



Doncaster Council

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Tuesday, 26th January, 2021 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Thursday, 28th January, 2021

End of the call-in period is 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 8th February, 2021. These decisions will not be implemented until after this date and time.

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 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.

Apologies:-

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Nuala Fennelly.

PUBLIC MEETING – SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS

Public Questions and Statements

No public questions or statements were made at the meeting.

Decisions Records dated 12th January, 2021, be noted.

DECISION 1.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

6. Doncaster and Stainforth Town Deals.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet approved:-

- (1) the overall vision for both Doncaster and Stainforth;
- (2) the Doncaster Town Investment Plan for submission to MHCLG;
- (3) the Stainforth Town Investment Plan for submission to MHCLG;
- (4) that the Director for Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, be tasked with formalising the governance structure for Towns Deals post submission of Town Investment Plans aligned to the governance structure outlined in Appendix 1 of the report; and
- (5) that the Director of Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, Cabinet Lead and Chair of the appropriate Town Board have delegated authority to develop and flex the appropriate projects within the parameters of the Government Guidance.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet considered a report introduced by Councillor Bill Mordue, Cabinet Member for Business, Skills and Economic Development seeking approval and submission of Town Investment Plans for Doncaster and Stainforth.

Councillor Mordue reported that in September 2019, Government announced the creation of a £3.6 billion Towns Fund. The main purpose of the Towns Fund is to support economic regeneration. Both Doncaster and Stainforth were invited to submit bids for up to £25 million each.

He stated that Town Deal Boards were established in January 2020, with a wide range of stakeholders. These boards have developed and approved Town Investment Plans, which form the bid to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

Councillor Mordue reported that in relation to the Doncaster Town Investment Plan, the Plan is to build on the existing Urban Centre Master Plan. The main focus for the Doncaster Town Investment Plan is the enabling of the Doncaster 'Gateway' economic regeneration, by providing:

- A further development and extension of the Doncaster Rail Station Forecourt, delivering approximately 4317m² of public realm and greenspace, providing a great first impression for visitors by train/bus and seamlessly joining up the railway station to the wider Gateway site.
- New mixed-use building at the Doncaster 'Gateway' site – with an ideal

location next to the Rail Station and joined up seamlessly to the extended Forecourt. A catalyst project to regenerate the Gateway area as an area of choice for new and growing business and meet the future demand for flexible, co-working, collaborative workspace.

- Provision of a heritage pot – a fund to enable the uplift of assets that will be chosen by working with key stakeholders and identify further opportunities for funding or potential joint venture.

He pointed out that since the original publication of the cabinet papers there have been some changes to the funding allocation, and as a result of detailed discussions at the Doncaster Town Deal Board meeting on 20th January, these figures have altered to:

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| • Railway Forecourt Development | £4.3M |
| • New Mixed-use building on the 'Gateway' site | £20.2M |
| • Provision of a 'Heritage Pot' | £0.5M |

He commented that the rationale is the board are mindful of the latest community consultation and wish to submit an Investment Plan that obtains maximum appeal to MHCLG.

In regards to Stainforth, Councillor Mordue stated that £25m will make a big difference to the town, addressing some of the issues of deprivation and worklessness, get shovels in the ground and activate much needed investment and attract further investment from private enterprise.

He reported that overall, there was 90% approval through the online engagement exercise carried out. Unity JV are on Stainforth Town Deal Board and have been actively engaged, enabling Town Deal to make full advantage of the opportunities that the Unity developments will offer.

He highlighted the four main projects as follows:-

- Headstock Park – preserving the headstocks will activate a site that is currently derelict and attracts ASB, allowing for the development of incubation spaces and small enterprise; country park element will green the pit top, improve the environment and encourage physical activity.
- Station Gateway – improvements to the station to make it safe and accessible including an overbridge to connect to the other side of the tracks – joining communities and improving access to opportunities and jobs.
- Town Hub – reactivating a derelict site, improvements to the high street and support for shop front improvements along with creating the feel of a town centre where the community come together and access digital network
- Activated network – CCTV in key areas to make the streets safer and a link to the new road and roundabout at Unity

Councillor Mordue went on to report that Headstock Park will be the most complex of the projects and carries most risk but as evident through Board discussion, will be crucial in order for Stainforth to move forward.

