

THE EXECUTIVE

A meeting of the Executive was held on 14 July 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in Virtual Meeting.

PRESENT: Councillors A High (Chair), B Cooper, D Davison, C Hobson, D McCabe, M L Smiles and A Waters

INVITEES: Councillors C McIntyre and J Thompson

OFFICIALS: C Benjamin, S Bonner, R Brown, S Butcher, G Field, R Horniman, C Lunn, S Reynolds, T Parkinson, E Scollay and I Wright

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Mayor A Preston

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Name of Member	Type of Interest	Item/Nature of Interest
Councillor D Davison	Non-Pecuniary	Agenda Item 6/family member works for the Youth Service

20/13 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

20/14 **MINUTES - EXECUTIVE - 16 JUNE 2020**

The minutes of the Executive meeting, held on 16 June 2020, were submitted and approved as a correct record.

20/15 **REVISED DELIVERY PLAN FOR LOCALITY WORKING FOLLOWING COVID-19**

The Mayor and the Chief Executive submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the implementation of the locality working programme. There had been slippage on approved delivery timescales due to Covid 19 and an amended plan was presented for approval.

On 18 February 2020, the Executive had approved:

1. the delivery of the programme in the phased approach; and
2. to move the staffing set out, into the respective localities.

Covid 19 had impacted on implementation and as a result Phases 2 and 3 had not taken place within the timeframe previously agreed by the Executive.

In terms of the Locality Working Programme, a proposed and amended delivery plan for Phases 2 and 3 was outlined:

- Community Asset Mapping - 31/07/2020
- Operating Model for Locality Working - referral pathways/access to information work - 21/08/2020
- Phase 2 - Individual and Family Support (in both pilot areas, Newport and North Ormesby, relative to the needs of the neighbourhood i.e. LAC would be a specific focus in North Ormesby and Asylum Cohesion and early intervention family support would be a key focus in Newport) - 31/08/2020
- Phase 3 - Partnership Involvement (relative to the needs of the neighbourhood) - 31/08/2020.

The Deputy Mayor thanked all key workers and Council staff for the work they had undertaken during the Coronavirus pandemic and expressed condolences to the families and friends of all those who had lost their lives.

ORDERED

That the amended action plan be agreed.

REASONS

Approving the recommendations would allow the programme to deliver on the aspirations of locality working.

20/16

YOUTH SERVICE

The Mayor and the Director of Education, Prevention and Partnerships submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to set out the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority in delivering youth services and to propose a future delivery model.

Local government had faced challenges in providing youth services due to austerity and budget cuts over many years. In light of austerity, short-term grant funded projects had led to youth services in Middlesbrough becoming fragmented with a lack of coordination and focus.

There were three key elements to the proposed future delivery model:

- Universal Youth Zones;
- Detached and Street Based Youth Work; and
- Targeted Youth Support at Key Transition.

The submitted report stated that a commissioning process would be required to invite bids from key Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) organisations to deliver youth services, in a partnership arrangement with the Council. In addition, bids would be identified and prioritised on the basis of match funding, tangible community benefits, youth work quality and outcomes.

Further information on the need for youth services, the future model and how those services would be delivered was included in the submitted report.

OPTIONS

Other options included maintaining the status quo. That was not recommended as the current model did not allow sufficient youth service provision, which was based on contextual factors and the needs and vulnerabilities of all young people. The current model included a range of short-term funded projects, which had led to a fragmented youth service model that was difficult to coordinate and lacked strategy.

ORDERED

In considering the statutory duties of the Council in delivering youth services, that the proposed future delivery model be approved.

REASONS

As the new statutory guidance for providing youth services was due to be published in 2020, the model would support the development of new youth service provision in Middlesbrough. Youth services would enhance existing early help and prevention services in Middlesbrough, provide much needed support to young people, in particular to those who were vulnerable and would strengthen the Children's Services improvement journey.

A stakeholder consultation would be completed as part of the development of the new service and whilst existing youth services had not been examined by the Overview and Scrutiny Board, the early help and prevention services (Stronger Families) had been examined at length.

