

EXECUTIVE

TUESDAY, 23 DECEMBER 2008

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive held on Tuesday, 23 December 2008. 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.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Fiona Young.

6. FUTURE OF THE CITY ARCHIVE SERVICE

RESOLVED: (i) That the following be agreed in principle:

- a) The proposed strategy of retaining the City Archive in-house and creating a single Archives and Local History service within the Library Service.
- b) The creation of two new posts in place of the former post of City Archivist, namely:
 - A post of Development Manager
 - An additional 0.8 fte post of Information Assistant.
- c) The designation of at the Lord Mayor as Honorary Keeper of the Archive.
- d) The creation of a Development Trust, with a one-off start-up capital grant of £30k, to support the work of the service and with responsibility for trading activity.
- e) The provision of a one-off start-up capital grant of £30k to support the work of the service and of £32k additional staffing costs in 2009/10, both of these to be treated as one-off start-up costs, and to be considered as a budget growth item (one year only) as part of the budget process for 2009/10.
- f) The funding of additional staffing costs from 2010/11 from within the LCCS budget through the identification of efficiency savings within the ongoing Leisure and Culture review. These

savings will be derived from additional income generation and more efficient use of staffing resources within the LCCS budget.

(ii) That Officers approach the York Museums Trust over the capital investment required for the relocation of the Archive from the Art Gallery to York Library with respect to the Council's existing Capital Programme.

REASON: To secure a viable future for the City Archive.

7. ACCOMMODATION PROJECT: PEASHOLME HOSTEL UPDATE

RESOLVED: (i) That the appointment of Irwins Ltd. as contractor for the completion of the Peasholme Hostel Relocation project be noted.

(ii) That the contents of the report be noted and that the additional costs incurred, as a result of the original contractor going into voluntary liquidation, be acknowledged.

(iii) That Officers be requested to take the necessary legal steps with the Receiver for Allerton Construction to recover the additional costs to City of York Council.

(iii) That the new allocation of £2,228,000 as the total estimated cost of relocating the Peasholme Hostel, to be funded from within the Administrative Accommodation Project budget, be approved.

REASON: To enable this important project to be completed and to ensure that the Council recovers any additional costs that it can.

8. CORPORATE EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME AND UPDATE ON SPECIFIC EFFICIENCY REVIEWS

RESOLVED: (i) That progress on the Corporate Efficiency Programme be noted and that the approach to the CEP and the selection of Northgate Kendrick Ash be endorsed.

(ii) That approval be given to fund the scoping study from the Efficiency Reserve, at a cost of £52,000.

(iii) That regular update reports be provided to the Executive at not less than 6 monthly intervals, that individual Executive Members be kept advised of progress made on projects which may impact on their portfolio responsibilities, and that the Executive Leader or his nominee be nominated to sit on the CEP Strategic Steering Board.

(iv) That the progress in relation to the review of Leisure, Transport and allocation of funds for Organisational Effectiveness be noted.

REASON: For information and to ensure full Member engagement in the Corporate Efficiency Programme and the achievement of efficiency savings targets.

9. THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

RESOLVED: (i) That the Chief Executive, together with Marketing and Communications and the Engagement Reference Group, produce a web-based strategy and user-friendly toolkit by February 2009 and bring it back to Members.

(ii) That the project proposals be approved, and in particular:

- The approach taken, and the outcomes of the process so far
- The draft strategy at Annex B
- The draft toolkit at Annex C.

(iii) That the proposals for consultation and engagement with Members and others, as set out in Annex D, be approved.

REASON: To enable the final Strategy to be prepared and brought to the Executive for approval in February 2009.

10. CITY OF YORK COUNCIL - CHANGES TO PPS12 AND A REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

RESOLVED: (i) That the draft Local Development Scheme at Annex B to the report, which incorporates the recommendations made by the LDF Working Group on 4 November 2008, be approved for formal submission to the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber

REASON: To ensure that the Local Development Scheme for York is submitted to the Government Office as required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act.

