

EXECUTIVE BOARD

16TH NOVEMBER 2005

PRESENT: Councillor Harris in the Chair
Councillors D Blackburn, A Carter, J L Carter,
Harker, Harrand, Jennings, J Procter, Smith
and Wakefield

Councillor Blake –Non voting advisory member

111 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED – That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the second report referred to in minutes 126 and 136, and page 12 of the Executive Summary referred to in minute 143 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 or confidential information, defined in Access to Information Procedure Rules as indicated in the minutes.

112 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Blackburn indicated his intention to leave the room during the discussion on the item relating to the disposal of the Leeds International Pool site (minute 132) in order to avoid any perception of predetermination at such time as the matter may be considered by the Plans Panel (City Centre) of which he was a member.

Councillor J L Carter declared a personal interest in the item relating to heavy goods vehicle traffic in Otley (minute 134) as he had previously indicated his objection to the proposal.

Councillor A Carter declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item relating to Headingley Cricket ground (minute 127) as a former member of Yorkshire County Cricket Club.

Councillor Blake declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the item relating to heavy goods vehicle traffic in Otley (minute 134) as a resident on the vehicle route concerned.

Councillor Jennings declared a personal interest in the item relating to Headingley Cricket ground (minute 127) as a regular attender of matches at the ground and having recently met with the owner of the ground.

Councillors Wakefield and Harris declared personal interests in the item relating to Headingley Cricket ground (minute 127) as attenders of rugby league matches at the adjoining ground, Councillor Harker as an attender of rugby union matches and Councillor Smith as the holder of a season ticket at the rugby league ground.

(Further declarations made during the meeting are referred to in minutes 133 (Councillor Wakefield) and 137 (Councillors A Carter, Harris and J Procter)

113 Minutes

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2005 be approved.

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING

114 Home Energy Conservation Act 1995

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on the progress made in managing and implementing measures identified in the energy efficiency plan.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the 9th Home Energy Conservation Act Progress Report be approved.

115 Mistress Lane / Armley Road Site Development Proposals

The Directors of Neighbourhoods and Housing and Development submitted a report on progress on the regeneration of the West Leeds Gateway area and on an opportunity to boost regeneration through the early disposal of a strategic site at Mistress Lane.

The report presented the options of:

- (a) Putting the site on the open market and inviting offers with the benefit of an approved planning and development brief.
- (b) The establishment of a joint venture partnership.
- (c) Disposal of the site to a registered social landlord.
- (d) Disposal of the site subject to a scheme arising from a design competition (the Allen Todd scheme).

The report concluded that option (a) was the most likely to result in the Council achieving the best consideration which could reasonably be obtained.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the disposal of the site by sale on the open market in accordance with option (a) as detailed in the report.
- (b) That any capital receipt be ring-fenced for the repayment of demolition costs incurred by Leeds West Homes.
- (c) That this approval be subject to the planning brief and housing market analysis being completed within three months of this decision.

116 Housing Strategy

The Director of Neighbourhoods and Housing submitted a report on the review of the Leeds Housing Strategy undertaken through the Leeds Housing Partnership with the full involvement of the range of housing partners.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the revised Leeds Housing Strategy 2005-2010, the Older Persons Housing Strategy and Action Plan and the BME Housing Strategy and Action Plan.

LEARNING

117 Primary Review Alwoodley: Outcome of Consultation

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the outcome of consultation undertaken on the proposed closure of Fir Tree Primary School in September 2006

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposed closure of Fir Tree Primary School be not progressed at present and that Education Leeds undertake further work in the light of issues raised during the consultation.
- (b) That a further report be brought to this Board on primary provision in the Alwoodley area within the current academic year.

118 Primary Review Far Headingley – Outcome of Consultation

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the outcome of public consultation on the proposal to close Beckett Park Primary School in September 2006.

RESOLVED – That consideration of this matter be deferred to allow Education Leeds the opportunity to consider views arising from discussions at a recent North West (Inner) Area Committee meeting.

119 Review of City Council School Admission Policy

Further to minute 200 of the meeting of the Board held on 11th February 2005 the Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the outcome of the consultation exercise with all headteachers and chairs of governing bodies.

