

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## **KIRKLEES COUNCIL**

### **CABINET**

**Tuesday 4th April 2017**

Present: Councillor David Sheard (Chair)  
Councillor Shabir Pandor  
Councillor Peter McBride  
Councillor Naheed Mather  
Councillor Musarrat Khan  
Councillor Erin Hill  
Councillor Viv Kendrick  
Councillor Masood Ahmed  
Councillor Graham Turner

**213 Membership of the Committee**

All members were present at the meeting.

**214 Interests**

No interests were declared at the meeting.

**215 Admission of the Public**

It was noted that all Agenda items would be considered in the public session.

**216 Deputations/Petitions**

No deputations/petitions were received.

**217 Public Question Time**

No public questions were asked.

**218 Member Question Time**

No member questions were asked.

**219 Corporate ICT Refresh Programme 2017/18 – 2021/22**

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for capital expenditure of £900k per annum to be incurred in supporting the IT ongoing refresh and update of core technology to underpin the IT enabled change programme for the Council over the next five years.

The report advised that the ICT Capital Programme was an essential ongoing programme of investment on an annual basis to provide technology to enable many of the technology enabled transformation programmes of the Council, and to sustain the necessary infrastructure and systems to keep the Council's data safe and secure. It explained that the investments proposed for the coming five years included refreshing the Council's desktop computer estate, sustaining its data centre and core infrastructure, the data and voice network, and other associated systems. Cabinet were asked to agree the investment of up to £900,000 per annum over the next five financial years to enable this work to be undertaken.

Cabinet noted that the strategic benefit of the investment was significant, and in addition to the functional and business operation benefits, was also an enabler of major business transformation projects including higher productivity across the workforce and mitigating the effect of current budget reductions on services provided to citizens.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the 5 year IT Capital Investment Strategy to support the refresh and maintenance of the IT estate in the IT enabled change programme be approved, as set out in the considered report.
2. That authority be granted to the Head of IT to implement the agreed 5 year IT Capital Investment Plan in accordance with the Council's financial Procedure rules and for the 5 year life of the project.

**220 Land at Station Road, Bradley**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to market and dispose of land at Station Road, Batley. The report explained that the site extended to 1.9 hectares and was currently designated as unallocated in the UDP, and as Employment Land on the Local Plan. Site investigations had taken place in preparation of the disposal of the land and had revealed some contaminated ground conditions, which would be reflected within the report made available to potential buyers so that the costs of remediation can be reflected within any bids. Cabinet noted that it was intended to commission an updated open market valuation which would be informed by a ground investigation survey prior to placing on the open market.

The report explained that the disposal of the site, which would be subject to planning permission, could generate a significant capital receipt, and that the Council would also receive a business rates income from any future commercial

occupiers. It indicated that the site provided continuity and supported the objectives of the Local Plan, linked strongly to the Joint Health and Wellbeing Plan, and assisted the Council in meeting an annual capital receipts target.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the marketing and disposal of the site at Station Road, Bradley, as set out in the considered report be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director Place to market the land for disposal and undertake and conclude negotiations with the preferred buyer.
3. That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director for Legal Governance and Monitoring and Procurement's Legal Risk Management to negotiate and enter into all documentation necessary to affect the disposal of the site.

**221 Highways Capital Plan 2017/18**

Cabinet received a report which set out the Highways Capital Plan 2017/2018, which was a detailed programme of works to be implemented over the next two years and included road surfacing, street lighting, structures, road safety, encouraging walking and cycling, drainage, traffic signals, car parks, and public transport provision. It explained that the Council's capital investment in the 2017/2018 Highways Capital Plan amounted to £4.900m, which would be funded through prudential borrowing, and that the average revenue cost of financing this level of borrowing would be 6.3% per annum, equating to £309k. In order to support the implementation of works and substitution of delayed projects, Cabinet was requested to delegate authority to manage the implementation of identified works within the respective agreed total programme budgets.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the Capital Plan as set out in the considered report in the sum of £15,232 million, and specifically detailed in appendices 1a and 1b, be approved.
2. That authority be delegated in accordance with 3.12 of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules to the Director of Economy, Skills and the Environment, to manage the Highways Capital Plan Asset as set out within the considered report.

