

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Present: Councillor Cathy Scott (Chair)
Councillor Aafaq Butt
Councillor Moses Crook
Councillor Paul Davies
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Jackie Ramsay
Councillor Elizabeth Reynolds
Councillor Graham Turner

Observers: Councillor Alison Munro

- 119 Membership of Cabinet**
Councillor Pervaiz was absent from the meeting.
- 120 Declaration of Interests**
No interests were declared.
- 121 Minutes of Previous Meetings**
RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 12 December 2023 and 21 December 2023 be approved as a correct record.
- 122 Admission of the Public**
It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.
- 123 Deputations/Petitions**
No deputations or petitions were received.
- 124 Questions by Members of the Public**
No questions were asked.
- 125 Questions by Elected Members (Oral Questions)**
No questions were asked.
- 126 Kirklees Major Transport Schemes; West Yorkshire Transport Fund (WYTF) and City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) Programmes**
Cabinet received a report which (i) provided a progress update on the delivery of the West Yorkshire Transport Fund (WYTF) and City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement Programmes in Kirklees (ii) set out a new funding strategy and requested the reprofiling of the West Yorkshire Transport Fund Programme in order

Cabinet - 23 January 2024

to ensure schemes remain deliverable and (iii) sought authority to progress the schemes as detailed in the report.

The report set out (i) information on the funding position and a summary of main funding streams (ii) an overview of the West Yorkshire Transport Fund, Transforming Cities Fund and City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement (iii) previous programme reviews (iv) current funding gaps (v) the proposed funding strategy for the West Yorkshire Transport Fund, Transforming Cities Fund and City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement Programme and (vi) requested authorisations in regards to the Holmfirth Town Centre Action Plan and Huddersfield Southern Corridors.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the update on projects as highlighted in the report, including the outcomes of the previous inflation review, as set out in paragraph 2.3, be noted.
- 2) That approval be given to the phasing of Cooper Bridge and that a request be made to WYCA for the virement of £21.6m allocated to the Cooper Bridge Scheme to other WYTF Kirklees Schemes in order to allow key transport infrastructure works to progress improvements more widely across the district.
- 3) That it be noted that a Phase 1 Cooper Bridge Scheme with a significantly reduced budget of £53.5m will need to achieve a satisfactory business case in order to proceed.
- 4) That the changes to the Holmfirth Town Centre project, as set out at paragraph 2.7.1 of the report, be noted to support the submission of any necessary business case to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to secure funding, and to delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Growth and Regeneration to award contracts to facilitate delivery on Holmfirth Town Centre Action Plan once all funding has been secured.
- 5) That the changes to the Huddersfield Southern Corridors project at paragraph 2.7.2 of the report be noted, supporting the submission of any necessary business case(s) to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to secure funding and to delegate authority to the Strategic Director (Growth and Regeneration) to award contracts to facilitate delivery on Huddersfield Southern Corridors Project once all funding has been secured.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Service Director (Legal, Governance and Commissioning) to enter into any funding agreements and ancillary contracts on the Council's behalf with West Yorkshire Combined Authority (paragraphs 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 refer).

127 Damp, Mould and Condensation

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on damp, mould and condensation in Council homes as at the end of October 2023 and information on the delivery of changes to achieve an improved approach. The report advised that the Council had been in regular contact with the Regulator of Social Housing and that a rapid review of the Council's approach to damp, mould and condensation had been undertaken in late 2022.

Cabinet - 23 January 2024

Paragraph 2 of the report set out the progress that had been made to date and it was noted that, since the end of 2022, 1,606 cases had been resolved and closed. As at the end of October 2023, there were 1604 open cases, none of which had identified any 1 or 2 HHSRS hazards. The report provided a breakdown of the open cases by type and timescales for completion. Cabinet were asked to note the report and it was noted that further updates would be provided.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the content of the report and the status of the delivery of services to residents in relation to damp, mould and condensation be noted.
- 2) That it be noted that there will be further regular updates (i) on progress with the design and delivery of changes to the approach to damp, mould and condensation and (ii) on damp, mould and condensation in residents' homes.

128

Disposal of Open Space at Fenay Lane, Almondbury, Huddersfield

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

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out details of objections received as a result of advertising the Council's intention to dispose of open space at Fenay Lane, Almondbury, and sought authority to proceed with the intended disposal of open space.

