

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 8th October 2019

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

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor John Lawson
Councillor Andrew Marchington
Councillor Alison Munro
Councillor Will Simpson

Apologies: Councillor Graham Turner

57 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Turner.

58 Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 September 2019 be approved as a correct record.

59 Interests

No interests were declared.

60 Admission of the Public

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

61 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

62 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

63 Member Question Time

Cabinet received questions from (a) Councillor Lawson in regards to the return of confiscated recycling bins to residents and (b) Councillor Bolt in regards to (i) the benefits of enterprise zones for Kirklees and (ii) the implementation of decision making in regards to environmental impact assessments and climate emergency.

Councillor Walker responded to (a). Councillors Pandor and McBride responded to (b).

64 Corporate Performance Report Quarter (1)

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bolt, Lawson and Marchington).

Cabinet received the Quarter 1 Corporate Performance Report, which set out an overview of performance as at the end of Quarter 1, 2019/2020, in terms of impact, improvement and risk against the Council's seven outcomes within the context of the refreshed Corporate Plan.

The report set out a number of key performance highlights, in addition to a breakdown of detail for the outcome areas. Cabinet Members presented an overview of highlights within the report and key issues, including tackling the climate crisis and the benefits that would be derived from changes to equality impact assessments.

RESOLVED - That the Corporate Performance Report (Q2) be received and noted.

65 Proposed changes to Impact Assessments: an Integrated Approach to Expanded Equalities Characteristics and Environment

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which outlined proposed changes to the Council's Equality Impact Assessment process, by establishing an Integrated Impact Assessment which would incorporate additional diversity characteristics, including low income and an environmental impact assessment.

The report advised that the Council's current approach to impact assessment was focussed upon nine protected characteristic groups, in accordance with the Equalities Act 2010, but that it was now proposed that additional groups be included through the establishment of a holistic assessment approach. Paragraph 5 of the considered report provided information on the additional groups; low income/poverty, unpaid carers and environmental impact.

Cabinet were advised that the proposed approach would maintain the current two stage Equality Impact Assessment process, whereby stage one would be an initial screening and stage two would involve further assessment and action planning in instances when an overall negative impact was identified.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to implementing organisational change in order to enable an Integrated Impact Assessment.

66 Playable Spaces Revised Strategy

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bolt, Lawson, Munro and Simpson)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out proposed amendments to the Playable Spaces Strategy, subsequent to its approval at Cabinet on 19 March 2019. The report set out details of the amendments, which had been presented in order to confirm the intention of the policy and now included additional references to clarify community involvement and play area classifications.

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Cabinet noted that the appendices to the strategy had been removed, including the lists of sites and maps, to reflect that decisions regarding the future of sites had not been determined.

The report advised that, subject to approval of the amended strategy, re-engagement would take place with Ward Councillors in order for the play provisions within ward areas to be reviewed, and that this would aim to be completed by January 2020, which would then be followed by a public engagement process.

RESOLVED - That the revised Playable Spaces Strategy be approved.

- 67 Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document**
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Bolt and Lawson).

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of the Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), following a period of public consultation. The report advised that the purpose of the SPDs was to provide clarity in relation to the application of planning policies as set out in the Local Plan, and that the Highways Design Guide SDP would assist in encouraging good design in terms of how developments, routes and spaces relate to each other and to create streets and public spaces which were safe and accessible.

The document, which was appended to the considered report, provided detail on how the highways design principles, which included connectivity, safety, durability, sustainability and inclusivity, applied to the Highways Design Guide.

Cabinet were advised that the SPD had been subject to a six week consultation period, which had taken place during November/December 2018. The report advised that, subject to approval, the SPD would be advertised and published, and that the provisions would become effective from the date of the Cabinet decision.