**222 A629 Wakefield Road, Aspley/Moldgreen, Road Resurfacing**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval for a scheme to resurface the A629 Wakefield Road between Aspley Basin and Green Mount, Huddersfield, in line with the Kirklees Asset Management Strategy. The report explained that major resurfacing works were proposed for the A629 Wakefield Road

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between Aspley Place and St Pauls Methodist Church at Moldgreen as part of the Principal Road Programme 1A, commencing May 2017.

Cabinet noted that the road was a primary route into Huddersfield Town Centre, and provided an important link to local communities. It was acknowledged that the scheme may cause significant difficulties for residents, businesses and through traffic and that measures would be put in place to minimise disruption where possible, including the temporary closure of the inbound bus lane, advanced vehicle messaging signs and the phasing of works.

### **RESOLVED -**

That the scheme for the reconstruction of the A629 Wakefield Road, as set out in the considered report, be approved.

## **223 Council's 24 hour Services**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to develop a 24 hour service which merged current services and made better use of assets and resources. The report set out details of proposals for the development of a 24 hour service provision whereby all out of hours operations would be centralised, with the first phase being the merger of CCTV and Kirklees Direct Out of Hours Service, to cover both operations. The proposals would create a multi-skilled and flexible team and by utilising current assets, integrating IT and telephony resources, would ensure service delivery and the maintenance of both CCTV and Out of Hours services. The report explained that the proposals would help deliver safety outcomes and ensure that emergency out of hours provision to residents, tenants and local businesses was available.

Cabinet noted that the Phase 1 merge would create an initial saving of £53k per annum and that these savings would be based on an overall reduction in staffing levels which would be realised by removing vacancies and temporary staff. It was anticipated that Phase II would incorporate Children and Adult Services. Subject to approval, the scheme would commence with a review, formal staff consultation, followed by implementation, which was expected to take approximately five months in total.

Cabinet were asked to approve the proposals, as detailed within the considered report, and note that Phase 1 would be implemented in the 2017/2018 municipal year.

### **RESOLVED -**

1. That proposals set out in the considered report to develop and implement a 24 hour service provision for the Council, where all out of hours operations are centralised be approved, and that it be noted that phase 1 will be implemented in the 2017/18 financial year, as set out in the considered report.

2. That approval be given to the £200,000 economic resilience add back on an annual basis for each year or part year until phase 2 of the review has been completed which is anticipated to be Summer 2018.
3. That in the event that phase 2 is delayed beyond 2018/19 the economic resilience add back be reviewed.

**224 Memorial and Commemorative Plaque Policy**

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the introduction of a policy for the consideration of requests for the siting of memorials and commemorative plaques on Kirklees land and buildings. The report advised that the Council regularly received requests for consideration of future memorials and commemorative plaques to be sited on Kirklees owned land and property and so the policy had been produced to assist organisations and members of the public who may wish to consider making applications for memorials. The report summarised the guiding principles of the policy and the application process. It was noted that the policy did not cover personal memorials to individuals in the forms of; memorial trees and benches, scattering of ashes, and other forms of personal remembrance. The report included details of comments that had been submitted by Huddersfield Civic Society, Friends of Greenhead Park and Friend of Crow Nest Park. The proposed policy was appended to the considered report.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That approval be given to the introduction of the memorial and commemorative plaque policy, as set out within the considered report.
2. That the policy be applied to all parks and recreation grounds within Kirklees.
3. That, when requests for actions in accordance with the policy are received, information be provided to all the Councillors on such requests.

**225 Overview of progress made in relation to changes to specialist provision for children with special educational needs across Kirklees**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought permission to carry out a non-statutory consultation on the proposed new communication and interaction provision to be hosted by Windmill C of E Primary School, and to complete the legal process to discontinue the specialist provision at Ashbrow School for children with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN). Paragraphs 2.8 of the considered report set out details of the Local Authority's proposal, which was to decommission 12 transitional places for SLCN at Ashbrow School and create 12 transitional places for communication and interaction needs at Windmill C of E Primary School. The report explained that the proposed re-organisation would be subject to the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to maintained schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

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The report advised that a robust consultation process would be carried out in order to enable the maximum number of stakeholders to have an opportunity to comment, and that the Local Authority would hold a four week term time non-statutory consultation on the proposals during April and May 2017. A final decision by Cabinet was expected to be made in August 2017, and subject to approval, the changes would be implemented in September 2017.

