

Time Commenced – 18:00
Time Finished – 20:47

Executive Scrutiny Board

12 February 2024

Present: Councillor Poulter (Chair)
Councillors Amin, Bolton, Care, Eyre, M Holmes, Lindsey,
Mulhall, Rawson, C Wright

In attendance: Sharon Buckby – Director of Learning Inclusion and Skills
Sam Dennis – Director of Communities
Charles Edwards – Head of Community Safety and Localities
Ian Fullagar – Head of Housing
Mazer Hussain – Housing Revenue Account Business
Manager
Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer
Toni Nash – Head of Finance
Gurmail Nizzer – Director of Commissioning and Delivery
Alison Parkin – Director of Financial Services
Pete Shillcock – Group Accountant
Elly Tomlinson – Group Accountant
Sarah Walker – Head of Strategy Performance and
Partnerships
Catherine Williams – Head of Regeneration and Economic
Growth

66/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor J Khan.

67/23 Late Items

Addendum to item 12 on Council Cabinet agenda:

- Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2024/25 – 2026/27

This was considered as part of 71/23 – Council Cabinet Agenda.

68/23 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

69/23 Minutes of the meetings held on 8 January 2024 and 15 January 2024.

The minutes of the meetings held on 8 January 2024 and 15 January 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

70/23 Forward Plan

The Board considered the contents of the Forward Plan published on 16 January 2024.

No items were added to the future work programme.

Resolved to note the Forward Plan.

71/23 Council Cabinet Agenda

The Board considered a report of the Director of Corporate Governance, Property and Procurement and Monitoring Officer on the Council Cabinet Agenda. Members considered the Council Cabinet agenda in its entirety for the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14 February 2024.

Key Decisions

Determined School Admission Arrangements for Derby City Maintained and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2025-2026

The Board received a report of the Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Learning and Skills and the Strategic Director of People Services on Determined School Admission Arrangements for Derby City Maintained and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2025-2026.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved:

- 1. to ask Council Cabinet to give permission to the relevant Director make technical changes to the wording of the School Admission documents in Appendices 1 – 4 to improve readability; and**
- 2. to recommend that the council recognises the transport impact of journeys by car to and from schools in relation to its commitment on climate change and sustainable travel, and that this should be noted in the report at 9.2.**

Corporate Debt Management Policy

The Board received a report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy, Governance and Finance and the Director of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer on Corporate Debt Management Policy.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to ask Council Cabinet to also give permission to the relevant Director to make technical changes to the wording of the policy on Debt Collection.

Derby Libraries – delivering a sustainable model.

The Board received a report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy, Governance and Finance and the Strategic Director of Place on Derby Libraries – delivering a sustainable model.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved:

- 1. to ask Council Cabinet to request a clear and fact-based report of the reasons why the last transfer proved to be unsuccessful and for this to be used as part of the development of the new transfer;**
- 2. to recommend that despite the comments made at 4.6 of the Appendix that the “financial sustainability of community managed libraries will be dependent upon the continued support from the council and/any other third parties and the community’s effectiveness in fundraising” the council will commit to ensuring that community fundraising is only for additions to the libraries offer, and that the continued support provided by the council and any other third parties is sufficient to ensure the financial sustainability of the ten Community Managed Libraries; and**
- 3. to ask Council Cabinet to reconsider and revisit the hub model to increase the footfall of the 10 Community Managed Libraries.**

Future High Streets Fund Programme Update

The Board received a report of the Cabinet Member for City Centre, Regeneration, Culture and Tourism and the Head of Regeneration and Major Projects on Future High Street Fund (FHSF) Programme Update.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to ask Council Cabinet to seek to establish a ‘Friends of City Centre green spaces’ to include the Parklets, as part of the policy supporting city centre living, and to help ensure that this aspect of the High Street investment is a long-term success.

Budget and Policy Framework

Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 – 2026/27 (Revenue Budget, Capital Budget, Dedicated Schools Grant, Reserves and Capital Strategy)

The Board received a report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy, Governance and Finance and the Director of Financial Services on Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2024/25 – 2026/27.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

2023/24 Quarter 3 Financial Monitoring

The Board received a report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Strategy, Governance and Finance and the Director of Financial Services on 2023/24 Quarter 3 Financial Monitoring.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2024 to 2053

The Board received a report of the Cabinet Member for Housing, Property and Regulatory Services and the Director of Financial Services on Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2024 to 2053.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Contract and Financial Procedures Matters

Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules

The Board received a report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy, Governance and Finance and the Director of Financial Services on Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules.

Members noted that the report sought Council Cabinet approval for the following:

- Bid for and acceptance of new funding £0.510m from the Football Foundation to develop a 3G Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) at Moorways Stadium
- Addition of a new scheme to the 2024/25 Property Capital Programme of £0.825m to develop a 3G ATP at Moorways Stadium
- Acceptance of £0.500m from the 2023-2025 Department for Education Local Skills Improvement Fund – LSIF and delegated authority to spend/delivery within the scope of the bid

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report and welcomed the two projects.

Performance

2023/24 - Q3 Performance Monitoring Report

The Board received a report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Strategy, Governance and Finance and the Director of Corporate Management on 2023/24 - Q3 Performance Monitoring.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Exclusion of Press and Public

A resolution to exclude the press and public was put to the vote and carried.

The Board 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 involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 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.

Key Decisions

Future High Streets Fund Programme Update

The Board received exempt detail in the report of the Cabinet Member for City Centre Regeneration, Culture and Tourism and the Head of Regeneration and Major Projects on Future High Street Fund (FHSF) Programme Update.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

MINUTES END