

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 10th September 2019

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Graham Turner
Councillor Rob Walker

Observers: Councillor Mohan Sokhal

Apologies: Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Cathy Scott

49 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors McBride and Scott.

50 Interests

No interests were declared.

51 Admission of the Public

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

52 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

53 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

54 Member Question Time

No questions were asked.

55 Dewsbury Town Centre Grant Scheme

Cabinet received a report which sought approval to develop a grant scheme for the improvement of shop fronts, bring vacant space back into use within Dewsbury Town Centre Conservation Area and to consider enforcement measures to facilitate the same objectives.

Cabinet welcomed the initiatives outlined and the investment in infrastructure, which would in turn reinvigorate the economy of the area.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet approved:-

(1) That resources of £1.25m be approved to support the establishment and operation of a grant scheme as generally described in the report.

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Reasons: Regeneration of Dewsbury Town Centre.

- (2) Approved that the funds to be taken from the capital plan allocation for Dewsbury Town centre in the approved Capital Plan 2019-22.

Reasons: Effective financial management.

- (3) That the Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure be authorised to set up and implement a grant scheme, as described in the report, for the award of third party grants to owners of properties for the purposes of the improving shop fronts and/or for the purposes of securing sustainable uses of empty property, where appropriate.

Reasons: Effective delivery of a new grant scheme.

- (4) That the Strategic Director for Economy and Infrastructure be authorised to enter into discussions with Future High Street Fund, the National Lottery Grants for Heritage Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund and Historic England to secure possible funding for the scheme and in consultation with the Lead Portfolio Holder for the Economy accept any grant offers.

Reasons: Achieving more impact and effectiveness.

56 Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-21

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on the development of the new Kirklees Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-21 and sought approval for the Strategy and plans for a formal launch on 30 September 2019.

Cabinet noted that the Strategy focused on a preventative approach, with the aim of eradicating domestic abuse in order to stop it happening in the first place. Four hundred thousand pounds of non-recurrent funding had been contributed to the sustainability of the strategy and other sources of funding would be sourced for future years.

The role of the Council as an employer was also highlighted and it was intended that the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership would work closely with HR colleagues to create a specific policy for staff who may be experiencing domestic abuse, either as victims or perpetrators.

The Strategy was welcomed, as was the consultation process and partnership working outlined.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet:-

- (1) Noted the progress of work undertaken to develop the new strategy;
- (2) Approved the strategy and the planned launch; and
- (3) Approved the proposed funding allocation as part of the review of infrastructure and commissioning arrangements.