

**MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING
HELD AT 16:00PM, ON
MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2023
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, PETERBOROUGH**

Cabinet Members Present: Councillor Mohammed Farooq (Chair), Councillor Howard, Councillor Elsey, Councillor Bisby, Councillor Saqib Farooq and Councillor Hiller.

Cabinet Advisor Present: Councillor John Fox and Councillor Harper.

43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies received.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations interest.

45. MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETINGS HELD ON 16 OCTOBER 2023

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 16 October 2023 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

46. PETITIONS PRESENTED TO CABINET

There were no petitions presented to Cabinet.

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

47. Final Report of the Cycling and Walking Task and Finish Group: Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

The Cabinet received a report in relation to Final Report of the Cycling and Walking Task and Finish Group: Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

The purpose of this report was for the Cabinet to review and approve the recommendations put forward by the Task and Finish Group.

The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

They also thanked the group for their work and noted that the Cabinet would work with Officers to provide a formal written response to the scrutiny committee on all recommendations.

The Leader of the Council invited the Chair of the Task and Finish Group to comment. The Chair advised that the vision behind the report had been to prioritise modes of active travel. The recommendations had been approved at scrutiny in February 2023.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- The Cabinet were advised that the Green Wheel still existed and would be used to support funding from the CPCA so that connections could be improved.
- The LCWIP and the Rural Cycle Strategy would build upon the Green Wheel.
- There were concerns raised about the maintenance of existing routes and Officers advised that this was a real challenge and areas would be inspected with appropriate maintenance plans put in place.
- The Mayor, who had been a member of the group, urged the Cabinet to recognise the significance of what had been put forward.
- It was advised that recommendation 12 of the group contradicted recommendation 8.
- It was highlighted that the hierarchy of users would need to be considered to not create competition between them.
- The Cabinet agreed that the north and the south should be connected but were not convinced that Bridge Street was the answer.
- There were considerations for the reintroduction of the cycle lane over Crescent Bridge and the Cabinet would seek further data on whether there would be a significant impact.
- The Chair of the group advised that there are various places that had cyclists and pedestrians in the same place and acknowledged that robust plans would need to be drawn up.
- The footfall outside of shops, the expansion of the market and street furniture would need to be looked at when considering a cycle path through Bridge Street.
- The Leader permitted a co-opted member of the group to address the Cabinet. They advised that Bridge Street had shared use and that there had only been one cycle accident reported in the last 10 years.
- The report had identified a clear need for a north south cycle route because of a lack of connectivity.
- There were great initiatives within the report and the Cabinet noted the 12 recommendations and highlighted the need for significant amounts of funding.

The Leader proposed an alternative motion, which was seconded by the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Climate Change and Environment, that Cabinet consider the final report of the Task and Finish Group and continue to work with officers to provide a comprehensive response to the report to the Scrutiny committee. The vote was UNANIMOUS, and the alternative recommendation was **CARRIED**.

48. AUTHORISATION FOR MILESTONE INFRASTRUCTURE LTD TO UNDERTAKE CONSTRUCTION OF ACTIVE TRAVEL IMPROVEMENTS ON THORPE WOOD

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Authorisation for Milestone Infrastructure Ltd to Undertake Construction of Active Travel Improvements on Thorpe Wood

The Cabinet Member for Infrastructure, Environment and Climate Change introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- The Cabinet noted that this had been great news and congratulated Officers on the success of the bid.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Authorise the works order of up to £2,000,000 to Milestone Infrastructure Ltd to undertake construction of active travel improvements on Thorpe Wood, under the existing Peterborough Highways Term Services Contract.
2. Authorise the Director of Place & Economy to vary the works order value when required subject to;
 - a. available budget being in place;
 - b. the total sum of each variation not exceeding £100,000,
 - c. the combined value of any authorised variation(s) do not exceed the total sum of £500,000.
 - d. any variations are to be made in prior consultation with internal audit, finance and legal services

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure that the Council can deliver grant funding for the active travel improvement scheme.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There were no alternatives considered as improvements to the network were required.

49. CONTRACT AWARD FOR THE PETERBOROUGH ADULT ADVOCACY SERVICES

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Contract Award for the Peterborough Adults Advocacy Service.

The purpose of this report was to approve the contract and enter a section 256 agreement with the ICB.

The Cabinet Member for Adults and Health introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- There were no questions.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Award a contract for the Peterborough Adult Advocacy Services to POhWER, (registered company 03323040) following a successful procurement for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a period of 1 year, from 5 February 2024 for a value of £897,966.12 (Contract year 1 value £242,880.78 and contract year 2, 3 and 4 value £218,361.78 per annum).
2. Authorise Peterborough City Council to enter into a Section 256 Agreement with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board for a contribution to costs associated with Peterborough City Council providing Adult Advocacy Services within Peterborough for a period of 3 years with the option to extend for a period of 1 year, from 5 February 2024 for a value of £153,980.57

(Contract year 1 value £41,649.79 and contract year 2, 3 and 4 value £37,443.59 per annum).

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure that there was continued advocacy support for the residents of Peterborough.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The continue with current arrangements or to terminate provision would have been a breach of regulations therefore there were no alternative options considered.

