

## **EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD**

The following decisions were taken on Tuesday, 28th November, 2017 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Friday, 1st December, 2017.

The end of the call in period is 5.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 12th December, 2017 and therefore, the decisions can be implemented on Wednesday, 13th December, 2017.

Present:

Vice-Chair - Councillor Glyn Jones (Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Equalities) – (In the Chair)

### **Cabinet Member for:**

Councillor Nigel Ball	Public Health, Leisure and Culture
Councillor Rachel Blake	Adult Social Care
Councillor Joe Blackham	Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services
Councillor Nuala Fennelly	Children, Young People and Schools
Councillor Chris McGuinness	Communities, Voluntary Sector and the Environment
Councillor Bill Mordue	Business, Skills and Economic Development
Councillor Jane Nightingale	Customer and Corporate Services

Apologies:-

An apology for absence was received from the Mayor, Ros Jones.

## **PUBLIC MEETING – SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS**

### Public Questions and Statements

In the absence of the Mayor, Ros Jones, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, read out the following question which had been submitted by Councillor Nick Allen, who was not in attendance at the meeting:-

“What effect will the forthcoming Community Poll have on DMBC's ability to enter into agreements with the Sheffield City Region? If the poll result indicated a desire to pursue a 'One Yorkshire' deal then would DMBC lose funding opportunities because we would be unable to access the Sustainable Transport Access Fund?”

The Deputy Mayor, read out the following response:-

“Thank you for your question Councillor Allen.

The current Sustainable Transport Access Fund (STAF) programme runs until March 2020. The proposal before Cabinet today, is for the Authority to enter into a funding agreement which secures the programme delivery until that date.

The forthcoming Community Poll regarding devolution does not affect this funding agreement.

Moving forward, Doncaster's involvement in any devolution agreement, whether that is Sheffield City Region or a wider Yorkshire devolution agreement, will enable the authority to enter into similar regional agreements in the future. This will help us to continue promoting economic growth and job creation, and tackle vital issues affecting Doncaster's residents and businesses, such as transport, skills and housing."

It was noted that a copy of the above response would be forwarded to Councillor Allen.

Decision Records dated 7th November, 2017, were noted.

## **DECISION 1**

### **1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

6. Finance and Performance Improvement Report: 2017-18 Quarter 2.

### **2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet:-

- (1) noted areas of performance and financial information;
- (2) noted the changes to the Strategic Risks, as detailed in paragraph 28 and Appendix B of the report;
- (3) noted the unrecoverable debt write off, as detailed in Appendix A at page 16;
- (4) noted the change to Fees and charges and approve the new charge, as detailed in Appendix A at page 16;
- (5) noted the virements approved by the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Executive and approve the virements over £0.5m for Cabinet, detailed in Appendix A at pages 16 and 17; and
- (6) approved the new additions to the Capital Programme, detailed in Appendix A at pages 18 and 19.

### **3. REASON FOR DECISION**

Cabinet considered the Finance and Performance Improvement report, 2017-18, for Quarter 2.

In presenting the report, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, commented that in light of the recent launch of the 'Doncaster Growing Together' (DGT), the Borough's 4 year transformation plan, Quarter 2 had seen a revised format of the Quarterly Finance and Performance Report. This new format incorporated the DGT progress and Cabinet was pleased to see the introduction 'getting the basics right' measures, which were now all reported in a streamlined report and easier to read

booklet.

The Deputy Mayor highlighted the key headlines from the report, which included:-

#### Financial Overspend

Currently, the Council was forecasting a year-end overspend of £3.0m; which is slightly up on previous quarter. A financial position that could have been worse if it were not for the use of one-off underspends and the use of one-off funding. The main overspends came from the Children's Trust £1.1m, Regeneration & Environment £1m and Learning and Opportunities £0.8m. These have been considered when putting together budget proposals for future years.

