

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

WEDNESDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 2016

**PRESENT:** Councillor J Blake in the Chair

Councillors A Carter, S Golton, D Coupar,  
R Lewis, J Lewis, L Mulherin, M Rafique  
and L Yeadon

Apologies Councillor M Dobson

### 121 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents

### 122 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

**RESOLVED** – That, in accordance with Regulation 4 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as exempt on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information so designated as follows:-

- (a) Appendix 2 to the report regarding ‘Potential Investment in the East Leeds Orbital Road’ referred to in Minute No. 129 is designated as exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the information contained within the submitted appendix relates to the financial or business affairs of a third party investor and of the Council. It is considered that the release of such information during the discussion about the proposed investment and negotiations of terms could prejudice the interests of either party. As such it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the content of appendix 2 as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
- (b) Appendix 3 to the report regarding ‘Victoria Gate Public Realm Improvements’ referred to in Minute No. 130 is designated as exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the information within the appendix relates to the financial or business affairs of a particular of a particular person and the Council. This information is not publicly available from the statutory registers of information kept in relation to certain companies and charities. It is considered that since this information was obtained from a third party and is subject to their contract negotiations then it is not in the public interest to disclose this information at this point in time. Also the release of such information would or would be likely to prejudice the

Council's and the third party's commercial interests in relation to the works contract and any future contracts on similar works. It is therefore considered that this element of the report should be treated as exempt under rule 10.4(3) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules.

- (c) Appendix 1 to the report regarding 'Development of a District Heating Network' referred to in Minute No. 141 is designated as exempt from publication in accordance with paragraph 10.4(3) of Schedule 12A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the information within the appendix relates to the financial or business affairs of a particular of a particular person and the Council. The information contained within appendix 1 is commercially sensitive, relating to financial and business affairs currently being contemplated by the Council. Disclosure at this stage will impact on the Council's ability to negotiate the best commercial deal and achieve best value. Consequently, the public interest in maintaining the exemption currently outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

### **123 Late Items**

No formal late items of business were added to the agenda, however Members were in receipt of supplementary information in the form of:

- (a) A revised copy of the booklet "Living Better Lives in Leeds – the Annual Report of Adult Social Care 2015/16 – this contained updated information within the timeline of achievements (Minute No.133 refers)
- (b) An updated version of the table at exempt appendix 1 in respect of the 'Development of a District Heating Network' report (Minute No.141 refers)
- (c) Revenue Budget Proposals and Capital Programme - A briefing note in the light of the final settlement announcement made on 8th February 2016 and a briefing note specific to the Public Health Budget (Minute No. 142 refers)

### **124 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared at the meeting, however, in relation to the report "Living Better Lives in Leeds – The Annual Report of Adult Social Care in Leeds 2015/16", Councillor Carter drew the Board's attention to his position as Chair of the Neighbourhood Network Support Group for the Calverley, Farsley and Tyersal area. (Minute No. 133 refers)

### **125 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016 be approved as a correct record

## **EMPLOYMENT, ENTERPRISE AND OPPORTUNITY**

### **126 The Apprenticeship Levy**

The Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a joint report on the policy changes and recently announced funding mechanisms for apprenticeships. In particular the report provided information

on the Apprenticeship Levy, due to be introduced from April 2017; and on the Government publication 'English Apprenticeships: Our Vision 2020' which summarised progress on the apprenticeship reforms and outlined plans to grow the number of apprenticeships to 3 million by 2020.

In introducing the report, the Executive Member for Employment, Enterprise and Opportunity highlighted the implications of the Apprenticeship Levy for the Council, both as an employer and as provider of apprenticeship brokerage services to local businesses and young people. Additionally, he also highlighted that the introduction of the levy would have implications for local learning institutions and for local public and private sector employers.

In response to Member's queries, the Board received information on the partnership working underway with the business/public service communities on the wider impact of the Levy, the likely number of additional apprenticeships that the Council would need to create and the associated levy costs. It was noted that further detail on the proposals would be issued by Central Government in the Summer 2016. Additionally, the Board noted that an Apprenticeships Fair would be held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at the First Direct Arena for local employers and young people

The Board welcomed the report and recognised the work undertaken so far by officers in preparation for the implementation of the Levy.