RESOLVED – That the three recommendations approved by the Board in February 2005 be confirmed as follows:

- (a) that the current admission policy be retained as it affords a safety net school for parents and offers all communities a continuing local school
- (b) that the issue of the Council's admission policy and the degree of first preferences be viewed as part of the school improvement agenda rather than as a separate issue
- (c) that the current straight line measure be retained as a straightforward and unequivocal method of determining distance.

120 Building Schools for the Future Project

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report on proposals to progress Phase 1 of Wave 1 of the Building Schools for the Future Programme

RESOLVED – That, subject to a minor correction by the addition of words to paragraph 4.1.4 of the report so that the first 'bullet' point reads "Development and delivery of...." etc, the following be approved:

- (a) That this Board notes and agrees the process for the establishment of a Local Education Partnership the exclusivity awarded to the Partnership through the contractual arrangements and the principle of

differentiation of roles and responsibilities between the Partnership and Education Leeds.

- (b) That this Board notes and agrees the final scoping of Phase 1 of Wave 1 of the Council's Building Schools for the Future Programme, as summarised in Section 4 of the report and that this forms the basis of the Output Specification, included as part of the Invitation to Negotiate Documents to be released to bidders at the end of November 2005.
- (c) That the financial implications of Phase 1 Wave 1, as summarised in Section 8 of the report be approved.
- (d) That the headline Unitary Charge for the four schools to be procured through PFI, amounting to £12.952m at April 2010 prices be noted and that this be approved as the Council's PFI Affordability threshold to be issued to bidders with the Invitation to Negotiate Documents.
- (e) That the cost for the works at Temple Moor and Cockburn High Schools at an estimated total of £29.855m be noted and agreed as the Council's Capital Investment Affordability threshold for these two schools to be issued to bidders with the Invitation to Negotiate Documents.

121 Big Lottery Fund PE and Sport Programme: John Smeaton Community High School

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on proposed additional Community Club Development Fund scheme design proposals and scheme costs for capital works to be undertaken at John Smeaton Community High School as part of the Big Lottery Fund (formerly New Opportunities Fund) PE and Sport project.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the revised additional Community Club Development Fund scheme design proposals and scheme costs for capital works to be undertaken at John Smeaton Community High School as part of the Big Lottery Fund (formerly New Opportunities Fund) PE and Sport project.
- (b) That approval be given to the injection of additional Community Club Development Fund capital grant in the sum of £123,191 and £60,280 Big Lottery Fund funding into the approved Capital Programme.
- (c) That authority be given to incur additional expenditure of £183,471.

122 Primary Review: Stanningley

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the outcome of the statutory representation period for the reorganisation of primary provision in Stanningley.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That having considered the representations received approval be given to proceed with the proposal to close Rodley Village Primary School and Aireview Primary School on 31st August 2006 and to establish a one form of entry school in the existing Aireview building on 1st September 2006.
- (b) That it be noted that the representations result in the determination of the notice falling to the School Organisation Committee.

- (c) That the comments prepared by Education Leeds and contained in the report be approved as the Local Education Authority's response to the representations on the proposal.

123 Performance Against 2005 Strategic Incentive Performance Targets

The Chief Education Officer submitted a report on the performance of Education Leeds when measured against the Strategic Incentive Performance Targets for 2005.

RESOLVED – That the good performance of Education Leeds against the 2005 targets be noted and that approval be given to the incentive payment of £280,000.

124 New Contract with Education Leeds: Progress

The Chief Executive of Education Leeds submitted a report on the preparation of a new schedule of documents to support the continuation of the Council's arrangements with Education Leeds beyond 31st March 2006 on the basis of the principles and proposals approved by the Board on 9th March 2005 (minute 226).

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be received, that the progress being made on the preparation of a new schedule of documents to support the continuation of the Council's arrangements with Education Leeds beyond 31st March 2006 be noted, and that the proposal in paragraph 5.4 of the report regarding the membership of the Education Leeds Board be approved and that the Scrutiny Board (Children and Young People) be requested to note this decision.
- (b) That the Chief Executive be authorised to sign any documents necessary to give effect to the principles and proposals set out in the report and as approved on 9th March 2005.

