

Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 11th October 2022

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Will Simpson
Councillor Graham Turner

In attendance: Councillor Bill Armer
Councillor Andrew Cooper

74 Membership of Cabinet

All Cabinet Members were present.

75 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

76 Minutes of Previous Meetings

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 5 September and 21 September 2022 be approved as a correct record.

77 Admission of the Public

It was noted that exempt information was submitted in relation to Agenda Items 16 and 17 (Minute No.s 89 and 90 refer).

78 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

79 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

80 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Cabinet received the following oral questions under the provision of Executive Procedure Rule 2.3;

Question from Councillor Cooper

“Is Kirklees Council putting forward any areas to the Combined Authority for consideration as Investment Zones?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Cooper

“At a previous meeting of the Cabinet, I referred you to Armitage Bridge where we had a commitment from highways to do traffic calming there about three years ago. What did you do when I brought this up at Cabinet, because it’s been dragging on a long time, and I’ve been raising it at different levels trying to get answers which is incredibly frustrating?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor N Mather).

81 Kirklees Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise) Investment Strategy and 'We are Working Alongside' Shared Values

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of the Kirklees Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Investment Strategy (VCSE) and ‘We are Working Alongside’ shared values.

Cabinet noted that the development of the strategy took place alongside VCSE organisations, council teams and health partners to examine ways in which to work better together. The main lines of enquiry were focussed on (i) more than just funding, (ii) commissioning and grants, (iii) community asset transfers, (iv) social enterprises, (v) access to specialist support and skills sharing and (vi) working with local business.

Cabinet was advised that the strategy was underpinned by the ‘We are Working Alongside’ shared values, which was the way in which VCSE organisations, Kirklees Council and Health partners wanted to work together to make local places even better.

The report identified that the VCSE investment strategy proposed three overlapping priorities, with an action plan and measure of success to support the sector being (i) invest to build trust and transparency, (ii) invest in whoever is best placed to provide the service or support and (iii) invest to increase VCSE capacity and resilience.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the VCSE Investment Strategy and ‘We are Working Alongside’ shared values.

82 Food Safety Service Plan 2022

Cabinet considered the 2022 Food Safety Service Plan which had been produced in accordance with the expectations of the Food Standards Agency (FSA) as contained in the Food Law Code of Practice.

Cabinet was advised that the FSA was proactive in setting and monitoring standards and audited local authorities’ enforcement activities, with the Food Safety Service

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Plans seen as an important part of ensuring national priorities and standards were delivered locally.

The report outlined that the Food Safety Service Plan had been influenced by the FSA Recovery Plan, which identified minimum requirements for local authority food safety teams to meet, following the cessation of routine official controls during the Covid-19 pandemic.

It was noted that the Food Safety Service Plan would be reviewed in late spring 2023 to further assess compliance with the FSA Recover Plan and to review the priorities within the 2022 plan to determine whether these had been met and what new priorities would need to be set.

RESOLVED – That the Food Safety Service Plan 2022 be approved and adopted.

83 **Proposals for Additional Household Support in 2022/23**

Cabinet gave consideration to proposals to provide support for households in 2022/23 in accordance with funding and associated guidance issued by the Government.

Cabinet was informed that to address the Cost-of-Living Crisis, the Government had extended the household support fund delivered by £0.5 billion for 2022/23. Although the Councils share was unknown at the time of the report, Kirklees' share of the previous round of funding was £3.702 million. The fund was intended to support vulnerable people with payments and grants such as vouchers to help meet daily needs such as food, clothing, and utilities.

The report advised that draft guidance had been received from the Government with a requirement that every authority should have an application process so that individuals could make their needs known and receive appropriate support. Approval was being sought to provide targeted support that would supplement that already provided.

The report sought approval for specific grant funding to establish a further five food distribution hubs in collaboration with The Bread & Butter Thing, noting that funding did not come from the Household Support Fund but had become available as part of the Councils' Local Welfare Provision Scheme.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That in relation to households with children, (i) to explore making an award to families entitled to Free School Meals a one-off Cost of Living Payment of £50 per child, by way of a voucher rather than free school meal support, before Christmas 2022 with a cost in the region of £925,000, (ii) to explore whether Council Tax Reduction data could be used to identify households with children that are not of school age, to include those in the cost of living payment, and (iii) the value of that payment be decided with reference to volumes and those entitled through the mechanism identified in (i).
- 2) That in relation to all households, the remaining balance be utilised (i) by working with relevant partners, stakeholders, and 3rd sector organisations

and (ii) by applications for support via Local Welfare Provision, assessed on a case-by-case basis to support families and individuals in need.

- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Corporate Strategy, Commissioning and Public Health) and Service Director (Children's Services) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder (Corporate), Portfolio Holder (Learning, Aspiration and Communities) and Service Director (Finance) to agree the mechanism for how the remaining balance be used working the relevant partners, stakeholders, and 3rd sector organisations in accordance with the grant funding guidance.
- 4) That in relation to The Bread & Butter Thing, approval be given to spend c£125,000 from the Local Welfare Provision budget by way of a one-off grant to establish five further The Bread & Butter Thing hubs.

84 2022/23 - 2023/24 Corporate Landlord Asset Investment Capital Plans - Proposed Allocation of Capital Funding

Cabinet considered a report which outlined the themes of funding to be funded from the 2022/23 and 2023/24 Corporate Landlord Asset Investment, Compliance and Sustainability baseline programmes in the Council's Capital Plan plus the Sustainability of Huddersfield Town Hall Programme line.

Cabinet noted that the funding streams were contained in the Five-Year Capital Plan which was approved by Council on 16 February 2022. The baseline programmes and the broad themes of investment were appended to the report, and approval was sought to delegate officers to manage the programmes so that priority programmes could be identified, designed, and delivered.

The report advised Cabinet of budget pressures on the 2023/24 programme and Cabinet was asked to approve the re-profiling of the Corporate Landlord Asset Investment Five Year Capital Plan to bring funding forward from future years.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the themes of work for 2022/23 – 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix A of the considered report.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Development) to manage the implementation of the programme areas within the respective agreed total programme budgets and to (i) add or delete projects from the programmes, providing that the total cost of the programmes remain within the approval capital allocations, (ii) transfer resources between the Corporate Landlord programmes without restrictions to enable efficient delivery of projects, (iii) slip, delete or reallocate budget between projects during the course of the two financial years providing that the total cost of the programmes remain within the approved capital allocation set by Council to enable the effective management of the programmes concerned over the two-year period.
- 3) That approval be given to the virement of £275,000 in capital funding from the Strategic Priorities Dewsbury Sports Centre budget to the Corporate Landlord Asset Investment budget.
- 4) That authority be delegated to officers to identify, design, tender and implement the delivery of projects aligned with the work themes as identified in Appendix A of the considered report.

- 5) That approval be given to the proposed re-profiling of the Corporate Landlord Asset investment Baseline Five Year Capital Plan to bring funding forward from future years as described (paragraph 2.12 of the report refers) to enable the 2023/24 proposed programme to be delivered.

85 UK Shared Prosperity Fund

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received a representation from Councillor A Cooper).

Cabinet received a report which set out proposals for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), the Government's replacement for the European Structural and Investment Funds, to be managed in West Yorkshire.

The Cabinet was advised that the proposals included allocating a package of UKSPF funding from the Mayoral Combined Authority to the five West Yorkshire local authorities to deliver local communities and place and business initiatives, and for the delivery of the Multiply adult numeracy programme. The report also sought approval to receive and act as accountable body to the West Yorkshire for these funds; to approve the Kirklees UKSPF and Multiply programmes with the necessary delegations to officers to deliver.

The report explained that Delivery would involve a balance of West Yorkshire-wide initiatives and local UKSPF programmes commissioned through local authorities with funded devolved from the Combined Authority. £5.824m of UKSPF funding would be allocated to Kirklees Council to support local delivery, along with an additional £790,000 to deliver the Multiply adult numeracy programme.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the delivery of the Kirklees UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) programme.
- 2) That approval be given to accept external funding of £5,824,858 from the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) to support delivery of the Kirklees UKSPF programme, and for the Council to act as Accountable Body for the grant, subject to final approval by the Government and WYCA.
- 3) That approval be given to accept external funding of £790,231 from WYCA to support delivery of the Kirklees Multiply programme, and for the Council to act as Accountable Body for the grant, subject to final approval by WYCA.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) and the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to finalise and execute all necessary agreements with WYCA and the Council's project delivery partners and to put in place the necessary governance arrangements for the local UKSPF and Multiply programmes.
- 5) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) and Strategic Director (Adults and Health) to implement the Kirklees UKSPF programme, including the commencement and award of any related procurement exercises.

- 6) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to implement the Kirklees Multiply programme, including the commencement and award of any related procurement exercises.
- 7) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) and the Service Director (Finance) to submit grant claims and to undertake related project monitoring and reporting.

86 The refurbishment and redevelopment of the George in Huddersfield Town Centre to transform this building into a new hotel as part of the Huddersfield Blueprint

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received a representation from Councillor A Cooper).

Cabinet considered a report which sought approval to support the redevelopment of the George Hotel site as a 91 bed hotel with associated food and beverage offer. The report highlighted that the George remained one of the key Blueprint projects. Its renovation and re-use as a quality hotel would be a mark of the progress being made to change the town centre and would be a significant confidence boost for other potential investors in the town.