**RESOLVED –**

- a) That the planned introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy from April 2017 and the potential financial and workforce development implications for the Council and other employers in the city be noted
- b) That the outline work programme to prepare for the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy be approved and that the Chief Officer Human Resources and the Chief Officer Employment and Skills be requested to provide an update report in the Autumn 2016

**RESOURCES AND STRATEGY**

**127 Financial Health Monitoring 2015/16 - Month 9**

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report on the Council's projected financial health after nine months of the 2015/16 financial year.

With regard to the emergency response to flood recovery works, the Board was informed that the Council was developing a case to access financial assistance for eligible expenditure from the Bellwin Scheme.

**RESOLVED –** That the projected financial position of the Authority for 2015/16, be noted.

**128 Best Council Plan 2016-2017 Proposals**

Further to minute No.110 of the meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015, the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report presenting the Best Council Plan 2016/17 for the Board's consideration. The report also sought approval for the

Best Council Plan to be recommended for adoption by Council on 24th February 2016.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member for Resources and Strategy highlighted how the new Best Council Plan continued the aim of reducing inequalities as set out in the 2015/16 Best Council Plan; but articulated this more firmly by setting out how the actions identified will be delivered and their relationship to the Council's Breakthrough Projects.

Responding to Members' enquiries, the Board received information on how the Breakthrough Projects, together with the ambitions of the Best Council Plan would look to take practical steps in addressing inequality across the city, especially in those areas which had a higher concentration of deprivation and poverty.

### **RESOLVED**

- a) That the adoption of the Best Council Plan 2016/17, as attached as Annexe 1 of the submitted report, be recommended to full Council
- b) That it be noted that further design work will take place.

(The Council's Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rules state that the power to Call-In decisions does not extend to those made in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules. As resolution (a) above was being made in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, such matters were not eligible for Call-In)

### **REGENERATION, TRANSPORT AND PLANNING**

#### **129 Potential Investment in the East Leeds Orbital Road**

Further to minute 74 of the meeting held 21st October 2015, the Director of City Development submitted a report containing details of the Council's efforts to source funding for the East Leeds Orbital Road. The report also provided information on an emerging proposal for private sector funding for the construction of the road.

The report provided background to the development of the initial proposal for Legal & General to provide equity investment, alongside public grant from the West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund, to enable construction of ELOR by the Council.

Additionally, the report set out the range of issues to be further assessed and resolved, before decisions can be made as to whether the investment can be considered to be appropriate and commercially acceptable for all parties.

Responding to an enquiry, the Board received details of the proposed timescales regarding the establishment of the Orbital Road; and also received information on the development of the surrounding land.

Following the consideration of Appendix 2 to the submitted report, designated as exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information

Procedure Rule 10.4 (3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

**RESOLVED -**

- a) That the expression of investment interest from Legal & General in the East Leeds Orbital Road be noted and welcomed;
- b) That approval be given to the Director of City Development to lead further due diligence on the investment proposals and that discussions continue to take place with Legal & General on the matters set out in paras 3.18 – 3.23 of the submitted report;
- c) That the Director of City Development be requested to report back to Executive Board to provide assurances on risks and value for money to the Council relating to the investment and proposed Heads of Terms by September 2016;
- d) That agreement be given for the Council to continue to develop its baseline funding model for the East Leeds Orbital Road, as set out in paragraphs 2.12-2.14 of the submitted report, alongside any further discussions with Legal & General or other third party interests.

**130 Victoria Gate Public Realm Improvements**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which provided the Board with an update on the Victoria Gate development, in particular the associated public realm improvement works. The report also sought authority to spend a capital sum of up to £885,000 as allocated in the Capital Programme Update 2012-15 and for additional funding to support recent enhancements to the scheme arising from the sale of parcels of land adjacent to the former Millgarth Police Station.

Following the consideration of Appendix 3 to the submitted report, designated as exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

**RESOLVED -**

- a) That authority to spend of up to £885,000 from the Economic Initiatives fund as allocated in the Capital Programme Update 2012-15 report to Executive Board on 18th July 2012; be approved
- b) That the Director of City Development, in consultation with the Executive Member for Regeneration, Transport and Planning and the Chief Officer Highways and Transportation, be authorised to agree the final scheme details, including costs, as outlined in Appendix 3 of the submitted report;
- c) That approval be given to the use of additional capital receipts from the parcels of land adjacent to the former Millgarth Police Station as outlined in this report as required, to support the enhanced improvements to the public realm

**131 Bridgewater Place Wind Amelioration Scheme - Development Agreement**

Further to Minute No.178 of the meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> February 2014, the Director of City Development submitted a report seeking approval to conclude and

enter into the Development Agreement with the owners of Bridgewater Place and their funding agent for the wind amelioration scheme.

