



CABINET
DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 18th December 2019

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on 16th December 2019 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 Jackson (in the Chair)
Councillors Cracknell, Fenty, Lindley, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

DN.64 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence from this meeting were received from Councillor Procter.

DN.65 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Cracknell declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item DN.68 as an owner of an empty property and left the meeting during consideration of this aspect of the item.

Councillor Shreeve declared a personal interest in item DN.69 as a stakeholder trustee of the Citizens Advice Bureau and as a trustee and treasurer of Harbour Place.

Councillor Jackson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item DN.67 as a non-executive director of the Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and left the meeting during consideration of this item.

Councillor Shepherd declared a personal interest in item DN.67 as a trustee of Foresight.

Councillor Swinburn declared a personal interest in item DN.72 as a trustee of the Immingham Museum.

DN.66

MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 6th November, 2019 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.67

NEW APPROACH TO THE SUPPORT AND SPECIALIST ASSESSMENT FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People requesting approval to commence the new approach for supporting children with additional needs through the identification, support and assessment process.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the principle of the new approach for referral, assessment and support of children and young people with additional needs be approved.**
- 2. That it be noted that the new approach has been scrutinised by the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel following a special workshop which considered the detail of the new arrangements.**
- 3. That the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People, be authorised to implement the new approach and to review and amend it as they in their discretion think fit.**
- 4. That the Director of Children’s Services be authorised to deal with all ancillary matters arising.**

REASON FOR DECISION – Following presentation of a petition from local parents to ‘scrap the access pathway’ presented to Council at its meeting on 18th July 2019, Council resolved that:

(1) A Scrutiny Workshop be arranged to consider the matter and allow discussion on the proposed new model of delivery.

(2) A Special Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel be arranged to consider the final proposed pathway, prior to going to Cabinet for consideration.

The Scrutiny Workshop was held on 22nd October, 2019 where the new approach was scrutinised, the outcome of this was taken to the Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel for consideration prior to Cabinet. In this regard Cabinet was asked to consider the outcome of the above process.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

1. Remain with current pathway – an option not favoured by parents/carers
2. GP referral to a Paediatrician-only led model – this would not be NICE compliant and is not clinically supported by GP's, Paediatricians etc.
3. Single Autism and ADHD Pathway 0-18 – wider support and early help would not be integrated into specialist assessment approach so the support offered would not be holistic.

DN.68

CALCULATION OF THE COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2020/21

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources on the setting of the Council Tax Base for 2020/21 and outlining proposed changes to the Council Tax Support Scheme.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL –

1. **That the proposed Council Tax Support Scheme for 2020/2021 which will see a reduction in the discount from 75% to 65% for all working age customers, be approved.**
2. **That the discretionary adjustments for properties empty for more than five years be approved.**
3. **That, subject to the recommendations above, the Council Tax Base for the Council and other precepting bodies in 2020/21 be set at 44,327.3 Band D equivalents (as detailed in Appendix A of the report now submitted).**
4. **That, subject to approval of the above recommendations, the Section 151 Officer (Director of Resources and Governance) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources, be authorised to implement the detailed revisions to the Council Tax Support Scheme.**

REASON FOR DECISION – Setting the Council Tax Base is a statutory requirement that forms the basis of the calculation of the Council Tax charge for 2020/21. The tax base needs to be agreed and notified to major precepting bodies no later than the end of January 2020.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

There is discretion in estimating the Council Tax collection rate. For 2020/2021 it is considered prudent to maintain the collection rate at 98.2%. The 98.2% relates to the level of overall Council Tax collected over time. This percentage is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

As part of the review process leaving the current Council Tax Support Scheme unchanged was considered. The revised scheme aims to ensure that all residents make an appropriate contribution towards the cost of providing local services.

The Council could decide not to apply the additional surcharges introduced by the Government in 2019/20 in relation to empty properties. However this would not support the Council's aim for long-term empty properties to become sustainably occupied.

DN.69

HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING STRATEGY

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Skills and Housing presenting the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 – 2024 and its accompanying action plan.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 – 2024, and action plan be approved.**
- 2. That minor amendments and updates to the strategy and action plan, be undertaken by the Director of Economy and Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Skills and Housing, should the need arise.**

REASON FOR DECISION – All Councils are required to publish a homelessness strategy. The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 further required that local authorities take into account the additional duties introduced through the act and produce new or revised strategies by Winter 2019. The strategy and action plan aims to address the challenges and opportunities in North East Lincolnshire around homelessness and housing advice and help deliver on the Council's vision and opportunity for a strong economy, sustainable communities, improved learning and skills, better health and wellbeing where people feel safe and are safe in their community.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – It is acknowledged that the social, economic and political environment in relation to housing issues evolve

at speed and homelessness strategies can become dated and require regular review. It is important that the Council continues to monitor external factors and demonstrates an understanding of local housing issues in order to continue setting the strategic direction and appropriate action plan. The Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy Action Plan provides clarity around how the Council will address homelessness and rough sleeping issues in the Borough.

