ITEM 5b

Minute extract

179/15 Changes to Neighbourhood Working, Community Safety and Cohesion and Integration

The Council Cabinet considered a report which stated that the council in setting its budget for the next 3 years has identified savings in the above service area. These savings include the suspension of community budgets and Streetpride devolved budgets valuing: £570k. A budget reduction in neighbourhood working of £347k, resulting in a reduction of staff numbers and change in the way the service was delivered. Reduced staff numbers were a reduction in the number of neighbourhood managers from 4 to 2 and reduction in the number of neighbourhood officers from 12 to 4 (this was complemented by three seconded officers from Derby Homes).

Given the budget savings neighbourhood working needed to reflect this, support the delivery of the Delivering Differently programme and reflect the new priorities of the council and local neighbourhoods.

There were a number of issues and risks in relation to community safety and cohesion and integration that require a renewed focus and increased operational service delivery.

Options Considered

- 1. Ending of all these services was considered as part of the budget decision making process.
- 2. Maintaining the existing level of service, this would not have delivered the identified budget savings.

Decision

- 1. To agree the staffing reductions and change in service offer in relation to neighbourhood working as outlined in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.3 of the report.
- 2. To agree to the priorities and resource allocation in relation to Community Safety and Cohesion and Integration.
- 3. To agree the suspension of devolved budgets from 1 April 2016, saving £570,000 per year.

Reasons

- 1. Neighbourhood Working had seen a budget reduction of £347k and required a change in the way the service was delivered and to support the delivery of the 'Delivering Differently' programme.
- 2. To move resource into Community Safety and Cohesion and Integration to reflect the nature of the risks and issues facing the city in these service areas.
- 3. To confirm the suspension of devolved budgets from 1 April 2016 as part of the approved budget