

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

10 February 2016

REPORT FROM CABINET

Purpose of the Report

To provide information to the Council on issues considered by the Cabinet at meetings held on 15 December 2015 and 26 January 2016 and to enable Members to ask related questions.

Members may submit questions on the report to the Director of Legal Services by 12 noon on 9 February 2016.

Information and Analysis

15 December 2015

**1. IMPROVEMENT AND SCRUTINY REVIEW ON
RADICALISATION IN SCHOOLS**

Councillor D Charles presented the finding of the Improvement and Scrutiny review on radicalisation in Schools.

Decision

Cabinet (1) received the report; (2) accepted all the recommendations in the report; and (3) noted that as recommendations were implemented, progress would be monitored by the Improvement and Scrutiny Committee – People, at strategic intervals through the completed action plan to be provided to the Committee within two months.

2. COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW 2015

The Chief Executive and the Director of Finance reported on the details of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2015.

Decision

Cabinet noted the report.

3. DERBYSHIRE TRANSFORMATION CHALLENGE AWARD - DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT REVIEW - DEVELOPMENT OF A YOUNG PERSON'S PATHWAY

The Chief Executive informed Cabinet of recent allocations made from the Transformation Challenge Award to support projects on the Disabled Facilities Grant and the development of a Young Person's Pathway.

Decision

Cabinet noted the allocations made to the Disabled Facilities Grant and the Young Person's Pathway.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF A DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

The Strategic Director – Corporate Resources informed Cabinet of the progress so far in establishing the business case for a Development Company for Derbyshire County Council and of the further work to be undertaken; and to seek approval, in principle, to the establishment of a Development Company, subject to the production of a satisfactory business case.

Decision

Cabinet (1) noted the progress achieved to date; (2) approved the aims, objectives and principles set out for the proposed Development Company as described in this report; (3) approved the preparation of a business case by the Innovations Team for the identified pilot sites including the procurement of further external advice as necessary, subject to the appropriate Member approvals; and (4) approved, in principle, the establishment of a Development Company for Derbyshire County Council, subject to the preparation of a satisfactory business case.

5. ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICE

The Director of Public Health sought approval to procure an Oral Health Promotion Service across the County of Derbyshire (excluding Derby City) for three years commencing on 1 April 2017, with an option to extend for two further periods of twelve months.

Decision

Cabinet approved the procurement of an Oral Health Promotion Service across the County of Derbyshire (excluding Derby City), for three

years, commencing on 1 April 2017, with an option to extend for two further periods of twelve months.

6. YOUTH GRANTS 2015

The Strategic Director – Children’s Services informed Cabinet of a proposed new youth grants scheme, administered through YOUTHINC, to support the development of Youth Activities throughout Derbyshire.

Decision

Cabinet (1) approved the development of a new youth grant-giving scheme administered through YOUTHINC; (2) approved the new name for the young people’s grant scheme – ‘Youthinc – We Grant’; and (3) agreed that any underspend in the 2015-16 financial year could be held in an earmarked reserve for use in future financial years.

7. PRE-PAID ACCOUNT SERVICE FOR DIRECT PAYMENT USERS

The Strategic Director – Adult Care sought approval to undertake a procurement exercise for the provision of a pre-paid accounts service for clients in receipt of Direct Payments, by utilising the Surrey County Council’s Framework Agreement.

Decision

Cabinet agreed to undertake a procurement exercise for the provision of pre-paid accounts service for clients in receipt of Direct Payments by utilising the Surrey County Council’s Framework Agreement.

8. ASHBOURNE AIRFIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE EXPANSION

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment requested approval for the County Council to take responsibility for the design, construction and adoption of roads to facilitate the expansion of the Ashbourne Airfield Industrial Estate.

Decision

Cabinet agreed to (1) the County Council procuring design and/or construction resources for the elements of the Ashbourne Airfield Industrial Estate expansion which would subsequently be adopted into the highway; and (2) the addition of the project to the Capital Programme 2015-16.

9. DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PERMIT SCHEME

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment presented a report seeking confirmation of the delegation of authority to make legal orders relating to the County Council's Permit Scheme.

Decision

Cabinet confirmed delegation of authorisation to make orders relating to the Permit Scheme to the Director of Legal Services, noting that it would receive reports relating to any material changes.

10. PROCUREMENT OF THE NEW REPLACEMENT VEHICLE FLEET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment sought approval to advertise a tender for the procurement of a replacement Vehicle Fleet Management System and to appoint a temporary Project Officer to implement the new solution.

