



Cabinet (Resources) Panel

Minutes – 8 April 2014

Attendance

Members of the Cabinet (Resources) Panel

Cllr Andrew Johnson (Chair)
Cllr Peter Bilson
Cllr Steve Evans
Cllr Phillip Page
Cllr John Reynolds
Cllr Paul Sweet

Other attendees

Cllr Elias Mattu
Cllr Val Gibson

Employees

Sarah Norman	Strategic Director – Community
Alistair Merrick	Assistant Director – Delivery
Mark Taylor	Assistant Director, Finance - Delivery
Robert Baldwin	Head of Service – Property and Projects Team
Tessa Johnson	Graduate Management Trainee
Matt Vins	Graduate Management Trainee

Apologies were received from Cllr Roger Lawrence.

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. Title

MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 2. Declarations of interests**
Cllr Bilson declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in respect of Item 12.
Cllr Johnson declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in respect of Item 18.
- 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (11 March 2014)**
Resolved:
That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 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. Empty Property Strategy – 171 Caledonia Road, Parkfields, Wolverhampton – Property Identified for Action

Cllr Bilson introduced the report, and highlighted the past success of compulsory purchases by the Council. He added that the property in question had been empty since 2009 and previous attempts to improve it had been unsuccessful. He asked for approval to progress the matter.

Resolved:

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

6. Children's Centre financial allocations 2014/15

Cllr Gibson introduced the report, and highlighted the savings made by reducing administrative and management costs by increasing the area each centre covered. She also drew the panel's attention to the manner in which the funding was allocated, based upon the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index and other data about the City.

Resolved:

1. To agree the allocations for Children's Centre locality budget for the financial year 2014/15.
2. To note 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.

7. Victim Services Funding 2013/14

Cllr Mattu introduced the report and emphasised that the funding was coming from a ring-fenced budget and therefore did not require any revenue contribution from the Council.

Resolved:

1. 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.
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.

8A Sports Development and Investment Strategy

Cllr Johnson informed the panel that this was a late report and suggested it should be a decision item, rather than an information item as specified on the agenda.

Cllr Mattu introduced the report and spoke about the importance of inward investment for the city. The panel agreed that this was a good news story for Wolverhampton.

Resolved:

1. To agree that retrospective applications for funding to support the Wolverhampton Sport Development and Investment Strategy Capital Programmes future funding applications identified through the strategy be approved.
2. To approve entering into contracts with funders for successful funding applications that support the Wolverhampton Sport Development and Investment Strategy capital programmes.
3. To approve spend of £918,000 in relation to:
 - i. Sport England funding of £340,000 for the artificial grass pitch development at Our Lady and St Chad Catholic School and Sports College.
 - ii. The Football Foundation funding of £128,000 for the artificial grass pitch development at Our Lady and St Chad Catholic School and Sports College.
 - iii. The Football Foundation funding of £450,000 for pitch developments at Barnhurst Lane.
4. To approve delegated responsibility to the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Communities, in consultation with the Strategic Director, Community, to approve all funding applications identified through the Sport Development and Investment Strategy.

INFORMATION ITEMS

8. Schedule of Individual Executive Decisions

Resolved:

To note the summary of Individual Executive Decisions approved by the appropriate Cabinet Member or Cabinet Members, following consultation with the relevant designated employees.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

9. 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>
10	Corporate Procurement Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services	3
11	Surplus Properties	3
12	Grant Application Grand Theatre	3
13	Grant Application Lighthouse Media	3
14	Grant Newhampton Arts	3
15	Refurbishment of Albert Road for the All Age Disability Team	3
16	Deeds of Variation to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) ICT Agreement	3
17	Schools delegated budgets, licensed deficit scheme	3
18	Dedicated Schools grant 2014/15, schools delegated budget	3
19	Schools Capital programme 2014/15	3
20	Adoption Reform Grant	3
21	Improving the City Housing Offer: Strategic Construction Partnership	3
22	Revised Options for the future use of the Parkfields site	3
23	Compensation for removal of weekend enhancements	3
24	Changes to Employee Establishment	1

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

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

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

Resolved:

1. To authorise the award of a contract, using the existing Eastern Shires Procurement Organisation (ESPO) framework for the Supply of Vehicle Tyres and Tubes to Lodge Tyre Company of Birmingham, to commence 1 May 2014 for a period of two years including an option to extend for a further one year and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.
2. To authorise the award of a contract for the provision of interpreter, translation and transcription services to Thebigword Limited as a call-off against Lot 6 of the existing National Health Service – Shared Business Services framework agreement (NHS-SBS) to commence on 1 May 2014 and to expire on 30 October 2016, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer. to execute the contract.
3. To authorise the award of a contract for supply, installation and recycling of stairlifts to Stannah Stairlifts Services Limited of Andover Hampshire for a term of five years including an option to extend for a further two years, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.
4. To authorise the approval for funding of community based short breaks services for disabled children for 2014/15 with a range of external providers under an extension to the current arrangements.
5. To authorise the approval to provide planned and emergency home based respite care by extending the current contract with Agincare for a period of eight months (from 1 October 2014 to 31 May 2015) to avoid disruption and allow adequate time to undertake a combined service tender process for future requirements, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract extension.
6. To authorise the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Delivery, to approve the award of a contract for provision of a corporate lone worker system once the tender evaluation process is complete, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.
7. To authorise the Cabinet Member for City Services, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Delivery, to approve the award of two contracts for Bailiff Street parking services once the tender evaluation process is complete, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.

