

CABINET (SPECIAL MEETING)

AGENDA ITEM: 10(a)
HELD: 21 JULY 2010
Start: 6.45pm
Finish: 7.25pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Grant (Leader of the Council, in the Chair)

Councillors		<u>Portfolio</u>
Ashcroft		Human Resources
Forshaw		Planning and Transportation
Fowler		Community Services and Health
Greenall		Street Scene Management
Mrs Hopley		Housing
Owens		Deputy Leader & Regeneration
Westley		Finance and Performance Management

In attendance

Councillors:	Aldridge	Hanlon
	Mrs Blake	O'Toole
	Cotterill	R A Pendleton
	Grice	

Officers

Chief Executive (Mr W Taylor)
Council Secretary and Solicitor (Mrs G Rowe)
Assistant Chief Executive (Ms K Webber)
Executive Manager Housing and Property Maintenance Services
(Mr R Livermore)
Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates (Mrs J Traverse)
Head of Leisure & Cultural Services (Mr J Nelson)
Treasurer (Mr M Taylor)
Property Services Manager (Mr P Holland)
Procurement and Projects Manager (Mr J Ryding)
Member Services Manager (Mr G Martin)

Consultant Surveyor (Mr S Jackson)

28. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

29. SPECIAL URGENCY (RULE 16 ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULES)/URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Councillors Westley and O'Toole declared personal interests in items 4(a) (Social Enterprise and Employment Initiative) and 4(b) (Future Jobs Fund) in view of their membership of Lancashire County Council.
2. Councillors Ashcroft, Mrs Blake, Forshaw, Fowler, Grant, O'Toole, Owens and Westley declared personal interests in item 4(a) (Social Enterprise and Employment Initiative) as they serve on the Local Strategic Partnership (or its Thematic Groups).
3. Councillor Grice declared a personal interest in item 4(c) (Budget Prospects for future years) as he had been appointed by the Council to serve on the West Lancashire Community Leisure Trust.

31. MATTERS REQUIRING DECISIONS

Consideration was given to reports relating to the following matters requiring decisions, as contained on pages 343 to 370 of the Book of Reports:

32. SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

Councillor Owens introduced the report of the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates which advised of an opportunity for the Council to deliver the Social Enterprise and Employment Initiative (SE&EI) to support employment and the social enterprise sector, through a partnership approach to bidding into the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Performance Reward Grant (PRG) funding.

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it.

- RESOLVED: A. That the Executive Manager, Regeneration and Estates be authorised to accept LSP Performance Reward Grant or other appropriate funding (if offered) to deliver and support the costs of the SE&EI project, including negotiating and entering into the necessary agreements in relation to this activity.
- B. That the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates and the Assistant Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Regeneration and Estates, be authorised to develop the remit of the Economic Development Worker and the two apprentices.

33. FUTURE JOBS FUND

Councillor Owens introduced the report of the Executive Manager Regeneration and Estates which advised of a Government initiative to help tackle worklessness and sought authority to pursue funding for a number of placements within West Lancashire Borough Council.

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it.

- RESOLVED: A. That, subject to securing the necessary funding, the Executive Manager Regeneration & Estates and the Executive Manager Street Scene, in consultation with relevant Portfolio Holders, be authorised to:
- agree the number and remit of the placements;
 - work with Lancashire County Council as broker to secure Future Jobs Fund placements; and
 - implement the temporary posts, including entering into any necessary agreements with Lancashire County Council (or any other partners as necessary).
- B. That given the need for urgent action to ensure placements are secured for the benefit of West Lancashire, the call in procedure shall not apply.

34. BUDGET PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Councillor Westley introduced the report of the Council Secretary and Solicitor which provided an assessment of the Council's budget prospects for future years and the need to take action to deal with a very difficult financial position.

At the meeting, consideration was given to a motion moved by Councillor Westley.

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report and motion before it and accepted the reasons contained in them.

- RESOLVED: A. That the challenging financial position facing all local authorities following the Government's budget announcement be noted.
- B. That the proposals for efficiency improvements, with a minimal impact on service quality, set out in Appendix 1 be noted and that Divisional Managers develop these initiatives further in consultation with relevant portfolio holders and implement them where no further authorisation is required.
- C. That, arising from B. above and in relation to Appendix 1 - Community Services - point 1 on page 278 (Whole Leisure Trust Option):
- (i) a Leisure Cabinet Working Group comprising the Leader, the Deputy Leader, and the Portfolio Holders for Finance and Performance Management; and Community Services be established.

