

Executive Scrutiny 10 April 2018

Minute Extract

81/17 Council Cabinet Agenda

The Board considered a report from the Chief Executive on the Council Cabinet Agenda. Members considered the Council Cabinet Agenda in its entirety for the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 11 April 2018 and made a number of comments and recommendations to Council Cabinet.

Item 10 – Modern Slavery Victim Support Grant Award – Rebuild Project, Jacob's Well

The Board received a report from the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Public Protection to approve the award of a grant of £100,000 from the Controlling Migration Fund to Jacob's Well Charity, in order to deliver support to victims of modern slavery.

The Cohesion and Integration Manager noted that delegated authority had been granted in December 2016 to bid for external funding, which had subsequently been successful. It was reported that funding had been made available for up to six local authorities to pilot measures that improve the transition of victims from centrally provided support into local areas.

It was reported that a local charity called Jacob's Well was the named partner on the bid and the report sought approval for funding to be transferred in tranches to support salaries, training, rent, running costs, volunteer costs and management costs.

The Board welcomed the proposals to support victims of modern slavery and questioned officers about the provenance of the charity. It was confirmed that Jacob's Well had operated locally for a number of years and were a faith-based organisation.

Members suggested that officers investigate the governance status of the charity and reiterated that the authority considered carefully whether organisations to which funding was allocated were fit and proper.

The Board enquired about the extent to which Modern Slavery was prevalent in Derby and questioned how the numbers of those accessing support reflected the number of victims in the city. The Cohesion and Integration Manager suggested that figures had varied over recent years and that many of those who were subject to mistreatment did not realise they were victims.

It was estimated that there were potentially up to five victims for every one individual accessing support, to which the Board expressed their serious concern. It was confirmed that the proposal was solely focused on victim support and that the authority was involved in activity with partners in order to combat modern slavery.

Members queried how outputs from the project would be monitored; it was confirmed that this would be detailed in the grant agreement. The Board agreed that Council Cabinet should be provided with this information in order to consider their decision.

The Board suggested that the direction of the pilot was carefully monitored, both in terms of compliance with the grant agreement and as to whether the support offered was appropriate.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved:

- 1) That the expected outcomes detailed in the grant agreement were provided to Council Cabinet prior to making a decision on the award of the funding.**
- 2) To recommend to Council Cabinet that subject to approval of the award of the grant, a health-check was carried out on the financial and governance status of the named partner.**
- 3) That Modern Slavery was added to the work programme of the Communities Scrutiny Review Board for the 2018/19 municipal year.**

**Council Cabinet
11 April 2018**

Minute Extract

Key Decision

152/17 Modern Slavery Victim Support Grant Award – Rebuild Project, Jacob's Well

The Council Cabinet considered a report which stated that through its Community Safety function, Derby City Council leads the 'Derby and Derbyshire Modern Slavery Partnership'.

The aim of the partnership was to bring together public, private and voluntary organisations to disrupt perpetrators and support victims of human trafficking and modern day slavery in our area and further afield. We strived for a community wherein awareness of all forms of human trafficking and modern day slavery was commonplace and that across all sectors people work collectively to eradicate its existence in our community.

The Council works in partnership with a wide range of agencies to prevent abuse and neglect, to detect and report occurrences and to support victims. This included the Derby Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards.

With this key aim in mind, Derby City Council, in partnership with Jacob's Well who were a Derby based charity working with victims of exploitation, bid for and had been

successfully awarded £175,000 from the Controlling Migration Fund to test pathways of care for victims of modern slavery leaving centrally provided care and support.

The report asked for approval to award £100,000 of the fund to the Jacob's Well Charity to support the delivery of the above key objectives.

The Executive Scrutiny Board resolved

- 4) To request that the expected outcomes detailed in the grant agreement be provided to Council Cabinet prior to making a decision on the award of the funding.
- 5) To recommend to Council Cabinet that subject to approval of the award of the grant, a health-check was carried out on the financial and governance status of the named partner.
- 6) To request that Modern Slavery be added to the work programme of the Communities Scrutiny Review Board for the 2018/19 municipal year.

Options Considered

None.

Decision

1. To approve the award of a grant of £100,000 from the Controlling Migration Fund, subject to acceptable grant terms and conditions to Jacob's Well Charity as detailed in section 4 of the report.
2. In respect of the recommendations from the Executive Scrutiny Board
 - a) To note the expected outcomes detailed in the grant agreement provided to Council Cabinet prior to making a decision on the award of the funding.
 - b) To note that subject to approval of the award of the grant, a health-check would be carried out on the financial and governance status of the named partner.
 - c) To note that Modern Slavery would be added to the work programme of the Communities Scrutiny Review Board for the 2018/19 municipal year.

Reasons

1. To comply with the Council's Contract and Financial Procedure rules.
2. Derby City Council led the development of the Derby and Derbyshire Modern Slavery Partnership, who's vision was 'Working together to fight slavery and

support victims of slavery in Derby and Derbyshire'. This funding and grant award to Jacob's Well will help the partnership deliver this priority.