



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 13th June 2024

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 12th June 2024 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, Dawkins, Harness, Hudson, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn

DN.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received for this meeting.

DN.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

DN.3 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on the 3rd April 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

DN.4 2023/24 COUNCIL PLAN YEAR END PERFORMANCE AND PROVISIONAL FINANCIAL OUTTURN REPORT

Cabinet considered a report from Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets providing key information and analysis of the Council's plan year end performance and provisional financial outturn review 2023/24.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the outturn position be noted**
- 2. That the report be referred to all Scrutiny panels for consideration.**
- 3. That the re-profiling requests in respect of the 2023/24 capital programme as detailed in Appendix 1 be approved.**
- 4. That the revised Capital Programme for 2024/27 included at Appendix 1 be approved.**
- 5. That the year end reserves position as detailed within Appendix 1 be approved.**
- 6. That the use of reserves to address any significant variances arising from technical adjustments linked to the completion of the year end accounts be approved.**

REASON FOR DECISION – The report is important in informing Cabinet of the performance and financial position of the Council and highlighting risks and opportunities.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – Not applicable to the monitoring report.

DN.5 ANNUAL EQUALITY REPORT

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Holder for Culture, Heritage and the Visitor Economy seeking approval of the annual equality report.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the Annual Equality Report set out in Appendix 1 be approved.**
- 2. That the Assistant Chief Executive be delegated authority to publish the Annual Equality Report in accordance with legislative requirements.**

REASON FOR DECISION – It is a legal requirement for local authorities to report annually on how they have met the Public Sector Equality Duty as set out in the Equality Act 2010. The Annual Equality Report in Appendix 1 complies with this duty.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – No alternative options have been considered as the Council has a statutory duty to publish its progress against its Equality Duty and equality objectives to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

**DN.6 DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT LESS THAN BEST
CONSIDERATION – Leasehold disposal of part of Land
at Duke of York Gardens, Grimsby (Grimsby In Bloom)**

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets seeking approval to the granting of a lease to Grimsby In Bloom Solutions C.I.C of the subject site for a term of 99-years.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the granting of a lease to Grimsby In Bloom Solutions C.I.C of the subject Site for a term of 99-years at a peppercorn rent (£1 per annum if demanded) be approved.**
- 2. That the Executive Director Place and Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets be delegated authority to settle heads of terms and to complete the disposal and further, to deal with any ancillary issues reasonably arising.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - A proposal has been received from Grimsby In Bloom Solutions C.I.C which has been considered as part of the Council's approach to Community Asset Transfers (CAT). The proposal has been agreed in principle recommending the transfer of the subject Site to the Group by virtue of a 99-year full, repairing, and insuring lease. The lease would continue to support the current management and operation of the Site by the Group who have demonstrated, through a detailed Business Case that their proposal is sustainable and viable over the term of the lease and ensures there is no cost to the Council.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

1. To do nothing would see the Group continue to occupy the Site under restricted terms and be unable to develop their proposals and seek future funding opportunities to improve the Site for the benefit of the residents and community. As a result, the Site use would continue to be managed as is, which could be at a detriment to the Group in remaining viable in the longer term. This option is therefore not considered viable.
2. The freehold disposal of the Site has not been considered at this time. This is in respect of the Council's continued interest in the use of the wider land and mitigating risk in the event the Group are unable to continue with maintaining the Site. In such circumstances where the proposal is no longer viable, which impacts on the on-going use of the Site, the Council could take action to seek an alternative use of the Site or to prevent any unauthorised uses of the Site which a freehold disposal would remove.

DN.7 HOUSING SUPPORT FUND TRANCHE 5

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets on the delivery of the fifth tranche of the Housing Support Fund.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the high-level delivery plan set out in Appendix 1 of this report be approved.**
- 2. That the Assistant Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets be delegated authority to govern and administer the fund based on the needs of our community over the period of available funding.**

REASONS FOR DECISION

The Household Support Fund is the latest in a line of welfare grants that have been awarded to the Council to support low-income households with the cost-of-living crisis. This fifth tranche of funding to be issued by the Department for Work and Pensions under the Household Support Fund, which began in October 2021, and we have taken the elements that have been most effective from those schemes to propose the approach for use of this continued funding.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

1. We are limited by the DWP guidance criteria, but other options include:
2. Allocate all funding to households eligible for free school meals – this would disadvantage vulnerable residents and households who do not have children.
3. Allocate all funding to the VCS – the VCS have successfully delivered significant proportions of grants on our behalf in recent years, but this method of delivery is not without its challenges. We will liaise with the sector about their capacity to support us and offer a proportion of the grant to cover their administration costs, but it is recognised that the current challenging climate puts pressure on their services to an extent that may limit their involvement. We will, however, continue to engage with them on the distribution of the HSF to ensure their valued insight into the needs of our community are taken in to account and to engage them as delivery partners whenever practicable.

DN.8 SOUTH HUMBER INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (SHIIP) SPECULATIVE UNITS

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Regeneration, Devolution and Skills seeking approval to launch a grant scheme supporting speculative development utilising the £10m Freeport seed capital allocation to provide supply chain infrastructure on SHIIP sites in North East Lincolnshire.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the Director for Economy, Environment, and Infrastructure, in consultation with The Leader of the Council be authorised to launch a grant scheme supporting speculative development utilising the £10m Freeport seed capital allocation to provide supply chain infrastructure on SHIIP sites in North East Lincolnshire.**
- 2. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance be authorised to execute all documentation arising.**

REASON FOR DECISION – Supporting a grant scheme will address the financial viability gap which prevents speculative investment in commercial buildings, particularly industrial units, where the market rental value does not enable a return which balances the level of

investment required to develop. This will allow the delivery of the SHIP speculative unit project submitted and approved by Government in the Freeport Business Case which will help deliver the economic growth envisaged by a successful Freeport and bring additional benefits to North East Lincolnshire.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – No other options were considered.