



Doncaster Council

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS DECISION RECORD

The following decisions were taken on Tuesday, 27th March, 2018 by Cabinet.

Date notified to all Members: Thursday, 29th March, 2018

The end of the call in period is 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday 11th April, 2018 and therefore, the decisions can be implemented on Thursday, 12th April, 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 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

Mr Doug Wright asked the Mayor the following question:-

'The general public are not against joined up services that meet their need.

Are the public aware of the significance of all the fundamental and bureaucratic changes being done behind the scenes and if anything goes wrong and services don't work, who does the public turn to?

It makes me wonder how confident in your actions, you really are in meeting the needs and acting in the best interests of the people of Doncaster'

The Mayor gave the following response:-

'Thank you for your question Mr Wright, I agree that the public are not against joined up services which meet their need. In fact I would go further and say that most people want to see better joined up services, which improve their experience and are as efficient and effective as possible.

I think you make a valid point about public awareness of changes in the NHS through the development of initiatives like Sustainability and Transformation Plans. Ultimately, I believe people do know where responsibility lies in relation to services. Their recourse is through the organisations providing and commissioning those services, independent complaints bodies, and the Government that they choose to oversee an efficient and well-resourced NHS.

For our part, as you are aware, we have noted but not endorsed the local Sustainability and Transformation Plan. We aim to be as transparent as possible in terms of our own decision making, and we will continue to make decisions which we believe are in the best interests of Doncaster, within the national framework put in place by the Government'.

Mr Doug Wright asked the following supplementary question:-

'To what extent do the Cabinet proposals within Item 5 Better Care Fund (BCF) and Item 6 Adults Health and Wellbeing Commissioning 2018/19 demonstrate the results of any consultation, including meaningful consultation with the public and any research undertaken?'

In response, the Mayor stated that these items were yet to be discussed on the agenda today and answers to the question would be given within that discussion following each agenda item.

DECISION 1.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

5. Better Care Fund (BCF) - Use of Earmarked Reserve.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

(1) approved the spending plan for the non-recurring Better Care Fund (BCF) earmarked reserve as set out within the report; and

- (2) delegated detailed spending decisions for all to be confirmed and agreed for implementation of the Doncaster Place Plan £3m, other Integrated Functions £0.7m and unallocated balance £0.70m, to the Director of People in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and relevant Portfolio Holder.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Councillor Rachael Blake, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care introduced a report to Cabinet on the Better Care Fund (BCF) Use of Earmarked Reserve. She reported that Doncaster Health and Social Care Partners agreed the Doncaster Place Plan in 2016 and this was the strategic driver for the integration of a wide range of health and social care services across the public, private and community and voluntary sector. She advised that local health and care partners had developed the plan to address the three major challenges of the health and wellbeing gap, the quality gap and the finance gap.

It was reported that the plan focusses on a number of key transition points in people's lives where joined up investment and delivery was needed most which were referred to as 'Areas of Opportunity'. Councillor Blake pointed out that the BCF provided the funding to support the delivery of the Doncaster Place Plan. The BCF encourages integration by requiring Clinical Commissioning Groups and Local Authorities to enter into pooled budget arrangements and agree integrated spending plans, which seeks to join-up health and care services, so that people can manage their own health and wellbeing, and live independently in their communities for as long as possible.

In relation to non-recurrent BCF, she stated that it would be used for transformation and transitional costs, providing additional capacity for the place plan, piloting new approaches to services delivery and any dual running of services required to deliver the transformation. She also advised that there was clear defined joint governance in place through the Health and Social Care Joint Commissioning Management Board (JCMB) of which going forward Councillor Nigel Ball would also be a Member of.

Following Councillor Blake's introduction of the report, Members were afforded the opportunity to make comments.

Councillor Joe Blackham made an observation stating that this matter had been under dialogue for some time and careful consideration had been taken in producing the report. He also welcomed the addition of recommendation 2 highlighting that decisions would be taken in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder.

Jo Miller, Chief Executive wished to draw Members attention to paragraph 13 of the report 'Customer Insight' which identifies the work being carried out within communities and the range of diversity within those communities that will produce future plans that are more informed and identify real people and their needs. In addition, Councillor Rachael Blake wished to point out that long discussion on this specific issue had also taken place at the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Various schemes had been considered by the previous Transformation Co-ordination Group (TCG) which previously managed the operational activities financed by the Better Care Fund (TCG is due to be merged with the Joint Commissioning Operational Group and functions transferred as detailed above).

