

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Monday 3rd October 2016

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

Apologies: Councillor Erin Hill
Councillor Viv Kendrick

Observers: Councillor Judith Hughes
Councillor Darren O'Donovan
Councillor Mussarat Pervaiz
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Linda Wilkinson

61 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Hill and Kendrick.

62 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meetings held on 16 September 2016 be approved as a correct record.

63 Interests

No interests were declared.

64 Admission of the Public

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

65 Deputations/Petitions

Cabinet received representations from Jenifer Devlin, Imelda Marsden, Gill Young, Christine Hyde, Ann Denham and Margaret Watson in respect of Agenda Item 8 (Minute No. 68 refers).

66 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

67 Member Question Time

No questions were asked.

68 The Future of Museums and Galleries

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 37, Cabinet received representations from Jenifer Devlin, Imelda Marsden, Hayley Wainwright and John Appleyard. Councillors Hussain, O'Donovan and Pervaiz made representations under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36 (1).)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out the responses from the engagement process regarding the final vision for the future of museum and gallery services in Kirklees and sought approval of 'Culture Kirklees'. The document, which was attached as an appendix to the considered report, identified the Council's approach to the display of collections in museums and galleries, the sites which would continue to be museums, and the sites from which museums and galleries would be withdrawn and alternative uses sought.

The report provided an overview of the Cultural Offer Transformation Programme and set out proposals for the future of the Museums and Galleries Service. It explained that during July 2016, a three week engagement programme had provided information on the financial challenges facing the council, and the proposals for the cultural vision.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the responses from the engagement process, and how these influence the final version for the future of museums and gallery services in Kirklees, be noted.

(2) That approval be given to 'Culture Kirklees', the vision for arts and cultural services provided by the Council, which identifies the approach to the display of collections in Museums and Galleries and the sites from which Museums and Galleries will withdraw and alternatives uses sought.

(3) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, for the timescale for the withdrawal of Museums and Galleries services from the sites from Dewsbury Museum and Red House Museum by 31 March 2017 at the latest.

(4) That approval be given to invite expressions of interest for the sites from which the Museums and Galleries service will withdraw and to delegate consideration of the criteria for expressions of interest to the Chief Executive in consultation with relevant Cabinet Members.

(5) That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder, for the timescale to dispose of any of the decommissioned buildings, which may take place at the same time as expressions of interest being invited, and that consultation with the Friends of both Crow Nest Park and Ravensknowle Park commence immediately regarding the future sustainable use of the buildings.

69 Request for approval to consult on the proposed revised Adult Social Care Charging Policy

Cabinet received a report which sought approval to undertake consultation in respect of the proposed revised Adults Social Care Charging Policy. It advised that

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the key aim of the revised policy was to ensure that, where an adult was charged for care and support, they are not charged more than is reasonably practicable for them to afford and pay. The proposals were designed to change the administration of the charging policy to be cost effective and sustainable for the Council so that services could continue to be provided for those needing care and support in the future.

Cabinet noted that the proposed revised Adult Social Care Charging Policy comprised of three separate policy documents; (i) the Adult Charging Policy (ii) the Deferred Payment Policy and (iii) the Client Financial Affairs Recovery Policy document.

Paragraph three of the considered report set out a summary the main areas to be covered by the consultation. Full details were set out at Appendix 1 of the report.

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given for the commencement of the consultation process as detailed in the considered report.

(2) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of Cabinet setting out the consultation results, which will be considered alongside any changes to the proposed revised Adults Social Care Charging Policy.

70 Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children: National Transfer Scheme and the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Programme

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the Council to become involved in the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (USAC) National Transfer Scheme and the Vulnerable Children's Relocation Programme (VCRP).

The report advised that the Home Office had requested Local Authorities to resettle 0.07% of their young people's population, which equated to a maximum 69 USACs within the Kirklees area. It indicated that Kirklees currently acted as Corporate Parent to 9 USACs. Cabinet noted that approval of the report would result in local and regional work taking place to actively encourage public interest in participating to support USACs by providing suitable placements and that it was recommended that 5 USACs be resettled in the short term (within the next six months). It was noted that these placements were likely to be with independent fostering agencies and supported accommodation providers, and that local capacity and potential placements would then be reviewed early in 2017.

