NORWICH City Council

Minutes

Cabinet

17:30 to 18:30 **13 March 2019**

Present: Councillors Waters (chair), Jones, Kendrick, Maguire, Packer and Stonard.

Apologies: Councillors Davis and Harris (other council business)

Also present: Councillor Carlo

1. Public Questions/Petitions

There were no public questions or petitions.

2. Declarations of interest

Councillor Stonard declared an 'other' interest in item 8 below in that he was a director of Future Projects part of the Pathways consortium which received grant funding from the council.

Councillor Stonard and Councillor Kendrick declared an 'other' interest in item 11 below in that they were the chair and board member respectively for Norwich Regeneration Ltd.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings held on 6 and 13 February 2019.

4. Safer neighbourhoods initiative

(Superintendent Terry Lordan attended for this item).

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment, presented the report. The initiative aimed to counter the challenge presented by County Lines activities. Issues of crime and fear were important to constituents; £50,000 of extra funding had been allocated to acquire four redeployable CCTV cameras. This was in addition to the new CCTV system the council were investing in.

Extra funding was one aspect of the initiative it also included additional training for front line officers, councillors and contractors. Key to its success was the sharing of data with the police. There was a planned to review of licensing policy and

procedure after impending statutory guidance had been considered. The initiative represented a council commitment to keeping Norwich the safe city it was.

Superintendent Terry Lordan said data sharing with the council was critical and the initiative provided a mechanism by which to challenge County Lines activity.

Councillor Carlo asked if it would be possible for CCTV monitoring hours to be increased. Councillor Maguire said that data analysis highlighted the value of CCTV to be retrospective in the gathering of evidence to take action.

RESOLVED to commend the proposals set out in the report.

5. Quarter 3 2018-19 corporate performance

Councillor Waters, leader of the council presented the report.

Changes in methodology had impacted on the performance targets but provided more robust and accurate data. The report highlighted a number of positive performance achievements. The revenue budget was underspent and had benefited positively for revenue derived from property acquisitions.

Councillor Carlo noted a recent report stating that toxic air was killing more people than smoking and asked if it was time to add air pollution targets to the Heathy Norwich action plan. The strategy manager said that air pollution was likely to be incorporated in the future and there was recognition of the impact of key determinants such as environmental factors on health. However there was much outside the councils remit and control which impacted upon air quality in Norwich.

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment, said the council was looking at ways to improve air quality such as how roads were distributed around the city.

RESOLVED to note progress against the corporate plan priorities for quarter 3 of 2018-19.

6. Scrutiny committee recommendations

Councillor Waters, leader of the council presented the report. He thanked scrutiny committee for considering the employment practice research commissioned by the council. Scrutiny had considered the complex landscape of employment rights and how people could be informed of what their rights were.

RESOLVED to ask officers to identify contact points that the council has with organisations and employers and consider how these could be used to inform people of their employment rights.

7. An overview of external relationships, contracts and grants

(Councillor Stonard had declared an ‘other’ interest in this item)

Councillor Waters, leader of the council presented the report. It was not always financial funding the council provided, it worked with partners and donations were

made in kind, such as the use of council assets and officers time as a resource. The council was a provider of services but also project itself through partnership working.

Councillor Carlo asked about members reporting back from outside bodies, in particular the New Anglia LEP and asked if a report could be brought to council in the next civic year.

Councillor Waters said to review the information already in the public domain and said it would be interesting to look at work the council was doing with the LEP around inclusion. The strategy manager said that LEP was in the scrutiny committee's scope to consider including in its work next year.

The chief executive officer noted that the LEP had a monthly newsletter and suggested members could sign up for this.

RESOLVED to note the partnerships, business relationships and contracts and grants in kind, as well as the grants to be awarded for 2019-20.

8. The award of contract for an early intervention rental income management tool – key decision

Councillor Maguire, cabinet member for safe city environment, presented the report. The procurement was sought to purchase software which would enable officers to filter cases of those residents in rent arrears to better manage officer time and target limited resources into early intervention.

RESOLVED to delegate approval for the director of neighbourhoods in consultation with the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing to award the contract for an early intervention rental income management tool from 01 June 2019.

9. The award of contract for housing mechanical and electrical repairs and maintenance of common areas – key decision

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources, presented the report.

In response to Councillor Carlo's question Neil Watts, manager major works and services, NPS, said that suppression systems in refuge areas of tower blocks were being pursued where required.

RESOLVED to delegate approval to the director of neighbourhoods in consultation with the deputy leader and portfolio holder for social housing to award the contract for a housing communal area mechanical and electrical repairs and maintenance contract.

10. The award of contract for Winchester Tower and Normandie Tower - replacement of the electrical power distribution system and communal lighting – key decision

Councillor Waters, leader of the council presented the report.

RESOLVED to delegate approval for the director of neighbourhoods in consultation with the deputy leader and cabinet member for social housing to award the contract

for Winchester Tower and Normandie Tower - replacement of the electrical power distribution system and communal lighting.

11. The award of contract for architectural services for the potential development of leisure and community facilities at the former Mile Cross depot site – key decision

(Councillor Stonard had declared an 'other' interest in this item).

Councillor Stonard, cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth, presented the report. The work was to conduct a viability assessment as to the potential of leisure and community facilities on the site and a full business case would be returning to cabinet in September 2019.

RESOLVED to seek approval to delegate authority to award a contract for architectural services needed to produce a full business case including financial viability for the potential development of leisure facilities at the former Mile Cross depot site.

12. Procurement of postal collection and delivery services

Councillor Packer, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, presented the report.

The director of business services said that work was ongoing to reduce the amount of outgoing post.

RESOLVED to delegate authority to the director of customers and culture, in consultation with the cabinet member for health and wellbeing, to award a contract for postal collection and delivery services.

13. Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items *14 to *17 (below) on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

***14. Managing assets (housing) – key decision (para 3)**

Councillor Stonard, cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth, presented the report.

RESOLVED to:

(1) the disposal of the freehold interest in the asset on the open market; and

(2) reinvest in the capital receipt from the disposal in the housing capital program for improving, repairing and maintaining our housing stock or for enabling new affordable housing.

***15. Managing assets (non-housing) – key decision (para 3)**

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources, presented the report.

RESOLVED to:

(1) approve the disposal of the freehold interest in the asset; and

(2) delegate the decision to end the tenancy on the property described in this report to the director of regeneration and development in consultation with the portfolio holder for resources and chief finance officer; following satisfactory legal advice in confirmation.

***16. Grant of right to buy one for one receipts – key decision (para 3)**

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources, presented the report.

RESOLVED to award £1,455,849 in retained right to buy one for one replacement receipts to registered providers to support the development of 85 new affordable dwellings as detailed in the report.

***17. Future provision of contracted services – key decision (para 3)**

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources, presented the report.

RESOLVED to agree the recommendations as detail in the report.

CHAIR