



Doncaster Council

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Wednesday, 10th August, 2022 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Thursday, 11th August, 2022

End of the call-in period is 5.00 p.m. on Monday 22nd August, 2022. 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)
Vice-Chair - Councillor Glyn Jones (Deputy Mayor, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Business.).

Cabinet Member for:

Councillor Lani-Mae Ball	Portfolio Holder for Education, Skills and Young People
Councillor Nigel Ball	Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning
Councillor Joe Blackham	Portfolio Holder for Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement
Councillor Jane Nightingale	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources

Apologies:-

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rachael Blake, Phil Cole, Mark Houlbrook and Andrea Robinson.

PUBLIC MEETING – SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS

Public Questions and Statements

No public questions or statements were made at the meeting.

Decision Records dated 20th July 2022, be noted.

DECISION 1.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

6. Creation of a Dynamic Purchasing System Contract for Education and Social Services Related Transport.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

- (1) noted the contents of the report;
- (2) approved the creation and implementation of a new DPS Contract and permit the award routes from the DPS Contract during its term; and
- (3) approved the use of the transport budget to meet costs incurred under this contract.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet received a report introduced by Councillor Lani-Mae Ball, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Young People providing background information and seeking approval for a new Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) Contract for the provision of Education and Social Services related to transport and travel assistance. She advised that there would not be any additional costs in implementing the new contract as it would be replacing the existing one. The report also sought approval to utilise the transport budget to pay for the transport costs arising from the contract.

Councillor Ball reported that the provision of travel assistance was a contributing factor to the Education and Skills Strategy 2030 and Doncaster Delivering Together to enable all children and young people to achieve their full potential. The primary responsibility for ensuring pupils and students attend school or college is always that of the parent or carer. In certain circumstances however, in order to ensure attendance, Doncaster Council is able to assist with travel arrangements. This contract would relate to the procurement of external services only and not the Council's internal fleet. Better value options for home to school transport will continue to be explored and a feasibility study will be undertaken to growing the internal fleet. The creation of this contract would not impact on or delay decisions in respect of increasing the internal fleet.

In conclusion, Councillor Ball stated that this contract will help us to continue to fulfil our statutory duty and to provide travel assistance to some of our most vulnerable children and young people.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Alternatives considered and rejected were contained within paragraphs 13-15 of 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

Riana Nelson, Director of Learning, Opportunities and Skills

DECISION 2.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

7. Doncaster Council - Biodiversity Net Gain - Biodiversity Offsetting Contributions.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet supported the proposal to introduce a £25,000 Biodiversity Net Gain Contribution Fee as part of a Biodiversity Net Gain SPD and to include this on the Council's list of fees and charges.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet considered a report presented by Councillor Nigel Ball, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning seeking support for a Biodiversity Offsetting Contributions Fee. Councillor Ball stated that following feedback from recent public consultation on a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Biodiversity Net Gain, it was proposed that the Council sets a Biodiversity Offsetting Contribution fee at £25,000 per Biodiversity unit. It was noted that this fee would be in place until approximately winter 2023, at which point it will be replaced by a Statutory Biodiversity Credit introduced by central government.

Councillor Ball went on to report that by having the fee it will provide developers a final option that they can use to allow them to deliver biodiversity net gain as part of their development and the money collected from the fee will allow new habitat creation projects to take place across Doncaster. He went on to state that new habitat creation can have a range of benefits, including improving air quality, better mental health and improved public access to green networks. It will also contribute significantly to borough wide nature conservation strategies.

Councillor Lani-Mae Ball welcomed the local first approach to delivery of Biodiversity Net Gain and the report showed the benefits that can be achieved by the proposal, clearly demonstrating that substantial efforts were being taken to tackle the climate and biodiversity crisis.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Option 2 (not recommended) – Do not support the proposal to introduce a £25,000 Biodiversity Net Gain Contribution Fee.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Dan Swaine, Director of Economy and Environment

DECISION 3.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

8. To accept funding to make improvements to the Trans Pennine Trail.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet approved the acceptance of grant funding into Doncaster Council's capital programme and approved entering into a funding agreement with Sustrans to allow implementation of an improvement scheme for the section of the Trans Pennine Trail identified between Mill Lane, Harlington and Pastures Road, Mexborough.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet received a report presented by Councillor Joe Blackham, Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement seeking the acceptance of funding to make improvements to the Trans Pennine Trail. The report stated that in April 2019 Sustrans invited bids from local authorities and Doncaster submitted a bid to improve areas of the Trans Pennine Trail. Doncaster was successful in this bid and Cabinet approval was sought to accept the £430,000 grant funding and to enter into a funding agreement with Sustrans to implement the works.

