



Cabinet (Resources) Panel

8 April 2014

Time 5.00 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Executive
Venue Committee Room 4 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

Membership

Chair Cllr Andrew Johnson (Lab)
Vice-chair Cllr Roger Lawrence (Lab)

Labour

Cllr Peter Bilson
Cllr Paul Sweet
Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Steve Evans
Cllr Phil Page

Conservative

Liberal Democrat

Quorum for this meeting is five Councillors.

Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

Contact Tessa Johnson
Tel/Email 01902 554003 or tessa.johnson@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Address Democratic Support, Civic Centre, 2nd floor, St Peter's Square,
Wolverhampton WV1 1RL

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

Agenda

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. *Title*

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
- 3 **Minutes of the previous meeting** (Pages 1 - 8)
[To approve the minutes of the previous meeting as a correct record.]
- 4 **Matters arising**
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes.]

DECISION ITEMS (AMBER - DELEGATED TO THE CABINET (RESOURCES) PANEL

- 5 **Empty Property Strategy** (Pages 9 - 16)
To note the property identified for action under the Empty Property Strategy and to authorise Council employees to enter into formal negotiations to acquire the property by agreement.
- 6 **Children's Centre Financial Allocations 2014/15** (Pages 17 - 20)
To agree the allocations for Children's Centre locality budget for the financial year 2014/15.
- 7 **Police and Crime Commissioner Victims Services Grant 2013/14** (Pages 21 - 24)
To approve delegation of the 2013/14 ring-fenced allocation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP), which includes provision for carry forward of the resources into 2014/15.
- 8 **Schedule of Individual Executive Decisions** (Pages 25 - 30)
To note the schedule of open and exempt individual executive decisions approved by Cabinet Members following consultation with the relevant employees.

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) Para (3)



Cabinet (Resources) Panel Minutes – 11 March 2014

Attendance

Members of the Cabinet (Resources) Panel

Cllr Roger Lawrence (Chair)
Cllr Peter Bilson
Cllr Steve Evans
Cllr Phillip Page
Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Paul Sweet

Employees

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Simon Warren | Chief Executive |
| Keith Ireland | Strategic Director – Delivery |
| Tim Johnson | Strategic Director – Education and Enterprise |
| Martyn Sargeant | Head of Democratic Services - Delivery |
| Mark Taylor | Assistant Director, Finance - Delivery |
| Wendy Trainor | Interim Chief Legal Officer - Delivery |

Apologies were received from Cllr Andrew Johnson.

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. Title

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 2. Declarations of interests**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (11 February 2014)**
Resolved:
That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4. Matters Arising**
There were no matters arising.

DECISION ITEMS (Amber – delegated to the Cabinet (Resources) Panel)

5. 2014/15 Council fees and charges

Cllr Reynolds introduced the report, noting that the Council's financial circumstances meant it needed to recover additional costs through some increases in fees and charges.

Cllr Lawrence queried what the impact of the proposals was on car parking charges. Cllr Reynolds confirmed that, for most car parking charges, there would be no increase for a third year in a row.

Resolved:

1. To approve the fees and charges for 2014/15, effective from 31 March 2014.
2. To approve, in the following instances, that authority be delegated to the responsible Head of Service to vary fees and charges during the financial year:
 - a. Where the cost of food and drink procured for resale increases, fees and charges can be increased in proportion with the increased costs, after consulting with the Assistant Director, Finance or their representative.
 - b. Where an opportunity arises to secure an act or event at short notice and the projected net cost of the act or event is to break even or better, after consulting with the Assistant Director, Finance or their representative.
 - c. Where an opportunity arises to secure an act or event at short notice and there is a projected net cost of the act or event, after consulting with the responsible Assistant Director and the Assistant Director, Finance or their representative.
 - d. Where Strategic Executive Board agree to a short-term change in fees and charges to ensure that a business opportunity can be pursued or secured; if the change is for a period or more than two months then the change to be referred to Cabinet (Resources) Panel for decision during the two month period.
 - e. Where an opportunity arises to secure a sale by matching the price to that of an organisation the Council is in competition with, after consulting with the Assistant Director, Finance or their representative, ensuring that satisfactory 'price match' documentation is maintained to evidence the one-off fee amendment.
 - f. Where the Council wishes to subsidise a charitable event that may not breakeven that this be considered via an Individual Executive Decision Notice to be approved by the Cabinet Member for Leisure and