The report provided a brief history of Bridgewater Place, culminating in the developers being granted planning consent in November 2014 for a scheme of wind amelioration works to address identified issues arising from the building on the surrounding highway. The report explained that, in order to facilitate the works and protect the Council's position and the public interest both during the works and post construction, it was necessary for the Council to enter into a Development Agreement with the owners of the property and their funding agent.

In considering the report, the Board recognised the work undertaken by officers to reach this point in the process. The Board received assurance that extensive and highly specialised advice had been obtained and relied upon by officers in relation to all aspects of the amelioration scheme, including the proposed Development Agreement, as appended to the submitted report.

#### **RESOLVED -**

- a) That it be noted that, based on specialist advice received, officers have been advised that the proposed installation "has been found to be effective in mitigating the local ground-level wind speeds as far as practically possible within the confines and restrictions of the site";
- b) That it be noted that, post construction, there will be a need for further street level works to be carried out to ameliorate the effects of potential "hotspot" areas where wind speeds may (at times of high winds) still exceed safe levels. Additionally, it be noted that the precise extent, nature and location of these works will be identified and agreed based on expert advice following post installation testing by wind experts.
- c) That it be noted that the works to install the Amelioration Scheme are being carried out by Contractors appointed and engaged by the Building Owners; that the anticipated start date of the works is March 2016 and that the works on site are likely to take up to 50 weeks to complete;
- d) That it be noted that, due to the extensive nature of the works within and over the Highway, the extended road closure of Water Lane at intervals throughout the duration of the works will be unavoidable; and
- e) That the Council be authorised to enter into the Development Agreement to enable the wind mitigation scheme to be installed and that the completion of the Agreement and any non-material amendment(s) be delegated to the City Solicitor.

#### **HEALTH, WELLBEING AND ADULTS**

The Director of Public Health; the Director of Children's Services and the Director of Adult Social Services submitted a joint report setting out proposals for the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-21 for consideration and comment prior to the publication of a final Strategy later in the Spring 2016.

In introducing the matter, the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adults, reported that the Health and Wellbeing Board was currently engaging publicly on a draft refreshed Strategy document for publication later in the Spring 2016 which will retain its vision and 5 outcomes to inform and influence strategic decision for health and care providers in the city. Two of the outcomes would be edited to reflect changing policy and priorities.

A one page overview of the Strategy was attached as Appendix 1 and a copy of the public engagement document was included as Appendix 2 of the submitted report.

Discussions included consideration of the flexibility and responsiveness of the Strategy to changing priorities during the lifetime of the Strategy

**RESOLVED –**

- a) That the outcomes and priorities as set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of the submitted report and how they complement the proposed Best Council Plan 2016/17 be noted.
- b) That the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board in their development of the Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy for publication in Spring 2016, be supported

**133 Living Better Lives in Leeds - The Annual Report of Adult Social Care in Leeds 2015/16**

The Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report as an introduction to the 2015/16 Local Account of Adult Social Care Services for its citizens. The Local Account of adult social care and support in Leeds is entitled 'Living Better Lives in Leeds – the Annual Report of Adult Social Care in Leeds 2015/15" and was attached as Appendix 1 of the submitted report. The Board received a revised version of the Annual Report booklet which included an amended timeline of achievements.

Responding to an enquiry, the Board was assured that the Council was willing to work and engage with partners where appropriate, in order to develop a mixed economy of care provision.

**RESOLVED –**

- a) That the contents of the submitted report and the revised version of the Local Account for Leeds, entitled 'Living Better Lives in Leeds: The Annual Report of Adult Social Care 2015/16" as submitted at the meeting; be noted
- b) That it be noted that the Head of Policy, Performance and Improvement for Adult Social Care will ensure that Living Better Lives in Leeds is published on the Leeds City Council Website within four weeks of approval by the Executive Board

### **134 Charging for Non-Residential Adult Social Care Services**

The Director of Adult Social Services submitted a report presenting the reasons for the review of charging for non-residential adult social care services and providing details of the consultation process and the outcomes arising from it. The report set out the implications arising from the proposals for service users and for the Council's income, and also made recommendations for changes to charging for non-residential adult social care services for the Board's consideration.

