Cabinet

22nd March 2021

PRESENT:-

Councillors S. Brady (Chair), D. R. Hale (Deputy Chair), J. Black, P. Clark, D. Craker (from minute 237), A. Harrison, G. Lunn, R. Pantelakis, M. Thompson and Councillor P. Webster.

IN ATTENDANCE:-

- M. Jukes (Chief Executive), D. Bell (Director of Finance and Transformation), M. Jones (Director of Regeneration), I. Anderson (Director of Legal Services and Partnerships), P. Turner (Director of Children's, Young People and Family Services), J. Weldon (Director of Public Health and Adult Services) and L. Scholes (Senior Democratic Services Officer).
- R. Roberts (Head of Early Help and Commissioning) minute 235
- R. Stephenson (Head of Highways, Transport Strategy and Design) minute 236
- G. Taylor (Assistant Director Major Projects and Infrastructure) minute 236
- C. Brown (Strategic Lead (Performance, Improvement and Quality)) minute 237
- T. Fielding (Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing) minute 238
- R. Stephenson (Head of Public Protection) minute 238
- D. White (Air Quality Officer) minute 238

APOLOGIES:-

None.

Minute No.	Description/Decision	Action By/Deadline		
PROCEDURAL ITEMS				
232	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Councillor Hale declared a personal interest in minute 238 insofar as he is a Director of Kingstown Works Limited.			
233	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 nd FEBRUARY 2021 Agreed – that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 22 nd February, 2021, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Chair			
234	PUBLIC QUESTIONS No public questions were received.			

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DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION - HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME (HAF) 2021

The Director of Children, Young People and Families Services submitted a report which set out the proposed implementation plans and indicative budget for the delivery of the DfE's 'Holiday Activities and Food (HAF)' programme 2021, and sought approval for the decisions necessary to enable delivery of the programme.

The comments of the Early Support and Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Commission when this matter was considered, were submitted for consideration, and were detailed at minute 241.

Members welcomed the proposed programme that would be greatly needed especially as the furlough programme ended and the need to ensure the area teams were involved. The officer confirmed that a representative from the area committees was involved, beach days were included in the programme however there needed to be caution and consideration of the national guidance at the time of the events to ensure they met the guidance to operate safely.

Members also discussed the cross over of children and families across the boundary with East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the need to keep ward councillors informed of events in their areas. The officer confirmed that they had liaised with East Riding of Yorkshire Council and there would be no boundaries to where children received the support, it would be free at point of receipt and ward councillors would be kept informed, a briefing paper would be taken to all of the area committees.

Members also commented on the food quality, literacy and the need for swings to be re-fitted where they had been removed.

Agreed -

- (a) That Cabinet approve the proposed programme within the funding for Hull's HAF 2021 programme, specifically:
 - to establish a Public Sector/Voluntary Sector steering group to map and build on existing support available in the city, to enable development of a sustainable model for

(a-b) Director of Children, Young People and Families Services

- delivery;
- ii. To ensure effective co-ordination of existing and new activity;
- iii. To provide the governance for the investment of the grant funds in a manner that supports sustainable model for delivery of Holiday Activities and the Food Programme.
- (b) That Cabinet approve the governance, coordination and implementation arrangements for the programme through a Public Sector/Voluntary Sector Steering Group (see appendix 3) encompassing organisations who existing operations in the city are committed to support delivery of a sustainable programme.
- (c) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Director of Children and Families Services in consultation with the Director of Legal Services and Partnerships and the Portfolio Holder for Learning, Skills and Safeguarding Children to authorise entry into the contracts necessary to deliver the HAF programme.

(c) Director of Children, Young People and Families Services/ Director of Legal Services and Partnerships

Reasons for recommendation

- The HAF Programme 2021 brings a significant opportunity to provide much needed support for children, young people and families following the challenges they have faced during the pandemic. It will allow the council to lead a coordinated offer of activities and food to our families most in need across Hull.
- School holidays can be particular pressure points for some families because of increased costs (such as food and childcare) and reduced incomes. For some children that can lead to a holiday experience gap with children from disadvantaged families less likely to access organised out-of-school activities; more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health and are more likely to experience social isolation.
- The programme will support families to re-engage with their local communities after periods of lockdown. It will enable children and young people to reengage with their friends, wider family and peer groups, supporting improvements to emotional and mental health, social isolation and also physical health.

