Executive Scrutiny Board

Recommendations from the meeting held on 05 September 2017

Council Cabinet Agenda – 06 September 2017

Item 8

Proposal to merge Brackensdale Infant and Brackensdale Junior Schools to form a primary school

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and Strategic Director of People Services asking Cabinet toapprove the publication of a statutory notice on the proposal to 'merge' Brackensdale Infant and Brackensdale Junior Schools to form an all-through primary school from January 2018. A further recommendation asked Council Cabinet to delegate authority to determine the proposal to the Strategic Director of People Services if no objections are received and, if objections are received, to bring a further report to Council Cabinet for a decision.

Members raised concerns over the existing provision of specialist SEN support at the school and were keen to see this protected. Members also raised concerns about the school budget and ensuring that this is maintained at an appropriate level. Some Members of the Board had considered this proposal in detail at an earlier meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Review Board and commented that they were reassured on a number of concerns raised, including those around budget issues and SEN provision. The Executive Scrutiny Board concluded that they felt the merger was a positive move for both schools, however, anted to ensure that the two issues raised were monitored and reviewed by the CYP Scrutiny Review Board at a future date.

The Executive Scrutiny Board made no recommendations to Council Cabinetbutrequested that the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Review Boardmonitor and review the SEN and budget concerns at a future meeting following the schools merger.

Item 9

Responding to Ofsted's inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Safeguarding and Children and Young People and Strategic Director for People to note the key highlights from the Ofsted report; current position with regards to the SIF inspection programme; and review and approve the proposed action plan, which addressesOfsted recommendations.

It was recognised that some improvements were required but that the overall results of the Ofsted inspection were positive. It was noted that the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Review Board would monitor progress of the action plan.

The ExecutiveScrutiny Board resolved to congratulate officers and the Cabinet Memberon this achievement.

Item 10

Purchase of residential scheme to provide affordable housing funded

through the Housing Revenue Account

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Urban Renewal and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to approve the purchase of a new build housing scheme off plan subject to contract detail included in the report. The report also sought the approval to delegate authority to the Strategic Director for Communities and Place to enter into all necessary agreements required to secure the acquisition of the properties and approve the scheme to provide affordable homes and their inclusion within the management portfolio of Derby Homes.

The Executive Scrutiny Boardwas in general support of the scheme but queried the use of DCC owned land to maximise value for the delivery of affordable housing. Members felt that the focus should be on identifying Council-owned parcels of land instead of identifying alternative land development opportunities. The Board also questioned the need to build larger private homes in the city which would attract higher Council tax rates. The economic value to the Council of Right to Buy was also raised as an issue.

The ExecutiveScrutiny Board resolved to support the proposals.

Item 11

Derby Silk Mill Redevelopment – Lease and External Funding Arrangements

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism and Strategic Director for Communities and Place seeking Cabinet approval for the grant of a new lease to Derby Museums Trust for the Silk Mill and all ancillary documentation necessary to give effect to Derby Museums Trust's occupation of the Silk Mill site and to meet the requirements of HLF and ACE in respect of that lease.

Members discussed the insurance arrangements for the building and collection, including the new Rolls Royce engine gifted to the collection in case of any major event such as flooding. Officers were unsure if the new Rolls Royce engine had been gifted to the Museums Trust or to the Council's collection.

The Executive Scrutiny Board recommended that officers check whether the insurance arrangements for the collection require updating to include the new Rolls Royce engine.

Item 12

Budget Outturn Quarter 1, 2017/18

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Governance and report of the Chief Executive which summarised the overall financial position at the end at the end of June 2017 against the budget approved by Council on 15 February 2017.

Members raised concerns around the Revenue Budget overspend and what measures are being taken to ensure that spending gets back on track. The Council's Acting Director of Finance informed the Board that there would be more detailed narrative at Quarter 2 and that by this point it would become much clearer if there are real issues or if spending has started to even out.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report and continue to monitor the Budget Outturn at Quarter 2.

Item 13 | Performance Monitoring

This item was considered under the Executive Scrutiny Board Agenda item on Performance.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Item 14 | Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report

Members considered a replacement Council Cabinet report of the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive outlining a number of items that require reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules. The replacement report included an additional item on the Market Hall repairs, refurbishment and remodelling.

Membersqueried the additional funds required for the Cattle and Wholesale Market, the level of funds already committed for this and why extra funded is needed. Members asked for further detail on the breakdown of what the additional funds is required for and felt that the Cabinet should be aware of this before committing to add a further £300k to the capital programme for this. The officers did not have this detail to hand but agreed to put this together to submit to Council Cabinet with this report to the meeting of 06 September.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to request a breakdown of the £300k required to terminate existing leases and complete demolition of the wholesale market for consideration by Council Cabinet before a decision is taken to add this amount to the Capital Programme. To this end the Director of Communities and Place agreed to provide a more detailed exempt report alongside this report to Council Cabinet to give Executive Members a more detailed breakdown for additional funds required.

Item 15 Deployment of Public Protection Officers to tackle waste enforcement issues

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection asking Members to note the actions and improvements achieved byseconding Public Protection Officers from Nottingham City Council to deal with fly-tipping, littering and other waste enforcement issues in a pilot area in Derby. The report also sought approval to rollout the targeted enforcement approach to other identified hot spot areas within the city as set out in the report.

The Board was in support of the scheme but had concerns that rolling this out across the city would dilute the effectiveness of the scheme. Members were also concerned that the number of officers may have reduced from 5 to 4 and that the Council should look to employing its own officers if the scheme was proving to be successful and cost effective.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to request:

1) That the Cabinet Member ensures that the rollout of the scheme does not

impact on the effectiveness of the scheme by giving enforcement officers too much to do:

- 2) That a more detailed report on the effectiveness of the scheme be taken to a future meeting of the Communities Scrutiny Review Board;
- If the pilot scheme proves to be successful and cost-effective, that the Council should look at employing its own enforcement officers to deliver the service;
- 4) That other localised issues (such as pavement parking) could also be included for enforcement in the scheme if this is to be continued and expanded.

Item 17 EXEMPT - Purchase of residential scheme to provide affordable housing funded through the Housing Revenue Account

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Urban Renewal and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to approve the purchase of a new build housing scheme off plan subject to contract detail included in the report.

The Executive Scrutiny Board considered this item under Item 10 on the Council Cabinet Agenda.

Item 18 EXEMPT - Derby Silk Mill Redevelopment – Lease and External Funding Arrangements

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism and Strategic Director for Communities and Place seeking Cabinet approval for the grant of a new lease to Derby Museums Trust for the Silk Mill.

The Executive Scrutiny Board considered this item under Item 11 on the Council Cabinet Agenda.