DN.70

TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION - GARTH LANE FREDERICK WARD WAY, BRIDGE AND PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council presenting the final scheme layout for the Garth Lane and Frederick Ward Way public realm improvement scheme in Grimsby.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That it be agreed to contract for receipt of the Local Growth Fund grant and also, any future Town Deal funding associated with this scheme.**
- 2. That the final scheme layout for the Garth Lane and Frederick Ward Way public realm improvement scheme be approved.**
- 3. That the Interim Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, be authorised to:**
 - a. undertake the procurement of capital activities required to deliver the programme activity;**
 - b. take all actions necessary to secure the continued implementation and ultimate completion of the scheme including detailed design changes, including bridge design, planning applications and all ancillary issues arising.**
- 4. That the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute all documentation arising.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - To ensure that works can commence in a timely manner and adhere to funding requirements.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Do nothing – this would not accord with the regeneration aspirations for Grimsby and would limit opportunities for investment in the public realm. This would also result in the Council having to abandon funding proposals associated with the Town Deal and also return funds to the Humber LEP, with associated negative reputational consequences.

The final layout presented in this report had been developed in accordance with the vision contained within the Investment Plan and updated following feedback from stakeholder and public engagement. Therefore, it was not considered that there were any other realistic options for delivering this project.

DN.71

CLEETHORPES REGENERATION PROGRAMME - SEA ROAD DEVELOPMENT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Skills and Housing presenting the proposed scheme layout for the Sea Road, Cleethorpes public realm/highways improvements.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the proposal for the Council to act as Accountable Body for the Humber LEP Local Growth Fund grant be approved and receipt of these funds be agreed.**
- 2. That the Interim Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer, and the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Skills and Housing be authorised to negotiate and finalise appropriate legal agreements between the Council and the Humber LEP.**
- 3. That the proposed scheme layout for the Sea Road public realm and highways improvement scheme be approved as well as the preliminary design for the new multi-functional building, and that the Interim Director of Economy & Growth, in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, Skills and Housing, be authorised to:**
 - a) undertake market testing;**
 - b) subject to the outcome of (a) above, approve a final business case including, but not limited to, financial return (subject also to consultation with the Director of Resources and Governance);**
 - c) undertake the procurement of capital activities required to deliver the programme activity in accordance with Council's Corporate Procurement Regulations;**
 - d) award a tender(s) within the allocated budget;**
 - e) take all actions necessary to secure the continued implementation and ultimate completion of the scheme including detailed design changes, submission of a planning application and all ancillary issues arising.**

4. **That, subject to a satisfactory outcome of the market testing and approval of a final business case, the allocation of a further £1.6m to the project be approved.**
5. **That the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute all documentation arising.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The delivery of the Sea Road development will have significant benefits for Cleethorpes. The proposals are supported by funding from the Humber LEP and the Council's Capital Programme. Cabinet approval was required to ensure that works can commence on site in early 2020.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Do nothing – this would not accord with the regeneration aspirations for Cleethorpes and would limit the opportunities for investment in public facilities, public realm and efforts to develop and diversify the economic role of the resort. This would also result in the Council having to return a significant level of grant funding to the Humber LEP with associated negative reputational consequences.

Development of an alternative scheme – the design and layout presented in this report had been developed in response to the vision contained within the Grimsby and Cleethorpes Town Centres Investment Plan and in accordance with the approved business case and funding criteria of the Humber LEP.

DN.72

APPLICATION FOR MUSEUM ACCREDITATION FOR THE GRIMSBY FISHING HERITAGE CENTRE AND THE NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COLLECTION

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Tourism, Heritage and Culture seeking approval of museums plans and policies as part of the required update of Museum Accreditation for the Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre and the North East Lincolnshire Collection.

RESOLVED –

That the following Museum Service policies be approved for submission as part of an accreditation return for the Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre and the North East Lincolnshire Collection:

- **Appendix One, Forward Plan 2020-23;**
- **Appendix Two, Access Policy;**
- **Appendix Three, Collections Development Policy;**
- **Appendix Four, Documentation Policy;**
- **Appendix Five, Care and Conservation Policy.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The Council has a duty to preserve the North East Lincolnshire Collection, by ensuring that Museum Accreditation remains in place. In order to apply for, and continue to retain, Museum Accreditation for the Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre (GFHC) and the Collection, the Museum Service is required, by Arts Council England, to have a 'Forward Plan' and other relevant and up to date policies in place which have been formally approved by Cabinet.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - Do nothing – this would result in the Council no longer being an Accredited Museum Service for the GFHC and the Collection. Losing Accreditation will also impact GFHC's eligibility to apply for funding from funders such as the National Lottery Heritage Fund and exclude us from supporting organisations such as Museum Development Yorkshire. The Museum Service will also be unable to loan objects from other museums and heritage sites, resulting in an impact on the GFHC's ability to create an interesting and attractive exhibition programme.

DN.73

PROCUREMENT OF PRIMARY RESOURCE BASED PROVISION

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People seeking approval to commence a procurement exercise for primary resource based provision.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People, be authorised to commence a procurement exercise for primary resource based provision.**
- 2. That the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Young People, be authorised to award such contract and address any ancillary matters arising.**
- 3. That the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer be authorised to execute all documentation in connection with the award.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - To ensure that the Council complies with its statutory duties in relation to children and young people who are permanently excluded, that the Council continues to provide sufficiently high quality education provision outside mainstream education. Vulnerable children are given enhanced support through effective intervention to achieve in mainstream settings.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - No other options were considered.