Resolved:

1. To approve the use of £926,000 from the efficiency reserve to fund: the cost of Price Waterhouse Cooper (PwC) as strategic advisor to the Future Spaces programme, the net costs of the Future Spaces decant strategy, and the net costs of the Future Spaces Information Communication Technology (ICT) moves and decommissioning.
2. To approve the transfer of additional funds totalling £1.0 million to the efficiency reserve to continue to invest in new developments.
3. To approve the use of £1.0 million from the Single Status reserve to fund the 2013/14 costs of the Single Status team, professional HR consultants and legal advice and legal cost relating to equal pay claims.
4. To approve the transfer of £50,000 from the Grand Theatre general fund account to the regeneration reserve to fund Grand Theatre works deferring until 2014/15.
5. To approve the use of £40,000 from the economic development reserve to match fund Black Country wide European Regional Development Fund and Regional Growth Fund business support programmes.
6. To approve the use of £250,000 from the Jennie Lee Centre reserve to fund the refurbishment and running costs of the Parkfields office site.
7. To approve the use of £82,000 from the corporate advertising reserve to fund the costs of projects that have been undertaken in partnership with Marketing Birmingham and include: branding and style guide, promotion and marketing at trade shows; advertising for the Wolverhampton Festival and Popular Art; Wolverhampton City Festival and Arts Partnership and Business Support Programme, and Wolverhampton Cultural Programme.
8. To approve the establishment of a new specific licensing reserve to account for any in year surpluses or deficits that the service makes through its licensing responsibilities, which will be taken into account when setting future fees and charges to licensed traders over a three year cycle.
9. To approve the transfer of £34,000 from corporate budgets to the building resilience reserve to fund the on-going costs of the Community Safety Service.
10. To approve the establishment of expenditure headings within the 2013/14 approved budget for grant funding streams obtained within the year.
11. To approve the write-off of ten council tax and business rates debts that individually exceed £5,000, amounting to a total of £108,205.

12. To approve the write-off of 21 Assessment and Billing Menu (ABMN) system debts that individually exceed £5,000, amounting to a total of £207,866.
13. To approve the write off of three sundry debts that individually exceed £5,000, amounting to a total of £29,887.
14. To approve virements totalling £5.1 million.
15. To note the projected outturn for the general fund which is a net over spend of £7.7 million (3.00%), in the event that the action being taken to address this does not deliver savings in the appropriate timescale.
16. To note the action being taken to reduce this projected over spend.
17. To note the write-off of council tax and business rates debts totalling £25,627 that do not individually exceed £5,000 and which have been approved by the Assistant Director, Finance in accordance with the delegated authority contained within the Constitution.
18. To note the write off of Assessment and Billing Menu (ABMN) system debts totalling £253,624 that do not individually exceed £5,000 and which have been approved by the Assistant Director, Finance in accordance with the delegated authority contained within the Constitution.
19. To note the write off of sundry debts totalling £393,141 that do not individually exceed £5,000 and which have been approved by the Assistant Director, Finance in accordance with the delegated authority in the Constitution.
20. To note the payment of Municipal Mutual Insurance Scheme of Arrangement Levy Notice amounting to £307,000, which has been funded from the insurance provision.

