

Time Commenced – 5.00pm
Time Finished – 6.19pm

Executive Scrutiny Board

8 March 2022

Present: Councillor Repton (Chair)
Councillors Care, Carr, Cooper, Dhindsa, Evans, Grimadell,
M Holmes, Pattison, Pegg, Prosser

In attendance: Mike Brown – Derby City of Culture Assistant Bid Director
Ian Fullagar – Head of Strategic Housing
Jane Kirby – DEGF Manager
Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer
Rachel North – Strategic Director of Communities and Place
Alison Parkin – Director of Financial Services
Steve Turner – Principal Economic Growth Manager

76/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Martin.

77/21 Late Items

There were none.

78/21 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

79/21 Minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

80/21 Forward Plan

The Board considered the contents of the Forward Plan published on 8 February 2022.

No items were added to the future work programme.

Resolved to note the Forward Plan.

81/21 Council Cabinet Responses to Scrutiny Recommendations

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources which allowed the Scrutiny Board to receive responses from Council Cabinet on recommendations made at the previous Board meeting on 15 February 2022.

The Board resolved to note the report.

82/21 Performance Plan 2021/22

The Board considered a report of the Director of Policy, Insight and Communications on Performance Plan 2021/22.

It was reported that the Executive Scrutiny Board had responsibility for monitoring corporate performance, to support the delivery of improved outcomes for the city.

The report provided the Board with an opportunity to review and agree the Performance Plan 2021/22.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to agree the performance items identified for consideration by the Board as part of the Performance Plan 2021/22 as shown at Appendix 1; and**
- 2. to note the draft Overview and Scrutiny Review Boards work plans for 2021/22, as presented in Appendix 2.**

83/21 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 9 March 2022.

Matters Referred

Recommendations from Executive Scrutiny Board

The Board received a report of the Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Board on Recommendations from the Executive Scrutiny Board.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Minute Extract from the Communities Scrutiny Board

The Board received a minute extract from the Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to Allestree Golf Course.

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

Resolved to note that Derby was losing heritage assets and to encourage Cabinet to look at ways to reverse this and to maintain assets.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the minute extract.

Key Decisions

Update on UK City of Culture 2025

The Board received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Communities and Place) on Update on UK City of Culture 2025.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Infrastructure Programme Board Capital Programme 2022/23

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Infrastructure Programme Board Capital Programmes 2022/23.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved:

- 1. to recommend to Council Cabinet that, in relation to ongoing problems with traffic congestion at Kingsway Retail Park, the responsible Cabinet Members urgently convene a meeting with all interested parties and that they provide and publicise a scheme to resolve this problem, spelling out how and when it will be delivered;**
- 2. to recommend to Council Cabinet that to reduce the City's Carbon and waste footprint that we maximise the reuse of road and footway material as part of the resurfacing programmes and the use of recovered aggregates as part of the road reconstruction/building when required – and to encourage utility companies to do the same; and**
- 3. to recommend to Council Cabinet that it requests a formal annual (or more frequent) update of all projects within the Infrastructure Programme Board's remit, highlighting those that haven't been delivered within the approved financial year, with the reasons for this slippage.**

Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes

The Board received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Derby Enterprise Growth Fund (DEGF)

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Derby Enterprise Growth Fund (DEGF).

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Budget and Policy Framework

Writing off Uncollectable Business Rate, Housing Benefit Overpayment and Sundry Debts

The Board received a report of the Director of Financial Services on Writing off Uncollectable Business Rate, Housing Benefit Overpayment and Sundry Debts.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules

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

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

- Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC), Homelessness Prevention Grant – acceptance of grant of £0.207m in 2021/22 and £0.986m in 2022/23
- Healthwatch Derby Funding (HWD) Arrangements – approve award of a new Grant Agreement for Healthwatch Derby from April 2022 to March 2025 of £0.214m per annum funded by the Government through the Local Reform and Community Voices Grant
- Covid Grants – To note the acceptance of funding from the Department of Health and Social care (DHSC) for Covid related activity in Adult Social Care and Public Health. All grants are ringfenced and any unspent funds must be repaid to the DHSC
- Acquisition of skips for Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) services – to seek approval to add to the capital programme and approve service finance borrowing to purchase the skips
- Local land Charges service – to seek approval to set the Fees and Charges levied by the Local Land Charges Service from 1 April 2022.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Other

Revision of the Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) for 2022/23

The Board received a report of the Director of Financial Services on Revision to the Council Tax Support Scheme (CTS) for 2022/23.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that it urgently gets a response from Government to our request that Council Cabinet agreed to write to them asking for additional resources to ensure that those people that desperately need the £150, that's 40,000 of them, get it as soon as possible.

Levelling Up and Devolution

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on Levelling up and Devolution.

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 Acquisition of Empty Homes

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Compulsory Acquisition of Empty Homes.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Derby Enterprise Growth Fund (DEGF)

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Derby Enterprise Growth Fund (DEGF).

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to make a recommendation to Council Cabinet, in relation to exempt detail in the report.

Budget and Policy Framework

Writing off Uncollectable Business Rate, Housing Benefit Overpayment and Sundry Debts

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Director of Financial Services on Writing off Uncollectable Business Rate, Housing Benefit Overpayment and Sundry Debts.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END