

Time began: 4.00pm
Time ended: 4.42pm

COUNCIL CABINET

11 October 2023

Present	Councillor Shanker (Chair) Councillors Dhindsa, S Khan, Martin, Swan and Whitby
In attendance	Councillors Eyre, Hassall, Poulter and Smale Paul Simpson – Chief Executive Rachel North – Strategic Director of Place Emily Feenan - Director of Corporate Governance, Property and Procurement and Monitoring Officer Alison Parkin – Director of Finance Ian Fullagar – Head of Strategic Housing Sam Dennis – Director of Public Protection and Streetpride Muhammad Muntasir – Youth Mayor Harman Kaur – Deputy Youth Mayor

This record of decisions was published on 12 October 2023. 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.

63/23 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hezelgrave and Peatfield and Andy Smith – Strategic Director of People Services.

64/23 Late Items

In accordance with Section 100(B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to admit the following late item on the grounds that it should be considered as a matter of urgency

- **Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules**
To accept new funding from DLUHC via Nottingham City Council to alleviate fuel poverty.

65/23 Receipt of Petitions

There were no petitions.

66/23 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call In will not apply

There were no items.

67/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

68/23 Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Referred

69/23 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.

Decision

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

70/23 Minute Extract from Communities, Public Protection and Housing Scrutiny Board – Total number of people sleeping rough on a single night – including veterans and those with mental health problems

The Council Cabinet considered a recommendation from the Communities, Public Protection and Housing Scrutiny Board on the total number of people sleeping rough on a single night – including veterans and those with mental health problems.

The Board recommended to Council Cabinet that

1. there should be a social media campaign/press promotion that demonstrates what the Council is doing in relation to rough sleeping and that this should include recognition that there is an offer for every rough sleeper and the importance of using Diverted Giving; and
2. the services of a designated mental health/substance misuse officer be secured at the earliest opportunity, to work within Housing Options.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to ask Council Cabinet, alongside the asks in the minute extract, to further raise the need to get empty homes back in use. To this end for the public to be encouraged to report to the Council

properties they know of which have been long-term empty to help get these back into use.

Decision

1. To note recommendations from the Communities, Public Protection and Housing Scrutiny Board.
- 2. To note the recommendation from the Executive Scrutiny Board.**

71/23 Minute Extract from the Regeneration, Vibrancy and Climate Change Scrutiny Board – Asset management overview: highways maintenance

The Council Cabinet considered a minute extract from the Regeneration, Vibrancy and Climate Change Scrutiny Board on asset management overview: highways maintenance.

The Board recommended that Council Cabinet prioritise funding for Highways Maintenance and add enough funding each year to make improvements year on year to the roads to reduce deterioration.

The Executive Scrutiny Board noted the minute extract.

Decision

To note the recommendation from the Regeneration, Vibrancy and Climate Change Scrutiny Board.

Key Decisions

72/23 Single Homeless Accommodation Programme (SHAP) Bid – Children and Young People at Risk of Rough Sleeping

The Council Cabinet considered a report which stated that the Single Homeless Accommodation Programme (SHAP) through the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), encouraged Local Authorities to bid for capital and revenue funding to deliver adequate housing pathways for vulnerable young people aged 18-25 who were experiencing or were at risk of homelessness or rough sleeping.

Derby City had been invited to bid as a target authority based on our statutory statistical returns identifying need.

The objective of SHAP was to increase the supply of high-quality accommodation with accompanying support to address gaps in homelessness pathways.

Within Derby City, care leavers, young people previously cared for as children in need, who may have had care experience and/or young people at substantial risk of rough sleeping had been identified through a Local Authority led Strategic Gap Analysis as target groups which would benefit from an increased supply of accommodation with support.

Bids must be placed no later than 10th November 2023, with awards expected to be determined by January 2024.

Capital Funding was available to support the purchase and repair of properties, with completions by 31st March 2025, along with up to three years of support (revenue) funding.

The Executive Scrutiny Board noted the report.

Options considered

1. The Council could choose to purchase properties and use the capital grant towards these purchases. The council would need to commit funding from the Housing Revenue Account to achieve this. The council was restricted by law in the types of tenancies it could issue. Such tenancies would need to be introductory tenancies, secure tenancies, or contractual tenancies in discharge of the councils' duties to provide interim accommodation to those owed duties under the Homeless Reduction Act 2018. These options did not optimise the intended pathway for young people which was to provide accommodation and support to young people most at risk of rough sleeping for up to three years to align with the revenue aspect of the grant.
2. There were other initiatives which would benefit from properties owned by Derby Homes. This included:
 - properties acquired to aid bed & breakfast move on (which would also create general fund savings)
 - larger properties – to house overcrowded families, and the property be exempt from the right to buy.
3. In financial terms, the investment in properties owned by Derby Homes for these properties, delivered the greatest savings for the Councils General Fund – providing the Council do allocate into the properties to those at most risk of street homelessness.
4. The advantage of 50% Capital Grant on these acquisitions was not available to fund other initiatives which would benefit from properties owned by Derby Homes.

