

Contact Officer: Yolande Myers

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 11th July 2023

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

Observers: Councillor Bill Armer

17 Membership of Cabinet

All Cabinet Members were present.

18 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

19 Admission of the Public

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

20 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

21 Questions by Members of the Public

No questions were asked.

22 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)

Under the provision of Executive Procedure Rule 2.3, Cabinet received the following questions:

Question from Cllr Armer

“I have been contacted by residents about a claimed path at Farnley Bank in Farnley Tyas, which is being investigated by Public Rights of Way Office being received on 4 April 2019. The Secretary of State for DEFRA has since issued a Direction 13 requiring that the application be determined by 12 August 2021. The matter is still showing as under investigation, and I would ask when this investigation will be concluded, and a decision made?”

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

23 NHS England Digital Social Care Project - Grant Scheme

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which gave an update on the work around externally funded digital social care work.

Cabinet noted that a significant amount of work had been undertaken to research and support the local adult social care market around digital technology and the deployment of digital record systems. Local care providers had ambitions to move to a digital record system and the funding proposed enabled that initial investment to be made using external funds.

The report outlined the two key proposals being (i) the grant funding of £79k to KirCA to continue to externally fund the engagement resources to support the project, administering any additional grant obtained from NHS / WYICB until 31 March 2025 and (ii) to issue grants to CQC registered care providers under the Digital Social Care NHS England grant programme until 31 March 2025.

Cabinet was advised that the rationale for externally funding KirCA as a delivery and engagement resource was that it built on aspirations to support the development of the association. The team that had developed during year one of the project was highly skilled at advising and supporting the sector in selecting an effective digital solution and supported connections for peer support between care providers.

Cabinet noted that once approval for the approach was given, the scheme would be opened up to applications using previous application and evaluation templates. Grant agreements between Kirklees Council and care providers would be updated to reflect changes introduced by the Subsidy Control Act 2022 and associated regulations.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the work undertaken to develop digital care solutions in the local care provider market be noted.
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Service Director Mental Health & Learning Disabilities to administer an NHS West Yorkshire ICB / NHSE funded grant of up to £79k to Kirklees Care Association for based engagement staff, associated project and management costs, and to administer any additional grant obtained from NHSE / WYICB until 31 March 2025.
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director Mental Health & Learning Disabilities to administer an NHS West Yorkshire ICB / NHSE funded grant scheme of up to £126k to fund CQC registered locations for eligible applicant provider organisations and to administer any additional grant obtained from NHSE / WYICB until 31 March 2025.

24 Our Council Plan - July 2023 (Reference to Council)

Cabinet considered 'Our Council Plan' which provided an extension to the existing 2021 – 2023 Council Plan.

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Cabinet noted that the plan set out the ongoing commitment to the vision and shared outcomes and provided an update in the context of the economic and financial challenges facing the Council and the borough. The Plan set out the Council's current priorities and would be updated again in January 2024.

The report advised that priorities within the Council Plan set out what was most important to achieve and had been developed because of the current economic and financial challenges facing the Council and its citizens, communities, and partners. The update (provided at Appendix 1) was shorter than normal iterations, to provide more time to allow for the development of more detailed information about the priorities and their delivery in the next version of the Plan, which would be presented to Council in January 2024.

Cabinet was informed that Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) were consulted on the approach to developing the Plan, and on the draft contents of the Plan itself, at an informal meeting 6 June 2023. The feedback from OSMC had been considered with points developed in the final version of the plan.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the report be referred to Council on 12 July with a recommendation that the Council Plan be adopted and included in the Policy Framework for the Council, setting the overarching strategic direction for the services and activities relating to the business of the Council. (The Plan was attached at Appendix 1)
- 2) That any required amendments arising out of the consideration of the report at the meeting of Council be delegated to the Service Director, Strategy and Innovation, in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

25 Food Safety Service Plan 2023

Cabinet gave consideration to the food Safety Plan 2023, which was a requirement of the Food Law Code of Practice, and was appended to the considered report.

The report advised that the plan had been influenced by the Food Standards Agency's (FSA) recovery plan which identified minimum requirements to be met in relation to the recovery of food hygiene inspection programmes as a result of the pandemic. The pandemic had resulted in the cessation of undertaking routine official controls, except in certain circumstances, resulting in a significant backlog of inspections.

Cabinet noted that the FSA would be auditing the Council against regulatory responsibilities in September 2023 and part of these responsibilities was to have the Food Safety Plan in place.

RESOLVED – That the Food Safety Plan 2023 be adopted, and officers be directed to publish the plan on the Council's website.

26 Statutory Health and Safety service plan 22-23

Cabinet gave consideration to the Statutory Health and Safety service plan 2022-23 which was appended to the considered report.

The report provided details on the function and activity of the Health and Safety Team within Environmental Health, and detailed activity from April 2022 in addition to the priorities for the following 12 months until March 2024.

Cabinet was advised that the service plan outlined the previous year's performance outcomes supplied annually to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) which was then analysed by the HSE to determine if the Council was meeting the legal requirements of the National Local Authority Enforcement Code.

Cabinet noted that the 2022-3 priority to pro-actively visit warehouses addressed the national risks of workplace transport, working at height and manual handling, and 50 large volume warehouses within Kirklees warranted the intervention.

RESOLVED – That the Health and Safety Service Plan 2022-23 be adopted.