

Public

MINUTES of a meeting of the **CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL SERVICES** held on 11 July 2016 at County Hall, Matlock

PRESENT

Cabinet Member – Councillor A Botham

57/16 **MINUTES RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Cabinet Member.

58/16 **CARBON REDUCTION INITIATIVE FUND – PHASE 2 BUS SHELTER LED LIGHTING REPLACEMENT** At the meeting on 3 July 2012, Cabinet approved a £500,000 invest to save fund for energy efficiency and carbon reduction projects. This included the use of £75,510 to install efficient LED lighting in bus shelters across the county. Coupled with maintenance savings, the plan to replace over 1,000 fluorescent tubes in nearly 380 bus shelters aimed to save nearly £24,000 each year and reduce CO₂ emissions by approximately 50 tonnes. This work had been completed and a subsequent feasibility had been undertaken to identify remaining bus shelters lit by inefficient lighting across the county. A further 293 bus shelters with in excess of 600 inefficient fluorescent tubes had now been identified.

This second phase of lighting replacements would cost £58,010 which would result in annual electricity and maintenance cost reductions of £12,000 and reduce CO₂ emissions by 12 tonnes a year as detailed in the appendix to the report.

RESOLVED that approval be given to the use of £11,130 underspend and the additional funding of £46,880 from the Carbon Reduction Initiative Fund to invest in a second phase of LED lighting replacements in bus shelters.

59/16 **ELVASTON CASTLE COUNTRY PARK, CASTLE TOILETS IMPROVEMENTS** The toilets within the castle were the main central toilet facilities in the park and as well as used by park visitors generally, these were used by café users and by other groups using the Gothic Hall, which previously included people attending weddings which were run for a time at the Castle from 1994. These facilities had never been upgraded or refurbished since they were installed in 1970, although repairs had been carried out and decorations were carried out in 1994 following the introduction of a wedding offer in the castle.

The toilets had been the primary source of complaints to park staff (and the café operator) for many years and proposals to upgrade the tired facilities, in parallel with the planned re-introduction of weddings and the re-letting of a new café operation in 2016 were seen as an essential and integral part of both the short and longer term regeneration proposals for the Estate.

RESOLVED that approval be given to fund the Elvaston Castle Toilets Improvement Works from the 2016-17 Corporate Maintenance Budget Planned Maintenance Programme.

60/16 CHILDCARE VOUCHERS The provision of childcare vouchers under the Council's salary sacrifice scheme enabled more women with young children to remain in, or return to, the workplace. The Council was under obligation to continue to provide and pay for the vouchers when an employee was on maternity leave and was no longer in receipt of Occupational Maternity Pay and received Statutory Maternity Pay. The Council currently paid childcare vouchers on behalf of the employee between weeks 18 and 52 (or earlier if they returned to work) of their maternity leave.

However, a recent Employment Appeal Tribunal (EAT) held that it was not discriminatory for an employer that offered childcare vouchers in return for a deduction from pay to cease to offer the vouchers during maternity leave. The EAT concluded that as the vouchers were provided in return for a deduction from pay the childcare vouchers were not a 'benefit' for the purposes of maternity leave legislation and could be stopped during maternity leave.

The 5 counties HR group was approached to determine what action they had taken. It was proposed that the Council maintained their current practice of meeting the cost of the vouchers, when an employee on Maternity leave was in a period of no occupational pay. The current practice was considered to be an important employee benefit at a time of significant financial strain for employees and their families.

RESOLVED that approval be given to (1) continue to provide childcare vouchers once the employee's Occupational Maternity Pay (OMP) had ceased during weeks 18 and 52 of the employee's maternity leave;

(2) extend the benefit to men and women who had opted into a period of Shared Parental leave; and

(3) review the position in 12 months.

61/16 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the agenda to avoid the disclosure of exempt or confidential information.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CONDUCTED AFTER THE PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING

1. To receive declarations of interest (if any)
2. To confirm the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2016
3. To consider the exempt reports of the Strategic Director Corporate Resources on:-
 - a) Buxton Crescent Hotel and Thermal Spa Project – Project Management Services
 - b) Derby and Derbyshire Coroner Area – Temporary Assistant Coroner
 - c) Peak Pedal II Project – White Peak Loop
 - d) Relocation of Children’s Services staff
 - e) Replacement of the Local Exhaust Ventilation System at Corporate Property’s Joinery Facility
 - f) Sale of land
 - g) Provision of First Aid Training – contract extension
(contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information))