7. Discretionary Rate Relief for 2014/2015

Resolved:

1. To approve the extension of the Scheme for Discretionary Rate Relief for charitable and voluntary organisations for 2014/15.
2. To authorise awards to individual organisations for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.
3. To delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Resources in consultation with the Head of Revenues and Benefits to approve future awards of discretionary relief under the agreed scheme.
4. To note that authorisation of awards of mandatory relief is a function delegated to the Section 151 Officer under paragraph E15 of the Council's Constitution.

8. **City and Town Centre Management**

Resolved:

1. To agree grants to third parties as follows:
 - £45,000 to WV One for City Centre Management.
 - £40,000 to New Bilston Ltd (Heantun Housing) for their Town Centre management role for Bilston.

2. To approve an additional grant to New Bilston Ltd of £30,000 to fund the development phase of a Business Improvement District for Bilston Town Centre.

9. **External Funding**

Resolved:

1. To authorise expenditure on the following projects in accordance with bids submitted and any changes subsequently agreed with external funding providers as set out in the grant determination:
 - Black Country Growth Opportunities Local Delivery (GOLD).
 - Black Country Growth Factory.
 - Black Country Broadband Business Support Project.

2. To authorise the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity, in consultation with the Strategic Director, Education and Enterprise, to agree grants to the third parties as already approved by Council, as part of the delivery of externally funded projects.

10. **Police and Crime Commissioner Community Safety Fund Allocation 2014/15 (considered under the General Exception provisions)**

Resolved:

To approve delegation of the 2014/15 ring-fenced allocation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) for the purposes of delivering the Community Safety programme.

11 **Queen Street Gateway Enhancement Townscape Heritage**

Resolved:

1. To approve the allocation of £10,000 from the revenue budget to match fund the grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund in order to support the preparation of the second round submission for the Queen Street Gateway Enhancement Townscape Heritage scheme.

2. To grant delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Economic Prosperity and Regeneration, in consultation with the Strategic Director, Education and Enterprise, to approve any actions necessary within the project budget limitations to secure the delivery of the second round submission.

3. To note the successful award of a first round pass by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the likelihood of securing further second round funding for the delivery stage of the Queen Street Gateway Townscape Heritage scheme.

12. **Human Resources Policies (phase four)**

Cllr Sweet introduced the report, noting there had been a helpful discussion of the proposed policies at the Confidential, Capable Council Scrutiny Panel.

Resolved:

To approve in principle the new probation policy and revised capability policy, subject to the outcomes of ongoing consultation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

13. **Schedule of Green Decisions**

Resolved:

To note the summary of open and exempt green decisions approved by the appropriate Cabinet Members following consultation with the relevant designated employees.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

14. **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> |
|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 15 | Corporate Procurement Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services | 3 |
| 16 | Revenues and Ratings Matters | 3 |
| 17 | Changes to Leave Policy | 4 |

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

DECISION ITEMS (Amber – delegated to the Cabinet (Resources) Panel)

15. **Corporate Procurement Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services**

Resolved:

1. To approve the award of a contract for supply and installation of office furniture to H Jenkinson and Company Limited of Prescot, Merseyside for a term of three years plus options to extend for two periods of up to twelve months each.
2. To approve the appointment of Wilmott Dixon Limited to carry out the 2014

primary school expansion programme, as a set of call-offs from the Constructing West Midlands Framework Agreement.

3. To approve the award of contracts for the supply and delivery of grounds maintenance equipment to TH White of Redditch, Worcestershire, and Balmers GM Ltd of Burnley, Lancashire.

16. **Revenues and Ratings Matters**

Resolved:

To approve the recommendations for discretionary rate relief applications.

17. **Changes to Leave Policy**

CIlr Sweet advised that the report was being withdrawn and would be resubmitted at a later date.

INFORMATION ITEMS

18. **Changes to Employee Establishment**

Resolved:

To note changes made to the employee establishment.



