

Time Commenced – 18:03  
Time Finished – 20:37

## **Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Board**

**14 March 2017**

Present: Councillor Stanton (Chair)  
Councillors Carr, Graves, Hezelgrave, Jackson, J Khan, Pegg, Poulter, Webb and Whitby

In Attendance: Christine Durrant, Maria Murphy, Martyn Marples, David Gartside, Catherine Williams, Richard Martin, Alison Wynn, Robyn Dewis, Ian Fullagar, Andrew McNeil, Heather Greenan, Kas Sahota, Clare Harrison (Democratic Services).

### **74/16 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bayliss, Hassall and Williams.

### **75/16 Late Items**

There were no late items.

### **76/16 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **77/16 Minutes of the meetings held on 07 February and 14 February 2017**

Minutes of the previous meetings held on 07 February and 14 February 2017 were agreed as accurate records of the meetings.

### **78/16 Forward Plan**

The Board considered the contents of the Forward Plan published on 14 February 2017. No new items were added to the Board's Work Programme.

**The Board resolved to note the Forward Plan.**

### **79/16 Performance Items and Performance Forward Plan**

Members received a performance updates from officers on Health and Wellbeing (public health) Richard Martin, the Assistant Director of Public Heath with responsibility for Substance Misuse services; Alison Wynn the

Corporate Assistant Director of Health; and Robyn Dewis, Consultant in Public Health Medicine gave a presentation to the Board on public health and well being and the connections between deprivation, lifestyle choices and mortality rates.

Officers outlined the Council and Health Services responsibilities in relation to the Health and Social Care Act and the Public Health Outcomes Framework. The Board was informed that the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF) sets out outcomes and a set of indicators to understand how well public health is being improved and protected.

It was reported that data from the PHOF shows that life expectancy is increasing nationally and that this is also reflected in data for in Derby. However the data shows that life expectancy and health life expectancy of both males and females at birth in the city to be lower than the national picture.

It was further reported that the highest three causes of premature death (under the age of 75) in Derby are cancer, cardiovascular diseases (including heart disease and stroke) and liver disease.

It was explained that lifestyle choices have an impact on public health, including weight, smoking, inactivity and risky behaviour such as drinking and drug abuse. Other wider determinants such as deprivation, educational outcomes, homelessness, unemployment, violent crime and social isolation also have a negative impact on health outcomes.

Members discussed the impact of deprivation, homelessness and drug abuse on public health outcomes and suggested that some work on baselining against other local authorities on deprivation and public health outcomes could be useful. In relation to local performance and the Council's scorecard, the Board expressed a desire to see numbers against the targets in future reports, instead of colours indicating whether or not the targets are being met.

Members were informed that a wide range of activity is happening in the city to work towards better health outcomes. These include:

- **Public health services** - commissioned to meet statutory and core public health functions including: 0-19s Public Health Nursing, Livewell, substance misuse services, sexual health services.
- **Wider activity** – Healthy Housing, environmental health, park management, planning.
- **Working with partners** - with the CCG to increase diagnosis of and improve management of Atrial Fibrillation - major cause of very severe stroke - many are preventable by anticoagulation.
- **System-wide approach** – developing a co-ordinated approach to prevention (Prevention Delivery Group); Sustainability and Transformation Plan.
- **Strategy development** – HWB Strategy, Childhood Obesity.

Members queried what ring-fenced budgets for public health would fund. The Director of Finance informed the board that services which deliver public health outcomes are wider than those delivered directly through the public health directorate, so the Council will need to establish which services support public health and deliver outcomes and ensure that funding is allocated appropriately.

The Board received a further performance update on the Council's provision of 'New Homes' from Andrew McNeil, Head of Housing Investment for Derby Homes and Ian Fullagar, Head of Strategic Housing at the Council.

The current challenges were outlined for the Board, including the need for more affordable housing to buy or rent in the city and ambitious targets for 400 affordable homes to be delivered through the HRA (up to debt cap) and additional extra 300 through the ALMO. Members were informed however, that more than 300 homes have been completed and are being lived in and there are a further 100+ homes are currently being appraised or are about to start.

Members were also informed that delivery is about additionality, which means delivering housing on sites that others would find difficult to deliver, for example; hard to work sites or sites that others would not develop; those which would only offer marginal returns; those that require a long-term investment or sites that would deliver benefits other than just a financial returns. Officers outlines the types of sites are being looked at as options for development and explained the benefits to the Council and Derby Homes for delivering these. Members saw examples of projects that have been delivered, such as the Victory Road redevelopment site and Parkland View extra care scheme as well as future schemes such as the Osmaston Regeneration project.

Members of the Board queried the acquisition of corner plots, large gardens, and empty properties, and were informed that these were all options that are regularly explored but are largely dependant on community intelligence and co-operation from local Councillors.

Officers reported that although the delivery of 'New Homes' is currently trending below the target, they are confident that this will not be the case at the end of quarter 4 and that the end of year position is likely to be only one unit short of the full delivery target.

**The Board resolved to:**

- 1. Note the presentations and performance updates;**
- 2. Thanks Derby Homes for the work that has been done to deliver affordable housing and bringing in receipts;**

3. **Request that Public Health carry out some work on baselining against other local authorities on deprivation and public health and include this in a future performance reports; and**
4. **Request that any future performance updates on Public Health outcomes include numbers against the targets in addition to an indication of whether or not the targets are being met.**

## **80/16 Council Cabinet Response to Scrutiny Recommendations**

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive which allowed the scrutiny board to receive responses from Council Cabinet on recommendations made at the previous Board meeting held on 07 February 2017.

**The Board resolved to note the report.**

## **81/16 Council Cabinet Agenda**

The Board considered a report from the Chief Executive on the Council Cabinet Agenda. Members considered the Council Cabinet Agenda in its entirety for the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 15 March 2017 and made a number of comments and recommendations to Council Cabinet.

### **Item 8 - Infrastructure Programme Board Capital Programmes 2017/18**

The Board considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Policy. Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to approve proposed 2017/18 work programmes on:

- Highways & Transport (H&T),
- Vehicles Plant & Equipment (VP&E)
- Land Drainage & Flood Defences (LD&FD)

Members queried the funding around Active Travel and whether or not the proposed cycle hire scheme would be successful. Officers reassured the Board that as much as possible has been learnt from other Local Authorities with similar schemes to give it the best possible chance of success. Members also queried a number of items in the programmes such as S106 funding, Real Time Information for public transport and the casualty reduction scheme, however made no recommendations to Council Cabinet.

**The Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 9 - Concessionary Fares Proposals**

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to update the Council Cabinet on the results of a review of travel concessions on the Red Arrow and X38 bus services and the associated public consultation. Members were informed that it was proposed to exclude the Red Arrow bus service from the Derby and Derbyshire Concessionary Fares scheme but to retain the X38 bus service within the Scheme.

Members queried the levels of savings that would be achieved and were reassured that it is expected that the proposed changes to the Derbyshire Concessionary Fares scheme would achieve savings of at least £150,000.

**The Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 10 - Air Quality: Clean Air Zone & Complementary Measures**

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to seek approval to commence consultation and engagement with the public and stakeholders on the implementation of a Clean Air Zone.

Members queried the methods by which Defra had identified Derby as one of the five Air Quality exceedance cities outside London and the potential impacts of the introduction of a clean air zone on businesses in the city. Members also discussed the merits of introducing more measures to encourage an increased use of electric vehicles. The Board was reminded and reassured that there would be an opportunity for further discussions in future as a final proposal is expected to be submitted for Council Cabinet approval in 2018.

**The Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 11 - Incentive to Promote Council Tenants to use Digital Services**

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Housing and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to approve in principle, subject to the outcome of consultation, the introduction of an incentive scheme as described in paragraphs 4.4 to 4.6 to run over two years from 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2019.

The Director of Derby Homes explained to the Board that Derby Homes is aiming to move towards a predominantly on-line customer service over the next two/three years and that the report proposes to incentivise tenants to move to digital services and subsequently enable savings to be made in the way that customers make requests for services, make payments and keep to appointments.

Members raised some concerns on the scheme in relation to the cohort of people that would benefit; the timeliness of the payments; and the cost effectiveness of the scheme. The Board were concerned that the people most in need might be those who would not end up qualifying for the payment. The Board felt that in line with recommendation 3.3 of the report, the concerns should be looked at through the planned evaluation of the scheme in the second year and that the Board would like this evaluation to be reported back at a future meeting.

**The Board resolved to request that a further report is brought to a future meeting reported evaluating the success of the scheme including:**

- a) addressing concerns in relation to the cohort of people that would benefit from the scheme;**
- b) the timeliness of payments; and**
- c) the cost-effectiveness of the scheme.**

## **Item 12 - Acquisition of Homes in Priority Area**

Members considered a Joint Report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Urban Renewal and Strategic Director for Communities and Place agree the acquisition and improvement of a number of residential properties over the next 3 years in accordance with provision allowed for within the approved HRA plan.

Members were informed that the properties would be acquired in the Arboretum ward immediately to the north of the former Baseball ground, which, has been identified as particularly problematic. It was reported that the area contains a large number of poor quality, low cost, private rental homes with associated problems of urban decline and that the scheme would help to improve housing conditions and support a more stable community. The Board was informed that Right to Buy (RtB) receipts or HCA Empty Homes grant would support the cost of the acquisition and development.

**The Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 13 - Connected Cycle City Proposed Cycle Route Improvements**

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to accept the D2N2 LEP Local Growth Funding grant of £800,000 (subject to agreeable grant conditions) to support the timely delivery of cycle network improvements .

**The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 14 - Review of Charged Parking Areas within the City**

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to approve, in principle, the introduction of new parking charges and limited waiting restrictions, changes to existing parking restrictions and the rationalisation of parking areas in some locations.

Members queried the revised costs and level of complaints in these areas, but were reassured that the proposals were necessary to enable effective control and management of the parking areas and that statutory consultation still need to be carried out on the proposals.

Members queried payment methods and were pleased to hear that it is proposed that 'pay by phone' arrangements will be introduced.

**The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 15 - Becketwell Regeneration**

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to seek approval for the proposed strategic direction for the regeneration of the Becketwell area, and for a first phase of work for the Becketwell area.

Members queried the decision in relation to the use of the site as a performance venue and other uses, however, were reassured that feasibility work carried out in 2016 revealed that a leisure driven solution in association with a mixed use development, with some residential and commercial elements would secure a more holistic outcome for regeneration of the Becketwell area with increased footfall and job creation. Members were positive about the possibility of redevelopment of the Becketwell area moving forward.

**The Board resolved to note the report.**

## **Item 16 - Metro Strategy**

Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy and Strategic Director of Communities and Place updating Cabinet on the response to the consultation on the Derby-Nottingham Metro Strategy and seeking approval, in principle, for the adoption of the strategy and joint implementation arrangements with Nottingham City Council.

**The Board resolved to note the report and support the adoption of the strategy and joint working arrangements with Nottingham City Council.**

## **Item 17 - Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report**

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive on items that require reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules.

It was reported that the Council proposes to offer a trusted local authority energy brand to its citizens as an alternative to "big six" suppliers and deliver a white label gas and electricity product. The report was therefore seeking delegated authority to award a contract, with a value likely to be in excess of £75,000, to a suitable energy provider to form a White Label Energy Arrangement.

The report was also seeking approvals to carry forward any unspent Community and Devolved budgets, from 2016/17 to 2017/18, and to approve changes, including additions, to the capital programme.

Members queried the provision of funds for new classrooms at Allenton Primary and were informed that the Council is still responsible for the basic need provision for schools. Members also queried the increase to the Solid Wall Insulation scheme and were informed that this is as a result of the receipt of warm zone funding for installing solid wall insulation. .

**The Board resolved to note the report and commended the work being done on flood alleviation.**

## **Item 19 - Derby Advice – Service Proposal from Derby Homes**

Members considered an exempt Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Policy and Strategic Director for Communities and Place.

**The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report and support the proposals.**

MINUTES END