

Time began 6.00pm  
Time ended 6.55pm

**COUNCIL CABINET  
11 JANUARY 2011**

Present Councillor Jennings (Chair)  
Councillors Grimadell, Holmes, Marshall, Poulter,  
Webb and Williams

In attendance Councillors Bayliss and Jones

This record of decisions was published on 13 January 2011. The key decisions set out in this record will come into force and may be implemented on the expiry of five clear days unless a key decision is called in.

**161/10 Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ingall.

**162/10 Late Items Introduced by the Chair**

In accordance with Section 100(B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to admit the following late items on the grounds that they should be considered as a matter of urgency on the basis that a decision was required before the next scheduled meeting:

- Reconfiguration of Children's Centres.
- Proposals to Develop an Integrated Youth Support Delivery Model

**163/10 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call-In  
will not apply**

There were no urgent items.

**164/10 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**165/10 Minutes of the meeting held 14 December 2010**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

# Key Decisions

## 166/10 Council Tax Base

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Council Tax Base. The Council has to calculate its 'council tax base' for 2011/12 as a means of raising council tax income for the 2011/12 financial year from Derby council tax payers. The tax base is an estimated figure of the number of domestic properties in terms of 'band D' in the Council's area during the year. It is used to determine a headline charge for band D properties in the city. Charges for other bands are calculated as defined fractions of the headline charge. The proposed council tax base for 2011/12 was 72,278.83 band D equivalent properties compared with the 2010/11 council tax base of 71,114.57. This represented an increase of 1,164.26 band D equivalent properties. The reasons for the increase were:

- An increase in the number of domestic properties within the city at the time of calculating the proposed council tax base for 2011/12 when compared to the figure used for calculating 2010/11 council tax base. The actual increase in domestic properties was 919.
- A prudent estimate of the number of newly built homes between 1 December 2010 and 31 March 2012 that would add to the tax base.

### Options Considered

Setting the council tax base is a statutory duty.

### Decision

1. To approve the council tax base for the year 2011/12 as 72,278.83 band D equivalent properties in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/3012).
2. To recommend Council in accordance with the methodology and estimates shown at Appendices 2 and 3 to approve this calculation.

### Reasons

Agreeing the council tax base was the first step in the process of setting the council tax to be collected in 2011/12 and was an essential part of establishing the 2011/12 budget.

## 167/10 Adoption of Derby Housing Market Area Local Investment Plan 2011-2014

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Adoption of Derby Housing Market Area Local Investment Plan 2011-2014. Local Investment Plans (LIPs) were the key Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) business planning processes in respect of informing its funding prioritisation at the Housing Market Area (HMA) level. The Derby HMA, geographically consisted of Derby City Council, South Derbyshire District Council and Amber Valley Borough Council. The County Council was also a key partner. The identification of HMAs had been based upon an analysis of house moves within an area. The Derby HMA LIP had been developed through the HMA Delivery Coordination Group which consisted of Officers from the three relevant local authorities and Derbyshire County Council. The process had been overseen by the HMA Joint Advisory Board which was made up of either the Leader or Deputy Leader of each of the three HMA local authorities, the portfolio lead Member from the County Council, together with a senior manager from each. Following the emergence of the Derby City, Derbyshire, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), which had recently been endorsed by Government, the structure of the Derby LIP had been amended to mirror the Nottingham/ Nottinghamshire LIP. This would thereby provide consistency across the LEP area. The LIP for the Derby sub-region focused on five themed priority areas agreed by Joint Advisory Board. These were:

- Supply
- Quality
- Inclusion
- Neighbourhoods and Settlements
- Plan support

### **Options Considered**

1. The Council could determine not to approve a LIP. It was considered that this could place it at disadvantage when competing for external resources with other areas.
2. The Council could identify alternative potential sites, funding priorities and resources within Derby to those currently proposed within the LIP. Those currently identified, had however already been proposed through current regeneration and planning strategies and were supported by a robust evidence including housing and economic related studies and discussions with key partners.

### **Decision**

To endorse the Local Investment Plan for the Derby Housing Market Area.

## Reasons

The LIP provided a broad indication of investment needs and priorities for the HMA and would help to guide HCA activity and support in the area.

## 168/10 Transport Policy Changes Children and Young People

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Transport Policy Changes Children and Young People. The Council provided transport to a range of children and young people. The total budget for 2010-11 is £3.07m (million), which was in line with previous years. The biggest proportion (89%) of the transport budget was used to transport children and young people to schools (£2.76m). In the light of the current financial outlook, officers had reviewed expenditure on transport for children and young people. A number of policy changes were now being proposed to maximise the value of transport services to all those who received them. The proposed changes would not affect existing arrangements and would be subject to a consultation exercise and Equality Impact Assessment as set out in the report.

