

Time Commenced – 5.00pm
Time Finished – 7.15pm

Executive Scrutiny Board

13 September 2022

Present: Councillor Repton (Chair)
Councillors Care, Carr, Dhindsa, M Holmes, Jennings, Martin,
Prosser, Roulstone, Whitby

In attendance:
Ian Fullagar – Head of Strategic Housing
Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer
Rachel North – Strategic Director of Communities and Place
Alison Parkin – Director of Financial Services
Perveez Sadiq – Director of Adult Social Care Services
Sarah Walker – Head of Strategy and Performance
Catherine Williams – Head of City Development and Growth

28/22 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Cooper.

29/22 Late Items

- D2N2 Joint Contracting Arrangement – D2N2 Supported Accommodation Framework for 16/17 year-olds (Housing Framework) - Amendment

This was considered as part of 33/22 – Council Cabinet Agenda.

30/22 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

31/22 Minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2022.

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 August 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

32/22 Forward Plan

The Board considered the contents of the Forward Plan published on 16 August 2022 and 13 September 2022.

No items were added to the future work programme.

Members discussed the Combined Authority proposals and agreed that a report be brought at the earliest opportunity.

Resolved:

- 1. to note the Forward Plan; and**
- 2. to agree that a report on Combined Authority proposals be brought at the earliest opportunity to a future meeting of the board.**

33/22 Council Cabinet Agenda

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources on the Council Cabinet Agenda. Members considered the Council Cabinet agenda in its entirety for the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14 September 2022.

Late items

D2N2 Joint Contracting Arrangement – D2N2 Supported Accommodation Framework for 16/17 year-olds (Housing Framework) - Amendment

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services on D2N2 Joint Contracting Arrangement – D2N2 Supported Accommodation Framework for 16/17-year-olds (Housing Framework) – Amendment.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Matters Referred

Recommendation from the Communities Board – National Bus Strategy – Derby Update

The Board received a minute extract of the Communities Board in relation to National Bus Strategy – Derby Update.

It was noted that the Communities Board had agreed that the following resolution should progress to Council Cabinet for its consideration:

To encourage the Cabinet to hold a full bus network review as soon as possible so that a better service is provided to Derby's communities.

The Executive Scrutiny Board feels words are not enough and that Council Cabinet fully acts on the motion passed at the last Council meeting regarding bus services in the city.

Recommendation from the Communities Board – Bereavement Services Plan

The Board received a minute extract of the Communities Board in relation to Bereavement Services Plan.

It was noted that the Communities Board had agreed that the following resolution should progress to Council Cabinet for its consideration:

To strongly encourage Council Cabinet to build a modern crematorium to provide the best service to the people of Derby and beyond.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Topic Review – Protecting Care Home Residents and Staff

The Board received a report of the Head of Democracy and Statutory Scrutiny Officer on Topic Review – Protecting Care Home Residents and Staff.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Key Decisions

Family Hubs and Start of Life Programme

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services on Family Hubs and Start of Life Programme

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Eastern Gateway Funding Arrangements

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Eastern Gateway Funding Arrangements.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Compulsory Purchase of Empty Homes

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Compulsory Purchase of Empty Homes.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Budget and Policy Framework

Draft – 2022/23 Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring

The Board received a report of the Director of Financial Services on Draft – 2022/23 Quarter 1 Financial Monitoring.

Whilst acknowledging the following requests that the council has made to Simon Clarke and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities:

(a) Supporting Councils in funding high inflationary pressures such as pay and energy for 2022/23 and 2023/24. This is essential for our financial sustainability and ability to plan our Medium-Term Financial

Strategy. There are distributional impacts across the local government sector and therefore we would suggest using the formula utilized in awarding COVID grants would allow quick distribution of any additional funds;

(b) Ensuring that the indicative spending control totals for 2023/24 and 2024/25 are not negatively impacted by inflation on the GDP Deflator. Given, the macro-economic climate we request the Resources DEL to be increased to ensure real term increases in Government funding;

(c) Smoothing the impact of likely shortfalls in respect of collection funds over a few years, utilizing the methodology implemented in response to the Covid pandemic. Without this flexibility Councils will need to account for deficits in the following year widening and exacerbating forecast budget gaps for 2023/24 and beyond;

(d) Target additional grant allocations to support the most vulnerable who are suffering increased hardship linked to cost of living. This could be allocated through the existing frameworks and reporting mechanisms for the Household Support Fund;

(e) The national representations made by the LGA in response to the spending review process which is forecasting a multi-billion-pound gap; and

(f) Ensuring that new burdens, for example Adult Social Care reforms are fully funded and do not lead to increased financial pressures at this time;

the Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to agree that Council Cabinet should urgently meet with senior Government ministers and officials regarding the severe financial situation Derby is experiencing and the help required to address the shortfall and balance the budget in order to protect vital services and jobs this city values and relies upon.

Flexible use of Capital Receipts Strategy – Update and Further Allocation

The Board received a report of the Director of Financial Services on Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy – Update and Further Allocation.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Contract and Financial Procedure Rules

Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules

The Board received a report of the Director of Financial Services on Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules.

Members noted that the report sought Council Cabinet approval for the following:

- Public Health – to approve acceptance of funding for Derby City to implement the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) employment support in community drug and alcohol treatment services programme
- Public Health - to delegate authority to enter into all necessary contracts and agreements associated with this additional ring-fenced funding
- Contract Waiver - extension of a contract with Water Plus Group Ltd to continue their provision of water, wastewater and ancillary services to the Council's property portfolio
- Smartparc capital grant – to increase the total grant award to up to £17.31m with future grant award agreements to be entered into with SmartParc SEGRO Spondon Ltd
- Capital programme - addition of £0.148m to the capital programme for the City Living Fund and the use of the fund to award grants to Inventure Properties Ltd and Sadler Gate Co Ltd.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Performance

2022/23 – Quarter 1 Performance Update

The Board received a report of the Director of Policy, Insight and Communications on 2022/23 – Quarter 1 Performance Update.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Other

Mental Health, Neurodiversity & Learning Disability Alliance Partnership Agreement

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Peoples Services on Mental Health, Neurodiversity and Learning Disability Alliance Partnership Agreement.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Exclusion of Press and Public

A resolution to exclude the press and public was put to the vote and carried.

The Board resolved that under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of

Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Key Decisions

Compulsory Purchase of Empty Homes

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Compulsory Purchase of Empty Homes.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Eastern Gateway Funding Arrangements

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Eastern Gateway Funding arrangements.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – High Needs Transformation Programme

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources on Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – High Needs Transformation Programme.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources on Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END