

Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 14th February 2023

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Eric Firth
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Carole Pattison
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Martyn Bolt
Councillor David Hall
Councillor John Lawson

Apologies: Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Will Simpson

144 Membership of Cabinet

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Cathy Scott, Councillor Musarrat Khan and Councillor Will Simpson.

145 Minutes of Previous Meetings

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 21 December 2022 and 17 January 2023 be approved as a correct record.

146 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

147 Admission of the Public

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

148 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

149 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

150 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Under Executive Procedure Rule 2.3, Cabinet received the following questions;

Question from Councillor Bolt

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“We have been told that the Council only knew of the proposed temporary closures of pools by Kirklees Active Leisure a week before it took place. However, I have been informed that the Council knew some time before this, and that following a discussion with officers, KAL took the decision to remove Dewsbury Sports Centre from the list of temporary closures. Can I ask when the decision was taken to close Batley and Slaithwaite instead of Dewsbury?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor David Hall

“My question is not about the decision, but about the manner in which the decision was taken. We have been told that KAL had a discussion with the Council. Which officers were having these discussions with KAL?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor Bolt

“I’m looking forward to the detailed response we will be given regarding the temporary closures at KAL. Will it include a timeline of what took place between KAL and Cabinet?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor John Lawson

“I recently met with residents at Oakenshaw regarding the cross that has been removed for repair. When will residents see action being taken on the replacement of the cross?”

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

Question from Councillor Bolt

“We have been told that the replacement of Oakenshaw cross is not taking place due to safety concerns. Can the safety audit that was used to provide this advice be made available to the public, and did the audit include a Swept Path Analysis?”

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

Question from Councillor David Hall

“How much of the in year savings of £34m that we were told about in November have been averted by actions been taken since then?”

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A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services (Councillor P Davies).

Question from Councillor John Lawson

“In relation to the Oakenshaw Cross, can the archaeological site report that the Council commissioned be made available to the public, or at least to ward councillors so that we can understand how important the site is archaeologically?”

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

Question from Councillor Bolt

“Where officers are procuring legal advice to inform a decision, such as Northorpe Lane in Mirfield or the Amazon site in Cleckheaton why is this advice not contained within the planning report, and why isn't it made available to elected members and the public who are making representations about the decisions? Why is it that members of the Planning Committee who request that legal advice are told that they should take it on trust that it has been read and the precis they have been given is correct?”

A response was provided by the Leader of the Council.

Question from Councillor John Lawson

“At a previous Cabinet, I asked a question about the Huddersfield Market bid and if there was a plan B should that bid be unsuccessful. Do we have a plan B in view?”

A response was provided by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration (Councillor Graham Turner).

Question from Councillor Bolt

“At the last Council meeting, questions were asked of Cllr Sokhal as the appointed representative of Council on KAL. He is appointed by the Council, not KAL, as the spokesperson. Cllr Sokhal's advice from KAL was that he could not comment on any matters relating to KAL. What is the point of having a spokesperson, appointed by Kirklees Council, who cannot speak on the subject on which he is appointed?”

151 Admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools in 2024/25

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought to determine admission arrangements for all Kirklees Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2024-2025 year. It was noted that arrangements needed to be determined by 28 February 2023, in order to comply with the requirements of the Schools Admission Code.

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Cabinet noted that a small number of proposed changes to the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools had been consulted upon and those changes could be found at section 2.4 of the considered report.

The report advised that there were no proposed changes to the co-ordinated admission schemes for 2024-2025 and confirmed the outcome of the statutory consultation process that had taken place between 11 November 2022 and 23 December 2022. Appendices to the report set out (i) how the published admission numbers were derived (ii) the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2024-2025 and (iii) the published admission numbers for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2024-2025.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the Kirklees co-ordinated admission schemes for 2024/25 including in year admissions as outlined in Appendix 2, be approved.
- 2) That the admission arrangements for Kirklees community and voluntary controlled schools as set out at Appendix 1C be approved.
- 3) That approval be given to amend the PAN's for each community and voluntary controlled school as outlined in Appendix 1D to include (i) Westmoor Primary School PAN to increase from 45 to 60 in 2024/25, (ii) Oak CE (VC) Primary School PAN to decrease from 120 to 60 in 2524/25, (iii) Netherhall St James C of E (VC) I & N Schools PAN to decrease from 90 to 55 in 2024/25 and (iv) Netherhall Learning Campus Junior School PAN to decrease from 90 to 75 in 2024/25.
- 4) That approval be given to amend the admission limits for community and voluntary controlled schools as noted in Appendix 1D to include (i) St John's CE (C) Primary School's admission limit be 30 from 1 March 2023 for year groups 1 to 6, (ii) Westmoor Primary School's admission limit be 60 from 1 March 2023 for year groups 1 to 6 and (iii) and Oak CE (VC) Primary's admission limit be 60 from 1 March 2023 for year groups 1 to 6.