Cabinet (Resources) Panel

8 April 2014

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Report title | Empty Property Strategy – 171 Caledonia Road, Parkfields, Wolverhampton. WV2 1JA – Property Identified for Action. | |
| Decision designation | AMBER | |
| Cabinet member with lead responsibility | Councillor Peter Bilson Economic Regeneration and Prosperity | |
| Key decision | No | |
| In forward plan | No | |
| Wards affected | Ettingshall | |
| Accountable director | Tim Johnson, Education and Enterprise | |
| Originating service | Private Sector Housing | |
| Accountable employee(s) | Richard Long | Housing Improvement Officer |
| | Tel | 01902 555705 |
| | Email | Richard.long@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| Report to be/has been considered by | | |

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. note the property identified for action under the Empty Property Strategy.
2. authorise Council employees to enter into formal negotiations to acquire the property by agreement.
3. approve in principle, the use of Compulsory Purchase action if required.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Panel to authorise Council employees to commence formal negotiations with the owner of the above empty property with a view to acquiring the property by agreement.
- 1.2 This decision is in support of Wolverhampton City Council's Empty Properties Strategy.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The property, highlighted on the attached plan, is a three bedroom terrace that has been empty since April 2009. Complaints regarding the condition of the property were first received in April 2010.
- 2.2 Following a Notice to Enter the property (Section 239 of the Housing Act 2004), access was gained with the permission of the owner in November 2010. The property was found to be in a severely dilapidated condition.
- 2.3 A Notice under section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 was served on 171 Caledonia Road in order to remove the detrimental effect the condition of the property/ land is having on the amenity of the area. The Notice required compliance by 8 August 2013. The owner has not responded or complied with the Notice served.
- 2.4 As informal negotiations and Notices served have not brought about a solution, it is now considered necessary to take further action under the Empty Properties Strategy.

3.0 Proposals

- 3.1 The recommended course of action is to open formal negotiations with the owner in order to bring the property back into residential use.
- 3.2 It is hoped that the offer to acquire, supported by the possibility of Compulsory Purchase action will achieve an early resolution.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The Housing Capital Programme approved by Council on 22 January 2014 includes provision over the medium term for the Empty Property Strategy. In the event of negotiated acquisition, the costs will be met from this provision.
- 4.2 There are no exceptional circumstances in the case of 171 Caledonia Road. A Notice under Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to tidy the land/ buildings has not been complied with and it will therefore not be necessary to pay the additional statutory 7.5% compensation payment.
- 4.3 Any financial implications arising from the negotiations or the necessity to progress a Compulsory Purchase Order will be the subject of a further report to this Panel.

[CF/17032014/T]

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report at this stage. If required the Chief Legal Officer will undertake the statutory processes involved in the making and confirming a Compulsory Purchase Order and subsequently making the General Vesting Declaration.

[RB/16032014/A]

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 Equalities implications have been considered throughout the process and in assessing the outcome. An Equality Analysis has been completed and this does not indicate any adverse implications. Bringing an empty property back into use will improve the visual amenity of the area and can make the area more welcoming to some groups covered by the Equality Act 2010, in doing so this will promote participation in public life.

7.0 Environmental implications

7.1 Long term empty properties can have a detrimental impact on neighbourhood sustainability and cause environmental blight. Bringing the property back into residential use will improve the appearance of the neighbourhood, enhance property conditions and contribute to the regeneration of the City, meeting the Council's strategic objectives.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 There no human resources implications arising from this report.