LEISURE

125 Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study

The Directors of Learning and Leisure and Development submitted a joint report on the key findings of the feasibility study undertaken into the provision of a concert, arena and other music related facilities in the City.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the findings of the Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study into the future provision of concert, arena and other music related facilities in the City be noted.
- (b) That the recommendations of the Cultural Facilities Task Group on the conclusions of the Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study and the proposed way forward be endorsed.
- (c) That consultants be appointed to advise the City Council on the development of a delivery strategy for a proposed new arena and associated related facilities.
- (d) That an initial feasibility study be prepared to identify the potential options available to future improve the Leeds Town Hall, such that it may become a major concert venue of international standing.

- (e) That the incurring of expenditure of £200,000 be authorised for the appointment of consultants to prepare a feasibility study on the Town Hall and to prepare a delivery strategy for the proposed new arena and associated related facilities.
- (f) That officers report back on the outcome of the public consultation exercise into the key findings and recommendations of the Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study and, on the outcome of the studies on the Town Hall and arena and conference/exhibition facilities.

126 Deputation to Council – Middleton Park Bonfire

The Director of Learning and Leisure submitted a report on the cancellation of Middleton Park Bonfire, referred to Executive Board by the Council following attendance of a deputation at the meeting on the 1st November 2005.

RESOLVED – That the content of the report and the response to comments made by the deputation be noted.

127 Headingley Cricket Ground

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report on ways in which the Council could assist in securing the future of Headingley Cricket Ground and test match cricket for the ground.

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services advised as to the reasons why a second report had been designated as exempt and on the potential consequences of unauthorised public release of the report.

Following consideration of the second report designated exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(7) which was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was:

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the content of the first report be noted.
- (b) That approval in principle be given to the Council providing a loan facility to Yorkshire County Cricket Club in accordance with the structure described in the report, subject to the resolution of outstanding matters, identified in the report and that a final decision on making the loan and agreement of the detailed arrangements be the subject of consideration by this Board at an additional meeting to be called at short notice if necessary.

(Councillor A Carter having declared a personal and prejudicial interest left the meeting during consideration of this item)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

128 Deputation to Council – Representatives of the Youth Council in Support of Fairtrade in Schools

The Chief Democratic Services Officer submitted a report presenting the content of a deputation received by Council on 1st November 2005.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the deputation speech be referred to Scrutiny Board (Children and Young People).
- (b) That Scrutiny Board (Children and Young People) be requested to initiate an Inquiry, involving young people, into Fairtrade in Leeds schools.

SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH

129 Social Services Charging Policy Framework

The Director of Social Services submitted a report setting out some guiding principles for charging within Social Services within the overall context of the Department's Business Plan.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposed timetable for further work as outlined in Section 3 of the report be approved.
- (b) That the future work outlined in the report, to be undertaken within the context of the draft charging policy framework set out in appendix 1 be endorsed.

130 Deputation to Council – Leeds Chinese Community Association

The Director of Social Services submitted a report on the background to the deputation to Council on 1st November 2005 and on proposals for the consideration of the specific issues raised in the deputation.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and endorsement be given to the proposed course of action both with regard to the Corporate response to the needs of the Chinese community in the City thus far and the specific undertaking that appropriate departments jointly consider the funding needs of the Leeds Chinese Community Association.

DEVELOPMENT

131 Town and District Regeneration Scheme

Further to minute 291 of the meeting of the Board held on 18th May 2005 the Directors of Corporate Services and Development submitted a report giving an update on the Town and District Regeneration Scheme, providing details of bids received and summarising the initial assessment of the bids against the agreed scheme criteria.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the initial assessment of bids against the agreed key criteria be noted
- (b) That further works required be noted as summarised in section 4.3 of the report to ensure that schemes are viable and if so that they are then effectively developed, so that spend from this scheme provides lasting economic regeneration benefits to town, village and district centres of Leeds.

132 Disposal of the Leeds International Pool Site

Further to minute 188 of the meeting of the Board held on 19th January 2005 the Director of Development submitted a report on the progress made by the Council's preferred purchasers of the site of Leeds International Pool prior to the disposal of progressing to a more advanced stage.