### RESOLVED -

1. That authority be delegated to the Director of Children and Adults in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holder to:
  - Develop consultation materials on the basis of the proposals set out in the considered report
  - Organise and carry out the non statutory consultation about the proposals
  - Require officers to report the outcomes of the non statutory consultation to Cabinet for further consideration of the next steps

### 226 **Bringing together Honley Church of England voluntary controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England voluntary controlled Junior School**

Cabinet received a report which set out details of final proposals to discontinue Honley C of E Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School, and Honley C of E Voluntary Controlled Junior School, to establish an all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School for children aged 3 to 11 years including nursery provision.

The report explained that the new primary school would be within the existing buildings of Honley C of E (VC) Infant and Nursey School, and Honley C of E (VC) Junior School and would cater for the same number of children as the current schools, with an admission number of 66 places in key stage 1, and 68 places in key stage 2, preserving 470 primary school places, with 48 part-time early learning places for nursery children aged 3-4 years. The report also set out the conclusions and recommendations of the School Organisation Advisory Group regarding the proposals, and sought Cabinet's approval of the related statutory proposals. The report advised that, subject to approval, the proposals would be effective from 1 May 2017.

### RESOLVED -

1. That the advice of the Kirklees School's Organisation Advisory Committee that the related proposals to establish a new Chuch of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School to discontinue Honley Chuch of England Voluntary Controlled Infant & Nursery School and to discontinue Honley Church of

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England Voluntary Controlled Junior School are valid and that the required statutory proposals have been carried out be noted.

2. That approval be given to the taking of the decision regarding the proposals within the statutory time period.
3. That the outcomes and recommendations of the Kirklees Schools Organisation Advisory Group meeting of 27 January 2017 be acknowledged together with the associated officer recommendations for the proposals.
4. That the HR & financial implications of approving the proposals be noted.
5. That it be confirmed that, in meeting the obligations of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty 2011, full regard has been given to the Equalities Impact Assessment throughout the statutory process for the proposal including the decision regarding approval.
6. That approval be given without modification or condition to the related statutory proposals:
  - a) By Kirklees Local Authority to:
    - i. Discontinue Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant & Nursery School on 30 April 2017.
    - ii. Discontinue Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School on 30 April 2017.
  - b) By Diocesan Board of Education within the Church of England Diocesan of Leeds:
    - i. To establish a new Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School to cater for pupils aged 4-11 with a published admission number of 66 for the Key Stage 1 and a public admission number of 68 for Key Stage 2 and to retain the 48 part time early leaning places for nursery children aged 3-4 years on 1 May 2017.
7. That the above proposals for reasons set out within Section 6 of the considered report.
8. That officers be requested to support and work proactively with the Governing Body of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant & Nursery School, and the Governing Body of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School to finalise arrangements for pupils, parents, staff and other stakeholders in order to sensitively manage changes to implement the proposals from 1 May 2017.

### **227 Preparing for “30 hour free childcare” for working parents**

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which provided an update on preparations to meet demand for '30 hours free childcare' from September 2017, and sought

approval for a capital scheme to meet future demand in the Holme Valley North area. The report advised that, from September 2017, working parents with children aged 3 and 4 and not in full time education, would be eligible for 30 hours free childcare, which would introduce additional demand for childcare services and that Local Authorities had a statutory duty to ensure that a sufficient number of places were available. In May 2016, childcare providers had been offered the opportunity to express an interest in expanding their provision to meet the future demand associated with 30 hours free childcare and that as a result of this exercise Holme Valley North had been identified as an area requiring a capital solution to meet a basic need for places. The report therefore proposed the allocation of capital grant funding for the provision of a childcare facility on the site of Honley C of E (VC) Junior School.

The report advised that the capital cost of the scheme would be fully funded from Government Grant and that Officers would continue to ensure that there were sufficient childcare places available by (i) monitoring the supply and demand for childcare places (ii) continuing to engage with the childcare market and (iii) using the existing small grants scheme to support the creation of places where required. It advised that, subject to approval, work would also continue to procure and deliver the off-site construction unit within the grounds of Honley C of E (VC) Junior School.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That work undertaken to ensure that there are sufficient childcare places available in Kirklees to meet future demand using the existing childcare market management framework be noted.
2. That the £339,000 grant received in relation to the Honley childcare capital scheme outlined in paragraph 2.17 of the considered report, along with the allocation of £227,000 from the 2016/17 early years capital budget, be noted.
3. That officers be authorised to procure and deliver the capital scheme as outlined at paragraph 2.17 of the considered report.