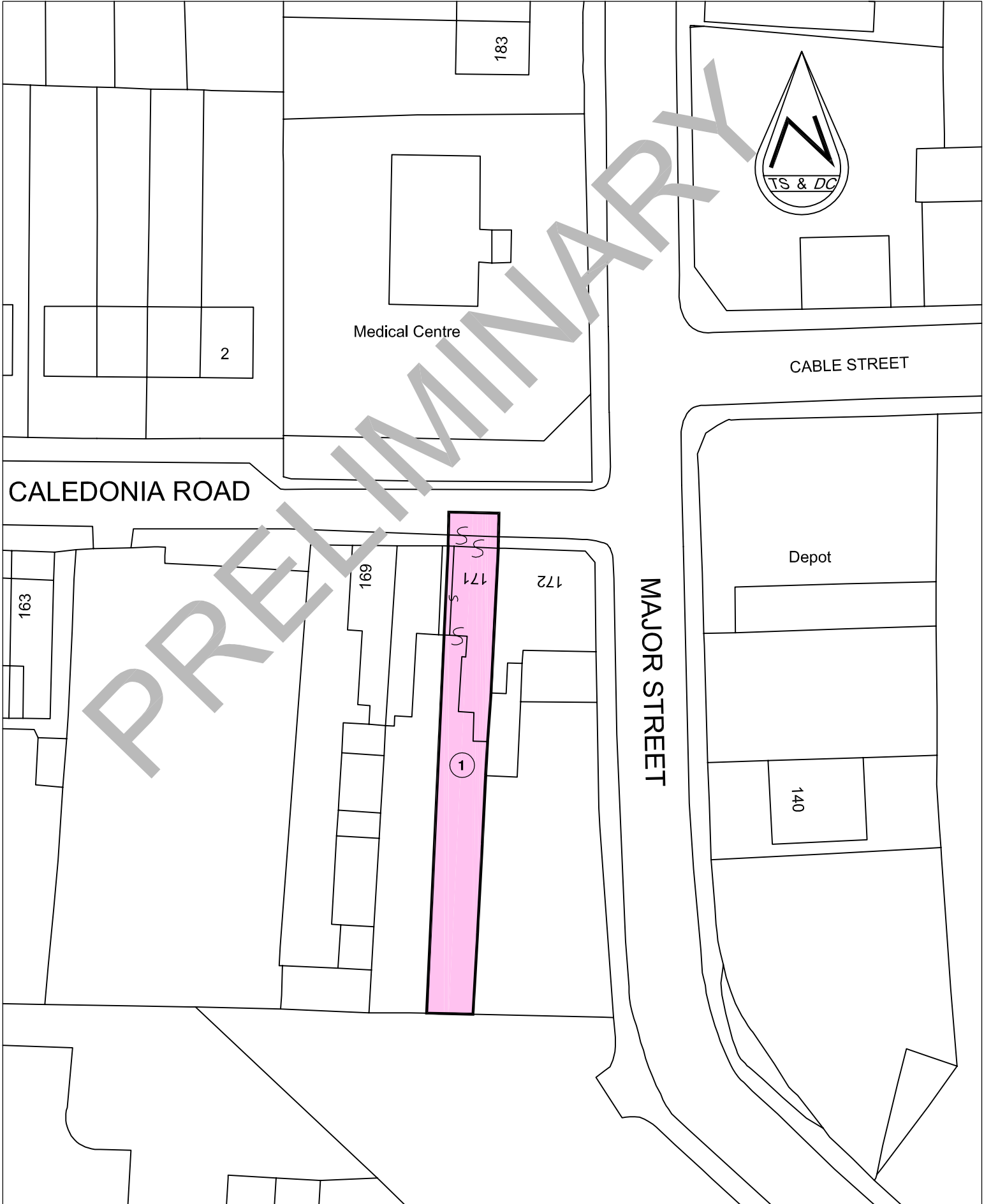
9.1 Corporate landlord implications

9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

- An Action Plan to Deliver the Empty Property Strategy 11/01/06;
- Private Sector Empty Property Strategy 2010-2015;
- Wolverhampton Housing Needs Survey 2007.