The report presented the options of rescinding the earlier decision or of proceeding to sell the site to Barrett and HBG Properties Limited in accordance with the decision.

Following consideration of details relating to a reduction in the purchase price designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(9), and which were circulated at the meeting and considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting, it was:

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the improvements made by the parties named in the report to the proposed redevelopment scheme of the site of the Leeds International Pool be noted
- (b) That the site of the Leeds International Pool be sold to the party identified in paragraph 2.2 of the exempt appendix circulated at the meeting on the terms detailed in the appendix.
- (c) That the decision of 19th January 2005 that the Council should dispose of the site of the Leeds International Pool, but now to one of the original parties named in the report, be reconfirmed.
- (d) That the agreement of detailed terms relating to the disposal of the site of the Leeds International Pool be referred to the Director of Development for consideration under delegated powers.
- (e) That any capital receipt realised from the sale of the Leeds International Pool site and adjoining car park in excess of the 2 sums already identified in the Capital Programme be ring fenced and injected into the Capital Programme to fund:
 - (i) the improvement of identified leisure centres
 - (ii) to support future city centre swimming provision if required, and
 - (iii) to fund any shortfall in the Council's capital contribution towards construction of the new Swimming and Diving Centre in the event of the ring fenced capital receipt from the sale of the site of the Leeds International Pool being insufficient to fund the construction works

(Further to minute 112 Councillor D Blackburn left the meeting during consideration of this item)

133 Strategic Design Alliance – Architecture and Building Professional Design Services

Further to minute 148 of the meeting of the Board held on 14th December 2004 the Director of Development submitted a report updating Members on the progress of the proposal to develop a Strategic Design Alliance to provide a fully collaborative design team for the City Council

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given to the implementation of the Strategic Design Alliance as proposed, subject to the Director of Development being satisfied that the outstanding items detailed in paragraph 3.09 of the report are resolved to her satisfaction.
- (b) That the Director of Development be authorised to enter into a formal contract with Jacobs Babtie and develop a formal Strategic Design Alliance Charter.
- (c) That the actions being taken by the Director of Development to promote careers in professions associated with her department in partnership with schools be noted and that she be requested to extend those actions to further schools and to include design services

(During discussion of this item Councillor Wakefield declared a personal interest as a member of the Learning and Skills Council)

134 Otley – Heavy Goods Vehicle Traffic

The Director of Development submitted a report on the outcome of consultations regarding heavy goods vehicle traffic in and to the north of Otley.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (b) That the Directors of Development and City Services be authorised to undertake the preparation and development of proposals for the introduction of Traffic Regulation Orders to restrict Heavy Goods Vehicle traffic on roads within Otley to the North of the Wharfe Bridge.
- (c) That North Yorkshire County Council and the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council be formally invited to work with the City Council in the development of a comprehensive solution to the present problem of Heavy Goods Vehicle traffic using inappropriate local roads in the Wharfe Valley area including the consideration of appropriate Traffic Regulation Orders to complement those which the City Council may be minded to introduce on its own roads.
- (d) That a further report be brought to this Board when detailed proposals have been prepared.
- (e) That the continuation of the Otley HGV Forum be supported.

(Councillor Blake having declared a personal and prejudicial interest left the meeting during consideration of this item. Further to minute 112 Councillor J L Carter took no part in the discussion or voting on this item)

135 Local Safety and Safer Routes to School Measures

The Director of Development submitted a report on measures and programmes being followed to reduce road casualties and improve safety in local communities and in the vicinity of schools.

RESOLVED – That the report and the proposals for the further schemes to contribute to safer and improved access to schools and within local communities be noted.

136 A65 Abbey Road Integrated Transport Corridor

The Director of Development submitted a report on the design and implementation of bus priority proposals aimed at reducing congestion and pollution on the A65 between Leeds Outer Ring Road and Kirkstall Lane.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That approval be given for the design and implementation of bus priority proposals aimed to reduce the problems of congestion and pollution on the A65 between Leeds Outer Ring Road and Kirkstall Lane, as set out in the report and shown on the attached drawing numbers DS/298647/CR/01 and 02 at a total cost of £1,530,000
- (b) That authority be given to incur expenditure of £1,270,000 works and £150,000 staff costs (£110,000 previously approved) which can be met from the Integrated Transport scheme 99609 within the approved Capital Programme.