8. To authorise the Cabinet Member for City Services, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Delivery, to approve the award of a contract for supply of manufactured vehicle spares and factored parts once the tender evaluation process is complete, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.
9. To authorise to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise, to approve the award of a contract for the demolition of Tower Works and Fort Works once the tender evaluation process is complete, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.
10. To authorise the Cabinet Member for City Services, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Delivery, to approve the award of a framework contract for corporate security services including events security once the tender evaluation process is complete, and to authorise the Chief Legal Officer to execute the contract.

11. **Surplus Properties**

Resolved:

1. To declare land and property surplus to requirements and agree their disposal in accordance with the strategy set out in this paper specifically:-
 - a. To declare surplus to requirements various properties and to dispose of these properties on the open market by auction, tender or private treaty for an appropriate use.
 - b. To declare surplus to requirements various properties and to further investigate the potential for the community asset transfer of these assets failing which the properties will be disposed of or leased on the open market for an appropriate alternative use.
2. To delegate responsibility to agree terms for the disposal and/or leasing of the assets identified above to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise.

12. **Grant Application Grand Theatre**

Cllr Mattu introduced the report and told the panel that the following grants had already been approved in the budget.

Resolved:

1. To approve a grant of £383,000 to the Grand Theatre for revenue support in 2014/15.
2. To delegate authority to the Council's Chief Legal Officer to execute the grant funding agreement

13. **Grant Application Lighthouse Media**

Cllr Mattu introduced the report and told the panel that the following grants had already been approved in the budget.

Resolved:

1. To approve a grant of £157,000 to the Light House Media Centre for revenue support in 2014/15 which consisted of an actual grant payment of £114,000 due to the £43,000 charged as rent.
2. To delegate authority to the Council's Chief Legal Officer to execute the grant funding agreement

14. **Grant Newhampton Arts**

Cllr Mattu introduced the report and told the panel that the following grants had already been approved in the budget.

Resolved:

1. To approve a grant of £25,000 to the Newhampton Arts Centre for revenue support in 2014/15.
2. To delegate authority to the Council's Chief Legal Officer to execute the grant funding agreement

15. **Refurbishment of Albert Road for the All Age Disability Team**

Cllr Evans introduced the report and discussed the savings made on parking and rent by centralising staff at the Albert Road property.

Resolved:

1. To approve the rationalisation of the Albert Road site to accommodate the relocation of the Disability Team employees from Pond Lane, Neville Garratt Centre and the Civic Centre.
2. To approve the virement of £48,000 from the 'Residue on Capital Investment in Community Capacity Scheme' to the 'Relocation of the Disabilities Team from Pond Lane to Albert Road' (scheme to be renamed as Albert Road Refurbishment) taking the revised allocation to £98,000.
3. To authorise delegation of authority to the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, in consultation with the Strategic Director, Community, to award the contract for the refurbishment of the Albert Road Site subject to the contract being within the agreed budgetary provision as agreed by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel.
4. To note that there is specific capital funding for the proposed works, the investment made will generate significant revenue savings and avoid incurring rental costs for the Pond Lane site.

16. **Deeds of Variation to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) ICT agreement**

Resolved:

1. To approve that the Council enters into a Deed of Variation to the BSF ICT Services Contract (“the Contract”) made between (1) the Council and (2) Inspiredspaces Wolverhampton Limited (the Local Education Partnership (LEP)), dated 30 April 2010, in respect of the Building Schools for the Future ICT Contractual change notice - ANC 003 - which will remove the managed service element of the contract;
2. To approve the delegation of authority to the Cabinet Members for Schools Skills and Learning and Resources, in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise, the Assistant Director, Finance and the Chief Legal Officer to complete and finalise negotiations with the LEP up to the completion of the Deed of Variation for ANC 003 and ANC 004;
3. To approve that the Council enters into a Deed of Variation to the Contract in respect of a contractual change notice (“ANC 004”) in which the Council will consent to the replacement of Carillion Construction Limited as the LEP’s subcontractor with Carillion (AMBS) Limited and change to the Baseline Model Costs;
4. To approve that the Council enters into any new ancillary agreements to affect the replacement of Carillion Construction Limited with Carillion (AMBS) Limited as the LEP’s ICT Contractor.

17. **Schools’ delegated budgets, licensed deficit scheme**

Cllr Page introduced the report. He brought the Panel’s attention to the final recommendation and emphasised the need for an updated report regarding school underspend in the future.

Resolved:

1. To approve the new applications for the schools in deficit, namely the Castlecroft and Colton Hills schools.
2. To agree to receive future updates on the licensed deficit scheme which will be reported to the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on a bi-annual basis.
3. To note the assessment of the funding available to support the licensed deficit scheme for 2013/14 and future years.
4. To note the position regarding schools with existing licensed deficits, namely Wednesfield High School, that is not on track to recover the deficit in the agreed timescale and the actions to be taken, with an undertaking to report back to Cabinet and Cabinet (Resources) Panel in a further report.