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① AREA COLOURED PINK = 257.7m² OR THEREABOUTS

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| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| date | March 2014 |
| scales | 1:500 |
| drawn by | AJP |
| dwg. no. | \\Caledonia Road 171.dwg |

THE MAP REFERRED TO IN
 THE WOLVERHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL
 (171 Caledonia Road)

Wolverhampton City Council

Director of Education and Enterprise
 Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square, Wolverhampton
 Tel. (01902) 556556

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171 CALEDONIA ROAD
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Cabinet (Resources) Panel

8 April 2014

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Report title | Children's Centre Financial Allocations 2014/15 | |
| Decision designation | AMBER | |
| Cabinet member with lead responsibility | Councillor Val Gibson Children, Young People and Families | |
| Key decision | Yes | |
| In forward plan | No | |
| Wards affected | All | |
| Accountable director | Sarah Norman, Community | |
| Originating service | Early Help 0-5 years | |
| Accountable employee(s) | Andrew Wolverson Tel: Email: | Head of Service – Early Help 0-5 years 01902 551272 andrew.wolverson@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| Report to be/has been considered by | N/A | |

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. Agree the allocations for Children's Centre locality budget for the financial year 2014/15.

Recommendations for noting:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is asked to note:

1. The parameters for the allocations are on the basis of the number of children in the area, Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and data drawn from health, employment, benefits claims, lone parents and number of child protection plans in the area.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To report the proposed 2014/15 financial allocations for Children's Centre activity in each of the eight Children and Family localities.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Cabinet approved savings of £1.5 million by April 2015 to the Children's Centre budgets on 24 July 2013 following a consultation exercise. Cabinet accepted that Children's Centres will continue to deliver most of the services that parents currently access. In order to achieve the savings it was agreed that there would be a reduction in management and administration costs due to the fact that they will be managed across eight larger areas.

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 3.1 As approved in the Cabinet report, from 1 April 2014 the seventeen Children's Centres in the City will operate in eight newly defined cluster areas known as Children and Family Support areas. Each area will be allocated a budget which will be devolved to the lead organisation for delivery in that area.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The allocations reflect the approved savings and have been calculated on the basis of the number of children in the area, Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and data drawn from health, employment, benefits claims, lone parents and number of child protection plans in the area.
- 4.2 The table below details the proposed allocations for 2014/15 to the eight Children's Centre areas:

| Area | Children's Centres | Indicative allocations £'s |
|------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Eastfield and Rainbow | 596,223 |
| 2 | Bilston and Bradley | 678,692 |
| 3 | Sunbeam, All Saints and Windsor | 646,924 |
| 4 | Star and Bingley | 421,303 |
| 5 | Whitmore Reans | 540,079 |
| 6 | Dove, Marshes and Bushbury Triangle | 551,821 |
| 7 | Low Hill and Berries | 631,094 |
| 8 | Children's Village and Ashmore Park | 623,544 |
| | Total | 4,689,680 |

- 4.3 The total approved budget for 2014/15 for the 0-5 Year's Early Help Service is £5.6 million, of which £4.7 million is proposed to be allocated to Children's Centres.

[NM/27032014/B]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 Section 5a of the Childcare Act 2006, amended by the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning (ASCL) Act 2009 requires Local Authorities to ensure there is sufficient Children's Centre provision within the local area to meet local need. The financial allocations set out in this report ensure that the Council continues to discharge its duties in relation to this.

[RB/27032014/L]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 An equalities analysis was carried out as part of the consultation; the recommendations from this will be incorporated into the planning for delivery during 2014/15 and updated and reviewed annually.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 This report has no environmental implications.

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 There are no human resources implications in this report.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications in this report.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

- 10.1 Children's Centre Savings Plan outcome of consultation. Cabinet 24 July 2013 .

