# Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board Recommendations from the meeting held on 14 March 2017

### Council Cabinet Agenda – 15 March 2017

#### Item 8 Infrastructure Programme Board Capital Programmes 2017/18

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member forNeighbourhoods and Public Protectionand Strategic Director of Communities and Place to approve proposed 2017/18 work programmes on:

- Highways & Transport (H&T),
- Vehicles Plant & Equipment (VP&E)
- Land Drainage & Flood Defences (LD&FD)

Members queried the detail around a number of schemes in the programmes, however made no recommendations to Council Cabinet.

The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.

#### Item 9 Concessionary Fares Proposals

Members considered a report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to update the Council Cabinet on the results of a review of travel concessions on the Red Arrow and X38 bus services andthe associated public consultation. Members were informed that it was proposed to exclude the Red Arrow bus service from the Derby and Derbyshire Concessionary Fares scheme but to retain the X38 bus service within the Scheme.

Members queried the levels of savings that would be achieved and were reassured that it is expected that the proposed changes to the Derbyshire Concessionary Fares scheme would achieve savings of at least £150,000.

#### The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.

#### Item 10 | Air Quality: Clean Air Zone & Complementary Measures

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director of Communities and Placeto seek approval to commence consultation and engagement with the public and stakeholders on the implementation of a Clean Air Zone.

Members queried the methods by which Defra had identified Derby as one of the five Air Quality exceedance cities outside London and the potential impacts of the introduction of a clean air zone on businesses in the city. Members also discussed the merits of introducing more measures to encourage an increased use of electric vehicles. The Board was reminded and reassured that there would be an opportunity for further discussions in future as a final proposal is expected to be submitted for Council Cabinet approval in 2018.

## The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.

## Item 11 Incentive to Promote Council Tenants to use Digital Services

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Housing and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to approve in principle, subject to the outcome of consultation, the introduction of an incentive scheme as described in paragraphs 4.4 to 4.6 to run over two years from 1 April 2017 – 31 March 2019.

The Director of Derby Homes explained to the Board that Derby Homes is aiming to move towards a predominantly on-line customer service over the next two/three years and that the report proposes to incentivise tenants to move to digital services and subsequently enable savings to be made in the way that customers make requests for services, make payments and keep to appointments.

Members raised some concerns on the scheme in relation to the cohort of people that would benefit; the timeliness of the payments; and the cost effectiveness of the scheme. The Board were concerned that the people most in need might be those who would not end up qualifying for the payment. The Board felt that in line with recommendation 3.3 of the report, the concerns should be looked at through the planned evaluation of the scheme in the second year and that the Board would like this evaluation to be reported back at a future meeting.

The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to request that evaluation of the scheme, including concerns on the scheme in relation to the cohort of people that would benefit; the timeliness of payments and the cost effectiveness of the schemeis reported back at a future meeting of the Board.

### Item 12 Acquisition of Homes in Priority Area

Members considered a Joint Report of the Cabinet Member forHousing and Urban Renewal and Strategic Director for Communities and Placeagree the acquisition and improvement of a number of residential properties over the next 3 years in accordance with provision allowed for within the approved HRA plan.

Members were informed that the properties would be acquired in the Arboretum ward immediately to the north of the former Baseball ground, which, has been identified as particularly problematic. It was reported that the area contains a large number of poor quality, low cost, private rental homes with associated problems of urban decline and that the scheme would hep toimprove housing conditions and support a more stable community. The Board was informed that Right to Buy (RtB) receipts or HCA Empty Homes grant would support the cost of the acquisition and development.

### The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board noted the report.

## Item 13 Connected Cycle City Proposed Cycle Route Improvements

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for

Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to accept the D2N2 LEP Local Growth Funding grant of £800,000 (subject to agreeable grant conditions) to support the timely delivery of cycle network improvements .

## The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.

### Item 14 Review of Charged Parking Areas within the City

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection and Strategic Director for Communities and Place to approve, in principle, the introduction of new parking charges and limited waiting restrictions, changes to existing parking restrictions and the rationalisation of parking areas in some locations.

Members queried the revised costs and level of complaints in these area, but were reassured that the proposals were necessary to enable effective control and management of the parking areas and that statutory consultation still need to be carried out on the proposals.

### The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.

### Item 15 Becketwell Regeneration

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy and Strategic Director of Communities and Place to seek approval for the proposed strategic direction for the regeneration of the Becketwell area, and for a first phase of work for the Becketwell area.

Members queried the decision in relation to the use of the site as a performance venue and other uses, however, were reassured that feasibility work carried out in 2016 revealed that a leisure driven solution in association with a mixed use development, with some residential and commercial elements would secure a more holistic outcome for regeneration of the Becketwell area with increased footfall and job creation. Members were positive about the possibility of redevelopment of the Becketwell area moving forward.

### The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report.

### Item 13 Metro Strategy

Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy and Strategic Director of Communities and Place updating Cabinet on the response to the consultation on the Derby-Nottingham Metro Strategy and seeking approval, in principle, for the adoption of the strategy and joint implementation arrangements with Nottingham City Council.

The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report and support the adoption of the strategy and joint working arrangements with Nottingham City Council.

## Item 17 Contract and Financial Procedure Matters Report

Members considered a Council Cabinet report of the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive on items that require reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules.

It was reported that the Council proposes to offer a trusted local authority energy brand to its citizens as an alternative to "big six" suppliers and deliver a white label gas and electricity product. The report was therefore seeking delegated authority to award a contract, with a value likely to be in excess of £75,000, to a suitable energy provider to form a White Label Energy Arrangement.

The report was also seeking approvals tocarry forward any unspent Community and Devolved budgets, from 2016/17 to 2017/18, and to approve changes, including additions, to the capital programme.

Members queried the provision of funds for new classrooms at Allenton Primary and were informed that the Council is still responsible for the basic need provision for schools. Members also queried the increase to the Solid Wall Insulation scheme and were informed that this is as a result of the receipt of warm zone funding for installing solid wall insulation.

The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the report and commended the work being done on flood alleviation.

### Item 19 EXEMPT - Derby Advice – Service Proposal from Derby Homes

Members considered an exempt Council Cabinet report of the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Policy and Strategic Director for Communities and Place.

The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board resolved to note the reportand support the proposals.