

Attendance

Members of the Cabinet (Resources) Panel

CLlr Andrew Johnson (chair)
CLlr Peter Bilson
CLlr Steve Evans
CLlr Roger Lawrence
CLlr Phillip Page
CLlr John Reynolds
CLlr Paul Sweet

In Attendance:-

CLlr Val Gibson – Cabinet Member Children
and Families

Staff

Simon Warren	Chief Executive
Keith Ireland	Strategic Director – Delivery
Tim Johnson	Strategic Director – Education and Enterprise
Mark Taylor	Assistant Director – Finance
John Welsby	Assistant Director – Children and Family Support
Marie Bintley	Head of Physical Development
Sue Davies	Head of Policy and Strategy, Delivery directorate
David Kane	Head of Finance , Delivery Directorate
Jane Trethewey	Section Leader, Housing Strategy and Development
Liz Kiely	Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

2. **Declarations of interests**

None submitted

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting (26 June 2013)**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

DECISION ITEMS (Amber – delegated to the Cabinet)

5. **Quarter One Revenue Budget Monitoring 2013/14**

Resolved:

1. That the use of £386,000 from the Efficiency Reserve to fund invest to save proposals within the Community Directorate be approved, and it be noted that following this £6.0 million of the reserve remains uncommitted.
2. That the following transfers to/ from earmarked reserves be approved:-
 - £3.5 million from the FutureWorks Reserve to fund the continuation of the planned FutureWorks Programme
 - £956,000 from the Regeneration Reserve to contribute to various regeneration projects
 - £120,000 from the City Centre Reserve to fund fees in relation to the regeneration of the city centre
 - £52,000 from the Budget Contingency Reserve to fund a loan to a charitable organisation, and it be noted that the balance of £1.948 million may be required in full to contribute to the forecast budget overspend for 2013/14
 - £76,000 from the Local Strategic Partnership Reserve to partially fund the cost of the Local Strategic Partnership
3. That the write off of business rates debts that individually exceed £5,000, amounting to a total of £152,500, be approved
4. That the virements totalling £6.4 million as detailed in Appendix H to the report be approved
5. That the projected outturn for the General Fund which is a net overspend of £5.0 million (1.94%) be noted together with the actions being taken to reduce this projected overspend.

6. **FutureWorks Programme- Progress Update and Final Business Case**

Resolved:

That Cabinet be recommended to approve the final business case for the FutureWorks programme

7. **Revenue Budget Outturn 2012/13 Budget Overspend (Property Services)**

Resolved:

That the following actions be approved to ensure that an overspend in Property Services does not occur again:-

- a monthly reconciliation of timesheets to evidence the time of staff (and Jacobs staff) is being charged and to the correct codes
- a statement of fees charged to each capital project, the Wolverhampton Homes' suspense account, project specific revenue budget or SLA, actual against budget to confirm that fees are correctly coded and fees are being recovered and within the fee budgets set

- a monthly management account for Property Services to ensure the overall budgetary position is being achieved as determined by the approved estimate for the service
- a project plan for the implementation of any recommendations arising from Audit Services review of the recharging of fees in 2012/13 will be developed and progress will be reported to the Cabinet Member for Resources
- that urgent work be undertaken to recover as much of the £2.2 million shortfall in 2012/13 during 2013/14

8. **Revenue Budget Outturn 2012/13 – Budget Overspend (Children in Need/Child Protection and Looked After Children**

Resolved:-

1. That the actions outlined in the report be approved in order to mitigate the on-going impact in current and future financial years of the budget overspend of £5 million that occurred on Children in Need/Child Protection and Looked After Children Services in 2012/13
2. That subject to the production of a detailed and robust business case, an invest to save be agreed to reduce caseloads in Children in Need/Child Protection to 15 with robust arrangements in place to ensure that this investment is used to do targeted early intervention work with families to change behaviour and stop children coming into care
3. That, subject to the production of the business case detailed in the report, an initial investment of up to £384,000 be approved to be funded from the Efficiency Reserve, subject to proof of effectiveness a further £864,000 to be allocated from the Efficiency Reserve in 2014/15
4. That the Cabinet Member for Resources and the Cabinet Member for Children and Families in consultation with the Strategic Director Community and the Assistant Director Finance be authorised to approve the detailed business case
5. That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel set up arrangements to scrutinise the work done with these families and the outcomes from it
6. That the Looked After Children Transformation Plan Performance Framework be presented to the Cabinet (Performance Management) Panel on a quarterly basis with regular updates To Cabinet (Resources) Panel
7. That a full report and updated business case on the project's output after 18 months be submitted to the Panel with a view to phasing expenditure into mainstream budget from the savings produced

9. **Grant Agreement with the Education Funding Agency for 16-19 Education and Training Funding for the Academic Year 2013/14**

Resolved:

That the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Learning in consultation with the Assistant Director Finance be authorised to confirm and sign the Grant Agreement with the Education Funding Agency for the £8.1 million funding detailed in the EFA Payment Schedule for LA maintained schools' sixth forms, the Adult Education Service and special schools with sixth form provision for the academic year 2013/14.

10. **Garden Waste Collection Service**

Resolved:

That the reduction in the frequency of winter garden collections to monthly rather than fortnightly for the winter period November to March be approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. **Open Staffing Issues**

Resolved:

That the staffing establishment changes as detailed in the report be noted.

