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Meeting	Decision Session - Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities
Date	21 October 2019
Present	Councillor Aspden (Executive Leader, incorporating Policy, Strategy and Partnerships, substitute for Councillor Smalley, Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities)
Apologies	Councillor Smalley (Executive Member for Culture, Leisure & Communities)

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#### **9. Declarations of Interest**

The Executive Member confirmed he had no personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, nor any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest, to declare in the business on the agenda.

#### **10. Minutes**

Resolved: That the minutes of the Decision Session held on 23 September 2019 be approved and signed by the Executive Member as a correct record.

#### **11. Public Participation**

It was reported that one registration to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme had been received but that they did not attend the meeting.

#### **12. York Community Covenant Action Plan**

The Executive Member considered a report that provided an update in relation to the Council's work with York's local armed forces through the Community Covenant.

The Assistant Director of Communities and Culture was in attendance to present the report and he stated that a new framework for action was proposed together with the establishment of a new delivery group. He highlighted the revised terms of reference for the Armed Forces Community

Forum and commented on the key priorities within the action plan, which he confirmed the Council were committed to delivering, working in partnership with the York Community Covenant Group.

The Executive Member noted the priority areas for action and he thanked the Officer for his report.

Resolved:

- i) That the new priority areas for action, as set out in paragraph 14 of the report, be agreed.
- ii) That the terms of reference for the Armed Forces Community Forum and for the Delivery Group, as set out in the annexes, be agreed.

Reason: To strengthen City of York Council's delivery against the Community Covenant.

### **13. Improving York's Play Areas**

The Executive Member considered a report that set out proposals for improving York's play areas by:

- a) carrying out a quality assessment of City Council and local councils' play areas;
- b) using the assessment to inform investment, and
- c) creating a fund to be used to contribute to large scale investment in partnership with community activity.

The Operations Manager was in attendance to present the report and he highlighted the proposals put forward and made reference to the play areas provided by City of York Council, parish and town councils. He confirmed that 'Friends' groups could also submit a bid for funds and that to date six parish councils had confirmed they wanted to be included in the quality assessment.

In answer to the Executive Members questions regarding paragraphs 8 to 12 of the report, the Officer stated that:

- the majority of the £150k would be used to address specific smaller scale site based investment needs and following the independent quality audit, the results,

including the successful sites and funds allocated, would be published as an Officer Decision.

- £100k was allocated to the community challenge fund and following the assessment process, the results would be brought back to the Executive Member for approval.
- Ward Committees could also match or contribute to the 'challenge' or 'community' funding schemes.

The Executive Member thanked the Officer for his report.

Resolved:

- i) That the multi-strand approach to using the new budget, as set out in paragraphs 8 to 12 of the report, be agreed.
- ii) That the criteria for allocation of the community challenge fund, as set out in paragraph 11 of the report, be agreed subject to including that Ward Committees could also match or contribute to the 'challenge' or 'community' funding schemes.

Reason: To ensure York's play areas are kept in a good condition.

Cllr Aspden, Executive Member

[The meeting started at 4.32 pm and finished at 4.44 pm].

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