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MEETING	EXECUTIVE LEADER AND ADVISORY PANEL
DATE	20 MARCH 2006
PRESENT	COUNCILLOR S F GALLOWAY (Executive Leader) COUNCILLOR HYMAN (Chair of Advisory Panel) COUNCILLORS D'AGORNE, HOLVEY*, MERRETT, MORLEY, VASSIE, R WATSON and WILDE (Advisory Panel Members)

*\*present for agenda items 1-6 only; minutes 60-66 refer.*

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## **PART A – MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

### **60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in the business on the agenda. No interests were declared.

### **61. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during any discussion on Annexes 1,3,4,5,6 and 7 to agenda item 6 (Clifton Moor Managed Business Centre – Capital Programme Scheme – Minute 65 refers), on the grounds that they contain information relating to the financial and business affairs of particular persons. Such information is classed as exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

### **62. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Leader and Advisory Panel held on 20 February 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair of the Advisory Panel and the Executive Leader.

### **63. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was reported that there had been no registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme.

## **64. COMMUNITY CENTRE FUNDING**

Members considered a report which sought approval for the provision of service level agreements (SLAs) to purchase management services in community homes from voluntary management committees.

SLAs were a form of funding offered by the Council to York's voluntary sector and were used to purchase a specific activity or programme from a voluntary organisation. Four organisations had applied for SLAs of £7,180k for the 2005/06 financial year. These were listed in Annex 1 to the report and included Bell Farm Social Hall and Foxwood, Poppleton and Tang Hall Community Centres.

All four applications were recommended for approval. However, it was noted that the Poppleton application should be read in the context of a recommendation in a report to the Executive on Double Taxation that its SLA funding be tapered and withdrawn over a five-year period.

### Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to approve the proposed Service Level Agreement awards of £7,180k, as listed in Annex 1 to the report.

### Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and the above suggested decisions endorsed.

REASON: To enable these organisations to continue providing day to day management for community centres, in accordance with standards developed in partnership with the Council.

## **65. CLIFTON MOOR MANAGED BUSINESS CENTRE – CAPITAL PROGRAMME SCHEME**

Members considered a report which summarised proposals received from developers for provision of a new managed business centre on land at Amy Johnson way and recommended a preferred developer. Approval was also sought to enter into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with York, Selby and Malton Business Advice Centres Ltd. (YSMBAC), who would be managing the building.

Invitations to tender for the scheme had been made in October. Eleven bids had been received and an evaluation system used to select a shortlist of four. The shortlisted bids had then been analysed in detail, resulting in a clear preference for the Helmsley Group's proposals. Details of the criteria used for the shortlisting, results of the detailed analysis and key features of each scheme were set out in Annexes 2, 3 and 4 to the report respectively. An artist's impression of the preferred scheme was provided at Annex 7 and plans showing the layout in more detail were circulated at the meeting. A financial appraisal of the shortlisted schemes was provided in Annex 5 to the

report. The Helmsley Group had again emerged top of this appraisal. In respect of rentals, the following options were presented:

**A** – baseline rent +£1/sq ft (higher risk of voids / low call on capital)

**B** – baseline rent +50p/sq ft (medium risk of voids / medium call on capital)

**C** – baseline rent only (low risk of voids / medium call on capital).

Option C was recommended, as lower rents would be more attractive to businesses and a low risk of voids meant less financial risk to the Council.

During their discussions, Members endorsed the sustainability aspects of the Helmsley Group's proposals. They suggested that the developers also be encouraged to use locally sourced materials and to investigate the potential of "intelligent metering" to monitor energy and water use.

#### Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to:

- (i) Agree to proceed with the scheme put forward by the Helmsley Group, as outlined in the report.
- (ii) Agree to authorise negotiations with the Helmsley Group and to finalise the details of the scheme.
- (iii) Authorise Officers to prepare an SLA with YSMBAC.
- (iv) Approve the use of £106k from the capital programme to fund the cost of selling Parkside and equipping the new facility.
- (v) Approve the use of £184k from the capital programme to be allocated to the scheme, to be used to repay debt and provide a revenue budget.
- (vi) Agree that the Economic Development capital programme be reduced by £446k to be used for other corporate capital projects.
- (vii) Note and endorse Members' comments with regard to sustainability issues.

#### Decision of the Executive Leader

**RESOLVED:** That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and the above suggested decisions endorsed.

**REASONS:** In order to progress this scheme, working with a developer selected in accordance with agreed evaluation criteria.

## **66. CITY OF YORK YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM - STAFFING**

Members considered a report which sought approval to make permanent two full-time posts in the Youth Offending Team (YOT) which were currently established on one-year fixed term contracts.