12. **Schedule of Green Decisions**

Resolved:

That the summary of open and exempt green decisions approved by the designated officer following consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Member be noted.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

13. **Exclusion of press and public**

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within the paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Act set out below:

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Applicable paragraph</i>
14	Corporate procurement - award of contracts for works, goods and services	3
15	Rating and Revenue Matters	3
16	Former Tap Works Site Development Showell Road	3

17	Development of Thompson Avenue Open Space Proposed Acquisition of Land Adjacent to 22 Silver Birch Road	3
18	Disposal of Land at Planetary Road Outcome of Tender Process	3
19	Improving the City Housing Offer Delivery Empty Property Funded Homes	3
20	Wolverhampton Youth Zone	3
21	Creating a Council Temporary Staffing Agency The Business Case	3
22	Consideration of a Request for a Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant	3
23	Exempt staffing issues	1

Part 2 – exempt items, closed to the press and public

14. Corporate procurement – award of contracts for works, goods and services

Resolved:

1. That the contracts detailed in paragraph 1 of the report be awarded.
2. That the contracts detailed in paragraph 2 of the report be extended
3. That the delegated authorities detailed in paragraph 4 of the report be granted
4. That it be noted that for each of the procurements and items within the report the appropriate Cabinet Member and Director/Assistant Director had been consulted and were supportive of the recommendations.

15. Rating and Revenue Matters

Resolved:

That the recommendations for the discretionary rate relief applications as detailed in the report be approved.

16. Former Tap Works Site Development, Showell Road

Resolved:

1. That the withdrawal of Persimmon from housing site development proposals at the former Tap Works site, Showell Road be noted.
2. That a further report on other options for the development of the former Tap Works site be presented to the Panel in September once these are fully investigated.
3. That further opportunities be investigated to utilise the Affordable Housing Programme grant funding previously proposed for the former Tap Works site within the City for the delivery of affordable homes as detailed in Section 4 of the report
4. That the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise and the Chief Legal Officer be authorised to agree the detail of the preferred option on the utilisation of the Affordable Housing Programme grant detailed in Section 4, which will then be subject to a further report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel

17. **Development of Thompson Avenue Open Space Proposed Acquisition of Land Adjacent 22 Silver Birch Road, Wolverhampton**

Resolved:

1. That the acquisition of land adjacent 22 Silver Birch Road in support of providing new homes for sale and affordable Council homes for rent be approved.
2. That the Heads of Terms for the acquisition of the land be provisionally Approved

18. **Disposal of Land at Planetary Road Wolverhampton – Outcome of Tender Process**

Resolved:

That the terms for the disposal of land at Planetary Road, Wolverhampton be approved

19. **Improving the City Housing Offer – Delivering Empty Property Funded Homes**

Resolved:

1. That project teams be set up to deliver the proposed 45 new affordable homes funded by the Homes and Community Agency's Empty Property Fund Round 2 .
2. That the balance of funding of £1.2 million required from the HRA capital programme be confirmed to support the delivery of new homes.
3. That the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity and Resources in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Environment be authorised to approve the final detail of each scheme delivery and where appropriate to enter into standard agreements with the HCA through a green decision notice

20. **Wolverhampton Youth Zone Approval of the Detailed Business Case and Progress Update of the Delivery Strategy**

Resolved:

1. That the progress made in bringing forward the delivery of the Youth Zone be endorsed
2. That it be noted that the Wolverhampton Youth Zone has procured the appointment of HB Architects to design the Youth Zone.
3. That the detailed business case and the indicative construction cashflow be approved and the approach to share capital costs with private sector funders on a pro rata basis be endorsed whilst the balance of the external funding is being raised, subject to the references to the milestone decision prior to entering into the building contract referred to in the report
4. That a budget provision of £300,000 be sought from the City Centre Regeneration budget in September to relocate the electricity sub-station from Little Brickkiln Street site
5. That the forward strategy outlined in the report be approved

6. That the position and approach in respect of VAT be noted
7. That the position and approach in respect of the risk implications outlined in Section 6 of the report be noted
8. That a further report be presented to the Panel prior to the award of the Building Contract

21. **Creating a Council Temporary Staffing Agency – The Business Case**

Resolved:

1. That the creation of a Council owned Temporary Staffing Agency in accordance with Option 2 detailed in the report be approved.
2. That the Business Case detailed in the Appendix to the report be endorsed.
3. That a high profile location in the City Centre is secured to run the Agency
4. That the Agency be soft launched in November 2013 and launched publicly in January 2014
5. That Scrutiny consider the Business Case with their comments being incorporated into the final version of the Business Case, if fundamental changes to the Business Case are proposed by the Scrutiny Panel a further report to be presented to the Panel
6. That set up costs of £110,000 with a contingency of £20,000 be approved from the Efficiency Fund or Capital as required
7. That a final due diligence exercise is conducted on the Business Case for the Agency prior to the proposed soft launch in November 2013
8. That the Cabinet Members for Resources and Governance and Performance in consultation with the Strategic Director for Delivery be authorised to finalise the Business Case as necessary following the due diligence exercise to include the location, name and brand of Agency

22. **Consideration of a Request for a Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant**

Resolved:

1. That the request of Mr and Mrs S for a Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant to top up expenditure in excess of the maximum mandatory grant of £30,000 be approved in order to provide suitable facilities for their son to remain safe and independent in the family home
2. That the full amount of the discretionary grant becomes payable to the Council if the property is sold within 10 years of completion of the work

23. **Exempt Staffing Issues**

Resolved:

That the staffing establishment changes as detailed in the report be noted.