The report advised that site at Fenay Lane was a Council owned site which was allocated for housing in the Local Plan and was included in the Council's Housing Delivery Plan. The site was illustrated at Appendix 1 of the report. Cabinet were advised that notices pertaining to the disposal of the open space were published on 18 and 25 October 2023, and that 49 objections, totalling 84 signatories, were received by the deadline of 8 November 2023. The report indicated that the majority of the objections related to the principle of housing development on the site and the impact of the housing. A breakdown of the matters raised was set out at paragraph 2.1 of the report, along with an Officer narrative in response.

The report set out a proposed timescale for the development of the site, subject to the objections being overruled.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the objections to the disposal of open space at Fenay Lane, Almondbury, be noted.
- 2) That approval be given to the disposal of open space at Fenay Lane, Almondbury, to enable the development of the site.
- 3) That it be noted that there would be an opportunity for public comment on the development proposals as part of the statutory planning process.

129 Kirklees School Funding Arrangements for Financial Year 2024-25

Cabinet received a report which set out the proposed Dedicated Schools Grant funding arrangements for 2024/2025 in regard to (i) Schools (ii) Central Schools and Services Block (iii) High Needs and (iv) Early Years. It was noted that the proposals would form part of the formal submission to the Education and Skills Funding Agency in January 2024.

The report set out the arrangements that had been consulted upon with the School Forum and other constituent groups for the funding of local schools and academies and requested that Cabinet approve (i) the specific funding factors to be used and the relative weightings and values of the funding factors (ii) central budget provision within the Dedicated Schools Grant Schools Block of funding, the Central School Services Block and the Early Years Block and (iii) de-delegation arrangements for mainstream maintained schools.

Cabinet were advised that the deadline for the submission of school funding arrangements to the Education Schools Funding Agency was 22 January 2024. It was expected that the Local Authority would inform maintained schools of their budget share by 29 February 2024, and that academies would be informed of their allocations by the Education Schools Funding Agency by 31 March 2024.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That the disapplication request that has made to the ESFA and subsequently approved.
- 2) That the ESFA approved exceptions application be noted.
- 3) That the decisions made by the Schools Forum in terms of central budgets, de-delegated budgets and a fund for significant growth for 2024/2025, as detailed in the report and appendices, be noted.
- 4) That approval be given to the Schools Forum's recommendations following the consultative process undertaken in collaboration with Head Teachers, through the Schools Forum, to determine the ongoing local approach to the distribution of DSG Schools Block funding for 2024/2025.
- 5) That approval be given to the submission of the schools funding formula to the ESFA for 2024/2025.
- 6) That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member (Children's Services), in consultation with the Strategic Director (Children's Services), to take account of the outcomes of the provider consultation, the views of the Early Years Reference Group and Schools Forum, and to make a decision on the Early Years local funding formula 2024/2025 and implementation of the preferred SENDIF funding options.

130 Kirklees and Calderdale School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) Proposal to Enter into a Strategic Partnership from August 2024

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought agreement that authority be delegated for the Kirklees and Calderdale School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) proposal to enter into a strategic partnership from August 2024. The report explained that a decision had been made by the Department for Education not to reaccredit Kirklees and Calderdale School Centred Initial Teacher Training for the

Cabinet - 23 January 2024

delivery of initial teacher training, leading to a qualified teacher status, with effect from August 2024. Cabinet noted two options as outlined in the report; (i) to cease the Kirklees and Calderdale School Centred Initial Teacher Training provision from August 2024 or (ii) to enter into a formal partnership with another accredited partner so that provision of the course can continue from September 2024. It was proposed that option (ii) be endorsed and the report set out information with regards to staffing, resource, finance, premises, governance, reputation and Ofsted grading.

The report advised that, subject to approval, the partnership would be negotiated and signed and that the Department for education would be notified of the partnership with the accredited partner during Spring 2024 prior to the commencement of recruitment activities and the initial students undertaking the course in September 2024.

RESOLVED –

- 1) That approval be given to the proposal for Kirklees and Calderdale School Centred Initial Teacher Training to delegate authority to enter into a partnership with an accredited initial teacher training provider (as set out at Option B).
- 2) That authority be delegated to the Director of Children's Services to sign the agreement and work with Kirklees and Calderdale School Centred Initial Teacher Training to finalise the arrangements with the identified accredited partner.