The posts in question were both YOT Officer posts at Scale 5/6 and had been established from a one-off YOT reserve fund, as a measure to improve the team's overall performance. Three options were presented for Members' consideration:

**A** – establish the posts on permanent contracts, on the basis that recurring funding had now been secured within the core YOT budget;  
**B** – further extend the temporary nature of the contracts;  
**C** - take no action and allow the posts to terminate on their end dates.  
Option A was recommended, in order to address the issues raised by last year’s joint inspection of the YOT and stabilise staffing in the team. The posts would be funded from the £50k increase in the Council’s contribution to YOT, approved as part of the 2006/07 budget.

#### Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to:

- (i) Approve Option A and establish the two existing posts on permanent contracts, subject to (ii) below.
- (ii) Require that the Youth Justice Plan be refined to include more specific output measures for the YOT, reflecting the broad priorities of the Council, and that performance be recorded on the Council’s intranet, with any below target performance exceptions being referred to the Executive Leader with details of the recovery action proposed.

#### Decision of the Executive Leader

**RESOLVED:** That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and the above suggested decisions endorsed.

**REASON:**

- (i) In order to address the staff retention issues highlighted by the Inspection report and in view of the proven need for these posts and the availability of core funding.
- (ii) To ensure that the Council’s investment in the YOT is balanced by tangible outcomes and that performance is properly monitored.

### **67. DEVELOPING THE CITY OF YORK YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN**

Members received a report which introduced an early draft of the Youth Justice Plan for 2006/07 for their consideration and comment. The format and template for the Plan, as required by the Youth Justice Board, was attached as Annex A. The draft Plan (Annex 2) had been circulated separately to Members and made available on the Council’s website.

The draft Plan aimed to consolidate on all the recommendations in the YOT Inspection report and the actions in the responding action plan. It also incorporated the feedback from a wide ranging consultation exercise recently carried out with partner agencies. The final Plan would be signed off and approved by the Chief Officers of all the partner agencies.

In response to Members’ questions on the draft Plan, Officers confirmed that:

- “Resilience” issues resulting from small teams had been addressed as part of the action plan.

- Two funds had recently been amalgamated to create a parenting strategy, which should result in improved performance in this area.
- Performance on supporting access to substance misuse was based on part year data, due to target dates being brought forward.
- A strategy was being developed to improve performance in the difficult area of providing training / employment for young offenders.

Members commented that a more accessible version of the Plan, selecting key indicators of concern to the local community, should be made available.

#### Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to:

- (i) Note the draft Youth Justice Plan.
- (ii) Request that the performance indicators included in the report be supplemented with “top level” measures which reflect other Council priorities, such as reducing repeat offending, public satisfaction with services, etc.
- (iii) Request that performance information for the YOT be made available to Members (via the Intranet) on a monthly basis in future, with any failure to achieve repeat offending targets being subject to an exception report to the Executive Leader.

#### Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and the above suggested decisions endorsed.

REASON: To make the information in the Plan more accessible and meaningful to the local community and to ensure that performance is properly monitored.

### **68. YORK CENTRAL STEERING BOARD UPDATE**

Members considered a report which provided an update on the meeting of the York Central Steering Board held on 10 February and on progress with the York Central project since the last update, in December 2005.

It was reported that the project programme was on target, with detailed survey work substantially complete. A report had been taken to the Executive on 7 March setting out the proposed planning approach for the site and seeking approval to prepare an Area Action Plan (AAP) and to include York Central within the revised Local Development Scheme. Indicative timescales for preparation of the AAP were set out in paragraph 9 of the report. A pre-Council seminar on York Central and a further report to the Executive were planned for June. The next meeting of the Steering Board was scheduled for 19 May.

In response to questions from Members, Officers confirmed that the Board had not commented on Faber Maunsell’s report but was aware of the Council’s position on this. The Executive Leader expressed

disappointment at the length of time it would take for the LDF to come to fruition. The Shadow Executive Leader expressed concern that the timetable for the AAP meant that the Plan would not be in place before conclusion of the developer's masterplan, thus potentially enabling the developer to influence the AAP to the detriment of residents.

Advice of the Advisory Panel

That the Executive Leader be advised to note the recent progress with York Central.

Decision of the Executive Leader

RESOLVED: That the advice of the Advisory Panel be accepted and the above suggested decision endorsed.

REASON: In accordance with routine update procedures for the York Central project.

S F GALLOWAY  
Executive Leader

K HYMAN  
Chair of Advisory Panel  
[The meeting started at 5:00 pm and finished at 6:05 pm.]