

EXECUTIVE

TUESDAY, 15 DECEMBER 2009

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive held on Tuesday, 15 December 2009. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in a decision, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group no later than 4pm on the second working day after this meeting – that is, Thursday 17 December 2009.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Fiona Young (tel extn 1027).

6. MORE FOR YORK - ORGANISATION REVIEW

RESOLVED: (i) That Option 1 be approved as the preferred senior management structure of the City of York Council and that the posts of

- Director of Customer and Business Support Services
- Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods
- Director of Adult, Children and Education Services

be created and the post of Director of City Strategy, with the revised responsibilities outlined in the report, be retained.

(ii) That approval be given for the financial investment required to release the savings as outlined in Table 1, paragraph 28 of the report.

(iii) That the report be referred to a meeting of the Staffing Matters & Urgency Committee for due consideration.

(iv) That Officers be instructed to make all necessary arrangements for implementation of the proposed senior management structure of City of York Council, using the Council's agreed processes and frameworks for such matters.

(v) That the Chief Executive be requested to keep under review the proposed implementation timescale, with a view to shortening the period leading up to the full implementation of the recommendations, if possible.

REASON: Option 1 is considered to be the option best suited to the needs of City of York Council at this time, as it provides for:

- Increased focus on customer service
- Greater responsiveness to the needs of communities and neighbourhoods
- A strengthened contribution from the Council to the economic development of the City
- Greater co-ordination and consistency in work with adults and children, increased opportunities for partnership working and commissioning with the health sector on health and social care provision and work on overlapping agendas for adult and children's services, such as 14-19 education
- A small senior leadership team with the greater part of the management resource involved in direct service delivery.

7. MORE FOR YORK UPDATE - INCOME COLLECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY REVIEW

RESOLVED: (i) That the progress made on the More for York Programme be noted.

(ii) That the work undertaken to date on identifying the Sustainability benefits from the programme be noted.

(iii) That the Income Collection proposals set out in paragraphs 42-67 of the report be approved, in particular.

- the proposal to introduce the Allpay facility
- the closure of the cashiering function in the banking hall and
- the provision of a residual cashiering facility at 9 St Leonard's.

(iv) That the production of an additional Blueprint for work on Children's Social Care, as set out in paragraphs 69-73, be approved.

(v) That the production of an additional Blueprint for work on Finance Performance and associated support, as set out in paragraphs 74-77, be approved.

REASON: To help enable the Council to deliver service improvements and create efficiency savings of £15m over the next three years and to redesign services enabling a more customer focused, locally based service delivery model.

8. MORE FOR YORK - ADULT SOCIAL CARE BLUEPRINT

RESOLVED: (i) That Option 3, as outlined in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the report, be approved for further development at this stage.

(ii) That the proposed way forward for the Elderly Persons' Homes review, as set out in paragraphs 18 to 24 of the report (Options 2 and 3), be approved.

(iii) That Officers be requested to produce further reports in 2010 confirming the work required to deliver the savings for the approved options.

REASON: To address the need for change in service provision in the light of demographic changes and growth in demand and to achieve the vision for services set out in the Adult Social Care blueprint.

9. COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS - TENDER AWARD

RESOLVED: (i) That the content of the report be noted, and in particular the outcome scores of the evaluation of the tenders for the delivery of a new Council headquarters building.

(ii) That Tarras Park Properties York Investors LLP, with their scheme for development of West Offices, Station Rise, be approved as the Preferred Bidder.

(iii) That authority be delegated to the Project Champion (Director of City Strategy), in consultation with the Director of Resources, to enter into a contract with Tarras following agreement of the final terms of the Conditional Sale and Development Agreement and satisfactory resolution of any outstanding items of clarification.

REASON: In accordance with the outcome of the bid evaluation and to enter into a Conditional Sale and Development Agreement to provide a new Council headquarters.

10. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT 2009

RESOLVED: That the Comprehensive Area Assessment Report be noted.

REASON: To confirm that Members are aware of the CAA outcomes and recognise the achievements and areas for improvement identified in the report.

11. RESPONSE TO COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT 2009 (INCLUDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2009/10 UPDATE)

RESOLVED: That the Officer response to the published Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) score be noted and that the Executive record its concern at the inaccuracies contained in the Audit Commission's document.

REASON: To provide an appropriate response to the published CAA score and to confirm that Members are aware of the action taken or planned regarding areas of improvement identified in the report.

12. 2010/11 BUDGET STRATEGY AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING 2011/12 TO 2013/14

RESOLVED: (i) That the principles being adopted for the preparation of the 2010/11 budget be noted, in particular the fact that any additional resources will be used to invest in key priority areas across the Council.

(ii) That it be noted that work is continuing to review the impact of future public spending reductions as part of the ongoing development of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.

REASON: To confirm that Executive Members have been properly informed on these matters.

13. 14-19 REFORMS - THE YORK RESPONSE TO NATIONAL CHANGES

RESOLVED: (i) That the good progress made on delivering the 14-19 Curriculum Reforms and the high regard in which the work of the York Partnership is held be noted, and that the strategic approach to continuing developments set out in the 14-19 Plan be endorsed.

(ii) That the good progress made within the local authority and with Sub-Regional Partners, on the 16-19 Funding Transfer, and the opportunities and challenges it presents be noted, and that the authority's approach to the changes at sub-regional and regional levels be endorsed.

(iii) That approval be given for the Council, as the largest employer in the area, to build on existing development work and play a leading role in developing an enlarged apprenticeship programme for young people in the City; this to include (at a time when employment opportunities are restricted by the economic recession) encouraging partner organisations to offer places themselves as well as the creation of new apprenticeship places across the Council.

(iv) That the Director of Children's Services be requested to work with the Head of HR in developing a strategic action plan to increase apprenticeships across the Council in every area and department, taking into account the need to include LACs (Looked After Children)

as a priority group, reduce NEETs (young people Not in Education, Employment or Training) and ensure sustainability; progress on the resulting work to be reported to the Executive Member for Children & Young People's Services at six monthly intervals and the programme of work to be widely publicised and accessible to young people via the Internet.

REASON: To ensure that progress towards the 2013 learner entitlements and the development of provision necessary to deliver RPA in York can be maintained, that the local authority is in a position to assume new statutory responsibilities associated with the post-16 funding transfer, and that the key apprenticeship pathway is made more widely available for young people in the City.

14. FORMER LOWFIELDS SCHOOL, DIJON AVENUE, ACOMB

RESOLVED: (i) That the demolition of the buildings at the former Lowfields site, and the funding of this work from the capital receipt resulting from the sale of the site, be approved.

- (ii) That approval be given to use the property services revenue budget, as required, to:
- a) fund the finance costs incurred as a result of the timing differences between the demolition costs being incurred and the capital receipt being realised
 - or*
 - b) fund the demolition costs from the surplus property fund budget if the site is not sold.

REASON: To eliminate a target for vandalism, arson and anti-social behaviour, resulting in savings on security and maintenance costs, a reduction in nuisance to local neighbours and a reduction in the drain on police and fire service resources.