Executive Scrutiny Board

Recommendations from the meeting held on 4 July 2022

Council Cabinet Agenda – 5 July 2022

Item 7 Levelling Up Fund Round 2 Applications

The Board received a report of the Deputy Chief Executive – Communities and Place on Levelling Up Fund Round 2 Applications.

It was reported that a further confidential report relating to this Item was to be considered at Item 9 of the agenda, which would ask Council Cabinet to agree the following recommendations:

- (a) To approve the submission of 3 applications to the Levelling Up Fund Round 2 for:
 - Assemble (New Learning Theatre), Assembly Rooms site
 - New Hotel, Becketwell
 - Friar Gate Goods Yard and Bridge.
- (b) To note that if a bid is successful, a report with full details will be brought back to Cabinet in relation to each scheme, and to seek approval to accept the funding, secure the relevant capital and revenue budgets (including match funding requirements), the contractual arrangements and conditions associated with the funding offer to enable it to be accepted.
- (c) To approve capital spend at risk of up to £0.7m to be added to the capital programme, funded by prudential borrowing to progress the Assemble (new Learning Theatre) to RIBA 2, in advance of the outcome of the bid, and the Council's internal Gateway 3 approval.

Executive Scrutiny Board made the following recommendations to Council Cabinet in relation to project Assemble:

- 1. Executive Scrutiny Board welcomes and supports the application to identify funds to develop project Assemble but notes that more work is to be done and requests that detailed plans be brought to Executive Scrutiny Board at the earliest opportunity; and
- 2. given that any increase in costs or slippage in delivery would need to be met from local funds, Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend that the council ensures that officers with the necessary skills, competence and experience to deliver major projects are in place within the council.

Item 8 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.

Item 9 Levelling Up Fund Round 2 Applications

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Deputy Chief Executive – Communities and Place on Levelling Up Fund Round 2 Applications.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.