Decision

Cabinet (1) approved the commencement of a procurement exercise for the procurement of a replacement Vehicle Management System; (2) supported the appointment of a temporary Project Officer for a fixed term of twelve months; and (3) noted that a further report, containing revised costs, be presented to Cabinet following tender evaluation.

11. PAY AND DISPLAY AT WILLINGTON PICNIC SITE – COMMENTS RECEIVED FOLLOWING THE PUBLICATION OF THE DRAFT LEGAL ORDER

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment informed Cabinet of the results of the consultation exercise regarding the making of legal orders covering the Willington Picnic site car park and to approve a charging system, the improvement of the car park and the addition of the work to the Capital Programme 2015-16.

Decision

Cabinet (1) approved the principle of introducing charging for parking at Willington Picnic Site Car Park, subject to further consultation on the specific issue in recommendation (2) below; (2) that, in view of the comments received during the consultation process, agreed that consultation and other procedures for modifying the proposed Off-Street Parking Places Amendment Order under Sections 32 and 35 of the Road

Traffic Regulation Act 1984, covering the first hour free parking and non-return period, be commenced and the results brought to a future Cabinet meeting; and (3) approved the addition of the work to the 2015-16 Capital Programme.

12. DERBYSHIRE CYCLING PLAN

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment informed Cabinet of the results of the consultation exercise regarding the Derbyshire Cycling Plan.

Decision

Cabinet (1) noted the outcome of the public consultation; (2) noted that a report recommending the County Council's action was likely to be brought to Cabinet in early 2016; and (3) approved that the Cycling Plan be reported to the Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity for adoption by relevant Derbyshire partners.

26 January 2016

13. BUDGET MONITORING 2015-16

The Director of Finance provided Cabinet with details of the Revenue Budget position for 2015-16 as at 31 October 2015.

Decision

Cabinet noted the 2015-16 budget monitoring position as at 31 October 2015.

14. CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING TO MONTH 7 2015-16

The Director of Finance provided Cabinet with details of the latest budget monitoring position for open capital schemes.

Decision

Cabinet noted the current position on the monitoring of Capital schemes.

15. RESERVES POSITION

The Director of Finance provided Cabinet with details of the current and forecast positions for both General and Earmarked Reserves and to approve the Reserves Policy.

Decision

Cabinet (1) noted the current position on General and Earmarked Reserves; (2) approved the Reserves Policy; and (3) approved the creation of the following Earmarked Reserves:

- Budget Management - £12.500m
- Community Priorities - £4.000m
- Broadband - £2.190m
- Uninsured financial loss - £13.000m

16. BUDGET CONSULTATION RESULTS

The Chief Executive and the Director of Finance reported on the outcome of Council's budget consultation exercises to be taken in to consideration when formulating budgetary proposals to Full Council regarding the Revenue Budget 2016-17.

Decision

Cabinet approved that the views of the consultation respondents are taken into account by Cabinet in formulating its proposals to Full Council regarding the Revenue Budget for 2016-17

17. REVENUE BUDGET 2016-17

The Chief Executive and the Director of Finance reported on proposals to Full Council regarding the Revenue Budget for 2016-17.

Decision

Cabinet recommended to Council that it:

- (i) Notes the details of the Comprehensive Spending Review and Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement as outlined in sections (b) and (c).
- (ii) Notes the Government's expectations about Council Tax levels for 2016-17 in section (d).
- (iii) Notes the details of the Council's consultation activity as outlined in section (l).
- (iv) Notes the Director of Finance's comments about the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of the reserves as outlined in section (j).

- (v) Approves the precepts as outlined in section (d) and Appendix Two.
- (vi) Approves that billing authorities are informed of Council Tax levels arising from the budget proposals as outlined in section (d) and Appendix Two.
- (vii) Approves the contingency to cover non-standard inflation as outlined in section (g). The contingency to be allocated by the Director of Finance and the Chief Executive once non-standard inflation has been agreed.
- (viii) Approves the level and allocation of budget cuts as outlined in section (h) and Appendix Four.
- (ix) Approves the service pressure items identified in section (i) and Appendix Three.
- (x) Approves the Council Tax requirement of £280.200m which is calculated as follows:

	£
Budget Before Pressures and Budget Reductions	507,982,924
Plus Service Pressures - on-going	13,650,000
Plus Adult Social Care Precept	5,325,256
Plus Service Pressures - one-off	10,192,324
Less Budget Reductions	-40,500,000
Contribution to Contingency Budget	957,373
Reduction to Debt Charges	-5,000,000
Reduction to Risk Management Budget	-7,697,877
Net Budget Requirement	484,910,000
Less Top-Up	-86,457,249
Less Business Rates	-16,843,675
Less Revenue Support Grant	-67,722,178
Less New Homes Bonus	-2,863,627
Less Local Services Support Grant	0
Less General Grant	-10,127,368
Less PFI Grant	-10,503,833
Less Use of General Reserve	-10,192,324
Balance to be met from Council Tax	280,199,746

- (xi) Authorises the Director of Finance to allocate cash limits amongst Cabinet portfolios; Strategic Directors will then report to Cabinet on the revised service plans for 2016-17.

18. FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN

The Director of Finance recommended the approval of the Council's Five Year Financial Plan for the period 2016-21.

Decision

Cabinet recommended to Council that it (1) approves the revised Five Year Financial Plan; (2) notes the uncertainty and risks set out in sections (c) and (d); (3) notes the possible budget reduction proposals set out in Appendix Three to the report; and (4) approves the Financial Strategy.

19. PRUDENTIAL CODE FOR CAPITAL FINANCE, CAPITAL PROGRAMME APPROVALS AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT

The Chief Executive and Director of Finance sought approval for proposals for submission to Council relating to The Prudential Code for Capital Finance, including:

- The capital starts programme for 2016-17.
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy for 2016-17.
- A Treasury Management Strategy for 2016-17.
- Compliance with, and set limits under CIPFA's Prudential Code and the Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes

Decision

Cabinet recommended to Council (1) the adoption of the Prudential Code including the Prudential Indicators as described in paragraphs 2.5, 2.6, 2.8 and 2.12-2.16; (2) the 2016-17 Capital Starts Programme as detailed in Appendix 1, and that further reports on the detailed schemes be brought to Cabinet; (3) the MRP policy for 2016-17 as detailed in paragraph 2.10; (4) the Treasury Management Strategy for 2016-17 as described in Appendix 3, and taking into account the guidance issued by the CLG and noting the changes in 2.18; and (5) the adoption of CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes (revised 2011), as shown in Appendix 3, and the Treasury Management Policy Statement as specified in the Treasury Management Code of Practice and set out in Appendix 3.

20. DERBYSHIRE ECONOMIC REVIEW – DECEMBER 2015

The Chief Executive presented the latest Quarterly Economic Review to December 2015.

Decision

Cabinet noted the information presented within the Derbyshire Economic Review – December 2015 and that the findings be used to support future service planning and policy and development.

21. COUNTRYSIDE SERVICE RESTRUCTURE

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment reported on proposed changes to the Countryside Service and sought approval to explore alternative delivery mechanisms, to maximize commercial opportunities and to consult the public.

Decision

Cabinet approved (1) consultation on the proposed reconfiguration of the Countryside Service as set out in the report; (2) officers undertaking dialogue with external parties around alternative delivery models and commercial opportunities at Hayfield and Tapton Lock Visitor Centres in liaison with the Council's emerging Development Company; (3) a further report be made to Cabinet prior to any final decision being made as to the future of these centres; (4) a review of opening hours, income generation potential and viability of visitor centres and cycle hire, and to report the conclusions of this review to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member – Highways, Transport and Infrastructure; and (5) an exploration, with the Director of Legal Services and through the emerging Development Company, of the other potential commercial activities at countryside destination sites with a further report being presented to a future Cabinet meeting.

22. PAYMENT OF THE LIVING WAGE IN 2016-17

The Strategic Director – Corporate Resources sought approval to pay the Living Wage as an allowance in 2016-17.

Decision

Cabinet (1) approved that the Living Wage continues to be paid as an allowance to eligible employees in 2016-17; (2) agreed to receive further reports on the 2016-17 national pay agreement and National Living Wage; and (3) approved that individual school governing bodies be encouraged to adopt the Living Wage.

23. CONTRACTS FOR ADVISORY SERVICES IN GP PRACTICES

The Director of Public Health sought approval to extend the existing contracts for advisory services in GP practices for a further period of twelve months.

Decision

Cabinet gave approval to extend the existing contracts for advisory services in GP practices for a further period of twelve months duration up to 31 March 2017.

24. THE DERBYSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY 2015-17

The Strategic Director – Health and Communities sought endorsement of the Strategy.

Decision

Cabinet (1) endorsed the Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2015-17; and (2) noted that the Health and Wellbeing Strategy would be presented to Full Council.

25. HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMMES 2016-17

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment sought approval to undertake early design and preparatory work for the Highways and Transport Capital Programme 2016-17.

