



CABINET  
DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Oxby (in the Chair)  
Councillors Bolton, James, Patrick, Watson and P. Wheatley

DN.82 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There was an apology for absence received from Councillor Hyldon-King for this meeting.

DN.83 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Oxby declared a personal interest in DN.87 as his wife is an employee of NAVIGO, and he is a member of the Membership Board.

Councillors Patrick, Wheatley and Oxby all declared a person interest in items DN.86 and DN.87 as members of the NELC and NELCCG Union Board.

DN.84

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 were approved as a correct record.

DN.85

### **PARKING STRATEGY**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment presenting a succinct and flexible approach to the policy and provision for both on-street parking and the Council's pay and display car parks.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- (1) That the Car Parking Strategy be adopted.**
- (2) That the Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment, prepare a plan of further actions by no later than the end of January 2018 including the principles that govern the residents parking scheme.**
- (3) That the revised approach to Residents Parking Schemes as laid out in the report now submitted, and the new price structure of £45 per permit be adopted.**

REASON FOR DECISION - An up to date Parking Strategy is an integral part of the Council's wider strategic framework supporting the ambitions laid out in the emerging Local Plan and adopted Economic Strategy.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – The Council could decide not to adopt a new Strategy although this would mean that its approach to parking becomes detached from current priorities and strategy.

DN.86

### **NELCCG ADULT SOCIAL CARE Q2 PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care presenting the quarterly adult social care performance report for quarter 2 of 2017/18.

**RESOLVED – That the content of the report and issues arising, be noted.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – Performance monitoring supports the Council in delivering its strategic aims and provides assurance to the

Council about the discharge of its statutory responsibilities in respect of adult services.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – None

DN.87

### **ADULT SERVICES REVIEW**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care asking to commission a review of Adult Services in North East Lincolnshire jointly with the North East Lincolnshire clinical commissioning group (CCG).

**RESOLVED –**

- (1) That a review of Adult Services in North East Lincolnshire be commissioned, the scope and terms of which to be finalised by the Deputy Chief Executive (DASS) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care.**
- (2) That the review be undertaken jointly with the Clinical Commissioning Group.**
- (3) That oversight of the review be maintained by the Council /NELCCG Union board, reporting into Cabinet and the NELCCG governing body as appropriate.**
- (4) That the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny panel be proactively engaged in the review and have the opportunity to challenge, review and contribute at key milestone points in the review process.**
- (5) That the draft recommendations of the review be reported to the Council/NELCCG Union board in the first instance, with final recommendations made to Cabinet and the NELCCG governing body as appropriate.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The above delegations will provide an opportunity to streamline joint working between the council and NELCCG. Via the newly created Union arrangements the adult review will be able to fully explore how the combined resources of both organisations and their partners can be used to improve outcomes for adults in North East Lincolnshire by taking a more preventative approach than is currently the case.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
<b>1) Do nothing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No cost</li><li>• Time and capacity can be used to deliver</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Missed opportunity for significant engagement and challenge from partner</li></ul>

	existing projects to improve delivery	agencies and communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assumes services are already delivering to optimal outputs and that no change is necessary to meet budget challenge</li> </ul>
<b>2) Conduct a review without external support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal cost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assumes capacity and skills to conduct the review are available</li> <li>Missed opportunity for external challenge and learning from best practice</li> <li>May impact on delivery of current projects and programmes</li> </ul>
<b>3) Conduct a review with external support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will benefit from expert input and learning from other areas</li> <li>High degree of challenge to the status quo with the potential for identification of significant engagement and improvement opportunities</li> <li>Will add capacity and pace and enable most of the current work to continue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost implication – benefits <i>must</i> outweigh costs</li> </ul>

DN.88

**BUSINESS CENTRES – SERVICE CHARGE RECOVERY AND WIDER REVIEW**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Assets, Skills and Housing on the recovery of the service charges by recharging the operating costs to Occupiers of the Business Centre/Units.

**RESOLVED –**

- (1) That the full recovery of the service charge by adopting option 2 as outlined in section 1.8 of the report now submitted, be approved.**
- (2) That a wider review of the Commercial Estate with further recommendations on savings and growth potential; income opportunities; portfolio expansion, acquisition and/or rationalisation be approved and to be provided to Cabinet in February 2018.**
- (3) That authority be delegated to the Director of Finance, Resources and Operations, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Assets, Skills and Housing the responsibility to ensure that all necessary actions are carried out in order to complete the above proposals.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The Councils role in holding the Business Centre/Unit portfolio for incubation space for small, medium enterprises has evolved over a substantial period of time. From the outset, the Council has been subsidising the costs associated with operating the portfolio to support small start-up businesses moving in to the commercial market. However, this use has not been promoted over this period and therefore Occupiers continue to occupy and thereby benefit from the subsidy.

The Council must take a commercial view in managing the portfolio and can no longer support the subsidy. The full recovery of costs from Occupiers via an increase in the service charge will ensure this portfolio is managed in line with the offer from the market, where there is strong competition from the private sector offering an equivalent provision. As a result and to ensure the market is not disadvantaged by the Council placing a subsidy on its portfolio, the proposal outlined in this report seeks approval to recover the full operational costs from Occupiers.

