

EXECUTIVE

WEDNESDAY 5 JULY 2021 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor J Mallinson (Leader / Chair)
Councillor Ellis (Deputy Leader, and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Christian (Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Higgs (Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Mrs Mallinson (Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Nedved (Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder)

OFFICERS:

Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services
Corporate Director of Finance and Resources
Regeneration Manager

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest affecting the business to be transacted at the meeting.

PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That the Agenda be agreed as circulated.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on 8 February; 15 February and 8 March 2021 were signed by the Chair as a true record of the meetings.

CALL-IN AND URGENCY PROCEDURES

The Leader reported that the Mayor had, on 26 June 2021, agreed that item A.2 Regeneration Programme Update and Economic Development Programme Management be exempt from call in as call-in procedures would overlap the City Council meeting on 20 July 2021 when the Council is scheduled to consider the matter.

EX.57/21 BUSINESS RATES OUTTURN 2020/21
(Key Decision – KD.13/21)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources presented the summary of the 2020/21 provisional outturn and performance position for Business Rates and the impact it would have on the overall General Fund Balance (RD.13/21). Section 2.6.1 of the report recommended that £9,463,000 of the additional income recorded in 2020/21 be transferred to an earmarked reserve at 31 March 2021 and released to General Fund in 2021/22. It was also recommended that responsibility for the reserve rested with the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources and that approval to release the reserve could be given by the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources via an officer decision notice.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder moved, and the Leader seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive noted the provisional outturn position for Business Rates at 31 March 2021 and approved the creation and transfer of a new earmarked reserve as outlined in paragraph 2.6.1 of report RD.13/21.

Reasons for Decision

The commitment of investment in Carlisle and development of clear programmes and strategies now meant that it was an appropriate time to update the Carlisle Plan.

****EX.58/21 REGENERATION PROGRAMME UPDATE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT OFFICE**
(Key Decision – KD.16/21)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Portfolio Leader and Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Economic Growth

Subject Matter

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder provided an update on the regeneration projects and set out the work programme and activities to be undertaken for the financial year 2021-22 (ED.19/21). Approval was sought to add projects, for which funding had been secured, to the capital programme and to delegate authority for some decision making to enable projects to move forward and key milestones to be met.

In order to undertake the role of Accountable Body for the major projects and programmes effectively, the report set out the proposal for the creation of an Economic Development Programme Management Office and an increase to the capacity of the Regeneration team to support the development and delivery of the projects.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing moved, and the Leader seconded the recommendations.

Summary of options rejected Not to continue with the Future High Streets Fund projects. That no funding is provided to increase the capacity of the regeneration team or create a Programme Management Office.

DECISION

That the Executive

1. Noted the Future High Streets Fund (FHSF) Memorandum of Understanding included in Appendix A (ED.19/21), the provisions contained therein.
2. Gave approval to sign the FHSF Memorandum of Understanding and therefore confirm the Council's acceptance of the £9,124,606 grant funding offered.
3. Gave approval for the Council to be the accountable body for the FHSF programme, as per paragraph 2.11 of report ED.19/21.
4. Approved, for recommendation to Council, a budget of £6,742,839 (in addition to the Greenmarket scheme already included in the Council's capital programme) be added to the Council's Capital Programme, according the financial profile for the years 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 as set out in Table 3 of report ED.19/21.
5. Agreed to release the budget for the Greenmarket scheme already included in the capital programme in accordance with the Council's budget resolution agreed in February 2021.
6. Noted the Remediation Road Map for the Caldew Riverside site and the key decision points as set out in Table 5 of report ED.19/21.
7. Delegated authority, regarding the Caldew Riverside remediation strategy key decision points, to the Corporate Director of Economic Development following consultation with the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holder for Economy Enterprise and Housing, Corporate Director of Finance & Resources and Corporate Director of Governance & Regulatory Services to:
 - a) implement the appropriate remediation strategy options.
 - b) Agree scope and contract amount for practical actions within the remaining budget.
8. Noted the progress on the development of the Carlisle Town Deal, the agreement of Heads of Terms (included in Appendix B), the agreed programme of projects as set out in Table 6 of report ED.19/21 and the programme of activity over the next twelve months to progress towards agreeing the Town Deal
9. Noted the additional resources required to deliver City Council's major economic development projects and the associated costs and that these costs will be offset using grant funding that has been secured.
10. Agreed to the establishment of a Major Projects Programme Management Office (PMO) for an initial 3 year period (subject to review) and increasing the capacity of the regeneration team.
11. Approved, for recommendation to Council, additional revenue budget of £91,545 for the financial year 2021/22 to fund the PMO and the regeneration team and an additional £82,560 for the following two years 2022-23 and 2023-24, as set out in Table 8 of report ED.19/21 and funded from Revenue Reserves.