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Cabinet (Resources) Panel

8 April 2014

| | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Report title | Police & Crime Commissioner Victims Services Grant 2013/14 | |
| Decision designation | AMBER | |
| Cabinet member with lead responsibility | Councillor Elias Mattu Leisure and Communities | |
| Key decision | No | |
| In forward plan | No | |
| Wards affected | N/A | |
| Accountable director | Tim Johnson, Education and Enterprise | |
| Originating service | Community Safety Team | |
| Accountable employee(s) | Karen Samuels | Head of Community Safety |
| | Tel | 01902 551341 |
| | Email | Karen.samuels@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| Report to be/has been considered by | N/A | |

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet (Resources) Panel is recommended to:

1. Approve delegation of the 2013/14 ring-fenced allocation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP), which includes provision for carry forward of the resources into 2014/15.
2. To note that use of the grant is ringfenced for the purposes of building capacity within voluntary and community sector organisations which deliver services to victims of crime.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To seek delegation of the ring-fenced 2013/14 Victims' Services Grant from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP).
- 1.2 To agree carry forward of this resource for use within 2014/15, in line with PCC conditions of funding.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Since the introduction of elected PCC's in November 2012, the Home Office has diverted a number of funding streams from both local statutory organisations and from nationally awarded contracts to PCC's. Across the West Midlands Police Force Area (WMPFA), the PCC has opted to passport funding to local areas, subject to establishment of Local Police and Crime Boards (LPCB). SWP Board extended its membership in July 2013 to include voluntary, community sector and resident representation to fulfil these requirements.
- 2.2 Monies previously paid to organisations that support victims of crime will be transferred to the PCC with effect from 1 October 2014. The responsibility for commissioning locally most of the emotional and practical support services for victims of crime that are provided by the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector takes effect from April 2015. These services help victims to cope with and recover from the impacts of crime.
- 2.3 In preparation for the changes, the Ministry of Justice have provided one-off funding to PCC's to enable capacity and capability of potential providers of services for victims from the VCSE sector to be developed. As the funding has been provided late in the financial year, and in order to ensure that the funding is spent working locally with the VCSE sector, the PCC has opted to passport the funding to LPCBs.
- 2.4 The PCC has stipulated that although the grant is part of the allocation for 2013-14, there will be the flexibility to spend the funding during the 2014-15 financial year, with the majority of it to be spent by September. It is further required that work with the voluntary and community sector is undertaken to determine what capacity and capability building is needed by organisations working with victims of crime in the local area. A plan must then be developed which reflects the needs to be addressed which should include details of spend; this plan must be agreed by the LPCB and spend reported to the PCC by 30 November 2014.

3.0 Programme Proposals

- 3.1 SWP Board will be asked to consider options for developing a plan in line with the ring fenced grant detailing spend proposals. It is anticipated that as use of the grant is specifically for capacity and capability building within the voluntary and community sector, third sector representatives on SWP LPCB will be asked to lead on the development of these proposals.

4.0 Future Victims' Services Commissioning

4.1 In the West Midlands the PCC is exploring modelling options for development of a Victims' Commission. This will consider its functions, such as an advisory role, acting as an IAG, options for allocation and monitoring of funding, satisfaction with victims and police services, identification of priorities to feed into the Commissioner's planning processes and advise on provision of services regionally and locally.

5.0 Financial implications

5.1 The PCC has confirmed an allocation of £67,000 to support capacity and capability building of those voluntary and community organisations that are working with victims of crime. The PCC has also confirmed that although the allocation has been received in 2013/14, the resource can be carried forward for spend into 2014/15, with spend against the majority of the resource expected by September 2014. There is no revenue contribution from the Council required. [CF/24032014/E]

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 Sections five and six of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 require the Council and other responsible authorities to formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in the area.

6.2 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced elected Police and Crime Commissioners from November 2012; a commissioning function was introduced to PCC's as part of this role. The West Midlands PCC has opted to discharge this function through the passporting of grant allocations to Local Police and Crime Boards. [RB/21032014/E]

7.0 Equalities implications

7.1 The allocated resource is to be used to build capacity in third sector organisations that are working with victims of crime. There are likely to be positive implications for those agencies working with clients with protected characteristics. An equalities analysis will be undertaken as delivery proposals for use of this resource are developed.

8.0 Human resources implications

8.1 There are no human resources implications arising from the content of this report.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from the content of this report.

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Agenda Item 8

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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