In presenting the report, the Executive Member for Health, Wellbeing and Adults outlined the demands on social care services which continued to increase and made clear that the Council would face substantial reductions in government funding over the next five years in addition to those incurred over the last five years.

It was noted that Adult Social Care customers in Leeds continued to pay less than in many authorities, but that within the challenging financial context the Council needed to consider changes to charging to help fund the adult social care services that people relied upon.

A schedule of the proposed changes was attached as Appendix 3 to the report with Appendix 7 setting out the report of the service expert advisory group on the proposals.

During discussions, the Board recognised the work undertaken by officers during the consultation process to engage with members of the public and service users

#### **RESOLVED -**

- a) That the outcomes of the consultation and the way in which they have been addressed as set out in sections 4 and 5 of the submitted report be noted.
- b) That the outcomes of the equality impact assessment and the way in which they have been addressed as set out in section 7.2 of the submitted report be noted.
- c) That the proposed increase in charges from April 2016 and future years as set out in section 6.5 of the submitted report be noted
- d) That approval be given to the changes to charges for non-residential services as set out in section 5 of the submitted report to be implemented starting from April 2016.
- e) That approval be given to a sum of £100k being set aside from the additional income generated to support those customers who need help with making their money go further.
- f) That it be noted that the Head of Finance (Adult Social Care) will be responsible for implementing these recommendations.

### **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**



**135 Outcome of consultation to increase primary school places in Hyde Park/Headingley**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on proposals brought forward to expand Brudenell Primary School in order to meet the local authority's duty to ensure sufficiency of school places. The report detailed the outcome of the consultation undertaken and sought permission to publish a statutory notice in respect of those proposals.

Responding to an enquiry, the Board was provided with information on the current position regarding school places in the Roundhay and Alwoodley areas.

**RESOLVED -**

- a) That approval given for the publication of a Statutory Notice to expand Brudenell Primary School from a capacity of 280 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 40 to 60 with effect from September 2017.
- b) That it be noted that the responsible officer for implementation is the Capacity Planning and Sufficiency Lead.

**136 Outcome of consultation to increase primary school provision in the Swarcliffe / Whinmoor planning area**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on proposals brought forward to meet the local authority's duty to ensure sufficiency of school places, specifically the proposals to increase places at Fieldhead Carr Primary School from September 2018. The report summarised the outcome of the consultation held between 7th January 2015 and 4th February 2015 and sought permission to publish a statutory notice in respect of the proposals.

In addition, the report referenced the consultation which had taken place on a proposal for Grimes Dyke Primary School, also within the Swarcliffe/Whinmoor planning area during June 2015, and explained the reasons why Fieldhead Carr Primary was recommended as the preferred option at this stage.

**RESOLVED**

- a) That approval be given for the publication of a Statutory Notice to expand Fieldhead Carr Primary School from a capacity of 210 pupils to 420 pupils with an increase in the admission number from 30 to 60 with effect from September 2018.
- b) That the consultation which took place at Grimes Dyke Primary School be acknowledged, together with the fact that further school expansions will be required within this area as the East Leeds Extension progresses.
- c) That it be noted that responsible officer for implementation is the Capacity Planning and Sufficiency Lead.

**137 Determination of school admission arrangements 2017**

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report seeking approval of the local authority admissions policy and admissions arrangements for entry to

school in 2017. The paper described changes to the Leeds Admissions policy, the consultation which had been undertaken and responses received; and sought approval for the policy and the co-ordination arrangements. The admissions arrangements must be determined by 28 February 2016.

The report outlined the two main proposals to revise Priority 1b (the wording of the explanatory note to priority 1b to be made clearer to enable parents to understand whether this is likely to apply to their child; and to Priority 6 (to provide catchment areas for the 6 remaining community secondary schools for whom Leeds City Council are the Admitting Authority).

#### **RESOLVED -**

- a) That Executive Board determines the school admissions arrangement for 2017 and gives approval to the admissions policy as set out within the submitted report, noting the following:
  - the amended explanatory note relating to priority 1b.
  - the admission policy for primary schools will now differ from secondary schools
  - the remaining community secondary schools will have catchment areas.
  - the Co-ordinated scheme for admissions arrangements for entry in September 2017.
- b) That it be noted that the officer responsible for this work is the Admissions and Family Information Service Lead, and the date for implementation (i.e. determination of any revised policy) is no later than 28 February 2016.
- c) That it be noted that the officer responsible for publication of the determined arrangements is the Admissions and Family Information Service Lead, and the date for implementation (i.e. publication) is no later than 15 March 2016.

