

Executive

Thursday, 27 August 2020

Decisions

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the Executive meeting held on Thursday, 27 August 2020. 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. Proposal for an Article 4 Direction for the Heslington Conservation Area

Resolved: That officers be authorised to prepare and serve a non-immediate Article 4 Direction covering parts of the Heslington Conservation area, and to finalise the boundary of the area to be covered by the Direction in consultation with parish council representatives.

Reason: It is considered expedient to proceed with this project due to the convincing justification for strengthening planning control in the area, local pressure to do so, and the availability of external funding and adequate resources.

7. City of York Council Recovery and Renewal Strategy - August Update

Resolved: (i) That the contents of the report be noted.

(ii) That officers be authorised to commence engagement with disabled groups and delivery drivers to understand how the changes to the highway layout in response to the current pandemic has impacted upon them and how these can best be mitigated, including longer term considerations (*paragraph 14 of the report refers*).

(iii) That approval be given to use £25k of Local Transport Funding to support the engagement in (ii) above.

Reason: To ensure appropriate action is taken to mitigate the effects of these changes.

8. York Museums Trust – Impact of Covid-19

Resolved: (i) That the Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities write to the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to ask government for additional funding to support YMT in their particular circumstances.

(ii) That officers discuss with the Local Government Association the position of local authority museums in trusts, to inform the LGA's lobbying efforts.

(iii) That officers provide a letter of guarantee to YMT, providing them with access to a maximum of £1.95m over the next 2 years should it be required.

(iv) That payment terms be amended for the reimbursement of payroll costs up to a maximum of 60 days.

Reason: To secure the future of the council's museums.

9. Mental Health Housing and Support

Resolved: (i) That approval be given for City of York Council to enter into an agreement with NHS Vale of York CCG and jointly commission new specialist mental health housing and support provision, in the shape of:

- two specialist mental health supported housing schemes that will support 32 places between them (10 places plus 6 satellite flats supported from each site) and
- 21 Housing First places – people in their own properties supported by 3 Housing First workers (7 cases each)

and that authority be delegated to the Director of Health, Housing & Adult Social Care and the Executive Members for Health & Adult Social Care and Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Director of Governance or her delegated officers and the S151 Officer, to take such steps as are necessary to enter into the resulting agreement.

(ii) That it be noted that a formal soft-market testing exercise will be undertaken to identify the level of interest from both Registered Social Landlords (to develop the sites) and external partners (to deliver the support), to define the most appropriate structure for the resulting procurement process(es) to select the partners the council will work with.

(iii) That approval be given to procure a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) to develop the sites and an external partner to provide the specialist mental health support services, and that authority be delegated to the Director of Health, Housing & Adult Social Care and the Executive Members for Health & Adult Social Care and Housing & Safer Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Director of Governance or her delegated officers and the S151 Officer, to take such steps as are necessary to procure, award and enter into the resulting contracts.

(iv) That approval be given to sell the council-owned sites at Woolnough House and Crombie House to the successful RSL bidder as part of the procurement process, to be developed as specialist mental health supported housing schemes.

(v) That approval be given to re-locate the supported housing provision at the council-managed 22 The Avenue in Clifton to the new provision, and to market that site for sale and subsequent disposal, following the development of the two specialist mental health supported housing schemes.

(vi) That approval be given to sell 22 The Avenue once it is vacated, and that authority to proceed with and complete the sale be delegated to the Director of Economy & Place in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance & Performance, and in consultation with the Director of Governance or her delegated officers and the S151 Officer.

Reason: To enable the city to develop specialist mental health housing and support that will address a significant gap in existing provision for people with multiple and complex needs, and to realise capital receipts for three sites currently owned by City of York Council – at Woolnough House, Crombie House and 22 The Avenue.

10. Amended Decision on the Sale of a Building to Most Effectively Support the Re-provision of the Council's Homeless Accommodation

Resolved: That approval be given to sell 27 & 28 St Marys on the open market to the highest bidder instead of 92 Holgate Road and, if the highest bidder is not necessarily the best offer, that the Corporate Director of Health, Housing & Adult Social Care (in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer or her delegated officer) be authorised to take such steps as are necessary to accept the best offer.

Reasons: (i) To support the cost of the provision of the council's temporary homeless accommodation at James House.

(ii) To improve the provision of the properties offered by the council to its partners as part of the resettlement programme.

(iii) To make better use of the council's assets and reduce the ongoing cost of the properties leased to Changing Lives.

11. Creating a new Woodland/Stray for York

Resolved: (i) That approval be given to acquire the freehold interest in approximately 150 acres of agricultural

land within the City of York Council boundary for £1.65 million, as set out in exempt Annex 3 to the report.

(ii) That the purchase be funded from the existing £3m Northern Forest budget agreed at Budget Council in February 2020, re-profiling the budget to allow the purchase in 2020/21, with officers seeking to obtain where possible the external funding that is potentially available, as set out in the report, as an alternative to the use of this budget.

(iii) That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy & Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change, the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer (or her delegated officers) to take such steps as are necessary to complete the purchase once all due diligence has been satisfactorily conducted on the land.

(iv) That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy & Place to grant short term agricultural leases of the land, once acquired, until such time as it can be planted for woodland.

(v) That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy & Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change, the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer (or her delegated officers) to take such steps as are necessary to negotiate and complete the purchase of the plot of adjacent land identified in exempt Annex 2 to increase the size of the proposed woodland.

(vi) That it be noted that officers will bring a report to a Decision Session of the Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change to agree the membership and terms of reference for a working group of interested parties which will inform the development of proposals for the layout, planting and long-term management of the woodland.

(vii) That approval be given for officers to prepare options for the development and long-term management of the woodland and bring these back to the Executive.

Reason: To establish a community woodland within the City Council boundary, achieving the Council's ambition to plant 50,000 trees by 2023.

(viii) That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy & Place, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment & Climate Change, the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer (or her delegated officers) to take such steps as are necessary to negotiate and complete the purchase of up to 30 acres of land adjacent to the dualled A1237 for additional tree planting.

Reason: To increase tree planting within the City Council boundary, achieving the Council's ambition to plant 50,000 trees by 2023.

(ix) That the further acquisitions authorised in (v) and (viii) above be funded up to a total of £400k from the £3m Northern Forest budget, acknowledging that that budget will need to be re-profiled from future years to fund the acquisitions.

Reason: To ensure there is a budget available to fund the acquisitions in the year that they occur.

(x) That the draft Pollinator Strategy be referred to the Climate Change Scrutiny Committee, for it to make recommendations to Executive as to how the new pollinator strategy and action plan can strike an appropriate balance with other priorities.

Reason: To inform the development of the Pollinator Strategy.