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| <b>Executive Scrutiny Board</b>  |  |
| <b>Recommendations from the meeting held on 15 January 2018</b>  |  |
| <b>Council Cabinet Agenda – 16 January 2019</b>  |  |
| <b>Item 9</b>  | <b>Council Tax Base for 2019/20</b>                              |
| <p>The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources recommending approval of the Council Tax Base for 2019/20.</p> <p>It was noted that the tax base was an estimated figure of the number of Band D equivalent properties in the city; the report stated that the base for 2019/20 is 68,679 properties, compared to 67,610 in 2018/19. This reflected an increased number of domestic dwellings, reduced losses to the tax base due to Council Tax Support awards; a reduced number of single person discounts awarded and an estimate of newly built homes between 1 December 2018 and 31 March 2020.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>   |  |
| <b>Item 10</b>   | <b>Proposal to increase school places at Brackensdale School</b> |
| <p>The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of People Services proposing the expansion of Brackensdale Primary School from September 2019. The proposal sought to increase the school's admission number from 60 to 75 from September 2019, with an additional 105 places to be made available across the school on a phased basis.</p> <p>It was reported that demand for school places in the area had increased owing to a new housing development at Kingsway; it was noted that £1.9 million of capital funding to support the expansion had been secured through a Section 106 agreement. Members queried whether additional parking would be made available at the school and whether the impact on the surrounding area had been considered.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend that Council Cabinet request officers consider additional parking provision and the impact on the surrounding community of increased traffic in the preparation of detailed proposals for the further expansion of Brackensdale Primary School.</b></p> |  |
| <b>Item 11</b>   | <b>Derby City Playing Pitch Strategy</b>                         |
| <p>The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place seeking approval for the Derby Playing Pitch Strategy.</p> <p>It was reported that the strategy provided guidance and support in assessing the need for</p>  |  |

playing pitches in the city for a range of outdoor sports: the strategy would seek to protect the existing supply of playing pitches to meet current and future needs; enhance playing fields, pitches and ancillary facilities; and, provide new playing pitches to meet future demand.

The Board welcomed the strategy and noted the benefits that outdoor sports provided to the health and wellbeing of residents. However, members expressed concern about the quality of some pitches, suggesting they were not cut with sufficient regularity.

Members queried whether supporting infrastructure had been included in the strategy, citing in particular parking issues in streets near to playing pitches. It was reported that this had not been specifically considered as part of the strategy, but would always be investigated by officers where problems had arisen.

The Board questioned whether there were particular social groups that were adversely affected by a lack of playing pitch provision. Members also requested that where surplus capacity existed, particularly with regards to privately owned pitches, local councillors were notified so that opportunities for public use could be explored.

**The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved:**

- **To recommend to Council Cabinet that a ward-by-ward breakdown of playing pitch space was provided to local councillors, to ensure surplus capacity was utilised to its full extent.**
- **To recommend to Council Cabinet that officers consider the impact on surrounding communities; the need for additional supporting infrastructure; and, the relationship with other local policies and strategies, particularly in regards to parking, when assessing the expansion or provision of additional playing pitches.**

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| <b>Item 12</b> | <b>Derby Economic Growth Strategy – Delivery Plan</b> |
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The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place presenting the Derby Economic Growth Strategy 2018-2022 and delivery plan for approval.

The strategy highlighted major strengths and challenges that existed within the local economy, as well as detailing four key themes for developing an inclusive and modern city economy; these were: innovation, productivity, collaboration and inclusivity.

It was reported that the strategy had been developed over a significant period of time and had undergone significant consultation with local stakeholders. The strategy and delivery plan was now being presented to Council Cabinet prior to final approval by Council.

The Board noted the strategy contained promotion of the University Quarter and whilst supporting the intention, stressed that local residents and councillors should be involved in the designation and development of the area.

Members questioned how the strategy would address issues such as wage growth in

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| <p>low-skilled jobs; promotion of the real living wage; how the benefits of wealth could be shared; and, what could be done to encourage graduates to live in the city. It was reported that many of the issues cited were commonplace in urban areas across the UK, but that working closely with schools, colleges and universities was vital. It was further noted that Derby compared favourably in terms of the number of graduates working in the city and average salaries, but that encouraging graduates to live in Derby remained a challenge.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p> |   |
| <b>Item 13</b>   | <b>Compulsory acquisition of empty homes</b>                                  |
| <p>The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place seeking approval to initiate compulsory purchase proceedings for four long-term vacant houses, in line with the council's Empty Homes Strategy.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>  |   |
| <b>Item 14</b>   | <b>Purchase of residential development to provide 14 new affordable homes</b> |
| <p>The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place seeking approval to purchase a housing scheme containing 14 new build properties, to be funded from the Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>   |   |
| <b>Item 15</b>   | <b>Allocation of Grant to the War Memorial Village Trust</b>                  |
| <p>The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place proposing the allocation of Right to Buy receipts as grant funding to the War Memorial Village Trust, to replace unsuitable properties and provide new homes.</p> <p>The Trust provided affordable rented accommodation in the Allenton area of Derby to ex-service personnel; disabled residents and former emergency service employees.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>  |   |
| <b>Item 16</b>   | <b>Corporate Safeguarding Policy</b>  |
| <p>The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services detailing proposed revisions to the Corporate Safeguarding Policy.</p> <p>It was reported that the policy had first been agreed in 2015 and set out the council's commitments and roles in the delivery of safeguarding responsibilities. It was noted that the policy was not a statutory requirement but represented best practice.</p>  |   |

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| <b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b>   |   |
| <b>Item 17</b>   | <b>Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules</b>                 |
| <p>The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources outlining a number of items that required reporting and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules.</p> <p>It was reported that approvals were being sought for the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional funding received for Adult Services winter pressures – Adult Social Care Grant of £1,148,569.</li> </ul> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>  |   |
| <b>Item 18</b>   | <b>Exclusion of the Press and Public</b>                                      |
| <p>The Board considered a resolution to exclude the press and public for the consideration of exempt detail contained within two reports discussed earlier on the Council Cabinet agenda.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny 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 items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 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.</b></p> |   |
| <b>Item 19</b>   | <b>Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes</b>                                  |
| <p>The Board received exempt detail in relation to the report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place seeking approval to initiate compulsory purchase proceedings in relation to four long-term vacant houses.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>   |   |
| <b>Item 20</b>   | <b>Purchase of Residential Development to Provide 14 New Affordable Homes</b> |
| <p>The Board received exempt detail in relation to the report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place proposing the purchase of fourteen new build properties on a self-contained development close to the city-centre, to be funded from the Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p><b>The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.</b></p>  |   |