- The proposals provide the basis for development of a sustainable model for delivery on a partnership basis operating across the public sector and voluntary sector partners in the city.
- The recommendations put forward follow the DfE guidance, ensuring the Council is compliant and in a position to develop and implement a high quality partnership led offer across all of our most deprived communities and beyond.

236 REPORT TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE PROPOSED SCHEMES WITHIN THE HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 AND 2022/23

The Director of Regeneration submitted a report which sought approval for amendments to the Highways Capital Programme 2021/22 and the new programme for 2022/23 supported by both Council and Department for Transport (DfT) capital funding.

The comments of the Infrastructure and Energy Overview and Scrutiny Commission when this matter was considered, were submitted for consideration, and were detailed at minute 241.

Members discussed the size of the programme, which grew further with the inclusion of the microsurfacing element, the roads where this had already been completed were much improved. Members also wished to see the reinstatement of bus stops as part of the Queen Street works.

Moved by Councillor Hale and seconded by Councillor Black –

- (a) That the proposed programme of Highway capital works for 2021/22 and 2022/23 as set out in Appendix A is approved.
- (b) That the prioritisation of individual schemes within the programme is delegated to the Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Investment, Regeneration and Planning and in consultation with the relevant Area Committees.
- (c) That the Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure is authorised to undertake a competitive process through open tender or the

(a-b) Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure

(c) Assistant Director Major YorCivil2 and YorConsult2 frameworks to obtain tenders and subsequently award contracts expeditiously for each scheme following completion of design, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services & Partnerships and Portfolio Holder for Economic Investment, Regeneration and Planning, Land and Property, subject to such tenders being within the overall budget.

- Projects & Infrastructure/ Director of Legal Services & Partnerships
- (d) That the evaluation criteria used for the assessment of tenders will be 100% price on straightforward maintenance schemes less than £50k using standard methods and materials and on more complex schemes via open tender or YORCivil2 or YORConsult2 will be 70% price: 30% quality.
- (d) Assistant
 Director Major
 Projects &
 Infrastructure
- (e) That the Assistant Director Major Projects and Infrastructure and Director of Finance and Transformation are authorised to make applications for and accept grant funds to facilitate the development and delivery of the Highways Capital Programme set out in Appendix A, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Investment, Regeneration and Planning, Land and Property and the Portfolio Holder for Operations.
- (e) Assistant
 Director Major
 Projects &
 Infrastructure/
 Director of
 Finance and
 Transformation
- (f) To authorise the Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure to seek tenders for a six year Micro Surfacing contract (3 years plus 3) beginning in 2022/23 with an overall value not exceeding £2m, to undertake treatments on the unclassified residential road network which otherwise may not be prioritised in the approved Capital Programme.
- (f-i) Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure
- (g) To authorise the Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure to commission the annual Surface Dressing Programme through East Riding of Yorkshire Council for three years beginning 2021/22 not exceeding £900k over the 3 year period.
- (h) that Cabinet approve the reinstatement of bus stops as part of the Queen Street works.
- (i) To authorise the Assistant Director Major Projects & Infrastructure to commission temporary site supervisors, project managers and quantity surveyors through the Council's temporary staffing contract or the Council's Professional Services Framework contract when let.

Motion carried.

Reasons for recommendation

- To implement the Council's transport strategy identified in the Council's Local Transport Plan and ensure that the Council meets its statutory duty to maintain the public highway and, where necessary, exercises its power to improve the public highway to allow or improve safe access and passage and improve delivery of its traffic management duty.
- The delegation of approvals with regard to tender and award of schemes will facilitate the delivery process and allow flexibility to ensure best value is achieved.
- Commissioning of external support is required to meet the complex requirements and scale of the major projects programme the Council is seeking to deliver and provide the ability to deliver additional projects from new funding sources.

