



CABINET

17:30 to 18:35

10 October 2018

Present: Councillors Waters (chair) Harris (vice chair), Davis, Jones, Kendrick, Maguire, Packer and Stonard

Also present: Councillors Carlo and Wright

1. Public questions/petitions

There were no public questions or petitions.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2018.

(The chair agreed to consider the exempt agenda items *12 to *15 first.)

4. Exclusion of the public

RESOLVED to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of items *5 to *8 (below) on the grounds contained in the relevant paragraphs of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

***5. Future provision of contracted services – key decision (paragraphs 3,4 and 5)**

(An exempt minute exists for this item)

RESOLVED to agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

***6. Privately owned stalled development sites (paragraph 3)**

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

Councillor Harris, cabinet member for social housing said that she acknowledge paragraph 12 of the report but the council would always prefer to use retained Right to Buy receipts for its own social housing developments.

RESOLVED to approve in principle a strategy for dealing with stalled privately owned development sites (as set out in the report).

***7. Managing assets (paragraph 3)**

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources presented the report.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) dispose of the assets listed in appendix 1 of the report; and
- (2) grant a 25 year lease to Norfolk County Council to occupy Norwich Castle in support to the Norwich Castle Gateway to Medieval England project

***8. Managing assets (housing) (paragraph 3)**

Councillor Harris, cabinet member for social housing presented the report.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) approve the disposal of the freehold interest in the asset on the open market; and
- (2) reinvest 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

(The public were re-admitted to the meeting)

9. Progress on the Greater Norwich Local Plan

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

He said that the reports referred to in the report had been considered by the sustainable development panel which had no further comments to pass to cabinet.

RESOLVED to approve the consultation on the additional sites that have been submitted to the Greater Norwich Local Plan as proposed by the Greater Norwich Development Partnership.

10. Local development scheme

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

He said that the draft Local Development scheme had been prepared in consultation with Broadland District Council and South Norfolk District Council. The focus was on the adoption of site allocations and strategic high level planning policies.

He highlighted the supplementary planning documents and guidance and said that this would be a large piece of work for the planning department with challenging timescales.

The head of planning said that although the report referred to a future report on a planning brief to guide the redevelopment of Prospect House being brought to Cabinet in the autumn of 2018, the report would be brought to the council's planning applications committee on 11 October 2018

RESOLVED to approve the Local Development Scheme for publication under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by section 111 of the Localism Act 2011).

11. Affordable Warmth Strategy 2018-2021

Councillor Davis, cabinet member for social inclusion, presented the report.

She said that around 1200 residents had benefited from new thermodynamic systems in their homes and many also had reduced energy tariffs through the Switch and Save scheme. Without the work of the environmental strategy team, the city would have seen an increase in fuel poverty.

The chief executive officer said that the council would want to develop some performance measures around affordable warmth to track this work.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, Councillor Davis said that the council was always investigating funding streams for this work.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) approve the council's Affordable Warmth Strategy 2018-2021; and
- (2) note that performance measures around the affordable warmth strategy would be developed to track this work.

12. Revenue and capital budget monitoring 2018-19 – period 5

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources presented the report.

He highlighted the underspend as set out in the financial implications and outlined the financial position of the council as of 31 August 2018.

In response to a question from Councillor Carlo, the chief executive officer said that a piece of work had been commissioned to investigate ways to maintain open spaces and to hear examples from other areas. The leader of the council added that Norwich City Council had a good record of investment in parks and the council understood the value of these.

Councillor Stonard, cabinet member for sustainable and inclusive growth said that there were no places to sell parks or open spaces and the council was committed to maintaining these.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) note the forecast outturn for the 2018-19 General Fund, Housing Revenue Account and capital programme; and
- (2) note the consequential forecast of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances.

13. Procurement of debt collection services including enforcement agents

Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources presented the report. He confirmed that Breckland District Council would be the host authority for the service.

In response to a question from Councillor Wright, the chief executive officer said that the transformation team was undertaking a piece of work on customer journey mapping with regards to debt collection.

RESOLVED to delegate the Enforcement and taking control of goods function (section 12 to the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007) in respect of Council Tax (Section 14 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended)) and Non Domestic Rates (Section 62A of the Local Government Finance Act 1988) to Breckland Council. This is subject to approval by Breckland Council.

14. Procurement of a housing structural repairs contract

Councillor Harris, cabinet member for social housing, presented the report. She said that although the works were forecast to come out of the current year's budget, consultation would need to happen with leaseholders which would take time.

RESOLVED to award the contract to UK Gunitite Ltd.

CHAIR