- (ii) the Terms of Reference of the Leisure Cabinet Working Group be to consider the opportunities available for the provision of leisure services not currently contained in the arrangement with the West Lancashire Community Leisure Trust/Serco Leisure Operating Limited, and to report with recommendations to Cabinet and Council.
 - (iii) the Executive Manager Community Services be authorised, in consultation with the Working Group, to engage specialist consultants and obtain external legal and financial advice/appraisals (including VAT and tax) as appropriate and, in this respect, funding up to a maximum of £35,000 be allocated from contingencies
- D That the Council accepts the need for the preparation of a 3 year Integrated Business Plan to meet the forecasted financial challenge facing this Council and that this Plan bring together all the initiatives either in course or under consideration including any re-organisational measures that are considered necessary and that arising from this:
- (i) a Business Plan Cabinet Working Group comprising the Leader, the Deputy Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Performance Management and Portfolio Holder for HR and Partnerships be established.
 - (ii) the terms of reference of the Business Plan Cabinet Working Group be:
 - (a) to consider all the possible cost saving, efficiency and re-organisation initiatives required to address the current financial challenge and to prepare a 3 year Integrated Business Plan for approval by Cabinet/Council and in the meantime to provide reports to Cabinet and Council on the progress being made with the preparation; and
 - (b) To thereafter provide reports to Cabinet and Council on the progress being made with the implementation of the 3 year Integrated Business Plan.
 - (iii) the Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Working Group, to engage or recruit the necessary resources to prepare and implement the 3 year Integrated Business Plan and in this respect funding of up to £150,000 be allocated from contingencies.
- E. That the savings opportunities identified in paragraph 5.4 on shared services, cross service efficiency savings, and reviewing management and overhead costs be noted and that further work be undertaken to develop these proposals, as appropriate, in consultation with relevant portfolio holders.

- F. That the proposed year-end contributions to reserves set out in Appendix 2 be agreed.

35. ORDERS UNDER SECTION 21 TOWN AND POLICE CLAUSES ACT 1847

Councillor Forshaw introduced the report of the Council Secretary and Solicitor which sought delegated authority to make Orders under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847.

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it.

RESOLVED: That delegated authority be given to the Executive Manager Community Services to make Orders under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847.

36. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of that Act and as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption under Schedule 12A outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

37. MATTERS REQUIRING DECISIONS

Consideration was given to a report relating to minute 39 below requiring decisions as contained on pages 379 to 385 of the Book of Reports. Item 6(a) 'CCTV Monitoring Contract – Future Provision' was withdrawn.

38. CCTV MONITORING CONTRACT - FUTURE PROVISION

This item was withdrawn by the Executive Manager Community Services before the meeting.

39. OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL ACCOMMODATION AT DERBY STREET/WIGAN ROAD, ORMSKIRK

Councillor Owens introduced the report of the Executive Manager Housing and Property Maintenance Services advising on progress in negotiations with Atkinson Kirby Ltd in relation to the development of new Council office accommodation on the site at Wigan Road, Ormskirk. The report recommended that the negotiations cease and that the Council consider the refurbishment of its existing offices rather than pursuing the development of new accommodation.

In reaching the decision below, Cabinet considered the details set out in the report before it and accepted the reasons contained in it.

- RESOLVED:
- A That the Executive Manager Housing and Property Maintenance Services advise Atkinson Kirby that the Council will not be proceeding with the joint development of our adjoining landholdings and as a result will not be signing a development agreement with them.
 - B. That the Council refurbish its existing complex at 52 Derby Street and the Executive Manager Housing and Property Maintenance Services be asked to design a number of alternative costed schemes for the refurbishment and present a report to Cabinet and Council before the end of the current calendar year.
 - C. That the Executive Manager Housing and Property Maintenance Services be authorised to engage any necessary specialist advice to allow the refurbishment schemes to be put together.
 - D. That the terms of reference of the Wigan Road Site Cabinet Working Group, comprising the Leader and the Portfolio Holders for Finance and Performance Management and Regeneration and Estates, be revised to read as follows:
"To advise Cabinet on the options for the refurbishment of the 52 Derby Street complex."
 - E. That this item not be subject to call-in as it is being considered by Council.

.....
- LEADER -