

CABINET

TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2015

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday, 10 February 2015. 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 **4.00pm on Thursday 12 February 2015.**

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Jill Pickering T: 01904 552061,
E: jill.pickering@york.gov.uk

5. A-Boards Scrutiny Review Final Report

Resolved: That, having considered the Task Group's final report and annexes, Cabinet agree to request the Director of City and Environmental Services to prepare guidelines for the use of A-boards across the city, in consultation with interested parties, for consideration at a future meeting.

Reason: To conclude the Scrutiny Review in line with CYC Scrutiny procedures and protocols.

6. 2014/15 Finance Monitor 3

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to note the current financial position of the Council as set out in the report.

Reason: To ensure expenditure is kept within the approved budget.

7. Q3 Capital Programme Monitor

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to:

- (i) Note the 2014/15 revised budget of £66.205 as set out in paragraph 6 and Table 1.
- (ii) Note the restated capital programme for 2014/15 – 2018/19 as set out in paragraph 46, Table 2 and detailed in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the Council's capital programme

8. Financial Strategy 2015 - 2020

Resolved: That Cabinet approve the average rent increase for 2015/16, as shown in table 18 and paragraphs 118 to 119 of the report, as 2.2%. This rent increase will be applied across council dwellings, hostels and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Community sites.

Reason: To ensure the ongoing financial stability of the Housing Revenue Account and allow work on improving the quality of the council's affordable housing to continue.

9. Next Steps In Neighbourhood Working

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to:

- Approve the direction of travel set out in paragraphs 7-23
- Agree to receive further reports on the detail of these proposals.

Reason: To update Cabinet on the Council's commitment to the creation of a new relationship with its residents and communities.

10. Rewiring Of Public Services: Update On Business Case For Young People's Information, Advice, Guidance And Support Services Currently Located In Castlegate

Resolved: That Cabinet note the views from partners and young people, as reflected in the report, and approve the suggested timelines and further work of the YorOk sub group in respect of the development of revised proposals for the services currently located at Castlegate.

Reason: To allow the work with YorOk partners to develop proposals to inform a revised business case to be submitted to Cabinet in early summer 2015.

11. Proposed Expansion of St Barnabas' CE Primary School

Resolved: That Cabinet agree Option A and approve £667k of Basic Need capital investment to expand St Barnabas' CE Primary by an additional 60 places, in order to meet the expected increase in pupil numbers from within the catchment area of the school.

Reason: Expansion at St Barnabas' CE Primary represents the most cost effective way for City of York Council to deliver its statutory responsibility to provide sufficient school places for local families.

12. A Congestion Commission For York

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to the establishment of a Congestion Commission for York with the purposes, scope and ways of operating set out in the report and Terms of Reference, the budget proposed in paragraph 32 and the draft work programme set out in paragraphs 30 and 31.

Reason: To enable a robust, evidence-based and participative approach to developing strategic recommendations for the management of

congestion in York.

13. New Council House Building - Phase 2

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to:

- (i) Approve expenditure of up to £25,000 from the HRA Investment Fund for developing proposed schemes and budgets for Phase 2 of the Council House Building Programme with the aim of bringing forward up to 46 new council homes.
- (ii) Note that subject to the proposed scheme being considered the best strategic use for the site and being financially viable and value for money, that permission will be sought to appropriate the Heworth Lighthouse site into the Housing Revenue Account.
- (iii) Agree the inclusion of an element of market housing where appropriate on any site where 20 or more new council homes are being created.
- (iv) Note that an extension of the New Build Project Manager post by 12 months will be sought to enable the project management of the construction sites to be funded from the total scheme cost budget for Phase 2.
- (v) Note the longer term strategic ambitions of delivering a greater number of new affordable homes across the city with consideration given to alternative vehicles for delivery and the requirements being considered as part of the ongoing strategic review of council and existing HRA assets.

Reason: (i) To allow the council to add a significant number of homes to its existing asset base and help to alleviate the acute housing need in the city.

- (ii) To allow this site to be developed for new council housing whilst generating the appropriate return for the General Fund.
- (iii) To ensure a mix of tenures to create a mixed and sustainable community and to provide cross subsidy to help fund the delivery of council homes.
- (iv) To allow the successful delivery of the project without impacting on the wider Housing Development Team work plan by ensuring the appropriate level of resources.
- (v) To help meet more of the housing need in the city and enabling the delivery of homes in a more effective way.

14. Implementation Of The Better Homes Contract - York

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to:

- (i) Note progress to date of the Better Homes – York scheme and to receive annual progress reports.
- (ii) Acknowledge the change in the relationship with Yorkshire Energy Partnership as a result of the new scheme and to agree to Option1 to withdraw from YEP.