20/17 CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME: UPDATE REPORT

The Deputy Mayor and Lead Member for Children's Social Care and the Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to provide information on the direction of the Children's Services Improvement Plan 2020/21 and give an overview of the strategic and operational actions being undertaken against the Children's Services Action Plan 2020/21. The overall aim was to improve outcomes for Middlesbrough's vulnerable children, young people, families and carers.

Children's Services in Middlesbrough had been subject to an Ofsted ILACS inspection (Inspection of Local Authority Children's Services) in November/December 2019. The report, published in January 2020, evidenced that services were inadequate across all categories.

Following the inspection, a 12 week Assurance plan had been put in place to begin to address the most pressing practice deficits. That had developed into a wider overarching three year improvement plan for 2020/2023 and the first of three, 2020/2021 one year action plans. The overarching plan cross referenced the 15 recommendations made in the inspection report and introduced the three themes, which would shape work going forward. They were:

- Quality and Performance;
- Leadership and Management; and
- Governance and Partnerships.

Further information on the three themes was contained in the submitted report.

There had been a significant amount of activity since the Ofsted inspection. Most of the building blocks necessary to improving practice were now in place. However, there was a need for the focus to turn to recovering from the effects of Covid 19 on work across the whole of children's services and seeing a positive and sustained impact of the activities on outcomes for children. There was still a great deal to do.

ORDERED

- **That the direction of the Children's Services Improvement Plan 2020/2023 be approved.**
- **That the overview of the strategic and operational work being undertaken, in line with the Children's Services Improvement Action Plan 2020/21, be approved.**

REASONS

It was important that the Executive had oversight of the improvement plans and the improvement work taking place to deliver them.

The report did not ask for any additional funding. On 18 February, the Executive agreed funding of £3.3million to finance necessary improvement work and additional work related to the pandemic was put against the Covid 19 budget to date.

As noted in the report, the Commissioner consulted with a range of stakeholders as part of his work to review Children's Services.

There had been regular briefings with Members and reports to the Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel and the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

20/18 MIDDLESBROUGH COMMUNITY LOTTERY

The Executive Member for Culture and Communities and the Director of Regeneration and Culture submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to seek approval to develop and deliver a community lottery aimed at raising finance to fund new and existing cultural activity in Middlesbrough.

Culture was a key driver for the Middlesbrough economy, and a core element of the town's identity.

Funding for cultural activity came from a variety of sources, and many of those were accessed each year for activity in Middlesbrough. The availability of funding did, however, limit the ability of the cultural sector to achieve its ambitions, and restricted the impact it could have on the economy of the town. As a result, the opportunity to develop additional funding for the sector had been explored, and the potential for a community lottery identified.

The submitted report identified that the development of a community lottery would potentially offer an additional, valuable income stream to enable and support both existing and new cultural programmes and events in Middlesbrough. In addition, if successful, it could provide another viable financial option to fund high-quality events that meet the aims and objectives of the town's cultural strategy.

The submitted report contained detailed information on developing the lottery, external lottery managers, advertising and marketing, ticket purchase, prizes, selection of the beneficiaries, administration, ethical considerations and timing.

OPTIONS

Two options had been considered, (1) not to introduce a lottery (2) introduce the lottery. Option 1 had been discounted. To not continue to look at community lottery would have had a detrimental impact on supporting and increasing the level of financial support available to encourage high-quality cultural events and projects to take place in Middlesbrough.