50. AWARD OF CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE HOME & COMMUNITY SUPPORT BLOCK CONTRACTS AND AWARD OF HOME & COMMUNITY SUPPORT PSEUDO DYNAMIC PURCHASING SYSTEM CONTRACTS

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Award of Children & Young People Home & Community Support Block Contracts and Award of Home & Community Support Pseudo Dynamic Purchasing System Contracts.

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- There were no questions.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Approve the award of 3x Children/Young People Home & Community Support block contracts, each with a contract term of 3 years with an option to extend up to 2 years in increments of 12 months from the 01.02.2024, as follows:

1.1. to Circles Network (Company number: 02972700), with a value of £50,000 per annum (£250,000 for the contract term including extension period).

1.2. to Sabanu Care Ltd (Company number: 12922944), with a value of £50,000 per annum (£250,000 for the contract term including extension period).

1.3. to Greenhill Healthcare Ltd (Company number: 13796928), with a value of £50,000 per annum (£250,000 for the contract term including extension period).

2. Approve the award of the Children/Young People's Home & Community Support Pseudo Dynamic Purchasing System (PDPS); the contract term is 5 + 3 + 2 years and has an overall contract value of up to £10,000,000 over the whole contract term (including 2 extension periods). The list of approved providers are outlined in Appendix 1.

3. Delegate approval to the Executive Director Adult Social Care & Commissioning to extend the Contract Term up to 10 years (for the PDPS) in accordance with the contract provisions.

4. Delegate approval to the Executive Director Adult Social Care & Commissioning to extend the Contract Term for each or any of the 3x block

contracts up to 5 years (per block contract) in accordance with the contract provisions.

5. Delegate approval to the Executive Director Adult Social Care & Commissioning to agree to an uplift (per annum) on the hourly rate; subject to internal governance arrangements and the value given in the published Contract Notice

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Home and Community Support is a statutory service, and the current needs of children/young people would not be met without the new provision.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There were various options considered, however, they were rejected as they did not meet the needs of Peterborough residents.

51. LOCALITIES ASSETS REVIEW

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the principles and findings of the Locality Assets Review.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

The Executive Director of Corporate Services highlighted that these were plans for consideration and that Cabinet were not being asked to approve sites for disposal.

The Leader of the Council allowed the Leader of the Liberal Democrats to speak to the report. The Leader of the Liberal Democrats raised concerns that the list of assets had grown and questioned how all the stakeholders would be engaged with.

The Executive Director of Corporate Services assured that there would be sufficient communication and engagement and reiterated that no decisions had been made.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- It was noted that this had been inherited from the last administration.
- Each site would be reviewed and looked at whether it could be repurposed or modernised.
- Where disposal would be needed, the right people would be consulted with, and savings could be spent on the improvement of nearby facilities.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Note the Localities Asset Review report contained in the exempt Appendix 1.
2. Agree that Estates and Finance, following a period of engagement with the public, the operators of the sites as well as elected members, and dependant upon the outcome of that engagement, looks to dispose of those locality assets highlighted in the report as being potentially suitable as surplus to requirements and for repurposing up to a maximum disposal price of £500,000. This is subject to any final terms to be delegated to the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Director of Legal after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Property.

3. Note that where any proposed sale of an asset is in excess of £500,000 it will be brought back to Cabinet for specific approval to dispose on a case by case basis.
4. Note that, on a case by case basis, a proportion of the savings in revenue are ringfenced to be invested in the remaining assets to support the proposals in the report.
5. Note that, on a case by case basis, a proportion of the Capital receipts may be ringfenced to fund the costs of sale, costs of relocation and repurposing of assets and investment into the retained portfolio.
6. Note that Directors will report to Growth, Resources and Communities Scrutiny Committee in January with further details of the proposed Locality Asset Review recommendations and timings following further consultation.
7. Approve the Draft Community Asset Transfer Policy contained in Appendix 2.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The decision would allow for a smaller portfolio of assets and support an investment plan that would mean retained assets were fit for purpose.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

There were no other viable options.

52. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024-2027 QUARTER 2 UPDATE

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and budget setting process.

The purpose of this report was to provide an accurate up to date position on the financial challenges facing the Council.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- There were no comments.

The Chief Executive emphasised the need for transformation and advised that Officers were on top of the budget, but that work was still to be done.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to:

1. Note the revised financial assumptions included within this Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2024-2027 Quarter two update, as outlined within Appendix A of the report.
2. Note the update from the budget simulator
3. Agree to the updated disposal plan included within Appendix C of this report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The report provided an update on the MTFs and supported the delivery of the Council setting a lawful and balanced budget.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative options were considered.

53. BUDGET CONTROL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2023 - QUARTER 2

The Cabinet received a report in relation to the Budget Control Report.

The purpose of this report was to provide an update on the Council's forecast Outturn Position for 2023/2024.

The Cabinet Member for Corporate Governance and Finance introduced the report and provided an overview of the key points.

Cabinet Members debated the report and in summary responses to questions raised included:

- There were no questions.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED** to note:

1. The budgetary control position for 2023/24 as at 30 September 2023 which outlines a forecast overspend of £6.4m.
2. The key variance analysis and explanations are contained in section 4.2 and Appendix A to the report.
3. The Council's performance with respect to Business Rates (NNDR) and Council Tax Collection, as outlined within Appendix B to the report.
4. The Council's Capital Programme performance as outlined in section 4.6.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure that Cabinet were briefed on the Council's Outturn Position.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

This was not applicable as this report was performance based.

Leader
4pm – 5pm
13 November 2023