Cabinet noted matters raised by Members present at the meeting, including references to giving consideration to dementia sufferers and the wheelchair users or children in terms of height restriction visibility in the prioritisation of pedestrians, maximising benefits of tree-replanting through multiple replacement planting, on street parking electric car charging, the inclusion of litter and recycling bins and ensuring the compatibility of road use for different modes of transport. It was requested that Planning Services be asked to give consideration to the matters raised and their potential inclusion within the document.

RESOLVED - That approval be given for the adoption of the Highway Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document and that officers be delegated authority to consider the suggested modifications presented at the meeting for inclusion within the document.

- 68 Kirklees Permit Scheme for Managing Streets Works**
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Lawson).

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Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out changes in the Department of Transport's approach to street works, and sought approval for modification to the existing permit scheme in order to adopt an all streets permit scheme. The report advised that the existing permit scheme applied to the busiest 20% of road network within Kirklees and that there was now a requirement to extend the permit scheme to apply to all adopted roads in Kirklees. The considered report explained how the process would be undertaken, and the implications for the Council and road users.

Cabinet were advised that, subject to approval, a formal consultation process with key stakeholders of the permit scheme, such as utility companies and the Department for Transport would take place, and that during autumn 2019, comments would be sought on the revised permit scheme proposal, the draft permit scheme document and the changes to the process, prior to the implementation of the proposal by 1 April 2020.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That approval be given to the implementation and operation of the permit all streets scheme.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Economy and Infrastructure), in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, to implement the fee structure in compliance with the statutory guidance for highway authority permit schemes.
- (3) That the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) be authorised to prepare the Local Order and execute and affix the Corporate Common seal of the Council.

69 New Street & Cloth Hall Street Public Realm

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval for the detailed design of improvements to the public realm at New Street and Cloth Hall Street. The report advised that the improvement of New Street at Ramsden Street to Cloth Hall Street, Cloth Hall Street and Market Place had been identified within the Huddersfield Town Centre Blueprint and were considered to be strategically important to the regeneration of the town centre. Cabinet were asked to approve funding for the development and delivery of the improvements.

Cabinet were informed that the improvements would be developed with a holistic approach and the engagement of stakeholders to provide a high quality and safe public environment, as a high quality public realm was identified as a core component of the ambition for the town centre. The aims of the improvements were listed within the report and included encouraging retail activity and the provision of contemporary seating, street furniture, lighting and paving. A copy of the indicative New Street Scheme was appended to the considered report.

Cabinet welcomed the report and the benefits which the scheme would deliver to the town centre, and endorsed progression to the detailed design stage.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to £5.25m capital funding to enable improvements to New Street and Cloth Hall Street, Huddersfield.

70 Council Budget Strategy Update 2020 to 2023 Revenue & 2020 to 2025 Capital
(Cabinet noted the restrictions on voting on this item, in accordance with provisions of Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992)

Cabinet received a report which set out a provisional budget strategy, which provided a budget planning framework to consider subsequent budget proposals that would deliver a balanced revenue budget for the following financial year 2020/2021 and indicative funding and spending forecasts for the following two years. The report also set out a framework for an updated multi-year capital plan, 2020 to 2025. Cabinet noted the impact of the local and national context, funding and spending plan assumptions and budget forecasts, as detailed within the considered report.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the funding and spend assumptions informing the updated budget forecasts, as set out in section 2 of the considered report, be noted.
- (2) That the current and forecast earmarked reserves and general balances, as set out at Appendix B, be noted.
- (3) That the existing 2019-2024 capital budget plans rolled forward, as set out at Appendix D, be noted.
- (4) That the corporate budget timetable and approach, as set out at Appendix F, be noted.
- (5) That the report be submitted to Council on 16 October 2019 with a recommendation;
 - (i) That approval be given to the updated baseline general fund revenue and Housing Revenue Account budget spending control totals over the 2020 - 2023 period, as set out at Appendix A (general fund) and Appendix C (HRA) of the considered report.
 - (ii) That approval be given to the budget planning framework, as set out in the considered report.
 - (iii) That approval be given to the budget consultation approach and timetable, as set out within the considered report.