## Options Considered

All options to date were outlined in section 2 above.

## Decisions

1. To consult on the following proposed policy changes:
  - to remove discretionary free transport for any new pupil below Foundation Stage 2 on and after 1 September 2011
  - to remove discretionary free transport for all new instances of a child or young person attending a school less than the statutory walking distance (*this includes all young people attending a special school closer than two miles, aged seven years and under, or three miles for over eight-year-olds*).
2. To bring a further report on completion of the consultation period and the Equality Impact Assessment regarding the proposed changes in paragraphs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 of the report.
3. To agree to a review and a report of outcomes being brought to a future meeting on the following:
  - post-16 students with special educational needs (SEN) contributing to their transport costs
  - changing the transport escort policy and developing a new assessment criteria.

- whether it was more effective to require escorts to be provided by transport providers rather than employed by the Council
- special schools taking an active role in arranging transport for their own pupils through direct delegated funding
- a reduction in the number of taxis used for home to school transport and a review of routes followed.

## Reasons

1. Recommendation 1 - The local authority provides a small number of disabled young people with transport to schools with nurseries and nurseries that offer preschool education. The Council does not have a statutory duty to provide such transport. Potential savings from adopting this change are £87,000 a year. This change would not affect any existing pupil.
2. Recommendation 2 – Removing discretionary free transport for all new instances of a child or young person attending a school less than the statutory walking distance would allow financial savings whilst maintaining a statutory service. Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN), who had specific transport needs written into their statement, would still be provided with transport. Potential savings from this change were up to £100,000 a year.
3. Recommendation 3 - Our aim was to continue work to identify further savings in order to meet budget requirements.

## Other

### 169/10 Reconfiguration of Children's Centres

The Council Cabinet considered a report which set out proposal for consultation on proposed changes to the delivery of children's centres in Derby City ensuring the Local Authority's statutory duty to provide sufficient Children's Centres to reach under-fives and their families was met and provided a more efficient and effective service.

Children's Centres play an integral part of a local authority early intervention strategy and offer services to families with children under the age of five years. However, a number of recent national reviews of the use of the centres had highlighted that the focus must be on how we can enable Children's Centres, working with other professionals, to better target those most in need of their services to intervene earlier.

The original ring fence of the Sure Start Grants had been lifted with a view to the Local Authority being able to make decisions which more closely reflect local need. Children's Centres needed to be more targeted on providing services to those most vulnerable children and their families who were deemed as in need or at risk. The newly created Early Intervention Grant, of

which the children's centres funding forms part, had been significantly reduced for 2011/12 and a further reduction in 2012/13.

Six Children's Centres had been identified as part of a potential reconfiguration of services. In addition, there were a number of recommendations for alternative service delivery models.

### **Options Considered**

1. To retain all 18 Children's Centres with a reduced offer of services, restricted opening hours which would limit access and availability of these services. However, this would result in the Local Authority not providing the statutory core Children's Centre offer.
2. Long-term, the Local Authority would be considering other options for the running and management of the remaining 12 children's centres with a view to schools and voluntary sector agencies taking on responsibility. However, in the first instance, the Local Authority must realise the savings that were necessary from these proposals.
3. Alongside the proposals, the restructure of Children's Centre staffing would support the increased reach and expanded areas that other children's centres would pick up.

### **Decision**

1. To consult on the following proposed changes to Children's Centres:
  - to reconfigure Children's Centre provision to provide four centres in each of the three localities of the city. The localities were 1 and 5 covering Spondon, Oakwood, Chaddesden, Derwent; Mackworth Morley, Darley, Allestree; locality 2 covering Alvaston, Boulton, Sinfen; and locality 3 and 4 covering Normanton, Arboretum, Littleover, Mickleover, Abbey. This would result in the reduction of separate centres from 18 to 12
  - to reconfigure the reach areas and delivery models for the remaining 12 Children's Centres to ensure the council continued to meet statutory requirements.
  - to consult with schools to transfer the management of Children's Centres to them where they were located on school premises.
2. To agree to an eight-week consultation period commencing on Monday 24 January 2011, ending on 21 March 2011.
3. To carry out an Equality Impact Assessment on the proposed changes during the consultation period.

4. To bring a further report to the Council Cabinet meeting on 12 April 2011 with the findings of the consultation exercise and Equality Impact Assessment and further recommendations.