#### **COMMUNITIES**

##### **138 Effective Housing Management and Lettings Framework**

The Director of Environment and Housing submitted a report setting out the changes arising from the Housing and Planning Bill, and the potential impact on the council's Tenancy Strategy, housing management and lettings framework.

The report also sought approval to undertake consultation on proposals for changes to the council's lettings framework, including the development of a tenant transfer list, a review of the lettings policy and a new approach to community lettings policies. Additionally, the report included an update on progress made with the harmonisation of tenancy management and support policies and procedures, which put a greater focus on the more intensive tenancy management and support to tenants, particularly at the start of the tenancy.

The Executive Member for Communities presented the report and highlighted the request to extend the life of the existing Tenancy Management Strategy pending receipt of further details of the Housing and Planning Bill from Central Government. In receiving the report, the Board welcomed the 'tenancy training' provision.

#### **RESOLVED**

- a) That approval be given for the development of a Council response to the changes set out in the Housing and Planning Bill, and the potential impact on Housing Leeds.
- b) That approval be given for the extension of the council's current Tenancy Strategy to 31 March 2017 and the Director of Environment and Housing be requested to submit a further report on the implications of the Housing and Planning Bill along with proposed changes to the Tenancy Strategy in September 2016;
- c) That the consultation plan set out in section 4 of the submitted report on changes to the council's lettings framework be approved;
- d) That a further report setting out the results of the consultation exercise, an equality impact assessment and seeking approval for the implementation of a revised Lettings Policy be presented to the Executive Board in September 2016

#### **139 Design and Cost Report for Proposed Housing ICT Solutions**

The Director of Environment and Housing submitted a report seeking approval to invest in replacement housing ICT systems, including implementation of interim arrangements, at a capital cost of £5.5m.

The report set out how the project would address the risks arising from the current outdated systems and the proposed solution would secure a range of cashable and non-cashable benefits.

In response to one Members' enquiry, the Board received further information on the business case for the proposals and the Executive Member for Communities confirmed that the progress of the scheme would be monitored and reported back to Members as appropriate.

#### **RESOLVED**

- a) That approval be given, as a Key Decision, for a procurement exercise to be undertaken for housing ICT solutions, noting that the Director of Environment and Housing will be accountable for the approval of the specification and tender documentation, the selection of the successful supplier and contract award (each as decisions consequential to that Key Decision).
- b) That the proposed interim arrangements, including the waiver of Contract Procedure Rules 8.1 and 8.2 (in accordance with those rules) be approved, to ensure continuity of provision and a smooth transition to the new arrangements.
- c) That approval be given for the injection of £5.5m into the HRA capital programme and to give authority to spend this £5.5m.

#### **140 Community Asset Transfer of Old Cockburn Sports Hall to Hamara Healthy Living Centre**

The Director of City Development and the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) submitted a joint report seeking approval to the transfer of Old Cockburn Sports Hall to Hamara Healthy Living Centre on a 25 year peppercorn rent in line with the Community Asset Transfer policy. The report also sought approval for revenue grant support of £55,000 to be paid in instalments over the first three years. A site plan was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

The report detailed the outcome of consultation which had identified community asset transfer as the preferred method to ensure the future of the centre with Hamara Healthy Living Centre being the only organisation to submit an expression of interest. Hamara intend to operate the centre as a community sports centre to promote health and wellbeing and community cohesion.

#### **RESOLVED**

- a) That approval be given to the community asset transfer of Old Cockburn Sports Hall to Hamara Healthy Living Centre by way of a 25 year full repairing and insuring year lease at nil premium and peppercorn rental; and to note that the Director of City Development will be responsible for ensuring that this resolution is implemented;
- b) That approval be given for revenue grant support of £55,000 to be paid in instalments of £20,000 in 2016/17, £20,000 in 2017/18 and £15,000 in 2018/19 funded from the savings arising from this proposal; and that it be noted that the Assistant Chief Executive Citizens & Communities will be responsible for ensuring that this resolution is implemented.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY**

#### **141 Development of a district heating network**

The Board considered the report of the Director of Environment and Housing which outlined the benefits of implementing the first phase of the district heating network, which will deliver heat from the Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility (RERF) to the city centre and to council owned multi-storey blocks in the Lincoln Green, Saxton Gardens and Ebor Gardens areas of the city.

