

Time began: 4.00pm
Time ended: 4.55pm

COUNCIL CABINET

7 October 2020

Present	Councillor Poulter (Chair) Councillors Barker, M Holmes, Roulstone, Smale, Webb, Williams and Wood
In attendance	Councillors Repton, Shanker and Skelton Paul Simpson – Chief Executive Rachel North – Strategic Director Communities and Place Simon Riley – Strategic Director of Corporate Resources Emily Feenan – Director of Legal, Procurement and Democratic Services Heather Greenan – Director of Policy Insight and Communications Kara MacFadyen – Communications Officer

This record of decisions was published on 9 October 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.

40/20 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Connie Spencer (Youth Mayor) and Priya Gill (Deputy Youth Mayor).

41/20 Late Items

There were no late items

42/20 Receipt of Petitions

There were no petitions

43/20 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call In will not apply

There were no items

44/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interest.

45/20 Minutes of the Meeting Held on 9 September 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Referred

46/20 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.

47/20 Parent Carers Needs Assessment – Referral from Children and Young People Scrutiny Board

The Council Cabinet considered a minute extract from the Children and Young People Board on Parent Carers Needs Assessment. The Board had asked Council Cabinet to support the following proposals:

1. to ensure the pathway for parents accessing information on how and when Derby City Council undertakes parent carer needs assessments is explicit and clear within the Local Offer, on the Council website and within the policy, and that it is accessible for parents who have English as an additional language, including Deaf parents and visually impaired parents.
2. To ensure any parent carer needs assessments which are either stand-alone assessments or combined with another assessment, are headed in a way to show that needs in section 17ZD are specifically addressed. Parent carer needs assessments may form part of a single assessment but will be clearly identified as a “parent carers needs assessment”.
3. In order to take forward recommendations 2.1 and 2.2, a project group of parents and relevant stakeholders will co-produce and publish the process by January 2021.

The Executive Scrutiny Board noted the referral from the Children and Young People Board.

Decision

To accept the recommendations from the Children and Young People Board.

Key Decisions

48/20 Devolution and Local Government Review

The Council Cabinet considered a report which stated that in the context in which the city operated had never been more challenging. The impact of COVID-19 would be serious and long lasting in terms of our economic resilience and financial sustainability. The Council needed to look beyond short-term imperatives and organisational boundaries to collaborate effectively with partners and stakeholders to achieve the best possible outcomes for its citizens.

The local government landscape was also changing. We had seen regions such as London, the North West and West Midlands benefit from the introduction of directly elected mayors and combined authorities, with increased influence at Government level, opportunities to leverage funding and greater flexibilities. Within the East Midlands, joint strategic working had been explored informally within recent years but not come to fruition.

The Government was expected to publish a White Paper on Recovery and Devolution before the end of the calendar year. In recent weeks, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire County Councils had announced their intention to put forward county wide unitarisation proposals to the Secretary of State. In response, the Leader of the Council had also written to the Secretary of State to seek a meeting to discuss the city's local government arrangements.

With this context in mind and given the challenges faced by Derby, including the ongoing impact of COVID-19, the Council was looking to proactively explore all options, together with our partner local authorities, for devolution and local government reform. The aim was to work collaboratively to ensure we deliver high quality, value for money services for all our local communities and businesses.

The report sought approval to develop an initial business case to explore the options for local government reform, and how this would fit within a framework of wider devolution for the East Midlands. The business case would outline a number of options with evidenced benefits and disbenefits and be subject to public consultation with the results being brought to Full Council for consideration.

Further to development of a final business case (with support from partner authorities, appropriate consultation and Council approval), the Council could request an invitation from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to formally progress proposals for local government reform. The report suggested this could be achieved by early 2022 based on an indicative roadmap, albeit 2023 may be more realistic.