ORDERED

- 1. That the development and delivery of a community lottery, aimed at funding and supporting cultural activity in Middlesbrough, be approved.**
- 2. That the procurement of Gatherwell as an External Lottery Manager, to run the operational side of the lottery, be approved.**
- 3. That the application for any necessary licences, from the Gambling Commission, to enable the Lottery to operate, be approved.**
- 4. That the management and oversight of the lottery be delegated to the Director for Regeneration and Culture, in consultation with the Executive Member for Culture and Communities, including the responsibility for approving appropriate policies and procedures.**
- 5. That the role of personal licence holder for the lottery be delegated to an officer nominated by the Director for Regeneration and Culture, authorising them to apply for the personal licence.**

REASON

The recommended option provided the simplest way for the Council to operate a lottery by engaging with an External Lottery Manager (ELM). There would then be a contractual arrangement with the appointed ELM for the management of the lottery on the Council's behalf, including website management, administration of ticket sales and payments, prize management and marketing. ELMs were not primarily to be a vehicle for profit for commercial organisations, but the intention was that they enable councils and other societies to raise funds for their own non-commercial purposes.

20/19

EMPOWER PROGRAMME

The Executive Member for Culture and Communities and the Chief Executive submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the delivery of a number of Empower commitments.

In September 2017, the Executive approved the strategy for development of a programme

aimed at addressing social regeneration issues. The Empower Programme comprised of 28 commitments aligned to six specific themes and was launched in March 2019.

Many of the 28 commitments within the programme had been delivered and a review of the strategy was therefore appropriate. Of the 28 commitments:

- 23 had been delivered/completed;
- 4 were ongoing; and
- 1 had not progressed and would be delivered by the Council's Covid 19 recovery arrangements.

Information in respect of the 23 commitments, which had been delivered/completed were outlined in Appendix A of the submitted report.

Four commitments were ongoing:

- Neighbourhood Plans/Locality Working;
- Volunteering Weeks for the Community;
- Youth Council; and
- Cultural Passport.

Further information on those four commitments was detailed in the submitted report. It was proposed that those commitments be included in the revision of the Strategic Plan, scheduled for consideration in November 2020. In addition, a number of new commitments were being considered that built upon the foundation of the original Empower Strategy.

OPTIONS

An alternative option was to continue to deliver two separate programmes that were the Empower Programme and Strategic Plan. Those plans were not always joined-up and therefore a move to a single plan, that being the Strategic Plan, was recommended for the following reasons:

1. **A separate Empower strategy was no longer required as it was more beneficial to ensure that social regeneration aligned to the overall strategic direction of the Council.**
2. **Resource would be best aligned to ensure the Strategic Plan objectives were delivered and implemented consistently to ensure the 'People' or social regeneration objectives of the Strategic Plan were achieved.**

ORDERED

1. **That the successful delivery of a number of Empower commitments be noted.**
2. **That the transfer of incomplete and new commitments to the Council's Strategic Plan be approved.**

REASONS

Much of the strategy had now been delivered and placing those commitments that were not yet complete within the Strategic Plan, created a more efficient and effective vehicle for delivering them.

20/20

MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

The Executive Member for Finance and Governance and the Chief Executive submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to advise of the revised timescales in respect of the implementation of some Executive decisions, due to slippage caused by Covid 19 and to seek approval for the proposed revised timescales.

As a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, many of the Council's key officers had been redeployed to other areas of work to assist in dealing with the increased and urgent demands on other

services. That had resulted in the actions, which were required to implement some of the Executive decisions, not being completed within the anticipated timescale. As a consequence, there was a need to revise the target dates for a number of Executive actions.

A copy of the revised timescales for Executive actions was attached as an Appendix to the submitted report.

ORDERED

That the revised deadlines, for the implementation of a number of agreed Executive decisions, be approved.

20/21

CULTURE AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY PANEL'S FINAL REPORT - FOODBANKS - SERVICE RESPONSE

The Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel had undertaken a review of Foodbanks. A copy of the full report was attached.

The scrutiny panel made four recommendations upon which a response was sought from the relevant service area. The Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health and the Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration submitted a service response to the recommendations of the Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel. A copy of the Action Plan was attached.

The Chair of the Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel presented the final report to the Executive. The Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health presented the service response.

ORDERED

1. **That the content of the Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel's Final Report, on Foodbanks, be noted.**
2. **That the Action Plan, developed in response to the scrutiny panel's recommendations, be approved.**

REASON

It was a requirement that Executive formally considered the Scrutiny Panel's report and confirmed the Service Area's response to the Panel's accompanying plan.