Decision

1. To approve a Single Homeless Accommodation (SHAP) capital bid to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)/Homes England of up to £650,000 to support the acquisition of 10 properties to provide accommodation for vulnerable young people aged 18-25 at risk of

homelessness or rough sleeping, noting the requirement for a standard form of contract between the Council and Homes England.

2. To approve a SHAP revenue bid of up to £460,000 to deliver a three-year programme of transitional and social work accommodation-based support, and associated activity to vulnerable young people aged 18-25 at risk of homelessness or rough sleeping, noting the requirement for a memorandum of understanding between the Council and DLUHC and subsequent payment of revenue grant via grant determination under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.
3. Subject to the bid being successful:
 - To delegate approval of acceptance of the resultant grants to the Strategic Director for Place and Strategic Director of Peoples Services, following consultation with the Director of Finance (S151) and Cabinet Members for Housing, Property and Regulatory Services and Childrens Social Care, Learning and Skills, subject to acceptable grant conditions.
4. To passport relevant capital grant to Derby Homes Ltd to use to support their acquisition of 10 1- or 2-bedroom properties to be let on Assured Shorthold Tenancies to vulnerable young people identified by Childrens Services through an agreed pathway.
5. To note that, by agreement, the specific Derby Homes Ltd properties may be swapped in or out of the agreed pathway if more suitable alternate units become available.
6. To approve the administration of the revenue aspects of the grant within the Councils' Children's Services Directorate.
7. To delegate approval to Strategic Director for Place and Strategic Director of Peoples Services, following consultation with the Director of Finance (S151) and Cabinet Members for Housing, Property and Regulatory Services and Integrated Adult Social Care and Health, to submit and accept additional bids to the SHAP fund, if other opportunities present themselves before the deadline, as outlined in section 4.10 of the report.

Reasons

1. To enable an increase in targeted accommodation for vulnerable young people aged 18-25 at risk of homelessness and/or rough sleeping which meets their accommodation and support needs.
2. This proposal helped the Council to meet its statutory duties to prevent Homelessness and Rough Sleeping under the Homeless Prevention Act 2018.

Budget and Policy Framework

73/23 Medium Term Financial Strategy Summary

The Council Cabinet considered a report which gave an update on the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The Executive Scrutiny Board recommended to Council Cabinet

- 1. that it tasks the relevant Cabinet Member/s to review Section 106 within the Council's capital funding, to ensure that local improvements and schemes are both allocated and spent, to avoid it being handed back, unspent, to a developer, and that Council Cabinet reports back to Executive Scrutiny Board on any Section 106 funding that has been returned unspent to developers in 2023; and**
- 2. to continue to share with people of Derby the challenges of setting a balanced budget and the implications of not being able to do so. Alongside this, to publicise ways that people can help the Council to provide services, or reduce the need for services, for example by not littering or dumping, sorting waste correctly, becoming a foster carer or volunteering with Friends of the local park.**

Options considered

The Council's budget framework requires an MTFS – No other options had been considered.

Decision

- 1. To note the context for the development of the MTFS for 2024/25 to 2026/27 as detailed in the body of the report.**
- 2. To note the recommendations from the Executive Scrutiny Board.**

Reasons

To continue to progress the MTFS for the financial period 2024/25 to 2026/27, every Council must legally set a balanced budget and strategy reflecting income and expenditure over the medium term.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

74/23 Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules

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 the new funding of £0.584m from DLUHC via Nottingham City Council for alleviation of fuel poverty.

The Executive Scrutiny Board recommended to Council Cabinet

- 1. that the Green Board consider match funding the Government funding to increase the scope of the benefits of insulation across the city and that this be taken to the Green Board in due course; and**
- 2. that every reasonable effort is made to ensure that residential properties in all wards benefit from this scheme, and that Derby City Council develops ways to improve energy efficiency, in residential properties, in all wards, on a long-term basis.**

Options considered

The Council could choose not to accept the allocation. This would impact low-income tenants and homeowners who would benefit from lower energy costs.

Decision

1. To approve the acceptance of the total sum of £0.584m from the DLUHC via Nottingham City Council as outlined in section 4.1 of the report.
2. To approve entering into a grant confirmation document with Nottingham City Council for the fuel poverty funding of £0.584m.
3. To approve the addition of a new fuel poverty scheme of £0.584m to the 2023/24 capital programme for the delivery of new domestic retro fits within the City boundary.
- 4. To note the recommendations from the Executive Scrutiny Board.**

Reasons

To comply with Financial Procedure Rules.

MINUTES END