137 Leeds City Council's Shareholding in Leeds Bradford International Airport

The Director of Development submitted a report on the current and projected performance of Leeds Bradford International Airport and providing strategic advice on the Council's shareholding.

Following consideration of the appendix to the report providing strategic advice on the Council's shareholding, designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(9) and (11), and considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was:

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the outcome of the initial option assessment be noted
- (b) That officers be requested to consult with the other shareholding authorities to seek their views on the outcome of the initial option appraisal undertaken.
- (c) That officers report back to this Board on the outcome of the consultation with other shareholding authorities and, based on the feedback received, recommend a detailed course of action to progress.

(Councillors A Carter and Harris declared personal interests as members of the Airport Board and Councillor J Procter as an alternate member)

CENTRAL AND CORPORATE

138 Customer Strategy 2005/08

The Chief Customer Services Officer submitted a report setting out the Customer Strategy for 2005/08.

RESOLVED – That the Customer Strategy be approved as a key corporate policy document, and as a sub-strategy of the Corporate Plan 2005-08.

139 Financial Health Monitoring – Capital Programme Update

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report on the latest financial position in respect of the 2005/06 Capital Programme. The report highlighted major capital schemes injected into the Capital Programme since it was

approved at Council in March 2005 and some additional expenditure pressures for which the necessary approvals were sought.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the latest position of the Capital Programme 2005/06 and the projections for 2006/07 to 2007/08 be noted.
- (b) That the injection into the Capital Programme of the following additional resources be approved:
 - (i) £7.308m Children's Centres funding for 2006/07 and 2007/08
 - (ii) £2.5m HRA Regional Housing Board monies for 2005/06 and 2006/07.
- (c) That the financial provision for the following additional capital pressures be approved:
 - (i) £2.5m injection into the Town and Districts Regeneration Programme from 2007/08
 - (ii) £2.5m injection for the Parks urban renaissance programme
 - (iii) £0.250m injection into the Roundhay Park refurbishment programme for reinstatement works
 - (iv) £0.200m allocation from the Contingency scheme for the additional costs of the Gamblethorpe capping works.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter)

140 Financial Health Monitoring 2005/06 – Half Year Report

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report on the Council's financial health for 2005/06 after six months of the financial year. The report covered expenditure and income to date compared to the approved budget, the projected year end position based on performance after six months and proposed actions to ensure a balanced budget by the year end.

RESOLVED – That the projected financial position of the Authority be noted and approval be given to the appropriate budget adjustments as described in section 2 of the report.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter)

141 Treasury Management Strategy Update 2005/06

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report providing a review and update of the treasury management strategy for 2005/06.

RESOLVED – That the borrowing and investment strategy update for 2005/06 be noted.

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 16.5 Councillor Wakefield required it to be recorded that he abstained from voting on this matter)

142 Financial Plan – Review

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report on the annual review of the Council's third Financial Plan covering the period 2005-2008.

RESOLVED – That the update to the Council’s Financial Plan 2005-08 be approved and that departments be requested to prepare detailed budgets for 2006/07 and 2007/08 in accordance with the principles and proposals included within the update.

143 Annual Efficiency Statement – Mid Year Update

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report on the Council’s efficiency gains to date for the 2005/06 financial year.

RESOLVED – That the contents of the report be noted and approved as the basis of the Annual Efficiency Statement – Mid Year Return to be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister by 17th November 2005.

144 The Carriageworks Theatre Scheme

The Director of Corporate Services submitted a report on the Internal Audit review of the Carriageworks Theatre scheme within the Electric Press development.

Following consideration of the report and page 12 thereof which was designated as exempt under Access to Information Procedure Rule 10.4(7) and was considered in private at the conclusion of the meeting it was:

RESOLVED – That the report be noted and that a further report be brought to this Board on the outcome of work to improve the delivery of major capital projects.

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 18TH NOVEMBER 2005
LAST DATE FOR CALL IN : 25TH NOVEMBER 2005 (5.00 PM)

(Scrutiny Support will notify relevant Directors of any items Called In by 12.00 noon on 28th November 2005)