A map of the site was included at appendix 2 of the submitted report and the Board had received an updated version of exempt Appendix 1 prior to the meeting.

The RERF, currently being constructed at Cross Green, was designed to generate enough electricity to power over 22,000 homes. The report outlined the opportunity to harness the heat produced whilst processing the waste at the RERF and develop a district heating network (DHN). A DHN would provide the city with an infrastructure that will support the sustainable growth of Leeds, support the city's ambitions to significantly reduce carbon

emissions, provide greater energy security for the city whilst also helping those in fuel poverty. Additionally, a DHN would hold the potential to be expanded to deliver low carbon heat to additional sites across the city.

The report noted that the investment in a DHN would be cost neutral to the Council, with the potential to provide a surplus which could allow further investment in the network across the city, achieving greater carbon reductions as well as allowing the Council to further support residents in fuel poverty.

In response to issues raised by Members regarding the rapidly changing economics of the energy market, officers undertook to provide those Members with a detailed briefing on this and the wider business case for the proposals.

Following the consideration of the revised Appendix 1 to the submitted report, designated as exempt from publication under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4 (3), which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was

## **RESOLVED**

- a) That approval be given for the injection of £21 million into the Capital programme to deliver the District Heating Network programme to be funded through £14 million of borrowing that is supported by revenue income streams that are generated by the investment and £7 million grant subject to a successful bid to the LEP;
- b) That the necessary authority be provided to procure the district heating network;
- c) That the necessary authority be delegated to the Director of Environment and Housing to vary the Residual Waste PFI contract and to enter into the necessary ancillary contractual arrangements with prospective partners/heat customers.
- d) That a further report be presented in the Autumn 2016 when the business case has been finalised to allow Executive Board to provide authority to spend and to authorise contract award for construction and operation of the district heating network.

## **ECONOMY AND CULTURE**

### **142 Revenue Budget Proposals and Capital Programme**

Further to Minute No.105 of the meeting held 16th December 2015, the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report regarding the proposals for the City Council's Revenue Budget for 2016/2017 and the Leeds element of the Council Tax to be levied in 2016/2017.

The provisional Local Government Finance settlement was announced on the 17th December 2015 the day after the Initial Budget Proposals were approved by the Executive Board. The impact for Leeds was reported as a reduction of £34.1m to the Council's adjusted Settlement Funding Assessment which was £10m more than was assumed in the Initial Budget Proposals. The report set out the details of how the additional savings would be generated.

Following the announcement of the final settlement by Central Government on 8th February 2016, Members had received supplementary packs containing a briefing note on Leeds' confirmed settlement and a briefing note in respect of the Public Health budget prior to the meeting. Approval was sought at the meeting to incorporate the information within the briefing notes into the Budget report to be presented to Council. The Board was advised that the budget proposals which would be submitted to Council for determination would include details of the recently announced final local government finance settlement.

Emphasis was placed upon the unprecedented financial challenges that the Council continued to face, and the pressures which were being placed upon Local Authorities with regard to ensuring the delivery of key public services.

In receiving the report, the Board thanked officers for their commitment to putting together the Budget in such challenging financial circumstances.

In presenting the report, the Leader commented upon and raised significant concerns regarding the details of Transitional Grants made available by the Chancellor to eligible local authorities. As such, the Leader sought and was provided with cross-party support to make representations to Government on such matters.

In response to an enquiry, the Board was provided with more details regarding the current and future position of Children's Services, with specific reference to funding for schools' and services for schools

#### **A) 2016/17 Revenue Budget and Council Tax**

##### **RESOLVED -**

- a) That Executive Board recommends to Council the adoption of the following:
  - i) That the Revenue Budget for 2016/17 totalling £496.378m be approved. This means that the Leeds element of the Council Tax for 2016/17 will increase by 1.99% plus the Adult Social Care precept of 2%. This excludes the Police and Fire precepts which will be incorporated into the report to be submitted to Council on the 24th February 2016
  - ii) That approval be given for grants totalling £84k be allocated to Parishes.
  - iii) That, in respect of the Housing Revenue Account, Council be recommended to approve the budget with;
    - A reduction of 1% in dwelling rents, a 5% increase in garage rents and a 3% increase in district heating charges.
    - Approve that service charges for multi-storey flats/low/medium rise properties are increased by £1 per week
    - Approve that charges for sheltered support are increased from £12 to £13 per week and that a charge of £2 per week is introduced for those tenants who benefit from the sheltered support service but do not currently pay.

