

Time began: 2.00pm  
Time ended: 2.12pm

## **COUNCIL CABINET**

### **27 May 2021**

Present                      Councillor Poulter (Chair)  
                                    Councillors Barker, M Holmes, McCristal, Roulstone, and  
                                    Williams

In attendance              Councillor Shanker  
                                    Rachel North – Strategic Director of Communities and Place  
                                    Emily Feenan – Director of Legal, Procurement and  
                                    Democratic Services

This record of decisions was published on 28 May 2021. 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.

#### **01/21        Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Pearce, Smale and Webb.

#### **02/21        Late Items**

There were no late items.

#### **03/21        Receipt of Petitions**

There were no petitions

#### **04/21        Identification of Urgent Items to which Call In will not                                     apply**

There were no items.

#### **05/21        Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **06/21        Minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

## Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

### 07/21      One Public Estate Brownfield Land Release Fund

The Council Cabinet considered a report which informed Council Cabinet about a grant funding opportunity to support one of the priority sites for housing-led regeneration in Derby, and sought authority to submit a bid, and to accept funding should the bid be successful.

#### **Decision**

1. To authorise the Strategic Director of Communities & Place, following consultation with the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources, to submit a bid for £825,000 of funding from the One Public Estate Brownfield Land Release Fund.
2. To delegate approval to the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources and the Strategic Director of Communities & Place, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Housing to determine whether the conditions of any grant funding that may be offered are acceptable to the Council and, if so, to accept any offer of funding that may be made in connection with this bid.

### 08/21      Derby Adult Learning Service – Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG); English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Integration Fund – follow on 2021/22 second phase project - permission to submit bid.

The Council Cabinet considered a report which sought permission to apply for the MHCLG ESOL Integration fund phase 2 when it was published for tender.

- Bid deadline for submission: End of May early June 2021.
- Project duration: 1 year – this follows on from the previous 2020/21 fund.
- Project start date: 1 August 2021 – 31 March 2022.

Derby Adult Learning Service (DALs) was seeking approval to bid for approximately £0.4m of funding through the MHCLG ESOL Integration Fund stage 2; to engage with and deliver ESOL related learning opportunities to approximately 500 beneficiaries across Derby. The fund particularly welcomed bids that demonstrated collaboration with eligible local partners to deliver elements of the Community Engagement and ESOL delivery. These partners would be co-ordinated by DALs, who would ensure they had sufficient track record and quality management processes to provide compliant outcomes.

DALS was writing a collaborative bid with strategic partners in Derby spanning cultural, community and education sectors. This built on our previous MHCLG bid approved by Council Cabinet in May 2020 that was hailed by MHCLG as the national exemplar. We were specifically working with those 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector organisations who had access to hard to reach, new, emerging, and non-English speaking communities. This collaborative work was inclusive spanning services within Derby City Council (DCC) including cultural strategic partnerships, community, and Move More Derby.

Successful local authorities would be expected to support all participants' integration into British society and improve their connection to the local area. This could be achieved by building confidence to use English and engage with people outside their immediate community – mixing with those from different backgrounds and accessing services.

Delivering locally and engaging learners who may be isolated or within segregated communities with little or no English language skills. Community-based tuition was the most effective means of engaging people who were in greatest need of support and may not have previously taken steps to learn English.

This fund would support highly localised English language provision in community buildings that learners may already be familiar with, such as schools, community centres and places of worship.

We wanted the fund to provide high-quality learning experiences. We know some learners new to English language learning may not have literacy skills in a first language, causing learning journeys to be slower or inconsistent. MHCLG aims to increase literacy skills through the teaching of reading, writing, speaking, and listening to learners at New to English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL Level ('Pre-Entry'- Entry Level 1).

## **Decision**

1. To authorise the submission of a bid for the value of approximately £0.4m for the English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL Integration Fund to Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government MHCLG the award of grants to named partners.
2. To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Peoples Services to accept the MHCLG English Speakers of Other Languages ESOL integration funds.
3. To delegate the award of grants to named partners to the Strategic Director of People Services.
4. If the bid is successful to delegate the acceptance of the funding to the Strategic Director of Peoples Services

## Other

### 09/21      Adult Learning Service Course Fees 2021/22

The Council Cabinet considered a report which stated that Derby City Council's Adult Learning Service (DALs) reviews the fee policy annually. This fees policy had been updated considering the current economic position responding to the impact of covid and in line with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) Adult Education Budget (AEB) funding rules and methodology. It recognised the circumstances in which we were both managing our service, and the socio-economic challenges that our citizens were facing. This policy was designed to be reviewed in April 2022.

Courses delivered by Derby City Council's Adult Learning Service were funded through an annual Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) Adult Education Budget (AEB) contract that included allocations of funding for both Community and Skills learning.

Derby City Council's AEB funded adult learning courses were required to operate a fair and transparent fee remission policy that requires individuals to pay a course / tuition / joining fee, but also sets out clear eligibility criteria for those individuals who, due to their circumstances, qualify for either partial or total fee remission.

The course fee rates and remissions for all funded courses offered by Derby City Council's Adult Learning Service were agreed by Council Cabinet.

Derby City Council's Adult Education Budget funding allocation for 2020/21 was £2,851,209 and had been confirmed as £2,820,782 for 2021/22.

As a response to the Covid-19 emergency planning and restart, we recognised the importance of providing essential learning at a time when Derby Citizens were facing unprecedented challenges and significant impact on their economic prosperity. We proposed small changes to the fee structure for 21-22 to ensure it was transparent and fair (*funding rule 225. In the ESFA funded adult education budget (AEB): funding and performance management rules 2020-21 v6 April 2021*) and provided increasing access to vital free learning for those Derby citizens that were from disadvantaged learner groups.

### **Decision**

To approve the fee structure for the 2021/22 academic year from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

**MINUTES END**