The Executive Scrutiny Board recommended to Council Cabinet

- 1. that it sets up a cross-party working group consisting of the group leader of each political group (or a delegate) and a representative of the Independent Councillors, to develop the proposed options for local government reform in Derby, to be subject to support from partner authorities and public consultation. This is to consider, alongside other options, the viability and possibility of extending the City Council's border to include areas such as that part of Stenson Fields currently in South Derbyshire and the new developments on our borders at Mickleover, Mackworth and Allestree as well as potentially looking at Borrowash and sufficient land to allow for city growth over the next 30-50 years. All of these communities identify with and use City Council facilities, services and roads and these areas would potentially make a more natural "fit" than trying to absorb Amber Valley, Erewash and South Derbyshire. This example does not indicate any preference whatsoever.**
- 2. that the principles of democracy, accountability, transparency, community and identity are as important as business and value for money when putting together the case for the future geography of local government and should be included centrally in the brief and consultation for the proposed future report.**

Options Considered

The Council could choose not to pursue local government reform however it appeared that 'no change' was not an option in light of the changing context, not least the expected Government White Paper on devolution. Derbyshire County Council was also pursuing unitarisation in the event that its non-structural reform proposals do not align with updated Government policy. This could impact on Derby City's interests.

Decision

- 1. To approve the development of an initial options appraisal and subsequent business case for local government reform, to be subject to support from partner authorities and public consultation.**
- 2. To note the recommendation from the Executive Scrutiny Board.**

Reasons

- 1. With Derbyshire County Council actively progressing local government reform it was important that the City was not constrained by any future County local government reorganisation but instead sought to develop its own proposals that best meet the needs of residents, communities and businesses in the city and surrounding area.**

2. An options appraisal would quantify and evaluate the benefits to be derived from local government reform in the context of the Government's White Paper for devolution expected before the end of the year. This would enable development of a robust business case for consultation with all stakeholders and consideration by Full Council.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

49/20 Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

The Council Cabinet considered a report which dealt with the following items which required reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under the Contract and Financial Procedure Rules.

- Acceptance of Grant – Opportunity Area Grant of £1.43m.
- Acceptance of delegated approval for procurements relating to Opportunity Areas Programme.
- Direct award of 0-19 Public Health Nursing Contract.
- Contract for service delivery provision of Derby Integrated Sexual Health Service - Pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV.
- Accept Safer Streets Funding to install CCTV in an area of the City's Darley ward and to enter into any Grant/Funding Agreement (subject to reasonable conditions).

The Executive Scrutiny Board recommend to Council Cabinet that it sets in train the process of longer term contracts as appropriate for those contract extensions currently being proposed.

Decision

1. To approve:
 - a) The acceptance of the Opportunity Area Grant for Derby for an additional grant of up to £1.43m as outlined in section 4.1 of the report.
 - b) Delegated approval to the Strategic Director of Peoples Services, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, the spending of Opportunity Area funds through grants and contracts as outlined in section 4.5 of the report.
 - c) The direct award of a new short-term contract to the current provider of the 0-19 Public Health Contract under the umbrella of a Voluntary Ex-Ante Transparency Notice - that essentially extends the service's delivery for 12-24 months as outlined in section 4.10 of the report.

- d) Entering into of a new contract for service delivery provision of Pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV for 12 months with the option to extend for a further 12 months and delegate authority to the Strategic Director for Peoples Service to approve the Council undertaking the optional extension period at such time as appropriate as outlines in section 4.14 of the report.
- e) The acceptance of funding in the region of £0.420m from the Safer Streets Fund, allocated by the Home Office, and ported to Derby City Council via the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire (OPCC), subject to acceptable grant conditions being agreed as detailed in section 4.17 of the report.
- f) To approve the addition of Safer Streets CCTV to the 2020/21 capital programme as detailed in section 4.17 of the report.
- g) To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Communities and Place, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Communities, Neighbourhoods and Streetpride, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement and the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources to enter into grant/funding agreement contracts and associated arrangements for the Safer Streets CCTV plan, as detailed in section 4.17 of the report.

2. To note the recommendation for Executive Scrutiny Board

50/20 Exclusion of the Press and Public

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 involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 7 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.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

51/20 Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

The Council Cabinet considered a report which dealt with the items which required reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under the Contract and Financial Procedure Rules set out in paragraph 1.1 of the report.

The Executive Scrutiny Board noted the report.

Decision

1. To approve the recommendations set out in paragraph 2.1 of the report.
2. To note the recommendations set out in paragraph 2.2 of the report.

MINUTES END