It was reported that the project has the potential to improve connectivity for Doncaster residents to areas of employment and green, open spaces on bike or foot. He commented that the works would be delivered in areas with high levels of deprivation and therefore provide high quality, traffic free cycling and walking infrastructure to the communities that need it most.

The Mayor made reference to paragraph 14 of the report asking that further investigations and solutions be found to deter users of quad bikes and off road motor cycles from using the Trans Pennine Trail. In response, it was reported that whilst the width of the access would not be changing, officers would continue to investigate measures to prevent the illegal use of the trail.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Do nothing – Failure to accept the grant funds will result in Doncaster not benefitting from potential investment.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Dan Swain, Director of Economy and Environment

DECISION 4.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

9. Sport England Strategic Facilities Fund - Askern Leisure Centre/Campsall Park Project.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet agreed to:-

- (1) delegate to the Director of Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning the acceptance of £910,000 grant funding from Sport England Strategic Facilities and to agree the terms and conditions associated with the grant funding; any possibility of clawback to be identified and reported to the Portfolio Holder and any possibility of clawback needs to be identified and the portfolio holder informed accordingly;
- (2) delegate to the Director of Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning the procurement and appointment of contractors to carry out works and services to connect Campsall Country Park and Askern Leisure Centre; and
- (3) to update the Doncaster Council Capital Programme to include this scheme.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet received a report presented by Councillor Nigel Ball, Cabinet Member for Public Health, Leisure, Culture and Planning providing members with an overview of a solicited bid to the Sport England Strategic Facilities fund for £910,000 to complement the existing projects being delivered at Askern Leisure Centre and Campsall Park.

Councillor Ball stated that the Sport England Funding has been allocated to deliver phase 3 works and complement phase 2 works by improvement of carparks and development of connecting road and footpaths between Campsall Park/Carpark and Askern Leisure Centre, as well as further infrastructure to make the building, green spaces and environment more accessible. This would bring together the park and leisure centre as one, developing a destination that improves access and greater use of the park and the leisure centre.

He stated that this investment, alongside the Future Parks investment, will significantly improve Askern Leisure Centre and Campsall Parks facilities, providing much needed resource and green space for the local and wider community. This would enable many more residents to have the opportunity to become more physically active and live happier and healthier lives.

An amendment to recommendation 1 of the published report in respect of claw back was proposed by the Mayor and agreed by the Cabinet, and this is reflected in the decision taken.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Option 2

Not agreeing to accept £910,000 of Sport England Strategic Facilities funding and preventing further development of the Askern Leisure Centre and Campsall Park sites already being invested in.

Choosing Option 2 will prevent the continuation and further development of the Askern Leisure Centre and Campsall Park sites and reduce the impact of work already being delivered through the Public Decarbonisation Scheme, Doncaster Council Capital Programme and Local Delivery Pilot funded Future Parks Programme.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Dr Rupert Suckling, Director of Public Health

DECISION 5.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

10. Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Management Contract.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet approved:-

- (1) the option of undertaking a collaborative procurement and award a contract for the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres in the borough in partnership with Barnsley and Rotherham Councils and approve the leasing of Doncaster's 6 HWRCs to the successful provider;
- (2) the decision to appoint the service provider and agree for all contractual documents for the HWRC Management Contract, be delegated for approval to the Director of Economy and Environment, to be agreed in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainability and Waste; and
- (3) the changes to the operational procedures outlined within the report.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet received a report introduced by Deputy Mayor, Councillor Glyn Jones, on behalf of Councillor Mark Houlbrook, in regard to the Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Management Contract. It was reported that the current contract had been in place since October 2018 and is delivered in partnership with Barnsley and Rotherham Councils. In October 2023 the current contract expires. It was noted that waste officers from Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham (BDR) Councils have been exploring the options available for future service delivery.