Reason: To ensure that City of York Council can take full advantage of the Better Homes- York Scheme promoting energy efficiency measures across all sectors to reduce fuel poverty and carbon emissions without being breach of any exclusivity clause and ensuring that there is no conflict should the Yorkshire Energy Partnership become a delivery partner for Keepmoat, Willmott Dixon and Scottish and Southern Electricity.

15. Private Rented Sector Consultation - Review

Resolved: That Cabinet agree to approve option (ii) and continue with the current service with the accreditation scheme and other initiatives to support a healthy private rented sector and to carry out further detailed consultation focusing on those groups which didn't respond and commission the building research establishment to provide an updated picture of the condition of the stock to provide a more complete picture of the private rented sector for members to make a judgement.

Reason: To maximise the contribution made by the private rented sector in York towards meeting current and future need through tailored, targeted and proportionate intervention and support, designed to secure safe, well managed and decent accommodation.

16. Legible York Wayfinding Project

Resolved: That further consideration of wayfinding solutions for the city be deferred in order to allow the Director of City and Environmental Services to fully investigate the different options available, including costings and report back to a future meeting.

Reason: In order to allow Cabinet to make an informed decision and provide consistency of signage across the city, that it is fully supported by stakeholders.

17. Q3 Capital Programme Monitor

Recommended: That Council approve the adjustments in the Capital programme of a decrease of £6.350m in 2014/15 as detailed in the report and contained in Annex A.

Reason: To enable the effective management and monitoring of the Council's capital programme.

18. Treasury Management Strategy Statement And Prudential Indicators For 2015/16 To 2019/20

Recommended: That Council approve;

- The proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2015/16 including the annual investment strategy and the minimum revenue provision policy statement;
- The Prudential Indicators for 2015/16 to 2019/20 in the main body of the report;
- The Specified and Non-Specified Investments schedule (Annex B)
- The Scheme of Delegation and the Role of the Section 151 Officer (Annex D)

Reason: To enable the continued effective operation of the Treasury Management function and ensure that all Council borrowing is prudent, affordable and sustainable.

19. Financial Strategy 2015-2020

Resolved: That Cabinet, having considered;

- Expenditure pressures facing the council as set out in the report
- Impacts of savings proposals set out in annexes 3a to 3d of the report
- Medium term financial factors facing the council as outlined in the report

- Projected levels of reserves as set out in the report
- Statutory advice from the Director of Customer and Business Support Services

It be

- Recommended:
- (i) That Council approve the budget proposals as outlined in the report, in particular;
 - The net revenue expenditure requirement of £119.760m
 - A Council Tax requirement of £72.736m
 - The revenue growth proposals as outlined in the body of the report
 - The revenue savings proposals as outlined in Annex 3a to 3d of the report
 - The fees and charges proposals as outlined in Annex 5
 - The Housing Revenue Account budget set out in Annex 6
 - The dedicated schools grant proposals outlined in paragraphs 120 to 128 of the report.
 - (ii) To note that the Government had allocated an additional £162k within the final grant settlement announced on 4 February, after the Cabinet papers had been published. It was recommended that this should be allocated to the general contingency budget, the effect of this would be:
 - new growth item of £162k in respect of general contingency
 - increase in grant funding of

£162k

- increase in net revenue expenditure of £162k, from £119.598m to £119.760m.

(iii) That Council note the effect of approving the income and expenditure proposals included in the recommendations would result in no increase in the City of York Council element of the council tax.

Reason: (i & iii) To ensure a legally balanced budget is set.

(ii) The final grant settlement was announced on 4 February after publication of the Cabinet report.

20. Capital Programme 2015/16 To 2019/20

Recommended: That Council agree to:

- The revised capital programme of **£187.019m** that reflects a net overall increase of **£44.107m** (as set out in paragraph 55 table 7 and in Annex B). Key elements of this include
 - Extension of prudential borrowing funded Rolling Programme schemes totalling £5.970m as set out in table 2 and summarised in table 7;
 - New schemes totalling £8.763m including an increase in prudential borrowing of £5.538m as set out in table 3 and summarised in table 7;
 - New externally funded schemes totalling £15.140m as set out in table 4 and summarised in table 7;
 - An increase in HRA funded schemes totalling £14.234m funded from a combination HRA balances/Right to Buy receipts of £14.234m as set out in table 5 and summarised in table 7 subject to the approval of the Director of CBSS in relation to the IT investment

(£1.810m)

- Approve the full restated programme as summarised in Annex A totalling **£187.019m** cover financial years 2015/16 to 2019/20 as set out in table 8 and Annex A.

Reason: To set a balanced capital programme as required by the Local Government Act 2003.