5. To note the position regarding outstanding deficit applications, namely Coppice High School and Woodthorne Primary, and the actions to be taken by the local authority. There is a commitment to continue to work with these schools to return to a surplus balance position.

18 **Dedicated Schools' Grant 2014/15, schools' delegated budget**

Resolved:

1. To agree the Budget Share allocations for 2014/15 as approved by Schools Forum on 27 February 2014.
2. To note the parameters of the local authority's Dedicated Schools' Grant (DSG) allocation for 2014/15 which was reported to, and approved by, Schools' Forum on 27 February 2014.

19 **Schools capital programme 2014/15**

Cllr Page introduced the report and emphasised the need for renovations at New Park school to make the property safe.

Resolved:

1. To approve the detailed projects for schools capital maintenance
2. To approve the capital investment regarding Universal Infant Free School Meals for building alterations to both kitchens and dining areas to be considered in the following schools as detailed below:
 - i. Bantock Primary
 - ii. Christ Church CE Infant
 - iii. Elston Hall Primary
 - iv. Manor Primary
 - v. Warstones Primary

All Wolverhampton schools with children in reception, year one and year two excluding academies, free schools and VA schools to receive support with both light and heavy kitchen equipment all as per facilities catering equipment audit.

Total £300,000

3. To note that the Voluntary Aided element of the allocation is still to be confirmed with Diocese.

Total £83,380

4. To authorise the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Learning in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise, to accept suitable tenders for the works resulting from programmes shown in recommendations one and two where the cost is affordable within the

available budget identified.

5. To authorise the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Learning in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise, to initiate works in relation to emergency works preventing a school closure, the nature of which would not allow sufficient time to gain normal Council approvals.
6. To authorise the Chief Legal Officer, to execute all contract documentation.
7. To note the resources available for implementing the 2014/15 capital programme.

20

Adoption Reform Grant

Cllr Gibson introduced the report. She told the panel that the central government grant was given in four instalments, on a quarterly basis. She emphasised that the grant would be used to speed up the process of adoption, meaning children would spend less time in foster care and subsequently generate savings.

Resolved:

1. To approve the proposed expenditure in order to utilise the 2014/15 Adoption Reform Grant (ARG) allocation.

21

Improving the City Housing Offer: Strategic Construction Partnership

Resolved:

1. To initiate a pilot project for the delivery of new build Council housing using the Council's strategic construction partners and the sites identified subject to the detailed budget approval through a subsequent report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel.
2. To agree that, following detailed site investigations and other pre-development reports, the following sites are developed by Wates Construction:
 - Redcotts Close, Fallings Park Ward
 - 5 & 7 Hughes Road, Bilston North Ward
 - Welbury Gardens, St Peter's Ward
3. To agree that, following detailed site investigations and other pre-development reports, the following site is developed by Bullock Construction:
 - Land at former 1-8 Sunset Place, Spring Vale Ward
4. To agree that the capital costs of the development are funded by Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital, supported by Right to Buy receipts, subject to confirmation of full funding availability. Further detailed costings will be

sought from both SCP's and reported to Cabinet (Resources) Panel for approval.

5. To approve the draft 'Construction Specification and Design Criteria for new Council Dwellings', to set the appropriate standards for this new Council housing, as well as for the procurement and delivery of further new Council housing developments.
6. To agree that bids should be submitted for Homes and Community Agency (HCA) grant funding as appropriate, to support the development of further sites identified under the Housing Land Review.
7. To note that a project management structure, monitoring costings, value for money, and the standard of delivery, will support the development process and a consultation and communications plan will be implemented for each development.

22

Revised options for the future use of the Parkfields site

Cllr Johnson introduced the report and spoke about the revised option, to sell all the site except the pupil referral unit. He noted that the capital receipt may be reduced by the maintenance of the unit, particularly if the site was sold for residential buildings.

Resolved:

1. Not to progress with the use of part of the site as office accommodation.
2. Not to progress with the development of the proposed Community Hub on the Parkfields site.
3. Dispose of the Parkfields site with the exception of the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU), and that the disposal should also include the swimming pool and gymnasium.
4. To note that the ground conditions on the site will potentially impact on the capital receipt and possibly require the Council for a contribution to future remediation costs.
5. To note that the combined Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and playing fields remain in their current use.
6. To note that should the soft market testing not confirm that one of the proposed options is deliverable that there will be a further report to Cabinet (Resources) Panel.

23

Compensation for removal of weekend enhancements

Cllr Sweet introduced the report and spoke about the speed of resolving Single Status claims. He confirmed that the funding would come from the Single Status

funding pot.

Resolved:

1. To approve the approach that has been adopted to compensate employees in receipt of enhanced payments for weekend working following implementation of the Single Status collective agreement.
2. To note the completion of the project to compensate employees in receipt of enhanced payments for weekend working.

INFORMATION ITEMS

24 Changes to Employee Establishment

Resolved:

To note changes made to the employee establishment.