Reasons for Decision

To meet strategic objectives of the Carlisle Future High Street Fund and move forward with the four projects which had £9.1m of funding awarded to them.

EX.59/21 NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-Cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 4 June 2021 was submitted for information.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the paper.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That, subject to the above, the Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 4 June 2021 be received.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

**EX.60/21 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE LEADER / PORTFOLIO
HOLDERS**
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

Details of decisions taken by the Leader / Portfolio Holders under delegated powers were submitted.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the paper.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the decisions, attached as Appendix A, be noted.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.61/21 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY OFFICERS
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

Details of decisions taken by Officers under delegated powers were submitted.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the paper.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the decisions, attached as Appendix B, be noted.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.62/21 JOINT MANAGEMENT TEAM
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-cutting

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Health and Wellbeing; Economic Growth;
Business and Transformation

Subject Matter

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 2 June 2021 were submitted for information.

The Leader moved and the Deputy Leader seconded the Minutes.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 2 June 2021, attached as Appendix C, be received.

Reasons for Decision Not applicable

EX.63/21 RESTARTING COMMUNITIES FUND
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Economic Growth

Subject Matter

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder submitted report ED.18/21 which sought approval for an eligibility criteria and application process for the Restarting Communities Grant to be accessed by parish councils and urban communities within Carlisle District. The Grant would support economic recovery for local parishes and urban communities as match funding to aid recovery following the Covid pandemic.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder moved the recommendation and it was seconded by the Leader.

Summary of options rejected not to agree the eligibility criteria

DECISION

That the Executive

1. approved the grant funding eligibility criteria and application process for parish councils and urban communities to access the Restarting Communities Fund; and
2. approved delegated authority to the Corporate Director of Economic Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economy, Enterprise and Housing to allocate funds in line with the eligibility criteria.

Reasons for Decision

The Restarting Communities would enable parish councils and community groups to open for business, in its widest sense, optimising on the opportunities to facilitate safe gatherings. Funding allocation would prioritise cultural events and beatification projects that would provide a 'safe' environment.

The Council in providing the grant directly from reserves rather than through the Reopening the High Street Safely Fund and Welcome Back Fund will allow greater flexibility on eligible projects being taken forward for funding, avoiding the stringent ERDF requirements of those funding sources.

EX.64/21 END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21 (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Economy, Enterprise and Housing

Relevant Scrutiny Panel Economic Growth

Subject Matter

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder submitted report PC.23/21 containing the End of Year 2020/21 performance against the current Service Standards, together with a summary of the Carlisle Plan 2015-19 actions as defined in the 'plan on a page'. Performance against the 2020/21 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) was also included.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder referenced the summary of exceptions which were a direct result of the Covid pandemic.

The Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio concluded by moving the recommendation, which was seconded by the Leader.

Summary of options rejected to not approve the Strategy for recommendation to Council

DECISION

That the Executive had considered the performance of the City Council as presented in Report PC.23/21 with a view to seeking continuous improvement in how the Council delivered its priorities.

Reasons for Decision

To consider the performance of the City Council with a view to seeking continuous improvement in how the Council delivered its priorities

[The meeting ended at 4.12pm]