

CABINET

At a meeting held on Tuesday, 18 October 2022

Present:-

Councillor S Siddons (Chairman) in the Chair;
Councillors Ms E Colling, Mrs J Jefferson, T Randerson, Ms M Donohue-Moncrieff,
C D Maw and J Grieve

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair invited all those present to stand in silence as a mark of respect following the death of the ward member for Scalby and former Mayor, Councillor Hazel Lynskey.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions.

4. FORWARD PLAN

The Cabinet considered the Forward Plan (Reference 22/223).

RESOLVED that the Forward Plan be approved.

5. PROGRESS OF SCRUTINY OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Chief Executive reported that the Cabinet's decision dated 26 July in respect of the land disposal of the former Indoor Swimming Pool site, Scarborough was called in for scrutiny and considered by the Places and Futures O&S Committee on 31 August. At that meeting, the O&S Committee agreed to uphold the Cabinet's decision.

6. DEVOLUTION DEAL FOR YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE

The Cabinet considered the extract minute from the Council meeting dated 5 September 2022 in respect of the Devolution Deal for York and North Yorkshire.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet endorse full Council in giving its support for the steps being taken by City of York Council and North Yorkshire County Council (the Constituent Councils) towards the creation of a Combined Authority for York and North Yorkshire in accordance with the Devolution Deal and as set out in the officer report (Reference 22/194).

Reasons

To confirm the Cabinet's support for the proposed Devolution Deal and the next steps being taken towards the creation of a Combined Authority for York and North Yorkshire.

7. UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF)

The Cabinet considered a report by the Director (MC) (Reference 22/219) which identified a set of projects to be submitted as applications to the North Yorkshire allocation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Members were advised the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was designed to replace the European Structural and Investment Funds programme. It would level up life chances in the UK across three investment priorities: communities and place, supporting local business, and people and skills. Out of the total fund of £2.6 billion North Yorkshire would receive £16.9million of core UKSPF funding and £2.6 million for Multiply, an adult training scheme. North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) were responsible the applications process and day-to-day monitoring of the UKSPF. NYCC had drafted and submitted the Investment Plan for the whole of North Yorkshire on the 29th July and feedback on the plan was anticipated for October. The Council had a pipeline of projects which aligned with local, regional, and national strategies that also mapped well against the programme within NYCC's Investment Plan. Due to the considerable amount of resources needed to integrate a project into a strong application it was recommended to begin work early. The proposed projects were as follows: neighbourhood-based community regeneration; support for displaced peoples; tailored life and employment support; six-month paid work placement programme; Scarborough Cyber Security Cluster; electric mobility hubs; decarbonisation of community buildings; retrofitting of domestic properties; and High Street regeneration. The Officer noted the projects supported the aspirations of the boroughs Local Plan and would be further developed with the intention of being submitted to the North Yorkshire programme of the UKSPF. Members commended the plan and spoke to the various improvements it would bring to the borough.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves the list of projects within the report to be prepared as applications to the North Yorkshire allocation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Reasons

To support delivery of the priorities identified within our Local Plan and the Y&NY Devolution deal.

8. ADRENALIN AND ADVENTURE SPORTS FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Cabinet considered a report by the Director (PT) (Reference 22/217) in respect of a new Adrenalin and Adventure Sports Feasibility Study. Members were informed the strategy would bring awareness of the many resources and activities available in the borough to both residents and the tourist sector. The strategy also enabled future conversations and planning with third-party organisations that could offer insights and ideas into growing the borough's sports offering. Underpinning the feasibility study was an extensive consultation that engaged with the various stakeholder both locally and

nationally. The study also set out a long term vision which required investment from the council and other partners in the public and private sector. Officers had already begun addressing the long term actions needed to realise the ambitious proposals through holding advanced discussions on the next steps and early feasibility work. Members welcomed the report.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves the Adrenalin and Adventure Sports Feasibility Study as a framework to develop adrenalin and adventure sports within the Borough.

Reasons

The Feasibility Study provides an evidence base and strategic framework against which current and future development activity and provision can be planned to establish Scarborough Borough as a destination of choice for adrenalin experiences and adventure sports. This supports the Councils wider strategic objectives and supports the development of the visitor economy and wider investment plans.

9. APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY HOUSING FUNDING FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR COMMUNITY-LED HOUSING BY YORKSHIRE COAST SIGHT SUPPORT

The Cabinet considered a report by the Director (RB) (Reference 22/218) in respect of a new community-led housing scheme by Yorkshire Coast Sight Support. Members were informed the council was granted £1.86 million from the DCLG in December 2016 towards developing community housing. This project was in partnership with Yorkshire Coast Sight Support (YCSS) and would deliver accessible housing to the visually impaired. The officer noted that there was only one property in the borough that had been adapted for the visually impaired, owned by YCSS, but that there were circa 5000 residents who had a degree of visual impairment. Therefore there was a need for adaptable accommodation. The project was fourth in a series of community housing fund schemes that provide match funding of up to 50% total project costs. Officers supported the final plan which set out to purchase a ground floor flat to provide long term security and financial sustainability. The total estimated cost to purchase and renovate the flat was £160,000 of which up to £80,000 would be matched by the council. An allocations policy would ensure fairness and transparency and the flat will be at an affordable rent. Members agreed it was a worthwhile scheme.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves up to £80,000 funding for Yorkshire Coast Sight Support from the Community Housing Fund to support the purchase of a property for use as Community-led housing.

Reasons

To enable the purchase of a property for a Community-led housing scheme.

10. TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN FOR 2021/22

The Cabinet considered a report by the Director (NE) (Reference 22/196) in respect of the out-turn position of the Council's Treasury Management function for the 2021/2022 financial year. In her introduction, the Portfolio Holder, Councillor Jefferson, advised Members that the report was to note the outturn position of the treasury management function for 2021/22 financial year. The report set out the requirements to comply with CIPFA, the body that regulated treasury management in Local Authorities. She confirmed that the council had followed the code of practice by following these requirements and by taking the report to be scrutinised by the Audit Committee prior to Cabinet. The Member went on to describe the status of its various strategies as outlined within the report. In order to mitigate erroneous judgement the council employed the LINK Group to provide specialist advice to support decision making up until the 31st March, 2023. The Director (NE) noted to Members the cornerstone of the investment strategy was the adoption of stringent credit control policies that ensured security of money and cash liquidity. Moreover, investments were in an un-borrowed position as the council had utilised its investments over borrowing, in so doing saving money and avoiding risk. During the year, no new borrowing has occurred and debt to the amount of £380,000 had been paid.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet receives the report and notes the out-turn position of the Council's Treasury Management function for the 2021/2022 financial year.

Reasons

- (i) To comply with the CIPFA Code of Practice of Treasury Management in Local Authorities (the Code) by informing the relevant internal bodies of the Council's treasury management activities following the end of the financial year that the report relates;
- (ii) To keep Members informed of Treasury Management activities and performance.

11. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK - QUARTER 1 REPORT 2022/23

The Cabinet considered a report by the Director (LD) (Reference 22/198) in respect of the Council's performance for the end of the first quarter of 2022/23. Introducing the report, the Portfolio Holder, Councillor Jefferson informed Members that overall services had performed well. 18% of critical success factors (CSF's) had so far been completed, with 72% expected to be completed on time. A small number were delayed and a few could not be completed due to local government reorganisation (LGR). CSF's completed included Adoption of Scarborough Cyber Security Strategy, delivery of the Scarborough Selective Licensing designation, and the development and adoption of the North Bay masterplan. Over 86% of performance indicators were at a high or acceptable level. Councillor Jefferson highlighted benefits as performing particularly well in terms of accuracy of claims and time reductions in processing new claims. She noted there was a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough. Additionally visitors to the town centre, income from filming, conferences, and

outdoor leisure had all risen. In respect of complaints and freedom of information requests, respectfully, 92% and 93% of responses were provided within 20 working days. Services highlighted as at risk identified staff shortages and additional workloads as sources for their issues. The Member concluded by thanking the staff for their work and dedication through the pressures of LGR. The Chief Executive, Mike Greene, also paid tribute to the staff in working hard during a difficult time of transition. Councillor Colling asked for an update on the Women's Refuge. The Portfolio Holder for Stronger Communities and Housing, Councillor Maw, indicated he would provide an answer post-meeting. Councillor Colling inquired further into the issues in recruiting and retaining planning officers as this had led to delays. Mr Greene explained that there was a national shortage of planning officers which has created higher competition over the available pool of planners. Moreover, the uncertainty of LGR has impacted services across the council even amongst reassurances. He noted Officers were addressing this through the Pride in our People programme as well as coordinating with North Yorkshire County Council in delivering effective communications. Members remarked that they were grateful to Officers for continuing to deliver services to the Borough even under these testing circumstances.

RESOLVED that the Cabinet endorses the contents of the report, and in particular the good/satisfactory levels of performance being achieved by services at the current time.

Reasons

To provide information relating to Council performance for the end of the first quarter of 2022/23, including monitoring of Performance Indicators, Critical Success Factors, FOIs, RIPA monitoring and Complaints.

To ensure that the Council's Corporate Service and Business planning processes are effective.

In accordance with Government guidelines, details on the performance of the Council and its services must be made available through as many mechanisms as possible.

MIKE GREENE

On behalf of the Cabinet, the Leader paid tribute to the Chief Executive for his work at Scarborough Borough Council during the last three and a half years, and wished him well in his new role at Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council.

Chairman