## **Reasons**

Principles that were taken into account in proposing these recommendations were:

- a reduction in funding from Government and change of national policy direction
- to provide a single consistent service delivery model across all centres
- address the inconsistent performance by centres against targets to work with under fives and their families
- cost of staffing maintaining 18 centres within the current financial climate.

## **170/10      Proposals to Develop an Integrated Youth Support Delivery Model**

The Council Cabinet considered a report which outlined proposals to restructure the Youth Service as part of the Council's efficiencies and to develop a new approach to locality provision, embedding flexibility and coordination of service to young people.

It was proposed that Derby develops an Integrated Youth Support Service Delivery Model following service reductions to the core Youth Service budget.

Four of the existing eight Youth Centres had been identified for closure and reinvestment in three mobile facilities as part of the drive to provide a more cost effective and flexible service to young people. The service would retain four youth centres.

The cost of the Youth Service component of Integrated Youth Support Services would be £1.2m of core budget.

## **Options Considered**

1. Retain all centres and retain the current youth service core budget. However this was unsustainable within the new funding available to the council.
2. Further reductions in service delivery and further reductions to the core budget removing any universality and open access provision. This option would remove youth work from all but the most deprived areas; all empowerment and consultation work with young people; outdoor education; the successful Duke of Edinburgh scheme and all centres.

## **Decision**

1. To approve the proposal to consult on changes to integrated youth support provision as set out in the report, as part of the Council's approach to modernising youth provision and addressing budget challenges, with a report back to Council Cabinet following consultation.
2. To note the Integrated Youth Support Services model and the advantages the provision would offer young people in Derby.
3. To approve that any capital receipts from the sale of buildings would not be subject to current Council policy and an element would be ring-fenced for the re-investment of mobile facilities, at a cost of £78,000.

## **Reasons**

Principles that were taken into account in proposing these recommendations were:

- a change of national policy direction to Integrated Youth Support Services
- the provision of a single consistent service delivery model across Derby.
- cost of staffing and maintaining four centres within the current financial climate

## **Contract and Financial Procedure Matters**

### **171/10 Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report**

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Contract and Financial Procedure Matters. The report dealt with the following items that required reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules:

- to approve proposed changes to the capital programme
- to note the revised capital programme
- to approve capital scheme commencements
- to approve submission for expressions of interest to the Department for Transport for the London Road Bridge replacement scheme
- to approve, if successful, the prioritisation of the London Road Bridge scheme for capital funding
- to seek a waiver to tender for a contract with Disability Direct
- to allocate funds from earmarked reserves
- to approve the progression of priority projects for ICT infrastructure improvements funded from the ICT Transformation Programme capital budget



- to approve the Lagan Solution and installation for the procurement of the Customer Relationship Management System – CRM
- to extend the Council's current Housing Renewal Policy.

## **Decision**

1. To approve the changes to the 2010/11 – 2012/13 capital programme as shown in Appendix 2 of the report.
2. To note the revised capital programme and associated funding detailed in Table 1 on page 2 of the report for 2010/11.
3. To approve the capital scheme commencements detailed in Appendix 3 of the report. Any shortfall in funding for the Rowditch Recreation scheme arising from the virement of £66,000 to Alvaston Park Changing Rooms would be met from a review of reserves.
4. To approve the expression of interest to the Department for Transport for the London Road Bridge replacement scheme and to approve a percentage local contribution of 25% to be included in the expression of interest as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report.
5. To approve the addition to the capital programme for 2013-14 of the London Road Bridge replacement scheme, if successful, and the 25% contribution being a capital funded priority.
6. To seek a waiver of Contract Procedure Rule CPR 8, which required all contracts over £30,000 to be competitively tendered and instead to enter into a new contract with Disability Direct Ltd to provide a disabled persons day service for one year commencing 1 April 2011 as detailed in paragraph 6.1 of the report.
7. To allocate £273,000 from an earmarked reserve to fund the ongoing costs of job evaluation as detailed in paragraph 7.1 of the report.
8. To approve the progression of the priority projects and allocations from the ICT Transformation Programme capital budget detailed below in Appendix 4 of the report, which had been defined jointly by the Council's ICT service and Serco as outlined in section 8 of the report.
9. To approve the installation of the Lagan solution in a resilient configuration including the supporting infrastructure from day one as this would avoid unnecessary future disruption and downtime in a live and operational environment, as outlined in section 9 of the report.
10. To approve the establishment of a combined Serco, PwC and Council CRM Team to work closely with Lagan to deploy the Lagan solution across the business, as outlined in section 9 of the report.

11. To extend the Council's current Housing Renewal Policy until 30 June 2011.

MINUTES END