The wider strategic review of the portfolio will form part of the forthcoming Corporate Asset Management Plan (2017-22) and will focus on identifying areas where there is opportunity for further savings and growth including potential for rationalisation and expansion.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – To do nothing would see the continued subsidy to established businesses which has a significant financial impact to the Council. The position would continue to be unclear as to the Council's role in holding these type of premises and could be perceived to be disadvantaging the market against the offer from the private sector in respect of accommodation on offer in the Borough.

DN.89

### **DIGITAL PROGRAMME 2017**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Community Assets, Governance and Tourism seeking authority to delegate powers in connection with changes to operational service

delivery relating to the service redesign decisions and any other ancillary matter arising.

**RESOLVED – That the content of the report and issues arising, be noted.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – To enable the Digital Programme to progress and deliver the outcomes as specified in the business case.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – Not applicable.

DN.90

**URGENT BUSINESS – SMART ENERGY BUSINESSES FOR GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE – EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION**

Cabinet considered a joint report from the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment and the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Assets, Skills and Housing seeking approval to become Accountable Body and accept the EDRF grant funding.

This was deemed urgent to allow the Council to respond and enter into contractual discussions immediately.

This was considered under the Special Urgency provision and is therefore exempt from call-in.

**RESOLVED –**

- (1) That the proposal for the Council to act as Accountable Body and the accept the ERDF grant funding offer of £5,463,444 from the Department of Communities and Local Government to support delivery of the project, be approved.**
- (2) That the interest free loan offer of £519,121.00 from Salix Finance Ltd as set out in the report now submitted be accepted and be used as match funding for the Smart Energy Businesses for Greater Lincolnshire (SEBGL) project and authorises the Strategic Commissioning Lead – Energy and Environment, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, the Director of Finance, Resources and Operations and Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment, to seek and accept further Salix funding as required to deliver the Project, which overall is estimated to total £1,912,12800.**
- (3) That the provision of a further £135,000 of match funding for the Smart Energy Businesses For Greater Lincolnshire project including existing salaries and on-costs of Council officers that will work on the project, be approved.**

- (4) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment and the Strategic Commissioning Lead for Energy and Environment, and the Director of Finance, Resources and Operations to finalise the terms of the Funding Agreement with the Department of Communities and Local Government, Service Level Agreements with Delivery Partners and any other legal agreements required to facilitate delivery of the project as set out in this report.**
- (5) That the Strategic Commissioning Lead - Energy and Environment be authorised, in consultation with the Director of Economy and Growth, Monitoring Officer, Director of Finance, Resources and Operations and the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment to:**
- negotiate, finalise and endorse the signing of the Grant funding agreement between the Council and Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), including the arrangements and contractual terms for the payment of grant monies to such recipients and the monitoring of grants thereafter**
  - negotiate and finalise the relevant Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with Northamptonshire County Council and IfaS as required**
  - establish the proposed governance arrangements detailed in the report**
  - deliver the project and to provide regular updates on performance the relevant Scrutiny Committee.**
- (6) That the establishment of a new energy service to support the growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) located in the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GL LEP) region, be endorsed.**
- (7) That the SEBGL project be incorporated within the Council's Capital Programme.**
- (8) That Cabinet authorises the Director of Finance, Resources and Operations in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment to commence related procurement exercises as set out in the SEBGL approved project.**
- (9) That authority be delegated to the Director of Finance, Resources and Operations in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Energy and Environment to award such contracts.**

**(10) That the Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute all documentation in connection with awards.**

**(11) That the Director of Economy and Growth be authorised to ensure that all actions necessary and ancillary to the above recommendations, where appropriate, be completed.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – This is a key decision given its value and it affecting small medium enterprises who are located across North East Lincolnshire in a number of wards.

The project will support the investment in both public buildings and SME businesses in Greater Lincolnshire (GL). The provision of grant support to NELC locally and to supporting the wider LEP outcomes including SME's GL wide. Investment will de-risk and stimulate private investment in energy conservation measures bringing both financial and carbon savings.

The project forms part of a wider initiative to support the energy vision and low carbon strategy for NEL and supporting economic regeneration and support.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

The following options have been considered:

- a) To not progress the total project. This would not benefit the Council's buildings, impact on the priorities of the Council and community for delivering carbon reduction or support the SME and wider community in becoming more sustainable. This is likely to lead to increased energy costs for NELC, and SME's in the future.
- b) For delivery of the energy Investment Grade Proposals (IGP'S) for Council buildings to be funded via commercial borrowing facilitated by ENGIE or another organisation, and for the Council to enter into an Energy Performance Contract (EPC). This would only deliver one element of the project in that the proposed business support activity would not move forward. EPC approach provides benefits of some guaranteed savings and carbon reduction. This is a possibility should the funding contract approval fail. The grant makes the borrowing element more attractive and de-risks the project further for the Council.
- c) For the Council to fund the IGPs. This would give full financial benefit to the Council, however the Council bear all the risks. There is no capital available to do this and the Council would need to seek low cost loans. The benefits would be on carbon only initially with no definite financial saving should the Council borrow the money. The grant makes the borrowing element more attractive and derisks the project further for the Council.



- d) SME's could be signposted directly to Greater Lincolnshire Growth Hub working in partnership with the Council to explore further funding however there is no specialist provision and support currently available in the Growth Hub and the approach compliments advice and support for SME's. This approach would not support proactively the numbers of SME's directly in the LEP locality and there would also be delays whilst funding was explored.
- e) SME's could fund all their energy measures directly. From a recent rapid survey and from previous research undertaken it's understood this is a barrier for many SME's despite the need or interest in investment.