

Time commenced 6.00pm
Time finished 7.20pm

CORPORATE SCRUTINY AND CLIMATE CHANGE BOARD 19 NOVEMBER 2012

Present: Councillor Tittley (Chair)
Councillors Afzal, Hickson, Redfern, Whitby and Wood

Councillor Afzal was absent from minute 31/12 onwards
Councillor Hickson was absent from minute 32/12 onwards

23/12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hillier, Holmes and Jones.

24/12 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

25/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

26/12 Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 September 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

27/12 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The board received the Council Cabinet Forward Plan.

28/12 Call-in

There were no items.

29/12 'one Derby, one council' Progress Report

The board considered a report of the Chief Executive on progress made on the 'One Derby, One Council' transformation programme. The Director of Transformation and Strategic Services highlighted key elements of the report.

It was reported that key elements of the transformation programme would become active with the return to the Council House from 1 December 2012. Various aspect of the Target Operating Model would be realised including greater self service for customers through the council website, the creation of a single customer management approach, smarter delivery of frontline services and more efficient back

office processes. Many aspects of the IT transformation programme would also be visible at the Council House, including thin client technology enabling software to be server-based and thus easier to manage.

The board was informed that efforts were being made to look at non-city centre-based staff with a view to similar facilities and technology being implemented. A business case had been finalised to redevelop Beaufort Business Centre as a site for teams in Children and Young People's Services. It was reported that communication remained a key element of any transformation, and this was being undertaken in a variety of forms.

Following questions by members, the director confirmed that processes were in place to pick up on any difficulties encountered by teams, either in advance of following the move back to the Council House to ensure the transition was as smooth as possible.

Concerns were raised over existing facilities and questions were posed over whether the arrangements in the Council House would ensure better privacy for customers with sensitive issues. It was confirmed that there were a number of private meeting rooms close to the reception in the Council House and that it was envisaged these would be used for dealing with sensitive matters privately. It was also confirmed that the 'meet and greet' staff would ensure customers would be personally directed. Members commented that the concerns relating to existing facilities served to demonstrate that they were not fit for purpose and the Council House move would be a significant step forward.

Resolved to request:

- **That a brief report highlighting challenges arising from the return to the Council House be provided for the board meeting on 28 January 2013**
- **That a report detailing how the 'one Derby, one council' programme had been implemented be provided for the board meeting on 25 March 2013.**

30/12 Acquisition of former Magistrates' Court, Derwent Street, and proposed use for Local Studies Library

The Board considered reports of the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive that had been presented to Council Cabinet on 17 October 2012. The outcome of the consideration by Council Cabinet had been to agree to the acquisition of the former Magistrates' Court from Wilson Bowden Developments and relocation of the Local Studies Library from Middleton House. The Director of Regeneration attended to take questions.

Members questioned whether there was any intention to update the technology used in the Local Studies Library as part of the move. The director confirmed that this did not form part of the move plan but that there would be a rationalisation of items transferred arising from the move. It was asked what would happen to the rest of the Full Street building. It was explained that the intention was to let it but that it could take two years before it was fully let. Members asked about the flood risk. The director confirmed that actions to protect the building in line with existing flood risk plans would be undertaken by Wilson Bowden as part of the redevelopment.

Resolved to request than an update be provided for the board meeting on 25 March 2013.

Following the conclusion of this item, Councillor Afzal left the meeting.

31/12 Castleward Progress Update

The board considered a report from the Strategic Director of Resources introducing the update on the Castleward project. It was reported that the project involved the development of the Castleward Urban Village in brownfield land to create around 800 homes, a school, community facilities and open spaces, linked with a boulevard between the railway station and the city centre.

The Director of Regeneration attended and updated members. It was reported that the development partner, Compendium, had acquired an office in Canal Street as its project base. The first phase of the scheme was expected to take three years and would involve much of the major regeneration. The second phase would include the development of a primary school, if required, on the Sovereign car park, which the council had recently required, and the completion of development between the first phase and London Road.

Resolved to request than an update be provided for the board meeting on 25 March 2013.

Following the conclusion of this item, Councillor Hickson left the meeting.

32/12 Review of Climate Change Strategy

A report of the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods was considered. The report detailed the main principles underpinning the council's Climate Change Strategy and included the main priority areas for attention, namely:

- working with partners to take advantage of opportunities through the low carbon economy
- identifying opportunities to increase the city's energy mix and reduce dependency on fossil fuels
- raising the profile of how to future-proof the city's services and infrastructure to cope with more severe weather events
- acknowledging the role a sustainable transport system can play in reducing the city's carbon footprint
- identifying and utilising national funding opportunities.

An update was provided on the Derwent Hydro facility and on why other such sites were not being explored. Members requested that this be looked at in greater detail and reported back to a future meeting of the board.

Members also debated what sustainable transport options might be best suitable for the city. A range of views were discussed, from enhancing the existing bus provision to re-introducing trolley buses or trams. The Director of Planning and Facilities Management confirmed that more radical options continued to be unfeasible,

principally because of the limited availability of the significant capital funding that would be required.

Resolved to request that reports be brought back to the meeting on 28 January 2013 detailing:

- **options available to the council to utilise hydro power following the installation of the hydro station on the River Derwent**
- **long term sustainable transport options.**

33/12 Scrutiny of Forward Plan

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Resources highlighting two key decisions taken by Council Cabinet which had not been included in the Forward Plan.

Resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END