20/22

URBAN FARM - THE DIGITAL CITY

The Executive Member for Environment and the Executive Director for Environment and Community Services submitted a report for the Executive's consideration. The purpose of the report was to seek approval to support the Camphill Village Trust (CVT) to develop an Urban Farm within the Digital City campus within the wider Middlehaven Regeneration area, in line with the ambitions set out in the Strategic Plan 2020-23.

To facilitate the development it was proposed that a thirty-year lease with CVT be agreed, subject to the granting of the appropriate planning permission and finance in place to deliver the project. Appendix 1 identified the 1.9 acres of land on which CVT could develop their Urban Farm proposal.

CVT was an established national charity supporting adults with learning and other disabilities, it empowered people to build relationships and develop self-esteem, enabling people to be active citizens with purpose and meaning.

CVT had six established Urban Farm sites across the UK, supporting over 165 people each week to access outdoor nature based learning and therapeutic support, whilst building a strong sense of community, belonging and personal development.

The project planned to provide a range of facilities, opportunities and community benefits for the area, those were detailed at paragraph 10 of the submitted report.

OPTIONS

Dispose of the site for other forms of development - The Council could have disposed of the 1.9 acres of land for commercial development. Development land in Middlehaven had an asset valuation of approximately £200,000 per acre, the site if marketed for commercial purposes would have had a value of £380,000 (subject to site conditions). As part of the Middlehaven JV with Homes England, the Council would have only received 20% of that receipt, which equated to £76,000. Whilst the sale of the site would have delivered a capital receipt to the Council and other potential financial benefits depending upon use; it would not have delivered the social benefits identified within the report to the community, residents and business.

ORDERED

That the benefits that the Urban Farm development would bring to residents, community groups and businesses of Middlesbrough be noted, and the granting of a 30-year lease to CVT be approved, subject to the award of suitable planning permission to enable the development of the Urban Farm concept within the Digital City.

REASON

As highlighted within the report, the creation of an Urban Farm within the Digital City campus would provide a range of employment, engagement and support services to the people of Middlesbrough, in particular people with learning disabilities, dementia sufferers and people with mental health support needs who face significant barriers to sustainable long-term employment. The development planned to ensure Middlesbrough was an absolute leader on environmental issues - resulting in lower emissions, cleaner air and healthy living.

20/23 ANY OTHER URGENT ITEMS WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR, MAY BE CONSIDERED.

The Monitoring Officer had granted approval for an additional confidential report to be considered urgently at the meeting, which was entitled 'Tees Advanced Manufacturing Park - Relocation of Option Site'. The decision was time sensitive and the report was marked as confidential as it contained commercially sensitive information. The Deputy Mayor advised that the report would be considered after the resolution to go into private session had been agreed.

The meeting was briefly adjourned to enable the Chair to seek legal advice in respect of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules.

20/24 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The resolution to exclude the press and the public was agreed.

20/25 CONFIDENTIAL - TEES VALLEY ERF PROJECT - INTER AUTHORITY AGREEMENT AND COMMENCEMENT OF PROCUREMENT PROCESS

The Executive Member for Environment and the Director of Environment and Community Services submitted a report for the Executive's consideration.

ORDERED

That the recommendations of the report be approved.

REASONS

The decision was supported by the following reason:

For reasons outlined in the report.

20/26

CONFIDENTIAL - TEES ADVANCED MANUFACTURING PARK - RELOCATION OF OPTION SITE

The Executive Member for Regeneration and the Director of Regeneration and Culture submitted a report for the Executive's consideration.

ORDERED

That the recommendations of the report be approved.

REASONS

The decision was supported by the following reason:

For reasons outlined in the report.

The decision(s) will come into force after five working days following the day the decision(s) was published unless the decision becomes subject to the call in procedures. The report entitled 'Tees Advanced Manufacturing Park - Relocation of Option Site' was added as an urgent item and, following agreement from the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, will be exempt from call in procedures.