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Not Exempt

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Steve Mawson, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance.

DECISION 2.

1. AGENDA ITEM NUMBER AND TITLE

6. Adult Health and Wellbeing Commissioning 2018/19.

2. DECISION TAKEN

Cabinet:-

- (1) approved the Commissioning and Procurement Plan for contracts due to expire in 2018/19;
- (2) delegated authority to agree and sign off commissioning and procurement recommendations, needed to deliver the Commissioning and Procurement Plan to the Director of People;
- (3) delegated authority to award contracts to the Director of People in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adults;
- (4) the development of proposals to ensure we build social value principles into the contracts that are to be re-procured; and
- (5) Support the development of community commissioning and social investment to underpin social value and locally based service delivery.

3. REASON FOR DECISION

Councillor Rachael Blake presented a report to Cabinet on the Adult Health and Wellbeing Commissioning 2018/19. She stated that good commissioning, procurement and contract management was essential to deliver quality, effective, value for money services.

She reported that a four year Commissioning and Procurement Plan had been developed to support the delivery of the Adult Transformation Programme, Doncaster Growing Together and the Place Plan which sought to create more targeted and programmed arrangements for joint commissioning.

Councillor Blake pointed out that during 2018/19, the Council had 30 individual contracts that it needed to commission and procure. In order to comply with procurement legislation and the Council's own procurement rules, these contracts must be let in an open, fair and transparent way, either through formal tender or quotation exercises.

She highlighted that the Commissioning and Procurement Plan for 2018/19 detailed the activity, timeframes and resources required to achieve compliance with legislation and to put in place good quality value services. She explained that the Adult Commissioning and Procurement Plan was a working document which would evolve, driven by service review outcomes which had leadership and political sign off and as such commissioning, procurement and contract recommendations and decisions would be informed on the basis of whether:-

- Strategic objectives and joint commissioning outcomes would be delivered;
- There is opportunity to support local businesses; and
- Quality, good value outcomes can be achieved and savings generated.

In addition, she stated that where contracts and services no longer meet individual's needs or objectives these would either be re-shaped or sensitively decommissioned.

Councillor Blake pointed out that this was against a backdrop of previous poor performance and compliance that the Commissioning and Procurement Plan had been developed. However, good progress and improvements were being made and this was resulting in:-

- Increased adult spend underpinned by contractual arrangements which were currently 97% out of circa £90m annual spend, 87% of which was spent with local businesses. Both of these figures compare favourably with the Council average;
- The implementation of a newly commissioned service supporting carers across 4 localities in Doncaster aligned to the Community Led Support Model;
- Savings of circa £100k; and
- Recruitment to key vacant posts needed to support and achieve delivery of the Commissioning and Procurement Plan.

In conclusion, Councillor Blake outlined future proposed developments as follows:-

- Embedding social value principles into the contracts which were due to be re-procured during 2018/19; and
- Developing processes to support community based commissioning and social investment which would underpin the delivery of locally based services.

Following the presentation of the report, Members were afforded the opportunity to make comments.

Councillor Chris McGuinness stated that it was pleasing to see the addition of Social Value in the report. However, he sought assurance that individual officers were aware of this requirement. It was reported that the officers were now aware of the new requirements. Members were informed that now that the Community Strategy was in place it had given a strategic steer for contracts. It was also advised that in relation to proposals for Community Commissioning, officers would be liaising with Cabinet Members in due course.

In conclusion, and in reference to Mr Doug Wright's supplementary question, the Mayor stated that with the discussion that had taken place on both agenda items, along with details outlined in paragraph 13 of agenda item 5, this answered his question.

4. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Option 1 – Do Nothing: There would be an inability to effectively support the delivery of the Commissioning Procurement Plan and priorities and the Adults Transformation Programme. There would be a continual and potential increase in the number of contracts in breach. This would result in ineffective market management with services being at risk and the inability to meet the needs of individuals. The team would continue to work in a reactive manner rather than a planned proactive approach.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

There were no declarations.

6. IF EXEMPT, REASON FOR EXEMPTION

Appendix 1 to the report is not for publication as it refers to information which is exempt as defined within paragraph 3, (information relating to the financial and business affairs or any particular person, including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended. Contains sensitive contractual information in the form of current contractor's bid values.

7. DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Damian Allen, Director of People.

Signed.....  Chair/Decision Maker