

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 16th July 2019

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

Attendees: Councillor Bernard McGuin
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Elizabeth Smaje
Councillor Mohan Sokhal

32 Membership of the Committee

All Cabinet Members were present.

33 Interests

No interests were declared.

34 Admission of the Public

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

35 Deputations/Petitions

Cabinet received a deputation from Mr Ken Shaw seeking support for a campaign to assist local business through the adjustment of business rates and the reform of the Insolvency Act 1986.

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services.

Cabinet received deputations from Charly Matthews, Amy Bairstow, Neesha Ali and Peter Rock in respect of Agenda Item 8 at the consideration of that item. (Minute No. 39 refers).

36 Public Question Time

Cabinet received questions from Trish Jennings, David Whittingham, Michael Buck, David Burns, Tejinder Ajiz, Charleen Davies and Darren Bairstow in respect of Agenda Item 8 at the consideration of that item. (Minute No. 39 refers).

37 Member Question Time

Cabinet received questions from Councillors Cooper, McGuin and Munro in respect of Agenda Item 8 at the consideration of that item. (Minute No. 39 refers).

38 2019/20 to 2023/24 Council Capital Plan - Proposed allocation of capital funding from the Directorate for Children's Learning & Early Support baseline sections of the Capital Plan

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which provided an update on specific school based Special Educational Needs and Disability capital grants, identified to be funded from the Learning and Early Support Special Provision government grant baseline section of the Council's capital plan. The report sought approval for the allocation of further top-up SEND funding, and additionally, were asked to approve the allocation of capital required to fund new modular accommodation at Brambles Primary Academy and Hanging Heaton CE (VC) Junior and infant Schools from the 2019/2020 Learning and Early Support Basic Need baseline budget for New Pupil Places.

The report provided an overview of the special provision funding made available to support pupils with SEND and explained the progress of the schemes at Ravenshall School, Honley High School and Newsome High School, along with associated revised project costs.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the additional capital grant being provided by the DfE for Special Provision projects, as detailed within paragraph 2.2 of the considered report, be noted.
- (2) That approval be given to the proposed capital allocations for projects at Ravenshall School, Newsome High School and Honley High School, as detailed in the considered report, which would be funded from the Learning and early Support Special Provision grant baseline section of the Capital Plan and that authorisation be given for the projects to be designed, procured and implemented within the overall programme budget of £1.794m.
- (3) That approval be given to capital allocations for modular projects at Brambles Primary Academy and Hanging Heaton CE (VC) Junior and Infant School, to be funded from the Learning and Early Support Basic Need Grant baseline section of the Capital Plan, enabling the specified projects to be implemented on site.
- (4) That approval be given to delegate powers, in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 3.16, to the Service Director for Economy and Skills to manage the implementation of the works identified within the considered report within the respective agreed total programme budgets, including authority to transfer resources between schemes and within the overall programme budget to enable the successful delivery of the individual projects.

39 Future options for Almondbury Community School - Final Decision Report

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out the outcomes from representations received in response to the published statutory proposal to change the upper age range of Almondbury Community School, from 3 to 16 years, to 3 to 11 years.

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The report explained that, following the meeting of Cabinet on 29 May 2019, when a decision had been taken to publish the statutory notice and proposal, Cabinet were now asked to consider the outcome of the process and the Officer recommendation to give approval to changing the age range of the school. It was noted that, prior to this, a non-statutory consultation had been carried out, following authorisation at Cabinet on 19 March 2019, and the rationale for undertaking the non-statutory consultation were set out at paragraph 2.1 of the considered report.

Following the decision on 29 May, the report advised that a statutory notice was published on 7 June 2019, for a 4 week period, during which time 51 representations were received. The representations were set out at Appendix 9 of the report. Cabinet were advised that the Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group had met on 5 July 2019 to consider the statutory process and to formulate advice for Cabinet and that the note of the meeting was attached at Appendix 5 to the considered report.

The report presented to Cabinet provided information regarding (i) the statutory process and (ii) information required to take a decision, which included detail regarding the rationale for the proposals, educational standards and diversity of provision, sufficiency of places, community cohesion, travel and accessibility and funding. It was noted, subject to approval, the proposal would be implemented from September 2020.

Cabinet noted the Officer recommendations, as set out within the report, which were to acknowledge the comments and objections received, note the outcomes and recommendations of the School Organisational Advisory Group, and approve a change to the age range of Almondbury Community School from age 3 to 16 years, to age 3 to 11 years. The report recommended that Cabinet approve the statutory proposal in order to support improving secondary provision for children in the Almondbury area.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the advice of the Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group, being that the proposal is compliant and that the required statutory processes have been carried out, be noted, and that it be agreed that the decision regarding this proposal is taken within the statutory time period.
- (2) That it be acknowledged and confirmed that (i) the comments and objections received during the representation period and (ii) the relevant statutory guidance, have both been given full consideration as part of the decision making process.
- (3) That the outcomes and recommendations of the Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group held on 5 July 2019 be noted.
- (4) That approval be given to the statutory proposal to change the age range of Almondbury Community School from 3 to 16 years to age 3 to 11 years, with effect from September 2020.

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- (5) That it be confirmed that the reasons for approving the statutory proposal are that the proposal would contribute to improving the secondary provision for all children in Almondbury.
- (6) That officers be instructed to support and work proactively with Almondbury Community School, local secondary schools and with families of pupils to finalise arrangements in order to ensure that effective transition plans are put in place to implement the proposals from 1st September 2020 whilst ensuring a safe and well planned transition without compromising standards and quality of provision.