Non-Key Decisions

237 CYPFS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Director of Children, Young People and Families Services submitted a report which gave an overview of the improvement programme work over the last twelve months, since the appointment of the Department for Education Commissioner, following the Directions of the Secretary of State for Education. The report sets out the areas of progress and achievement along with areas of risk and outlined priorities for next steps in the programme.

Members discussed the amount of improvement that had taken place over the last 12 months especially with the pandemic and the opening of new children's homes, Members were keen to see the new homes and asked officers to look into how they could receive a virtual tour of the new facilities.

Members also commented on the increase in numbers of Looked After Children and what plans there were to manage and reduce that number. Members queried whether staff were able to put forward concerns without being labelled resistant to change and how staff were supported through the process. The officer confirmed there were number of opportunities for staff to raise their concerns including meetings with the Assistant Director, unions and the Director. The Director was also liaising

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directly with staff to enable them to voice concerns.

Members commented on the improvements and progress of the service over the last year and thanked everyone for their work in looking after the children of the City.

Moved by Councillor Hale and seconded by Councillor Brady -

- (a) That the update be noted.
- (b) That officers look into delivering a virtual tour of the new children's home facilities to Cabinet members.

Motion carried.

Reasons for recommendation

 Progress has continued with the improvement work, with key progress around major projects and the recent Ofsted visit.

238 UPDATE ON THE LOCAL AIR QUALITY STRATEGY 2017

(Councillor Hale declared a personal interest in this matter insofar as he is a Director of Kingstown Works Limited.)

The Director of Public Health and Adult Social Care submitted a report which provided an annual update on the progress of the Local Air Quality Strategy as requested at the November 2017 Cabinet.

Members discussed the improving situation with reductions year on year, the climate change agenda and the achievability of the proposal to halt use of non-electric vehicles when the technology for heavy plant vehicles such as bin lorries was some years off. The officer confirmed that this was an aspiration and would look at it to ensure it reflected reality.

Agreed -

- (a) That Cabinet consider the information provided in the Achievements, Priorities and Issues list at Appendix 1 on the progress of the Local Air Quality Strategy.
- (a-b) Director of Public Health and Adult Social Care
- (b) That annual reports on the progress of the Local Air Quality Strategy are submitted to Cabinet each November and these will include an update on the

progress of measures.

Reasons for recommendation

- The Local Air Quality Strategy is a long term plan that sets out the ambition of the Council to lead by example on improving air quality and protecting the health of people in Hull. It contributes to our obligations to the UK Air Quality Strategy, and the statutory requirements for local air quality management. It is a key element in ensuring that people can live healthier, longer and happier lives. It will contain a series of commitments and targets set out in such a way that progress can be tracked easily. It has been produced in a way that ensures there is a Council wide contribution and commitment to achieving the necessary improvements that can be assessed. There is also the flexibility to add additional measures as required, each being subject to the necessary consultations and considerations.
- The Council's Local Plan was submitted for examination in December 2016 and approved in 2017 – Policy 47 within the Plan deals with atmospheric pollution and identifies the need for development proposals to be submitted with air quality assessments.
- There are other examples of policies within the Council which seek to improve air quality. Within the City Plan, the Active Travel Strategy aims to discourage commuting by car and promote less polluting modes of transport. Also policy 45, which requires the planting of three trees for every dwelling that is newly constructed helps to maximise to the absorption of CO₂ emissions within the City. The Local Air Quality Strategy supports the inclusion of such initiatives within other Council frameworks.

239 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2020-21 – FOURTH FORMAL REPORT

The Director of Finance and Transformation (Section 151 Officer) submitted a report which set out the General Fund revenue monitoring position and also those for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The report included details of the financial impact of the COVID crisis.

The comments of the Finance and Value for Money

Overview and Scrutiny Commission when this matter was considered, were submitted for consideration, and were detailed at minute 241.

