

Meeting	Executive
Date	18 May 2017
Present	Councillors Carr (Chair), Aspden (Vice-Chair), Ayre, Gillies, Lisle, Rawlings, Runciman and Waller
Other Members participating in the meeting	Councillors Stuart Barnes and Craghill

PART A - MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

151. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare, at this point in the meeting, any personal interests, not included on the Register of Interests, or any prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests they may have in respect of business on the agenda. No additional interests were declared.

152. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of Annex 2 to Agenda Item 10 (Park and Ride Operator Procurement) on the grounds that it contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). This 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).

153. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the last Executive meeting held on 27 April 2017 be approved and then signed by the Chair as a correct record.

154. Public Participation

It was reported that there had been 3 registrations to speak at the meeting under the Council's Public Participation Scheme and that 1 Member of the Council had also requested to speak. The registrations were in respect of the following items:

Matters Within the Committee's Remit

Tony Fisher, speaking as Chairman of Strensall Parish Council, expressed concern as to the decision taken by the Executive Member for Transport and Planning on 11 May 2017 to approve a pedestrian scheme on York Road Strensall. He raised concern as to the validity of evidence presented at the meeting and stated that the summary of the Parish Council's consultation response had been selective and that the use of funds for this project were not the best investment for the village. He asked that the decision be referred back for further consideration.

In response, the Executive Member for Transport and Planning, stated that the evidence had been heard and he was comfortable with the decision as based on officers' recommended evidence.

Highways Funding Overview

Paul Hepworth, speaking on behalf of Cycling UK and the local Cycle York campaign, expressed support for the cycling elements of the report's proposed expenditure. He welcomed proposals to include carriageway margins as part of the DfT Pothole Spotter trial and the bid to the DfT Challenge Fund to repair and upgrade the riverside National Cycle Network route 65 through York.

Park and Ride Operator Procurement

Dave Merrett challenged the Park and Ride report and spoke of its' failure to advise the Executive on the health issues for York as a result of traffic emissions. He added that proposals should include an evaluation of costs and benefits of measures such as electric buses and that health as well as traffic implications should be considered.

Councillor Andy D'Agorne stated that whilst the proposals outlined within the Park and Ride report were a significant improvement on those previously submitted, they did not meet the zero emissions capability stated in the Council's Air Quality Action Plan. He asked that Members and bus operators commit to a switch off campaign and that there be an upgrade to zero emissions at the earliest opportunity.

155. Forward Plan

Members received and noted details of the items that were on the Forward Plan for the next two Executive meetings, at the time the agenda had been published.

156. Science City York

Members considered a report which had been referred to the Executive from the Shareholder Committee. It proposed that the Council take the necessary steps to enable the remaining Science City York funding to transfer to Make It York so that the funding could be used for its intended purpose.

Members were reassured that funds would be retained for development within the digital technology and creative business sectors and would continue to be reported to the relevant Scrutiny committee.

Resolved: That the Executive accept the recommendation of the Shareholder Committee to agree to the Council withdrawing from membership of Science City York.¹

Reason: To facilitate the residual Science City Funds transferring to Make It York.

Action Required

1. Withdraw from membership of Science City York

CC

157. Highways Funding Overview

Members considered a report which set out a number of highway and transportation improvement schemes as well as details of the wider capital funding sources that were being accessed, the schemes that they were funding and the outcomes that would be achieved.

The individual schemes, their source funding and the benefits realised, outlined at Appendix A, were highlighted. It was clarified that the sum of £1,187,000 against the Public Realm Investment for Economic Growth - Outline Business Case, was not for the development of the business case itself, but used to develop proposals for whole city infrastructure. He stated that the balance of monies left over after developing the business case, would be allocated to the first stages of the replacement programme, should the Executive choose to proceed with the re-development of the City Centre.

It was noted that whilst the cycling schemes outlined were still in the initial stages, the intention was to capitalise on the City's geographic suitability for cycling, promote economic activity and improved air quality, through encouraging behavioural change.

Resolved: That the Executive agree to:

- (i) Approve the proposed allocation of funding as detailed in the report and annex.¹
- (ii) Delegate to the appropriate Executive Members the implementation of decisions as proposed in the report.²
- (iii) Delegate to the Corporate Director of Economy and Place to proceed with the schemes as outlined in the report.³

Reason: To implement the council's transport policy identified in York's third Local Transport Plan, deliver innovative and effective approaches to highway asset management, grow the economy and provide wide ranging improvements to the built and natural environment across the City.

Action Required

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| 1. Action allocation of funding | SW |
| 2. Note the delegations to Executive members to implement decisions | SW |
| 3. Note the delegation to proceed with the schemes | SW |

158. Budget 2017 Discretionary Rate Relief Policy & Enterprise Zone Policy

Members considered a report which provided details of and sought authorisation for the new policies for discretionary rate relief arising from the Spring Budget 2017 and associated with the new Enterprise Zone in York Central.