#### Performance headlines

A number of indicators were improving, including:

- people in receipt of direct payments (27.5% against a target of 28.55% (766 direct payments agreed));
- net number of new homes increased (321 for quarter 2, which makes 583 so far this year);
- local authority spend with Doncaster companies and business (70.6% against a target of 70% (£31.2m from a revenue spend)); and
- the average number of days taken to process new Housing Benefit claims has reduced to 20.2 days against a target of 25 days.

#### Challenges that remain

- achievement of financial savings within Adult Social Care;
- delayed transfer of care from hospital; and
- achievement of higher level qualifications.

In referring to the delayed transfer of care from hospital, Councillor Rachael Blake, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, welcomed the improvements that had been made in relation to permanent admissions to residential care. In terms of the delayed transfer of care from hospital, the Council was taking a very focused approach at the moment and was making huge progress in this area, which Councillor Blake felt was worthy of recognition.

Councillor Chris McGuinness, Cabinet Member for Communities, Voluntary Sector and the Environment, was encouraged to see improvements to the target for Fly Tipping investigated and removed, and highlighted that recently there had been a number of high profile prosecutions.

Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools, highlighted the correlation between GCSE examination results and persistent school absence, commenting that this issue was being addressed by Children's Services and hoped to see improvements being made in this area.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

There were no other alternatives considered or rejected.

**5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations.

**6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION**

Not Exempt

**7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Simon Wiles, Director of Finance and Corporate Services.

**DECISION 2**

**1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

7. Tender and award of a contract for the provision of four Community Based Crisis Support Services and Associated Activity.

**2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet agreed to:-

- (1) support the cessation of the current grant arrangements that are in place with Doncaster Mind and Changing Lives;
- (2) approve a procurement exercise to be undertaken in accordance with EU Procurement Regulations, to award a contract on an up to two-year basis to the successful provider(s) for the provision of four community based crisis support services and associated activities within a financial envelope as follows: for year one the financial envelope is recommended to be £245,000 and in year two £200,000. That the award of this contract be delegated to the Director of People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care; and
- (3) delegate to the Director of People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, authority to consider the extension of the contract for a further 2 years, to enable the provider to identify alternative funding and resources to deliver the service, subject to the provider demonstrating delivery of performance requirements and continued funding being identified.

**3. REASON FOR DECISION**

Cabinet received a report, introduced by Councillor Rachael Blake, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, which sought approval to undertake a formal tender for the provision of a crisis support service in four separate locations across the Borough. The proposal is to award a two year contract by the end of March 2018, with a further option to extend for a further two years. The budget envelope is £445,000 over a two year period.

The Council's Adults, Health and Wellbeing Directorate currently had a grant arrangement in place with two local voluntary sector providers (Doncaster Mind and

Changing Lives) who provided a range of services to support people experiencing mental ill health. It was noted that these services are well used and received.

In January, 2017, the Government unveiled a plan to transform Mental Health Services in the community as an alternative to services being delivered in a health setting.

The development of this crisis support service is a positive response to the Government's plan to deliver Mental Health Services. It will underpin the drive to bring specialist mental health services into the community.

The service will be delivered out of four hubs based in central Doncaster, Mexborough, Bentley and Thorne. These areas had been identified based on public health data, which shows a high prevalence in these areas of people experiencing wider mental health issues.

The Community crisis support service will deliver a range of services such as:

- evening drop in
- crisis services on site from a range of workers
- a range of activities and help to develop skills
- peer support

The report sets out two options:

Option 1

- Continue with the current grant arrangement. This option is not supported by the current providers or service.

Option 2

- Undertake a procurement exercise to give stability and surety of funding to providers.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

**Option1** - to continue with the current grant arrangement with the two providers. This is not the preferred option as the Council wish to move away from grant making to a position where competitive tendering is undertaken in line with EU Procurement rules and a contract put in place with successful providers. Both Doncaster Mind and Changing Lives as referenced above have worked collaboratively to deliver quality services. However, they are very supportive of the current grant arrangement changing by way of a competitive tendering process.

#### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations.

#### **6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION**

Not Exempt

#### **7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Damian Allen, Director of People.

## DECISION 3

### 1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

8. Approval to enter into a funding agreement with Sheffield City Region to be able to draw down the Sustainable Transport Access Fund for the delivery of the associated activities.

### 2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet endorsed the Council entering into the Funding Agreement with the SCR to enable draw down of the funding to deliver the Sustainable Transport Access Fund programme.

### 3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet considered a report, introduced by Councillor Bill Mordue, Cabinet Member for Business Skills and Economic Development which sought approval to enter into a funding agreement with the Sheffield City Region, to enable draw down of funding to deliver the Sustainable Transport Access Fund programme.

Members were informed that the Council, in partnership with Sheffield City Region Authorities, had been successful in receiving £7.500m in funding from the Department for Transport to deliver the Sustainable Travel Access Fund (STAF) "Get Going, Keep Going Project".

The STAF programme has a potential value to the Council of £1.102m and would run until March 2020. It was noted that a variety of activities will be delivered to Doncaster businesses, residents and schools with the overarching aim of encouraging people to travel more actively.

The funding agreement sets out the terms and conditions on which the grant is made and sets out a commitment to project outputs. Councillor Mordue explained that without this agreement in place, Doncaster would not be able to draw down funding for the projects.

It was noted that in terms of the project, the STAF programme include, a variety of activities that will be delivered to Doncaster businesses, residents and schools including:

- Dr Bike Services
- Adult and Family Cycle Training
- Cycling for Health project
- Active Travel officers in School
- Update and reprint of the Doncaster Borough Cycle Map

Councillor Mordue highlighted that the programme would improve access to employment, reduce congestion, contribute to emission reduction through a modal shift to active travel and help contribute to a healthier Doncaster. The delivery of the STAF projects is linked to the Get Doncaster Moving programme. Physical activity and sport is one of nine transformational programmes with Doncaster

Growing Together.

In seeking Cabinet's approval to enter into the Funding Agreement with SCR to enable successful delivery and draw down of funding for the Sustainable Transport Access Fund, Councillor Mordue highlighted that without the signed Funding Agreement, the Council would have to abandon the work on the STAF programme. He explained that this would involve returning funding to the Department for Transport. It was also noted that the Get Doncaster Moving programme would also suffer and experience a reduced impact.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

##### **Do nothing**

1. This option would abandon the work on the Sustainable Transport Access Funding projects. It would involve returning funding to the Department for Transport. The Get Doncaster Moving programme would also suffer and experience a reduced impact.
2. Projects have been being delivered for a number of years. To ensure project success, delivery has continued. If we do not enter into the agreement with SCR we will be unable to claim back expenditure already incurred. This will impact on other available budgets.

#### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations.

#### **6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION**

Not Exempt

#### **7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Peter Dale, Director of Regeneration and Environment.

### **DECISION 4**

#### **1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

9. SLHD Homes Performance and Delivery Update - 2017/18 Quarter Two.

#### **2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet noted the progress of SLHD performance outcomes and the contribution SLHD makes to supporting DMBC strategic priorities.

#### **3. REASON FOR DECISION**

The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, Cabinet Member for Housing and Equalities introduced the St Leger Homes of Doncaster (SLHD) Performance and Delivery Update report for 2017/18 Quarter Two.

It was reported that the majority of the performance indicators were on track and above target and there were 3 indicators which were currently off target and the

Council was working with St Leger homes to improve performance in those areas. Paragraphs 8.1 to 8.11 of the report set out further details of the areas of notable performance. A summary of the key performance indicators was also provided at Appendix A to the report.

Overall, the report showed a slightly improved performance compared to Q1, when there were six green indicators, one amber and four red. Targets have been adjusted for 2017/18 and are considered more challenging than those set in 2016/17. Commentary covering the performance against all eleven indicators was summarised in the table at Appendix A to the report.

As Cabinet Member for Housing and Equalities, the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jones highlighted the key areas of performance that he felt were worthy of noting, which included:

- Current rent arrears, the performance of rent collection continues to improve and this indicator is above target despite the current difficult economic climate and the fact that universal credit began full rollout in Doncaster on 11 October.
- The repairs service continues to deliver excellent customer focused services and these indicators were broadly on track.
- There have been more people in temporary accommodation than the Council would like and again St Leger Homes were working in partnership with the Council to address this appropriately and as quickly and as sensitively as possible. The increase in the level of homelessness and rough sleeping has led to a reconsideration of how the use of temporary accommodation is targeted, specifically whether targeting a low number of households in temporary accommodation is an appropriate measure for the future and driving the right behaviours. Alternative measures for homelessness were now in place and would be reported on during the second half of the year. The number of complaints received in the period was 273, of these 75 were service failure. Although complaints had increased slightly from last financial year, the 75 complaints which were upheld represented a very small percentage of the interactions with tenants, of which there were approximately 75,000.

In response to a question from Councillor Nuala Fennelly, as to whether SLHD had put arrangements in place for those tenants receiving Universal Credit, who may not be able to pay their rent over the Christmas period, Paul Tanney, Chief Executive, SLHD, who was in attendance at the meeting, commented that whilst this was a challenge, SLHD was trying to encourage tenants to pay rent by direct debit and was providing money management and debt advice to tenants.

#### **4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

There were no other alternatives considered or rejected.

#### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations.



**6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION**

Not Exempt

**7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Paul Tanney, St. Leger Homes of Doncaster.

**DECISION 5**

**1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

10. To sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) that establishes shadow joint commissioning arrangements to take forward the areas of opportunity in the Doncaster Place Plan.

**2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet considered the draft MOU at Appendix B of the report, and noted the next steps to be taken by the Council, including the signing of the MOU by the Chief Executive. The Council will continue to progress closer working with CCG, including joint commissioning arrangements beginning 1st April 2018, but these will be subject to a further Cabinet decision in March 2018.

**3. REASON FOR DECISION**

Cabinet received a report presented by Councillor Nigel Ball, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure and Culture, which proposed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), between the Council and the Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), setting out an agreed approach to establishing formal future joint commissioning arrangements.

Members noted that the Doncaster Health and Social Care Partners agreed a Doncaster Place Plan in 2016. This plan would set out the health and care challenges facing both Doncaster people and organisations.

It was noted that since that time, changes had been made to both the intermediate care pathway (the step up and step down services from hospital) and the complex lives pathway. The launch of 'Doncaster Growing Together' and the focus on Doncaster working, learning, living and caring had increased the importance of the delivery of the place plan.

Partners have recognised that collaboration (as opposed to competition) will be necessary to deliver the place plan and in fact this is what local people expect us to be doing anyway. As public services are "faced with less money, due to the Government's austerity programme, but also with an ageing population, rising need and demand and higher public expectations, health and social care will have to work together more than in the past."

The first step towards this collaborative approach is to develop shadow joint commissioning arrangements between the Council and Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). This is captured in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which will be signed by the Chief Executive on behalf of the

Council.

At this stage there were no changes to decision making responsibilities or processes. However, what the shadow arrangements do is highlight the work that will be required ahead of establishing formal joint commissioning arrangements from 1 April 2018. Establishing formal joint commissioning arrangements will require a further Cabinet decision in March 2018.

Joint commissioning should improve health outcomes for local people, increase efficiency and improve local services.

**4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Option 1: Do nothing. Rely on current individual organisation's commissioning arrangements.

**5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations.

**6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION**

Not Exempt

**7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Rupert Suckling, Director of Public Health.

Signed.....Chair/Decision Maker