(ii) That authority be delegated to the Director of City Strategy, in consultation with the Executive Member and Shadow Executive Member for City Strategy, to make any other necessary changes arising from the recommendations of the LDF Working Group or Executive, prior to submission to the Government Office.

REASON: To ensure that any recommendations are incorporated into the submission draft LDS.

(iii) That authority be delegated to the Director of City Strategy, in consultation with the Executive Member and

Shadow Executive Member for City Strategy, to make any minor changes arising from comments made by the Government Office or the Planning Inspectorate following formal submission of the LDS.

REASON: To enable the authority to respond to any comments made by the Government Office or the Planning Inspectorate that would lead to minor changes to the LDS.

11. WEST OF YORK HOUSEHOLD WASTE SITE - LAND OPTION

RESOLVED: (i) That the decision taken, and resources allocated, at the Executive meeting on 9 September, to plan and progress the provision of a new recycling centre at Harewood Whin to replace the Beckfield Lane facility, be noted.

(ii) That Officers be instructed to take such steps as may be necessary to produce detailed designs and land acquisition strategies prior to the submission of a planning application.

(iii) That, subject to it still being available on the market and subject to Full Council approving the release of the necessary funding, approval be given to purchase the field to the east of Newgate Bridge, as illustrated in Annex B to the report.

REASON: To provide a more suitable location than Beckfield Lane for a Household Waste Recycling Centre and on the basis that Harewood Whin has emerged as the preferred option for a replacement site.

12. CORPORATE EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME AND UPDATE ON SPECIFIC EFFICIENCY REVIEWS

RECOMMENDED: (i) That the Corporate Efficiency Programme now take forward some of the reviews agreed as part of the 2008/09 budget, in particular those relating to Property Services, the Commercial Portfolio and the consideration of services that the Council should strategically procure or share.

(ii) That approval be given to transfer the funds of £125,000 approved for these reviews to the existing Efficiency Reserve.

REASON: In accordance with the decision taken at Budget Council in February 2008 to carry out these reviews.

13. WEB CASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

RECOMMENDED: (i) That it be noted that the Executive has recorded its concern that the proposal to use an

external agency to web-cast live Council meetings, and some Planning Committee meetings, is an expensive option and that there is little evidence to suggest that significant numbers of York residents will access this service.

(ii) That, should Council wish to proceed with this option, then the funding for the capital works be taken from the Council's reserves and that any ongoing funding requirements should represent a growth bid against the 2009/10 revenue budget.

REASON: In order to implement Council's previous decision to introduce web-casting, if Council still wishes to do so, and to provide appropriate funding for this.

14. WEST OF YORK HOUSEHOLD WASTE SITE - LAND OPTION

RECOMMENDED: That Council approve the release of funding to purchase the field to the east of Newgate Bridge, as illustrated in Annex B to the report, subject to the land being available on the market.

REASON: In order to provide a suitable location for a replacement Household Waste Recycling Centre at Harewood Whin.

15. URGENT BUSINESS - GRANTING A LOAN TO AN OUTSIDE BODY: YORK CREDIT UNION

RECOMMENDED: (i) That a loan not exceeding £100,000 - if possible structured so that the first £52,000 is a preferential loan with the remainder to be classified as a subordinated loan - be made to the York Credit Union to enable them to provide loans to their members during the present difficult economic situation. The loan interest to be calculated at the current rate being obtained by the Council on its other investments.

REASON: In order to help minimise the impact of the current difficult economic climate on the people of York.

(ii) That Council seek the agreement of the Credit Union to the appointment of a member of staff from the Council's Resources department to its Executive Board, in order to allow the Council to maintain a check on the financial position of the Credit Union, or by such other means as are acceptable to the Director of Resources.

REASON: To allow the Council to maintain a check on the financial position of the Credit Union.