In conclusion, he hoped that Cabinet colleagues would agree that these Town Investment Plans offer an excellent opportunity to stimulate economic regeneration for both Doncaster and Stainforth, and sought support for the recommendations within the report.

In relation to the Doncaster Town Deal, Councillor Rachel Blake sought more information with regard to the consultation exercise and, how the consultation had influenced the bid that will be submitted to Government.

Councillor Mordue stated that the consultation showed broad support for the plans. Respondents were genuinely interested in Heritage Doncaster and believed that there was a need for regeneration of the area identified.

Mayor Jones was delighted that these projects had come together through the work of two separate Boards made up of a range of groups, including Parish Councils, the Unity Development and others and she was pleased with the plans to bring about real developments in both Doncaster and Stainforth Town Centres. She commented that the Council will need to build on these plans to ensure they dovetail into other developments within the Towns which should over time enhance the economic development that these deprived areas require

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do not submit Town Investment Plans for Doncaster and Stainforth. The inclusion of Doncaster and Stainforth in the Towns Fund recipients list is an opportunity, not a directive. Whilst this is an option, it would mean that both Doncaster and Stainforth miss a significant opportunity to accomplish the much-needed economic regeneration that the Towns Fund could deliver. This is not the recommended option.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Appendices 4 and 5 to the report are Not for Publication because they contain commercially sensitive information which is Exempt by virtue of 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

Dan Swaine, Director of Economy and Environment.

DECISION 2.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

7. Children's Partnership Recovery & Resilience Programme.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

- (1) noted the information provided;
- (2) approved the additional one off funding of £727k to cover the investment areas outlined in paragraphs 36 and 37; and
- (3) approved the payment of £230k to DCST to deliver the elements of the plan identified, as detailed in paragraph 38.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

In the absence of Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Mayor Ros Jones introduced the Children's Partnership Recovery & Resilience Programme to Cabinet.

Mayor Jones reported that with the floods of 2019 and the Covid pandemic, it has been a challenging time for Children's Services with demand increasing in many areas, in particular at the 'front door' and in social care, creating additional pressure on the system. This increase is highlighted in paragraph 19 of this report.

She stated that the partnership continues to be committed to working together to achieve rapid and sustainable improvement in the experience of children and young people who require support, protection and care; safeguarding is everybody's business. Whilst the Council and Doncaster Children's Services Trust hold important system leadership roles with associated accountabilities, in order for children to be effectively safeguarded all partners have committed to work together and discharge their responsibilities effectively.

Cabinet noted that it is really important that as a Children's Partnership, it should grasp the impact of this, and this is why a Board has been commissioned to oversee this work and to focus on the 5 priorities identified including; the front door, early help, multi-agency frontline practice, quality assurance and governance. Each of these areas will be monitored regularly against the action plan.

Mayor Jones stated that the Board meets monthly, with lots of work already underway and progress is shown in paragraph 35 of the report.

The proposals in the report are recommended to be funded through a combination of existing staffing shown in paragraph 33 and the one off additional support shown in paragraph 34.

She went on to state, that the funding of this proposal is made up of £240k from existing Learning Opportunities Children Young People resources, and an additional request for £727k (see paragraphs 36 and 37) and that £230k of this

funding be transferred to DCST for the roles identified in paragraph 38.

In conclusion, Mayor Jones reported that progress against the action plan will be monitored on a monthly basis, through existing contract management arrangements to ensure impact.

Councillor Chris McGuinness commented that it was important to note that the increased referrals due to the ongoing Pandemic reflected the trend across the whole of the country that all authorities are facing and was not isolated to Doncaster.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

None.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Riana Nelson, Director of Learning, Opportunities and Skills (DCS)

Signed.....Chair/Decision Maker