Additionally, Councillor Jones reported that BDR Council officers have worked on improving the current provision through a potential new contract, by aligning operational procedures where possible. These include vehicles access, material acceptance and permitting conditions. The report also sought Cabinet approval for changes to the operational procedures within the service and permission to enter into a joint procurement with Barnsley and Rotherham Councils for HWRC provision.

He went on to state that the provision of HWRCs for use by residents to responsibly dispose of household waste and recycling will have a positive impact on our local communities, increase sustainability and protect the wider environment, all of which are key strategic priorities for the council.

The Mayor stated that the new system will enable residents from Doncaster to also use HWRC facilities in either Barnsley or Rotherham, therefore improving accessibility and convenience, whilst widening customer waste disposal options and potentially reducing travelling times for residents.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Alternatives considered and rejected were contained within paragraph 22 of 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

Dan Swaine, Director of Economy and Environment

DECISION 6.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

11. Acceptance of funding for the Bentley and Rossington GP Hubs and associated demolition of Bentley Library.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

- (1) approved the delegation of the decision to accept and enter into the Section 2 funding agreement with the NHS, for each site, to the Director of Economy and Environment and the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder;
- (2) approved that Bentley Library service will be relocated in Bentley, and that the existing building be demolished in order to accommodate the new Bentley GP Sub building following a procurement exercise;
- (3) agreed to add the Bentley and Rossington Hub schemes to the Economy and Environment capital programme;
- (4) approved the allocation of £200k from the Integrated Care Board Transition and Transformation earmarked reserve to fund Bentley Hub development costs including the cost of demolition, VAT advice and other costs;
- (5) approved the allocation of £3m from the Adult Social Care Contract earmarked reserve to contribute towards the funding for the Rossington Hub scheme;
- (6) noted that the Council is seeking VAT advice to optimise the funding available for the new build and minimise costs for the GP surgeries;
- (7) noted that the Council will become owner of the Hub Buildings and will be responsible for all future on-going building management function and costs. These costs will be passed onto the tenants of the new buildings;
- (8) approved the delegation of the decision to enter into leases with the GP surgeries in respect of the new Hub premises prior to build commencement, to the Director of Economy and Environment and the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder;

(9) approved the delegation that the Director of Economy and Environment in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder and ward members be requested to finalise accommodation arrangements for the library provision with all appropriate parties; and

(10) Noted the amendments to paragraphs 15 and 42 of the report.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Cabinet considered a report introduced by Councillor Joe Blackham, Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Enforcement reporting that Doncaster Council and Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) wish to ensure that the Council and NHS Primary Care Estate in the localities of Bentley and Rossington is fit to accommodate and deliver services needed by the town's existing and future population.

In relation to the Bentley Project, it was reported that the project seeks to develop a community hub in Bentley that incorporates Don Valley Healthcare and the Ransome Practice into a new build scheme over two and a half floors. It is proposed that the facility will be developed on the existing Bentley library site and will accommodate a combined list of 21,000 patients. It was noted that the development will require the relocation of the library service and demolition of the existing building.

Cabinet were advised that the project will be delivered by NHS England to Doncaster Council under section 2 of the NHS Act 2006. The Council will be the building owner and landlord. Both practices will each take a lease with Doncaster Council.

In terms of the Rossington Project, it was advised that the Rossington Hub was in an early stage of project development and there was no information to share at this stage. However, it has been included within the report to gain approval to allocate the initial funding for the scheme.

Following the circulation of the report, the Mayor identified the following amendments to the report

Paragraph 15 to read as follows:-

Bentley Pavilion has been agreed in principle as the location for the library service to be operated from. Initial consultation with the occupiers of the Pavilion, Manna Community CIC, provoked an enthusiastic response, with the prospect of a community library being viewed a positive opportunity to build upon the existing offer from the building.

Paragraph 42 to read as follows:-

Discussions will take place with Manna Community CIC to develop the operational basis for the occupation of the library.

In addition, the Mayor proposed amendments to the recommendations at paragraphs 4, 8 and 10, with the inclusion of an additional recommendation, and these were approved by the Cabinet and are reflected in the decision taken.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Alternatives considered and rejected were contained within paragraphs 22-27 of 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

Dan Swaine, Director of Economy and Environment

Signed.....Chair/Decision Maker