

Executive Scrutiny Board Recommendations from the meeting held on 16 January 2018	
Council Cabinet Agenda – 16 January 2018	
Item 8	Derby City Council Tenancy Strategy
<p>Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Urban Renewal and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to extend the current Tenancy Strategy on an open ended basis, with a new strategy to be written when regulations are issued.</p> <p>Members were informed that in the event that no new regulations are issues by the Government revisions to the existing policy may not be necessary.</p> <p>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</p>	
Item 9	Acquisition and Purchase of Larger Properties for Affordable Housing
<p>Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Urban Renewal and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to agree to the acquisition and refurbishment of up to 4 larger properties, each to provide a minimum of 4 bedrooms, at a maximum total price of £800,000 and a number of other recommendations to support this.</p> <p>Members of the Board were in full support of these proposals and would like to see more of these acquisitions. The Board was further informed that Derby Homes is currently working to convert properties to 3, 4 and 5 bedroom homes.</p> <p>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</p>	
Item 10	Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes
<p>Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Urban Renewal seeking approval for the Council to make Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) under the Acquisition of Land Act 1981(pursuant to the power under section 17 of the Housing Act 1985) for the acquisition of the houses, together with the associated land, as for the purposes of their renovation and reoccupation as housing accommodation.</p> <p>Members of the Board were in full support of these proposals and asked what the barriers are preventing this being a more regular item on the Council Cabinet Agenda. Members were informed the process is very time-consuming and that with only one CPO Officer in place, the Council is unable to resource more frequent and more numerous acquisitions.</p> <p>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</p>	

Item 11	Council Tax Base for 2018/19
<p>Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Governance and Interim Director of Finance seeking approval for the council tax base for the year 2018/19 as 67,610.42 band D equivalent properties in accordance with The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/2914).</p> <p>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</p>	
Item 12	Commercial Waste – Proposed Delegation of Service to Nottingham City Council
<p>Members received a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Cohesion and Integration and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to note and accept the work that has already been done in detailing a proposed delegation of the Commercial Waste service to Nottingham City Council and refer the proposed delegation for Full Council approval at its meeting on 24 January 2018.</p> <p>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to consider the report under the more detailed exempt item at Item 19 of the Council Cabinet Agenda.</p>	
Item 13	Council Budget Proposals 2018/19
<p>Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Governance seeking to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recommend approval by Council of the Council Tax base; • delegate to the S.151 Officer the final calculation of Council Tax; • recommend the Cabinet's budget proposals as set out in the report for consideration and approval by Council; • note the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan for the years 2018/19 to 2020/21; • note the Financial Risk Assessment; consider the results of the Budget Consultation and Cabinet's response to that process; • consider and seek approval by Council the 2018-2019 allocation of the Dedicated Schools Grant; and • delegate approval to the S.151 Officer to make necessary changes to the budget arising from the Government's Financial Settlement as and when confirmed and any technical adjustments to the Treasury Management Strategy arising from the revised Prudential Code. <p>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</p>	
Item 14	Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report
<p>Members considered a Council Cabinet report of Cabinet Member for Finance and Governance and Chief Executive outlining a number of items that require reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules.</p>	

Members of the Board queried the approval of the deferment of a loan repayment from Derbyshire County Cricket Club and asked what risks were associated with this decision. It was reported that the risks associated with the decision were no greater than with the previous agreement and were somewhat lessened due to a reduced risk of the County Crick Club failing. Members also asked what the benefits to the Club were of extended the loan repayment agreement and were informed that the deferment would enable the club to access ECB funding and make significant improvements to its ground.

Members again raised the issue of major slippage in the Capital Programme and the need for better estimates from Mangers. It was acknowledged that this remains an issue and the misapprehension that funds will be lost instead of being rolled forward is being addressed.

The Board also raised the issue that the bid for Support for Cleaner Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles in Derby had not been linked up with work being done by the Licensing Committee and the joining up of both vehicle safety and air pollution. Members agreed that the further work on the bid should be communicated to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee to enable joined-up working.

The Executive Scrutiny Board made no recommendations to Council Cabinet on this item, however, requested that Officers communicate further work on the Clean AirZone bid to a future meeting of the Licensing Committee to enable joined-up working.

Item 15	Creation of the role of Derby Ambassador for Business and Innovation
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Members considered a report of the Chief Executive seeking support for the creation of the role of Derby Ambassador for Business and Innovation and to recommend to Council the approval of the creation of the role. The report also sought support to establish the role for a period of three years in-line with the details provided in the report and to recommend to Council the appointment of Mr Mel Morris to the role of Derby Ambassador for Business and Innovation.

The Board raised concerns over the process of appointment to this role and whether a number of candidates, including female candidates, had been considered. The Board felt that they would like to be consulted on the appointment process for this type of role in future. However, the Board felt that the appointment of Mel Morris would be seen as non-political and as a liked and well-respected individual, the appointee would be the ideal person to launch of this role and see what happens with the role in the future.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to request involvement in the appointment process for this type of role in future.