It was noted that that there would be a minor amendment to the York Central Enterprise Zone Business Rates Discount Scheme (Annex B), in that an additional paragraph would be added to include the same decision making process set out in the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy (Annex A).

With regards to valuation, it clarified that whilst the methodology was out of the Council's control, businesses could appeal if they felt the valuation was incorrect.

Resolved: That the Executive approves:

- a) The new policy at Annex A of the report for discretionary rate relief for those businesses hardest hit by the business rate revaluation as set out in the Government Spring Budget 2017;¹
- b) The new policy at Annex B for business rate relief in respect of the York Central Enterprise Zone;²
- c) That minor changes can be made (Paragraph 22 of the report) to either policy (Annex A & B) by the Director of Customer & Corporate Services in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance & Performance.³

- Reason:
- a) To provide a transparent process for awarding discretionary rate relief and supporting local businesses.
 - b) To provide a transparent process to encourage businesses to relocate to the Enterprise Zone and grow the York economy.
 - c) To provide flexibility to amend either scheme quickly if required without fundamentally altering the purpose of the policies.

Action Required

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| 1. Implement the new policy for discretionary rate relief | PS |
| 2. Implement the new policy for business rate relief (York Central Enterprise Zone) | PS |
| 3. Note the delegations to make minor changes to either policy | SW |

159. Shared Ownership Affordable Housing Programme

Members considered a report which outlined the capital grant funding awarded to the Council under the Government's Shared Ownership and Affordable Homes Programme, administered through the Homes and Communities Agency.

It was noted that the financial modelling and examples of customer affordability were included in Annexes 1 and 2.

Resolved: That the Executive accepts the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) grant award of £2.76m, for the delivery of 65 Shared Ownership homes.¹

Reason: So that the Council can formally accept the HCA investment and deliver this affordable home ownership programme as part of the Council's ambition to deliver a wider range of tenure products to meet the housing needs of the city.

Action Required

TB

1. Accept the HCA grant award as agreed

160. Park & Ride Operator Procurement

Members considered a report which provided details of the result of the evaluation of the tenders received for the provision of the Park & Ride bus service.

The new contract introduced 3 electric buses to the Park & Ride network and all diesel buses used on the Park & Ride would be to Euro 6 standards. It was noted that the provision of a successful and efficient Park & Ride service reduced congestion and improved air quality in the City centre and saved 4 million car visits per year. The winning supplier's proposals included the provision of new buses, additional capacity, and improved emissions standards.

An additional recommendation in relation to the pursuit of funding opportunities for low emission and electric vehicles was proposed and agreed and included as recommendation (f).

Resolved: That the Executive approves Option A outlined within the report.

Subject to minor amendments as the result of clarification of terms, the Executive:

- a) Agrees to delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Economy and Place to enter in to contract with the proposed supplier for the provision of Park & Ride services;¹
- b) Agrees to the option for overnight parking arrangements at the Askham Bar and Monks Cross Park & Ride sites;²
- c) Rejects at this time the options to extend the hours of site supervision or to provide extended evening Park & Ride bus services;
- d) Delegates authority to the Corporate Director of Economy and Place for the procurement of a maximum of five days of

additional Sunday opening hours to cater for special events on a case by case basis in consultation with the Executive Member for Transport and Planning.³

- e) Notes the additional future years costs (£85k) will be incorporated as growth within the budget that Council will consider in February 2018.
- f) Agrees that In light of recent Government statements on funding for local authorities for low emission and electric vehicles, the Corporate Director of Economy and Place ensures that the Council works with its' contractor to obtain any funding opportunities that arise within the contract term to minimise the environmental impacts of the Park and Ride Service.⁴

Reason:

This course of action will ensure that the continued successful operation of the York Park & Ride network is guaranteed and which balances the Council's ambitions for improvement with a financially sustainable operating model.

Action Required

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| 1. Note the delegations to enter into contract with the proposed supplier for the provision of Park & Ride services | AB |
| 2. Implement option for overnight parking arrangements outlined in the report | AB |
| 3. Note the delegation relating to the procurement of a maximum of five days of additional Sunday opening hours as outlined in the report | AB |
| 4. Pursue any funding opportunities that may arise for low emission and electric vehicles | AB |

PART B - MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL

161. Shared Ownership Affordable Housing Programme

Members considered a report which outlined the capital grant funding awarded to the Council under the Government's Shared Ownership and Affordable Homes Programme, administered through the Homes and Communities Agency.

Recommended: That Council agrees a budget of £5.52m for the scheme funded from the HCA grant (£2.76m) and the HRA investment reserve (£2.76m).¹

Reason: So that the Council can formally accept the HCA investment and deliver this affordable home ownership programme as part of the Council's ambition to deliver a wider range of tenure products to meet the housing needs of the city.

Action Required

1. Refer to Council

CT

Cllr D Carr, Chair

[The meeting started at 5.30 pm and finished at 7.10 pm].