Cabinet was advised that approval was sought to enter into a Hotel Management Agreement (HMA) and any other ancillary formal legal documentation with the hotel operator Radisson Hotel Group utilising the Radisson Red brand and authority for officers to explore options as regards to the commercial structure of the hotel ownership.

Cabinet noted that approval was sought for capital allocation of £20,205,000 and to authorise officers to prepare and submit any necessary planning and listed building consent applications for the hotel development as outlined in the report, and for officers to be authorised to undertake the necessary procurement exercise to appoint a construction contractor to deliver the hotel in accordance with the agreed programme set out at Appendix H of the report.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the redevelopment of the George Hotel site as a hotel with an associated food and beverage offer.
- 2) That in relation to the hotel operator, approval be given to the preferred hotel operator - Radisson Hotel Group, utilising the Radisson Red brand, to be appointed to operate the hotel once all the necessary agreements are in place.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) and Service Director (Finance) to progress and conclude detailed negotiations with the recommended preferred hotel operator and to authorise the Service Director (Legal Governance and Commissioning) to enter into the Hotel Management Agreement (HMA) and any other ancillary formal legal documentation on behalf of the Council.
- 4) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration), Service Director (Finance), and Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to explore and agree the preferred option

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relating to the potential commercial structure of the hotel ownership which could include a Special Purpose Vehicle (section 2.9 of the report refers), noting that this would be an alternative to the Council entering into the HMA directly with the preferred hotel operator.

- 5) That in relation to the cost, design and construction, approval be given to the capital allocation of up to £20,205,000 (section 2.11 of the report refers) and to make this available in the Capital Plan to deliver the project to completion.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) in conjunction with the Service Director (Finance) to apportion further funds, if required, of up to 10% over the pre-tender estimate.
- 7) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Development), in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder (Regeneration), to agree the final design of the hotel.
- 8) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Development) to prepare and submit any necessary planning, listed building consent applications and any other statutory consents required to ensure delivery of the hotel development.
- 9) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Development) to undertake the necessary procurement exercise to award the building contract to deliver the hotel project, subject to planning, HMA and other necessary consents being in place.

87 **Fieldhouse, 15, Wellington Road Dewsbury - Grant offer to Mood Developments Limited/Station Apartments Limited**

Cabinet received a report which sought grant support for the Fieldhouse project.

Cabinet noted that Fieldhouse was a 4 storey Grade 2 listed building being part of a group of individual listed buildings that faced Dewsbury ring road and towards Dewsbury Railway station. It occupied a prominent position and was within the Dewsbury Town Centre Conservation Area, the Dewsbury Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) and the HAZ priority Area.

The report advised that Mood Developments purchased the building in 2018 to produce a high-quality conversion of the grade 2 listed building into 23 apartments and commercial space. The commercial uses would occupy part of the ground floor and the basement, while the residential was part of the ground floor, the 3 upper floors plus an additional floor at the top of the building, within a new mansard roof.

Cabinet was advised that due to a combination of the abnormal costs of converting a listed building and relatively low property values compared to construction costs, the project was not commercially viable without grant support.

RESOLVED -

- 1) That approval be given to a grant to Mood Development Limited (and/or its subsidiary company) of £2.83m towards the Fieldhouse project (appendix 6 of the report refers) and for officers to publish details of the subsidy on the national transparency database.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) in conjunction with the Service Director (Legal, Governance

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and Commissioning) to agree and complete the grant agreement and other documentation necessary to enable the project to proceed.

- 3) That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder responsible for Dewsbury Town Centre, the ability to vary the amount of grant in line with the conditions set out (paragraph 1.6 of appendix 6 of the report refers) and to be subject to the funds being found from within the existing Dewsbury Town Centre Action Plan programme resources.

88 **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 items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

89 **Fieldhouse, 15, Wellington Road Dewsbury - Grant offer to Mood Developments Limited/Station Apartments Limited**

(Exempt information in accordance with Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely it contains information relating to the financial and business affairs of third parties (including the Authority holding that information). It is considered that the disclosure of the information would adversely affect those third parties including the Authority and therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption, which would protect the rights of an individual or the Authority, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness and transparency in relation to public expenditure in the Authority's decision making.)

The exempt information was noted prior to the consideration of Agenda Item 14 (Minute No. 87 refers).

90 **The refurbishment and redevelopment of the George in Huddersfield Town Centre to transform this building into a new hotel as part of the Huddersfield Blueprint**

(Exempt information in accordance with Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, namely it contains information relating to the financial and business affairs of third parties (including the Authority holding that information). It is considered that the disclosure of the information would adversely affect those third parties including the Authority and therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption, which would protect the rights of an individual or the Authority, outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information and providing greater openness and transparency in relation to public expenditure in the Authority's decision making.)

The exempt information was noted prior to the consideration of Agenda Item 13 (Minute No. 86 refers).