

Time Commenced – 5.01pm
Time Finished – 6.15pm

Executive Scrutiny Board

11 January 2022

Present: Councillor Repton (Chair)
Councillors Care, Carr, Cooper, Dhindsa, Grimadell,
M Holmes, Martin, Pattison, Pegg

In attendance: Paul Clarke – Chief Planning Officer
Ian Fullagar – Head of Strategic Housing
Alex Hough – Head of Democracy
Steven Mason – Democratic Services Officer
Simon Riley – Strategic Director of Corporate Resources
Andy Smith – Strategic Director of People Services

55/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Evans.

56/21 Late Items

- Community Vaccination Champion Programme

This was considered as part of 54/21 – Council Cabinet Agenda.

57/21 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

58/21 Minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

59/21 Matters Referred – Recommendation from Council Cabinet

The Board received a minute extract from Council Cabinet in relation to Preparing a New Local Plan for Derby.

It was noted that Council Cabinet had agreed that the following resolution should progress to Executive Scrutiny Board for its consideration:

Resolved to recommend to Executive Scrutiny Board that they establish a cross-party Local Plan Member Working Group, to advise and steer the preparation of the new Local Plan.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to agree to the recommendation from Council Cabinet.

60/21 Forward Plan

The Board considered the contents of the Forward Plan published on 14 December 2021.

No items were added to the future work programme.

Resolved to note the Forward Plan.

61/21 Council Cabinet Responses to Scrutiny Recommendations

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources which allowed the Scrutiny Board to receive responses from Council Cabinet on recommendations made at the previous Board meeting on 7 December 2021.

The Board resolved to note the report.

62/21 Performance Plan 2021/22

The Board considered a report of the Director of Policy, Insight and Communications on Performance Plan 2021/22.

It was reported that the Executive Scrutiny Board had responsibility for monitoring corporate performance, to support the delivery of improved outcomes for the city.

The report provided the Board with an opportunity to review and agree the Performance Plan 2021/22.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to agree the performance items identified for consideration by the Board as part of the Performance Plan 2021/22 as shown at Appendix 1;**
- 2. to note the next steps, as outlined at paragraphs 4.8 and 4.9 of the report, in relation to the performance items proposed for referral to Overview and Scrutiny Review Boards for 2021/22 as shown at Appendix 1; and**
- 3. to note the draft Overview and Scrutiny Review Boards work plans for 2021/22, as presented in Appendix 2.**

63/21 Council Cabinet Agenda

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources on the Council Cabinet Agenda. Members considered the Council Cabinet agenda in its entirety for the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 12 January 2022.

Late Items – Community Vaccine Champion Programme

The Board received a report of the Director of Public Health on Community Champion Vaccine Programme.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that it ensures that local councillors are included as part of the work to encourage individuals, especially within 'hard-to reach' communities, to engage with the Covid vaccination programme.

Matters Referred

Recommendations from Executive Scrutiny Board

The Board received a report of the Chair of the Executive Scrutiny Board on Recommendations from Executive Scrutiny Board.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Minute Extract from Communities Board – Highway Maintenance – Progress on £9million Investment

The Board received a minute extract from the Communities Scrutiny Review Board in relation to Highway Maintenance – Progress on £9million Investment.

It was noted that the Communities Board had agreed that the following resolution should progress to Council Cabinet for its consideration:

Resolved to recommend that Cabinet write to the government requesting that funding for highway maintenance is increased to at least £7m per-annum rather than the proposed £3.197m.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to agree to endorse the recommendation from the Communities Scrutiny Review Board.

Minute Extract from Children and Young People Board – Strategic School Place Planning and School Admissions

The Board received a minute extract from the Children and Young People Scrutiny Review Board in relation to Strategic School Place Planning and School Admissions.

It was noted that the Children and Young People Board had agreed that the following resolution should progress to Council Cabinet for its consideration:

Resolved to recommend to Cabinet that that work should be done to assess whether a review on 'normal areas' was necessary at secondary school level. Any review should focus on accessibility and how pupils can be encouraged to walk or cycle to a local school.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the minute extract.

Key Decisions

Anchor Institutions in Derby and Derbyshire

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People Services on Anchor Institutions in Derby and Derbyshire.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that it considers what sort of appropriate reporting process to key stakeholders be used as part of this new organisation.

Council Tax Base 2022/23

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Services on Council Tax Base for 2022/23.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Authorisation to Bid for Homes England Affordable Homes Programme 2021-26 Grant Funding

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Communities and Place on Authorisation to Bid for Homes England Affordable Homes Programme 2021-26 Grant Funding.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to note the report.

Budget and Policy Framework

Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2022 to 2052

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources on Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2022 to 2052.

With gas and electricity prices going up this year by up to 50%, food prices increasing by 3.9% and other large increases in the cost of living, for most people this is not the year for large rent increases. The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that it looks again at these proposals and considers restricting the rent increase to 2% rather than the proposed 4.1% as this could lead to many people struggling to pay their rent, increased arrears, and possible evictions.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Corporate Resources on Compliance with Contract and Financial Procedure Rules.

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

- Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) Connecting Works - to seek approval to add £0.507m of the FHSF allocation to the capital programme to enhance and provide additionality to the existing Market Hall Phase 2 and Eastern Gateway FHSF Projects
- Low Carbon Growth Fund - to approve submission of bids for and, if successful, acceptance of funding from the new Low Carbon Growth Fund launched by D2N2 on 1 December 2021
- Public Health - cabinet waiver of the contract procedure rules to enable the direct award of a new contract to Derby County Community Trust (DCCT) for delivery of Public Health (PH) services

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved to recommend to Council Cabinet that in relation to the Low Carbon Growth Fund, it publicises the D2N2 LCG Fund to people and businesses in Derby, including through Community Action Derby and business organisations, to encourage more bids for these funds to come from Derby, recognising that while the timeframe for this Fund is very tight, awareness raising that there may be future bids is also vital.

MINUTES END