The report also provided an outline of the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Programme, which had been announced earlier in the year and was intended to resettle 3000 children from the Middle East North Africa region deemed to be 'at risk' by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This was likely to equate to 20 individuals (4 or 5 households) in the Kirklees area and 248 in the region. It was acknowledged that as the numbers that the Council has in place for the Syrian Resettlement Programme are small, it was recommended that Kirklees takes the maximum 20 VCRP allocation up until autumn 2019.

Paragraph 2.11 of the report outlined the levels of funding that would be received for the USAC programme, and whilst there had not yet been confirmation of funding for

the VCRP it was advised that the Council only agree to participate if the funding offered is equivalent to that available for the Syrian Resettlement Programme.

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given to (i) the Council's involvement in the Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (USAC) National Transfer Scheme (ii) 5 unaccompanied asylum seeker children being resettled within Kirklees within the next 6 months (iii) the Council's capacity to increase USAC numbers being reviewed in early 2017 following a targeted local and regional recruitment campaign and (iv) the principle of resettling 20 individuals as part of the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Programme (VCRP) if the level of funding is the same as that that is available for the Syrian Resettlement Programme, and pursuant to this, to start accepting VCRP families from January 2017 onwards.

(2) That any amendments to Kirklees' involvement in the USAC National Transfer Scheme and VCR Programme be delegated to the Chief Executive.

(3) That the Council's involvement in both the USAC and VCRP be monitored and reviewed as detailed in the considered report.

71

The Council's approach to the delivery of Economic Resilience in Kirklees

Cabinet received a report which set out proposals for the future role of the Council, and partners, in enabling the delivery of the Kirklees Economic Strategy. The report advised that the Strategy formed part of the Council's vision to build and redesign a new approach within the Council organisation and maximise the available resources through collaboration and working in partnership. It explained that economic resilience specifically targeted business growth, education, and employment and skills, in developing Kirklees as a high quality place providing infrastructure to contribute to the success of the District.

The proposals within the report supported the key themes of business, people and places, and aimed to ensure greater prioritisation of resources and identifying new and different ways of working focussed around the strategic framework as set out in the Kirklees Economic Strategy. Cabinet noted that key initiatives included sector growth, strategic employment and housing sites, skills and community economic development, as a way to deliver change.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the proposals and actions as set out with regard to commissioning the Economic Resilience approach, specifically in relation to how this sets out the future role the Council will play in relation to the delivery of the Kirklees Economic Strategy, be noted.

(2) That approval be given to the indicative budget envelopes as set out in Section 4.4 (table 1) of the considered report, in relation to the delivery of business growth, education, skills and employment, infrastructure, planning and regeneration and that authority be delegated to the Assistant Director (Place) to proceed to commission the proposals as set out.

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(3) That it be noted that a further report will be submitted to Cabinet setting out options in relation to Integrated Community Safety, museums and galleries, and the cultural offer, and the Council's approach to community capacity building and the third sector.

72 Council Budget Update Report 2017-21 incorporating an Efficiency Plan

Cabinet received a report which set out a four year budget strategy, and took account of the Government's multi-year general fund settlement offer, which was conditional on the Council publishing an Efficiency Plan by 14 October 2016. The Efficiency Plan was set out at Appendix D of the considered report, combined with the Council's updated budget plans and strategies.

The report provided a breakdown of information in relation to General Fund current budget plans, the 2017-2021 Medium Term Financial Plan and the Housing Revenue Account. Cabinet noted that a robust Medium Term Financial Plan and budget strategy were a key element of financial and service planning, and that it would be updated in February 2017.

It was noted that the report would be submitted to the meeting of Council on 12 October 2016.

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given to the early high level re-refresh of baseline funding and cost projections as detailed at paragraph 2.2.1, table 2.

(2) That approval be given to the early savings proposals within the Medium Term Financial Plan update 2017-2021, as set out in paragraphs 2.3.4 to 2.3.14.

(3) That approval be given to the budget planning framework as set out in the considered report.

(4) That approval be given to the Council's Efficiency Plan, as attached at Appendix D, and submission to the DCLG, on or prior to 14 October 2016.

(5) That approval be given to the proposed budget consultation approach and timetable, as set out in paragraphs 4.9 to 4.12.

(6) That it be noted that an update will be provided later in the year on any material changes to high level cost and income assumptions as set out in this Medium Term Financial Plan update, in particular informed by the Autumn Statement announcement expected late November 2016, and further by the 2016 Local Government Financial; Settlement, as detailed in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3.

(7) That approval be given to the Budget Planning Framework as set out in paragraph 2.6.2.

(8) That the report be submitted to the meeting of Council on 12 October 2016.