

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Monday 20th January 2020

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

Apologies: Councillor Viv Kendrick

109 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Kendrick.

110 Interests

No interests were declared.

111 Admission of the Public

It was noted that Agenda Item 13 would be considered in private session (Minute No.121 refers).

112 Deputations/Petitions

Cabinet received a deputation from Gideon Richards, on behalf of Kirklees Climate Emergency Group, relating to (i) electric vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure issues (ii) actions required to review infrastructure being installed through the WYCA project, and (iii) supporting the development of an EV conversion course for students.

113 Public Question Time

Cabinet received a question from Gideon Richards, on behalf of Kirklees Climate Emergency Group, regarding the Council's policy and criteria for purchasing electric vehicles.

114 Member Question Time

No questions were asked.

115 Housing Delivery Plan Update

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on the housing delivery strategy and the activity which had taken place during the past year to explore opportunities and test options for housing growth in order to ensure the best use of council owned land and to maximise outcomes.

Cabinet - 20 January 2020

Appendix 1 to the considered report provided a summary of housing growth programmes and details of projects that were currently being undertaken. This included information regarding strategic allocation sites, the accelerated construction programme, specialist and supported housing, small affordable housing sites and the market disposal programme.

Cabinet noted the progress update, and the impact which the progress made would have upon housing growth across the borough.

RESOLVED - That the Housing Delivery Plan update be received and noted.

116 Quarter (2) Corporate Performance Report

Cabinet received the Corporate Performance Report, Quarter 2, which set out an overview of the Council's corporate performance at the end of Quarter 2 2019/2020 in the context of the strategic intent in the corporate plan. The report provided Cabinet with a summary of impact, improvement and risk against each of the Council's outcomes.

The report set out key highlights for the quarter performance, which included the opening of 'number 12' safe space in Dewsbury, 371 new introductions to the Community Plus Programme, 278 prevented cases of homelessness, the development of Spenborough leisure centre and reduced levels of staff sickness absence.

RESOLVED - That the Quarter (2) Corporate Performance Report be received and noted.

117 St Paul's Road, Mirfield - Supported Living Accommodation development

Cabinet received a report which set out an update on the scheme at St Paul's Road, Mirfield, pursuant to approval by Cabinet on 29 August 2018. The report advised that, since the approval for the development of 19 flats was given, the proposed scheme plans were considered by the Care Quality Commission to be too large, and consequently revised plans had been developed for 13 flats, plus staff facilities. Cabinet were advised that the flats would be made available to adults with a social care need as supported living accommodation, enabling adult residents with a social care need to live an independent life, within the local community. The report advised that the proposed development offered an excellent cost-effective model of care. It was noted that, as changes had been made to the previously agreed scheme, authorisation was required from Cabinet to proceed with the amended design.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the development of new supported living accommodation at St Pauls Road, Mirfield, for adults with social care needs.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Economy and Infrastructure) to negotiate and agree the terms of the disposal with Connect Housing.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) for the Council to enter into and execute any agreement and

transfer and any other ancillary documents and agreements that relate to the disposal of land at the former Mirfield Depot, St Pauls Road.

- 4) That Adults Services be authorised to commission and fund meeting the care and support needs of all intended tenants of the development.

118 Climate Emergency and Air Quality – next steps - Electric Vehicles

Cabinet received a report which recommended the prioritisation of budgetary investment in additional vehicles and charging infrastructure in regards to the Council's electric vehicles and publicly accessible charging infrastructure. The report advised that, following consideration of what interventions could be put in place with regards to travel and electric vehicles, recommendations were now presented to take immediate actions and prioritise resources.

Cabinet supported the prioritisation of a step-change for travel which would facilitate a shift to a low carbon, low emissions future through the measures of (i) prioritising the expansion and transformation of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure through the installation of at least 80 additional fast and rapid charging points (ii) re-launching and expanding the free parking offer for low emission vehicles (iii) further investment in the Council's vehicle fleet to add a further 50 electric vehicles (iv) developing a comprehensive electric vehicle and charging infrastructure policy to put Kirklees at the forefront of the development of low emission transport in the area and working with major stakeholders to make Kirklees futureproofed for the electric vehicle revolution and (v) implementing the Air Quality Action Plan, tackling air quality and boosting sustainable travel.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the content of the report be noted and that Council be recommended to prioritise the consideration of allocating spending in the capital bids in relation to Electric Vehicles and infrastructure in the budget setting process.
- 2) That the Service Director (Environment), in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Greener Kirklees, be delegated authority to amend the terms of the 'Green Permit', as detailed in para. 3.12 of the considered report.

119 Mixed Tenure Council House Building: Direct Delivery/Bridge Homes Joint Venture

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out proposals to directly deliver future programmes of new mixed tenure council developments, including council housing. Cabinet were advised that the Housing Act 1985 enabled the Council to provide housing accommodation by erecting houses on land acquired and that the activity did not need to be carried out via a commercial trading company, nor did it require the Council to retain ownership often completed units. The report advised that consideration had been given to the options of (i) the Council's capacity to directly deliver new homes across a range of tenures through the Housing Revenue Account, and (ii) a joint venture arrangement with Bridge Homes Local Housing Company, and provided an overview of detail in regards to each option.

The report set out a proposal for direct delivery as the preferred option, which would support the regeneration of existing estates and provide a diverse mix of housing. Cabinet noted the benefits which would be derived from adopting a direct delivery

Cabinet - 20 January 2020

model, which included (i) retaining strategic control if the Council's assets (ii) influence upon local place making (iii) developing mixed tenure expertise (iv) building a strong reputation within the local housing market and (v) delivering an acceleration of new housing delivery to meet local demand.

(Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information at Agenda Item 13 (Minute No.121 refers) prior to the determination of this Agenda Item).

RESOLVED - That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Economy and Infrastructure), via the Housing Growth Board, to approve all future viable schemes worked up under the proposals for mixed tenure council developments, therein; (i) the use of a particular parcel of land for the direct delivery of new council housing (ii) the appropriation of the land (if necessary) (iii) the determination of the split between affordable and market sale housing (iv) the approval of the quantum of prudential borrowing required for the development in consultation with the Council's Service Director and Section 151 Officer (v) the approval of particular house design and (vi) the approval of a particular construction type.

120 **Exclusion of the Public**

RESOLVED – That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

121 **Mixed Tenure Council House Building: Direct Delivery/Bridge Homes Joint Venture**

(Exempt information relating to Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, namely that the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness in the Council's decision making).

Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information prior to the determination of Agenda Item 11 (Minute No. 119 refers).