



# Doncaster Council

## EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Tuesday, 17th July, 2018 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Thursday, 19th July, 2018

The end of the call in period is 5.00 p.m. on Monday 30th July, 2018 and therefore, the decisions can be implemented on Tuesday 31st July, 2018

Present:

Chair - Mayor Ros Jones (Mayor of Doncaster with responsibility for Budget and Policy Framework)

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

### Cabinet Member for:

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

## PUBLIC MEETING – SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS

### Public Questions and Statements

A question had been received from Councillor Nick Allen as follows:-

“My question relates to Agenda Item 7 about the sale of land at Lakeside. Why is this proposal to sell only part of Plot 1 and not the entire site? Will the remaining land be included on DMBC’s Asset Register. Would it be possible to enhance the role of councillors in the disposal process by creating an Assets Management Committee?”

Mayor Ros Jones gave the following response:-

“The proposal to dispose of part only of plot one reflects the nature of the offers received. The site was marketed for as a whole or in parts. The recommended offer reflects a good balance of land value and the location of the area to be sold creating a better opportunity for both enhanced land receipts from the remaining land and also ease of future development via the creation of a roadway through the site. No offer was received for the whole site and the other offers received were not acceptable from a planning perspective and/or did not amount to an appropriate land value. I can confirm that the remaining land stays on the Council’s schedule of assets allocated for sale.

The role of Councillors in the disposal process is recognised and accommodated via consultation at the stage that an asset is allocated for disposal and at Assets Decision Board where a decision to dispose to a recommended party is approved by Portfolio Holder (Councillor Blackham)

Given the above information in response to your question, I remain satisfied that the disposal of Council land and property assets is properly reviewed and is informed by a robust process with appropriate consultation and member involvement in decision making”.

Decision records dated 3rd July, 2018, be noted.

## **DECISION 1.**

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

6. Special Provision for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disability Capital Fund 2018 - 2021

### **2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report and accepted the allocation of £616,279 capital funding from the Department for Education to be spent in line with Doncaster SEND Strategic Intent 2018-22 (Updated Special Provision Fund Plan);
- (2) delegated authority to the Director of People, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools to determine project allocations following appropriate statutory and non-statutory consultation with relevant partners; and
- (3) noted the requirement for the Council’s Section 151 Officer to verify that the funding has been spent on Capital Projects by completing appropriate returns to the Department for Education.

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

Councillor Nuala Fennelly introduced a report to Cabinet on the Special Provision for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and the Disability Capital Fund 2018 to 2021. She reported that Doncaster had seen a one third increase in the number of Education Health and Care Plan from 1236 in 2014 to 1650 in January 2018. The Government had recognised that this was a national issue which needed urgent attention. She stated that this was being addressed in part by providing local authorities with additional funding to support some of the most vulnerable children and young people in the Country.

Councillor Fennelly pointed out that the recommendations in the report, to accept the allocation of £616,279, would enable the Local Authority to make additional provision in Doncaster across a range of settings to support more children and young people who require additional, specialist, special educational needs support.

She reported that the grant was first announced in March 2017 and since that time, the Local Authority had undertaken wide ranging consultation which included, most importantly, engagement with service users, their families and service providers. In response, the findings informed further consultation on specific proposals which have been published in the Council's Special Needs, Strategic Intent report, published in March 2018.

Councillor Fennelly stated that the proposals focussed on the three core areas which were contained within the report, which were:-

- To double the size of provision with seedlings, which provides specialist provision for pre-school children with complex social, communication and additional needs. Based at Maple Medical Pupil Referral Unit, it will create 10 additional places (from 10 to 20);
- 30 new places will be provided at the Levett Pupil Referral Unit. Those places will provide bespoke provision for children and young people with Social Emotional Health and those with Autism Spectrum Disorder who would be educated otherwise or at risk of exclusion; and
- Through the creation of 20 new places at Heatherwood Special School, provision will be made for children and young people with a range of special educational needs, including post 16 provision.

She went on to report that once the building alterations were in place they would be supported by funding from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant. She therefore recommended that Cabinet approve the recommendations contained within the report in order that the Council can continue to support and improve services for some of the most vulnerable children and young people of the borough.

Cabinet welcomed the report and were fully supportive of the recommendations.

