty and quicker planning decisions;
- Be more transparent and flexible than Section 106;
- Reward communities for new development through the neighbourhood portion;
- Be supported and promoted by Government;
- Focus on strategic infrastructure priorities for the City as well as local priorities through the neighbourhood portion;
- Focus on delivering new homes and businesses in the priority locations set out in the local plan;
- Generate significantly more funding than Section 106; and
- Be set at a level that ensures it is affordable.

9.3.2 The Council is committed to charging a CIL and the Government Planning Inspector has confirmed the levels of the charge proposed are appropriate. The Council must now approve the CIL Charging Schedule at a meeting of Full Council.

9.3.3 Implementation of the CIL will also require details of the Instalments Policy and Relief for Exceptional Circumstances to be approved by Cabinet. It will also require clarification on how the CIL will work alongside Section 106 and how the CIL funds will be spent.

9.4 **Alternatives Considered and Rejected**

9.4.1 One option is not to implement a CIL, as it is not compulsory. Some local authorities have decided not to implement a CIL at the present time, where there are no major infrastructure requirements or viability is marginal, but most Councils

are working on a CIL because funding for infrastructure is otherwise limited. As of mid-January 2015, 186 out of 326 local authorities have published a Charging Schedule (including 5 out of 8 Core Cities) and around 60 were already charging CIL. The CIL Examiner's report confirms that it is appropriate to implement a CIL in Sheffield.

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

(NOTE: This will be forwarded to Full Council to approve the Charging Schedule at its meeting to be held on 3 June 2015).

10. REVENUE BUDGET AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2014/15 MONTH 10 (AS AT 31/1/15)

10.1 The Interim Executive Director, Resources submitted a report providing the month 10 monitoring statement, as of 31st January 2015, on the City Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 2014/15.

10.2 **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 proposed use of £783k for Public Health forecast reduction in spend, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (c) approves the proposed £1.4m of general fund activity to be funded via Public Health grant, as detailed in Appendix 2.1 of the report;
- (d) in relation to the Capital Programme:-
 - (i) approves the proposed additions to the Capital Programme, listed in Appendix 4.1 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 the Capital Programme Group;

- (ii) approves the proposed variations and slippage in Appendix 4.1 of the report;
- (iii) delegates authority to the Director of Finance and the Director of Legal and Governance to finalise, and, if satisfactory, accept the conditions of the grant listed in Appendix 4.2 of the report;
- (iv) notes the latest position on the Capital Programme; and
- (v) notes the slippage requests authorised by the Cabinet Member for Finance under his delegated authority.

10.3 Reasons for Decision

- 10.3.1 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.

10.4 Alternatives Considered and Rejected

- 10.4.1 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.

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

Eugene Walker, Interim Executive Director, Resources

10.8 Relevant Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee If Decision Called In

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee