

Time began: 1.00pm
Time ended:1.55pm

COUNCIL CABINET

16 December 2020

Present	Councillor Poulter (Chair) Councillors Barker, M Holmes, Roulstone, Smale, Webb and Williams
In attendance	Councillors Repton and Shanker Paul Simpson – Chief Executive Rachel North – Strategic Director Communities and Place Andy Smith – Strategic Director of People Simon Riley – Strategic Director of Corporate Resources Emily Feenan – Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services Heather Greenan – Director of Policy and Insight Priya Gill – Deputy Youth Mayor

This record of decisions was published on 18 December 2020. 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.

88/20 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors AW Graves, Skelton and Wood

89/20 Late Items

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

- **DPH Led Rapid (Lateral Flow) Testing in Derby City Centre**
The decision to establish and operate a Rapid Lateral Flow COVID-19 testing service in Derby from mid-January 2021, for the testing of asymptomatic individuals needed to be taken immediately. This was to enable the negotiations to take place and licence/lease of suitable premises to be used for the establishment and operation of a city centre Rapid Test centre from mid-January 2021 to be entered into. The decision therefore could not wait until the next scheduled meeting of Council Cabinet.

90/20 Receipt of Petitions

There were no petitions

91/20 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call In will not apply

The following item needed to be implemented immediately and therefore been exempted from call-in on the grounds of urgency.

Late Item - DPH Led Rapid (Lateral Flow) Testing in Derby City Centre

The Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Board had agreed the matter could be treated as an urgent item and therefore not subject to call-in.

92/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Matters Referred

93/20 Recommendations from the Executive Scrutiny Board

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Recommendations from the Executive Scrutiny Board. The Executive Scrutiny Board met and discussed items contained within the Council Cabinet Agenda. The report enabled the views and recommendations resulting from these discussions to be formally shared with Council Cabinet. These were submitted to Council Cabinet as Appendix 1, prior to commencement of the meeting.

Decision

To receive the report and consider the recommendations alongside the relevant report.

Key Decision

94/20 DPH Led Rapid (Lateral Flow) Testing in Derby City Centre

The Council Cabinet considered a report which sought approval to the establishment of DPH (Director of Public Health) led Rapid Lateral Flow COVID-19 testing service in Derby City for asymptomatic residents.

Options Considered

1. Self-testing – Given the Lateral Flow test's level of complexity, the Government were exploring the potential of distributing Home Test Kits to professionals in certain sectors. An MHRA assessment was currently

underway and a decision was expected in early 2021; later than our proposed date to start Rapid Targeted Testing.

2. Mass Community Testing – Our assessment of mass testing was that there was not sufficient data to justify the resource investment against how this blanket approach could slow down/prevent infections. Additionally, too many false positives may cause a loss of faith and compliance in the testing regime and be counter-productive to infection control of COVID-19.
3. Do Nothing – This would go against the current national COVID-19 infection control strategy and would see Derby City as an outlier in the East Midlands region.

Decision

1. To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Communities in Place in consultation with the Director of Public Health and following consultation with the Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Housing to establish and operate a Rapid Lateral Flow COVID-19 testing service in Derby from mid-January 2021, for the testing of asymptomatic individuals.
2. To agree that the Rapid Lateral Flow COVID-19 Testing in Derby be focused on high-risk client groups, to be identified by the Director of Public Health.
3. To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Communities in Place, following consultation with the Director of Property Services and the Director of Public Health, to negotiate and enter into a licence/lease of suitable premises to be used for the establishment and operation of a city centre Rapid Test centre from mid-January 2021.
4. To note the establishment of an emergency working group with representatives from Public Health, Customer Services, HR, Communications, Facilities Management, IT, Data Protection and Change Derby to help implement the Testing Service; this working group would report into the COVID Programme Board, chaired by the Strategic Director of Communities and Place.
5. To delegate clinical sign-off of the amended Standard Operating Procedure to the Director of Public Health.
6. To approve addition of the budget and expenditure to capital or revenue budgets as appropriate, and to approve the appropriate accounting adjustments at year end to reflect requirements in 2021/22.

Reasons

1. All Local Authorities were able to undertake DPH led lateral flow testing for up to 10% of their population per week. This was a tool to help identify

individuals who have COVID-19 but do not have symptoms and may inadvertently be spreading the virus. A targeted approach ensured a faster set-up response and ensured the greatest benefit whilst reducing potential harm. This could also be used to develop testing at greater scale if required.

2. Using Lateral Flow tests to identify asymptomatic individuals in target groups could reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in the city, especially if testing was offered to those groups who were working in frequent contact with members of the public, increasing the risk of contracting and spreading the virus. Client groups were being reviewed and may include:

Front line council workers not already part of a testing regime

Police (patrol officers and Community Police Officers)

Front line staff of partner agencies e.g. Derby Homes

Inclusion of groups would require agreement from partners, as there were business continuity risks associated with the regular asymptomatic testing.

Deployment in January 2021 was important as it would focus testing during an expected period of increasing prevalence, anticipated following the Christmas relaxation of household mixing.

Budget and Policy Framework

95/20 Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 – 2023/34

The Council Cabinet considered a report which outlined proposals for the Council's new three-year Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) including detailed plans for a balanced budget for 2021/22. It also set out additional savings and themes identified as part of our financial plans across the next three years - 2021/22 to 2023/24 - and sought approval to start appropriate consultation to deliver these savings.

The Covid 19 pandemic had fundamentally changed societal and economic frameworks – the Council in its' Recovery Plan actively responds to these new needs and opportunities.

The Council continued to operate in these most extraordinary, unprecedented and unpredictable times realigning our response, priorities and finances to support our communities and businesses.

This MTFP was shaped by the national and local context at the end of 2020 but needed to be viewed as a strategic financial framework linked to the Recovery Plan. The MTFP would continue to flex during the MTFP period to ensure the Council continued to work with partners, communities, individuals and businesses to ensure that Derby 'builds back better'.

The report should be read in conjunction with the Derby Recovery Plan later on the agenda that detailed the Council focus of Improving Lives Together. The MTFP set out the strategic financial framework to deliver on this ambition.

The report included a section on risks which outlines the implications of the Covid pandemic on the MTFP model and uncertainty around associated funding and forecasts.

The Executive Scrutiny Board noted the report.

Decision

1. To note:

(a) Revenue Budget

- The current medium-term financial position as outlined in section 4.38 and detailed in Appendix 1 of the report including the balanced position for 2021/22.
- The current list of savings options outlined in Appendix 2 of the report with an estimated reduction in posts by 39.4 full time equivalent (FTE) posts.
- The current estimated service pressures outlined in Appendix 3 of the report.
- The risks associated with the MTFP assumptions outlined in section 4.30 of the report.
- The Directorate commentary, along with details of the proposed new savings and pressures at Directorate level outlined from paragraphs 4.39 to 4.73 with further detail at Appendix 2 and 3 of the report.

(b) Capital Budget

- The indicative capital programme as outlined in section 4.80 and Appendix 5 of the report.
- An indication of priorities to be included in emerging Capital Strategy as outlined in Appendix 6 of the report.

(c) Reserves

- Reallocation of earmarked reserves arising from review of reserves outlined in Section 2021/22 as outline in Section 4.75 of the report.
- The reserves position outlined in section 4.74 and Appendix 4 of the report.
- The S151 Officers initial comments on the adequacy of Reserves and need for financial sustainability in the Medium Term.

(d) Council Tax

- Proposal to levy a Council Tax increase of 1.99% for 2021/22 for Council Services.

- Proposal to levy an additional Council Tax increase of 2.5% for 2021/22 in respect of the permitted Social Care Precept outlined in section 4.94 of the report.
 - To increase for 2021/22 the Single Discretionary Award Budget by £0.500m to support residents in need.
2. To approve the start of appropriate consultation with citizens and other stakeholders, including collective consultation (if appropriate), to deliver these savings and the preparation of equality impact assessments flowing from any decision to implement some or all these savings.
 3. To approve the reallocation of reserves as outlined in section 4.75 of the report.

96/20 Draft Derby Recovery Plan

The Council Cabinet considered a report which stated that responding to, and living with, the impacts of Coronavirus (COVID-19) had represented one of the greatest challenges for a generation. Since the start of the pandemic, in March 2020, the Council had worked with partners and stakeholders towards a common aim of supporting the city's response and recovery; mitigating risks and developing any opportunities emerging from the pandemic.

The report presented a short and targeted draft Recovery Plan (Appendix 1), which would be the focus of our improvement activity to the end of March 2022 and would form the foundation of our work, with partners, beyond this. It sought approval to start appropriate consultation to deliver this plan.

The Derby Recovery Plan was a council action plan, but appropriately reflected our partnership ambitions and commitments to support recovery for the city and set the scene for achieving our long-term goals for Derby.

The Recovery Plan underpinned the Council Plan 2019 – 2023 and would form the basis of our performance reporting framework from April 2021 to the end of March 2022.

The report should be read in conjunction with the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2021/22 - 2023/24 – Update Report, also presented to Council Cabinet for consideration in December 2020.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that they, with the Corporate Leadership Team, engage more actively with all councillors to explore how all councillors, as elected representatives, are involved in the on-going development and delivery of the Recovery Plan to maximise the engagement of communities and individuals.

Decision

1. To approve the start of appropriate consultation with citizens and other stakeholders, including collective consultation, if appropriate, on the draft Derby Recovery Plan 2021/22(Appendix 1 of the report), in line with the budget consultation, to support the city and council to move forward from the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. To note the provisional Equality Impact Assessment on the draft Derby Recovery Plan and how we would work to mitigate any risks for our protected characteristic groups, which would be subject to consultation alongside the draft plan (Appendix 2 of the report).
3. To note that it was proposed that the plan would be 'dynamic', and that any necessary changes would be identified every three months and would be reported to Council Cabinet for approval through our established quarterly performance monitoring framework.
4. To note that the 2020/21 quarter three performance report would be reported to Council Cabinet in March 2021, rather than February 2021.
5. To accept the recommendation from the Executive Scrutiny Board that Council Cabinet, with the Corporate Leadership Team, engage more actively with all councillors to explore how all councillors, as elected representatives, are involved in the on-going development and delivery of the Recovery Plan to maximise the engagement of communities and individuals .

MINUTES END