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

Currently a number of SEND children and young people are educated; in a range of

settings across the Borough; placements outside of the Borough; are educated other than at school or are attending mainstream schools in the Borough but would benefit from specialist provision within the area. Whilst this may continue there are a number of benefits to expanding provision within the area outlined within the report.

Prior to the Council publishing the Council's Doncaster SEND Strategic Intent 2018 to 2022, Updated Special Provision Fund Plan on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 a number of options were considered that would either enhance, expand or create additional capacity for SEND children. Full details of those projects which include the new Communication and Interaction School and investment in Big Picture Learning are contained in the Special Provision Fund Plan noted above. The projects which were determined to be appropriate for full costing and consultation for the capital grant funding were included in Appendix 1 to the report.

**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 2.**

**1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

7. Proposed Sale of Part of Land at Plot 1, Lakeside

**2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet supported the decision to proceed with the sale on the terms set out within the report.

**3. REASON FOR DECISION**

Councillor Joe Blackham, Cabinet member for Highways, Street Scene and Trading Services introduced a report to Cabinet on the proposed sale of part of land at Plot 1, Lakeside. Councillor Blackham endorsed the recommendations as being in the best interests for all respective parties.

Mayor Ros Jones echoed the comments made by Councillor Blackham and stated that this proposal showed how working together with partners could generate further economic growth within the borough.

**4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Option One: Do nothing (not recommended)

The land would remain vacant and the Council would forego the opportunity to generate a significant capital receipt.

**5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

There were no declarations.

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

Appendix 1 of the report contains exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended).

**7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Peter Dale, Director of Regeneration.

**DECISION 3.**

**1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE**

8. Savoy Cinema and Restaurants - Civic and Cultural Quarter.

**2. DECISION TAKEN**

Cabinet noted the content of the report and approved the following:-

- (1) to proceed with work to finalise plans, drawings and planning conditions and to complete the procurement for a contractor to construct the development;
- (2) delegate authority to the Council's Property Officer to negotiate terms and enter into contract with Savoy Cinemas and agreements to lease with potential operators for the proposed new units;
- (3) delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Environment and Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, the decision to proceed with construction of the development once the Cinema operator has signed an agreement for lease. Procure and enter into an agreement to build in accordance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules at the budgets identified within the report; and
- (4) the increase of the budget for Savoy Cinema development in the Regeneration and Environment Capital Programme for 2018/19 using the virement of additional funding from the Investment and Modernisation Fund.

**3. REASON FOR DECISION**

Councillor Bill Mordue presented a report to Cabinet on the proposals for the Savoy Cinema and restaurants within the Civic and Cultural Quarter. He made reference

to recent reports regarding the reduced footfall within the retail sector. However, he wished to comment that the Urban Centre was a vital part of Doncaster's future and it is an important area of the borough requiring significant attention and is a high priority theme of the Doncaster Growing Together initiative.

Councillor Mordue stated that previously the scheme proposal had been brought to Cabinet for approval for Sheffield City Region Infrastructure (SCRIF) funding. However, due to MUSE being unable to make it work commercially, the proposal stalled. He reported that as Cabinet are aware a further proposal was sought and approved with Savoy Cinema Development with the Council acting as landowner, funder, developer and landlord of the completed development. Councillor Mordue stated that a copy of the market and cinema commentary were attached at appendix 2 and 3 of the report.

He commented that the proposals would contribute greatly to the regeneration of the town centre and wider communities of the borough creating a thriving and vibrant town for residents and visitors. He stated that once completed and units were fully let it was estimated that the development would generate revenue of £530k in business rates and 100 jobs.

Cabinet welcomed the report and were pleased to see the proposals moving forward and felt that development would be good for the young people of Doncaster. The Mayor echoed comments raised by members and stated that she was delighted to see that by working together with partners, these proposals would further stimulate regeneration and growth within the town.

In conclusion, Councillor Mordue wished to point out that it was envisaged that if approved work would commence on the project in November, 2018.

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

Option 1: Proceed with a disposal of the land by tendering the site for sale

Option 2: Seek a second JV partner to work with to bring the development forward.

Option 3: DMBC step in as developer and landlord and commence development once the Cinema and three tenants have been secured.

Option 4: DMBC to step in and act as developer and landlord and to commence the scheme with only the Cinema secured as a tenant.

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

There were no declarations.

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

Appendices 2 and 3 of the report contain exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended).

**7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Peter Dale, Director of Regeneration and Environment.

Signed.....Chair/Decision Maker