- b) That in respect of the final settlement supplementary document:
  - (i) That it be noted that the 2016-17 funding allocations for Leeds have been confirmed in the final settlement; and that the 2016-17 Budget proposals are unchanged
  - (ii) That approval be given for an explanation of the changes for authorities be incorporated into the 2016-17 Revenue Budget and Council Tax Report to be considered by Council on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016
  
- c) That, in respect of the Scrutiny Report on Fees & Charges attached as Appendix 2 of the submitted report:
  - (i) That the report from scrutiny be welcomed and the proposed changes to the Fees and Charges Policy and Best Practice Guidance be agreed.
  - (ii) That it be noted that in relation to non-residential Adult Social Care Services, the recommendation that officers consider the potential to either increase or remove the current cap on the amount anyone pays for their services per week has been addressed and proposals are included in a separate report on Adult Social Care charging elsewhere on agenda for consideration (minute 134 refers).
  - (iii) That officers be tasked with consideration of the other recommendations proposed by Scrutiny and report back to Executive Board as appropriate.

## **B) Capital Programme Update 2016-2019**

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report setting out the proposed Capital Programme for the period 2016-2019, which included details of forecast resources for that period. In addition, the report also provided a review of 2015/2016 scheme spend.

### **RESOLVED –**

- a) That Executive Board recommends to the Council:
  - i) That the capital programme, as presented in Appendix F of the submitted report, be approved
  - ii) That the revised MRP policy for 2016/17 as set out in Appendix D of the submitted report be approved
- b) That Executive Board approval be given for the list of land and property sites shown in Appendix B of the submitted report to be disposed of to generate capital receipts for use in accordance with the MRP policy

## **(C) Treasury Management Strategy for 2016/17**

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report seeking approval to the Treasury Management Strategy for 2016/17. The report also provided an update on the implementation of the 2015/16 strategy.

### **RESOLVED -**

- a) That Executive Board approval be given to the initial treasury strategy for 2016/17 as set out in Section 3.3 of the submitted report and that

the review of the 2015/16 strategy and operations as set out in Sections 3.1 and 3.2. be noted

- b) That full Council be recommended to set the borrowing limits for 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 as detailed in Section 3.4 of the submitted report; and to note the changes to both the Operational Boundary and the Authorised limits.
- c) That Council be recommended to set the treasury management indicators for 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 as detailed in Section 3.5 of the submitted report
- d) That Council be recommended to set the investment limits for 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 as detailed in Section 3.6. of the submitted report.
- e) That Council be recommended to adopt the revised Treasury Management Policy Statement.

(The matters referred to in Minute Nos. 142(A)(a(i),(ii) and (iii))(Revenue Budget and Council Tax); 142(B)(a)(i) and (ii)(Capital Programme) and 142(C)(b) to (e)(Treasury Management Strategy) being matters reserved to Council, were not eligible for Call In)

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5, Councillors A Carter and Golton both required it to be recorded that they respectively abstained from voting on the decisions referred to within this minute)

#### **143 Commemorating the First World War: Somme 2016**

The Director of City Development submitted a report which sought to recognise and promote the commemoration of the Battle of the Somme, together with the involvement of the Leeds Pals. The report highlighted the planned programme of activity in the city and also reviewed the success of the programme of events which commenced in 2014 to commemorating the lives lost during World War 1.

Finally, the report outlined the budget for the delivery of this additional programme as £20,000; half of which was proposed to be earmarked to provide support of c£1k for each community committee area.

During discussions on the matter, the Board also recognised the contribution made by Leeds residents across a number of Regiments and organisations which contributed to the war effort; and noted the request that as part of future annual commemorations, a wreath is laid on behalf of Leeds City Council at the Colsterdale memorial to the Leeds Pals.

**RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report be noted and approval be given to the approach of adding to the national commemorations through a range of city-wide and local activity.



**DATE OF PUBLICATION: FRIDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY 2016**

**LAST DATE FOR CALL IN  
OF ELIGIBLE DECISIONS: 5.00PM, FRIDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2016**

(Scrutiny Support will notify Directors of any items called in by 12.00noon on Monday 22nd February 2016)