Members discussed the various grants from the Government and the need for the list of additional income to be updated and the possibility of using the underspend in the Housing Revenue Account to deal with issues around footways in Council estate areas. Members commented that there were officers in place to inspect paths on Council estates, the underspend had arisen from vacancy management and works not being able to be completed due to the pandemic and the need for it to be used to tackle the backlog on footways works around Council estates. There was a need for a programme of works to be established and planned throughout the year. The officer confirmed that the role of the two Highways Inspector posts were to inspect the highway rather than managing the programme, the HRA was not charged for these roles. The programme for the works on the HRA highways were agreed up to two years in advance, due to COVID teams were not sent out to scan assets last year but would be this year, this would mean they would have the asset requirements. Part of the underspend was due to not being able to get contractors on site due to footpaths where they needed to work being very close to people's houses and there being no alternative access points, works had been rescheduled.

Members also congratulated the officers on delivering a balanced budget in such difficult and uncertain circumstances this year.

Members also discussed the cost of works to repair footpaths, the need to ensure that there was sufficient funding to deal with the repairs and the number of outstanding claims against the Council for people who have fallen on Council paths. The officer confirmed that work was taking place to find a long term solution to deal with HRA pathways.

Members also commented on the Minister identifying the Council's pilot Private Housing Team for delivering the housing programme and the need to communicate widely this good news.

Moved by Councillor Hale and seconded by Councillor Black –

(a) That members note the overspend relating to the Social Care budgets, the savings to be delivered in

year of £1.75M and the impact of the COVID 19 response in terms of projected additional costs and loss of income (see Appendix C for details) which currently suggests a neutral year end position with regard to the General Fund.

(a-c) Director of Finance and Transformation

- (b) That members note the forecast in year surplus of £0.009m for the DSG, and actions/funding required to bring the cumulative position into balance in the medium term.
- (c) That members note the forecast of an in-year surplus of £2.563m for the HRA.
- (d) That discussions take place with Councillors Black and Webster regarding the underspend in the HRA and how it can be used to deal with footway issues in Council estates.

Motion carried.

Reasons for recommendation

 The Council needs to ensure that it is managing its resources effectively while ensuring that the public receive the benefits from the functions that it provides itself or commissions from other service providers.

240 **2020/21 CAPITAL MONITORING – THIRD FORMAL** REPORT

The Director of Finance and Transformation (Section 151 Officer) submitted a report which set out an updated overview of progress against budget and planned activity for the 202/21 capital programme.

The comments of the Finance and Value for Money Overview and Scrutiny Commission when this matter was considered, were submitted for consideration, and were detailed at minute 241.

Members discussed the importance of the capital programme on the City's recovery and jobs, the number of workmen on the Council's building sites which then put money back into the local economy and regenerating the City.

Agreed -

(a) Members note the monitoring information provided

(a-c) Director of

at Section 8 and Appendix B.

Finance and Transformation

(b) Members approve the amendments to the programme detailed at Appendix A, summarised below as:

	£m	£m
Current Approved Programme for 2020/21 to 2022/23 (Cabinet 23/11/20)		428.952
Resource Amendments:		
- External Grant Funding	-7.432	
Confirmations		
- Spend to Save Schemes	1.205	
- HRA Realignment	-0.581	
		-6.808
Proposed Revised Programme		422.144

(c)Members note the forecast outturn as detailed at Appendix B and approve the revised capital programme for 2020/21 to 2022/23, incorporating the proposed amendments, as detailed at Appendix C.

Reasons for recommendation

- The recommendations are to approve the changes to the capital programme following the announcement and/or confirmation of additional external grant allocations to support specific programmes.
- Enables Members to consider the progress and delivery of the approved Capital Programme within the approved funding envelope.

241 COMMENTS OF COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

The Senior Democratic Services Officer submitted comments in relation to minutes 235-236 and 239-240 from the Council's committees and scrutiny commissions that had considered the reports following the circulation of the agenda for this meeting.

Agreed – That the comments be noted.

Start: 9.30 a.m. Finish 10.45 a.m.

The above Executive Decisions will come into force and may be implemented on expiry of five working days after the publication of the decisions i.e. 4th March, 2021, unless called in by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

Published – 24th March, 2021.