Decision

Cabinet agreed preparatory work, including design and the publication of notices and applications for permits to work, be undertaken on a number of potential schemes, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report in advance of the Economy, Transport and Environment Department's Service Plan Refresh 2016-17.

26. PROPOSED CHANGES TO LOCAL BUS SUPPORT

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment sought approval to consult on proposals to cease all County Council funding for subsidized local bus services and to approve, subject to consultation, an initial two and a half year funding programme to provide demand responsive transport.

Decision

Cabinet agreed (1) to undertake public consultation on proposals to withdraw all funding for existing supported local bus services and Dial-a Bus services from 1 October 2017; (2) to receive a further report on the future of all County Council subsidized local bus services and Dial-a Bus services following the conclusion of the consultation process; (3) to allocate £1.25m from the General Reserve to maintain existing supported local bus services between 1 April 2017 and 30 September 2017; and (4) in principle, to allocate funding of £1.34m per year from 2017-18 for an initial three years, including £0.90m previously ring-fenced as Bus Subsidy Revenue Grant, to provide demand responsive transport, should the outcome of public consultation lead to a decision to withdraw funding for local bus services and Community Transport Dial-Bus services.

27. PROPOSED CHANGES TO COMMUNITY TRANSPORT SERVICES

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment informed Cabinet of the results of consultation on proposed changes to Community Transport services and to consider the way forward and to carry out a new public consultation exercise.

Decision

Cabinet (1) noted the outcome of the 2015 public consultation, and the Equality Analysis undertaken on proposed changes to Community Transport services; (2) agreed that a once a week Dial-a-Bus service be provided to users' nearest supermarket or town centre; (3) in the light of the response to the 2015 public consultation:

- (i) Agreed to continue to provide grant funding for Community Transport organisations for Dial-a-Bus services at a reduced level until 30 September 2017. The grant will include the operation of the flat fare scheme, and aCTive travel at existing rates and totals £799,232 in 2016-17 and £342,696 in 2017-18, subject to approval by the European Union (EU) of a notification of the giving of State Aid by the County Council.
- (ii) Approved funding for the continuation of the aCTive travel scheme for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 March 2020 at an estimated cost of £110,000 per year to be procured through a competitive tendering process.
- (iii) Agreed that fares for Dial-a-Bus services in 2016-17 should be increased from £2 to £3 for a round trip with effect from 1 April 2016.

- (iv) Agreed that vehicles supplied to the Community Transport schemes by the County Council could continue to be used for Dial-a-Bus until 30 September 2017, subject to agreement by the EU and that a review of the future use of these vehicles should be undertaken.
- (4) confirmed that the grant funding arrangements to the Community Transport organisations for Dial-a-Bus and aCTive travel services will end on 30 September 2017 and that any services supported after that date would be procured through a process of competitive tendering; (5) approved, subject to public consultation, funding for the 'aCTive travel Plus' scheme for the period 1 October 2017 to 31 March 2020 at an estimated cost of £125,000 per year to be procured through a competitive tendering process; (6) approved the carrying out of public consultation on the withdrawal of funding for Dial-a-Bus services from 1 October 2017, and the proposed introduction of new Demand Responsive Transport and aCTive travel Plus services and notes that a further report would be submitted to Cabinet following completion of the consultation; and (7) approved funding for the Wheels to Work scheme for the period 2016-17 to 2019-20 at a cost of £45,000 per year.

28. REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED REVIEW OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY CHARTER

The Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment advised on responses to public consultation and initial consultation with relevant staff and trade unions regarding the proposed review of the Rights of Way Charter.

Decision

Cabinet approved (1) the revised Rights of Way Charter; and (2) the level of detail to be incorporated within the Charter be delegated to the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member – Highways, Transport and Infrastructure.

29. DERBYSHIRE CHALLENGE FUND BID TO BUILD AND OPERATE AN INDOOR FAMILY ADVENTURE CENTRE

The Strategic Director – Children's Services sought approval to a bid to the Challenge Fund to finance developments costs for the building of an indoor family adventure centre.

Decision

Cabinet approved the Derbyshire Challenge Fund bid for £115,000 to finance development costs for the proposed Indoor Family Adventure Centre.

30. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG) 2016-17

The Strategic Director – Children's Services informed Cabinet of the DSG settlement for 2016-17.

Decision

Cabinet (1) noted the 2016-17 DSG settlement; (2) noted that a new national funding formula for schools is due to be implemented by the Government in 2017; (3) agreed that, following consultation with schools, the proposed reduction in the primary lump sum of £12,000 would not be applied; (4) agreed to retain the primary sector's deprivation funding within the formula at 2015-16 cash levels; (5) agreed to the other changes to schools' formula multipliers as set out in the report; (6) agreed to the allocation of the £5m DSG funding in respect of the Early Help Offer as set out in the report; (6) agreed that the re-pooled Early Help funding in 6 above be held at district level to support local provision; (7) agreed to allocate an additional £3.5m from DSG cash reserves to secondary schools for 2016-17 on the basis of pupil numbers as set out in the report; (8) agreed to the Schools Forum's request to de-delegate funding for the services as set out in Appendix 2 to the report; (9) agreed to retain the central Schools Block budgets as set out in Appendix 3 to the report; (10) agreed that any matters of detail relating to schools' delegated budgets to be resolved by the Strategic Director for Children's Services in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members; and (11) noted that a further report would be brought on the funding issues relating to the Early Years and High Needs Blocks.

31. CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO POLICY FOR HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT FOR POST-16 STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES OR DISABILITIES, PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND 8-11 YEAR OLDS (OVER 2 MILES AND UNDER 3 MILES FROM SCHOOL) –

The Strategic Director – Children's Services sought Cabinet approval to undertake a consultation on the proposed changes to Derbyshire County Council's Transport Policy for Children and Young People in relation to post-16 students and children of pre-school age with Special Educational Needs or Disability (SEND) and also sought approval to consult on not providing free travel to children between 8 – 11 years who live over two miles and under three miles from school.

Decision

Cabinet agreed (1) to consult on the proposals to cease the provision of transport assistance for:

- Learners with Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities in educational years 12, 13, 14 and up to the age of 25 that would come into effect from September 2017 for students that received free transport from September 2015;
- Pre-school age children that would come into effect from September 2016; and
- Free home to school transport for pupils aged 8 -11 who live more than more two miles from school in order to align the County Council Transport Policy with the statutory guidelines that would come into effect September 2016.
- and to carry out a full equality analysis in relation to these proposals.

(2) to include the proposed cuts to the provision of Home to School Transport for post-16 students and pre-school age children within the 2016-2017 Revenue Budget Report; and (3) to receive a further report once the consultation and the Equality Analysis had been completed.

32. THE AIMING HIGH DERBYSHIRE OFFER

The Strategic Director – Children’s Services informed Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation on proposals to change the current Aiming High Derbyshire Offer and sought approval to proceed with the implementation of proposals consulted on for the future delivery of the Aiming High Derbyshire Offer. Agreement was also sought to consult on further proposals to provide short break services to eligible families only following a formal assessment that identified that additional services were necessary.

Decision

Cabinet (1) approved the implementation of proposals consulted on and identified in section 3 of the report; (2) agreed the revised Aiming High Offer should be the same for all eligible families and that a staged reduction for current users will not be introduced; (3) agreed to an extension of contracts with current Aiming High providers; (4) agreed to a further period of consultation and a further equality analysis of proposals that would, if implemented, provide access to short break services following a formal assessment and identification of need; and (5) agreed to a report being made to Cabinet following consultation.

33. CHILDREN'S CENTRE SERVICES

The Strategic Director – Children's Services sought Cabinet approval to consider the implementation of a new model of service delivery, which, following public consultation, could potentially result in the closure of some Centres. The report also requested approval to consult on a proposal for an integrated model and 0-5 support pathway with partners such as health, schools and the voluntary sector and to consult on a review of the current staffing of the Children's Centres and also agreement to the methodology and timetable for the review.

Decision

Cabinet agreed that (1) a review of Children's Centre services be undertaken, which could potentially result in the closure of some Centres and reductions to staffing; (2) the proposed methodology and timetable for the review, including a period of public consultation on a new model for Children's Centre service delivery; (3) consultation takes place on the proposals contained in the report and that a full Equality Analysis also be undertaken; and (4) a further report be submitted to Cabinet once these processes had been completed.

34. REFURBISHMENT OF ROWTHORNE HOME FOR OLDER PEOPLE

The Strategic Director – Adult Care sought approval to refurbishment works to be undertaken at Rowthorne Home for Older People.

Decision

Cabinet gave approval for a programme of refurbishment works to be undertaken at Rowthorne Home for Older People up to the value of £291,500 with work to be undertaken by the Council's Property Services Division.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - equality of opportunity; environmental, health; financial, human resources; legal and human rights; prevention of crime and disorder, property and transport considerations.

Background Papers

Cabinet papers – 15 December 2015 and 26 January 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

Councillor A Western
Leader of the Council