

Report of Cabinet

1. Any Cabinet recommendations on the reports that require a decision by full Council appear as separate items on the agenda.

General Report of the Cabinet for the meeting held on 15 September 2021

Shared Consultation Framework

2. The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform) presented a report of the Deputy Chief Executive presenting the consultation framework for approval.
3. The Consultation Framework set out how South Ribble Borough Council undertakes consultations.
4. Without a framework, consultations may not be consistently planned and undertaken in the proper way across the council. This can lead to poor consultations and consequently poor decision making. This framework is a shared approach across Chorley and South Ribble Councils which will provide a consistent approach for staff to work too.
5. Consultation is also a way for communities, residents and businesses to engage with the Council and shape their local area. Without a framework key features that promote inclusivity and accessibility may not be routinely applied, inadvertently leaving some voices unheard.
6. The framework provides officers across South Ribble Borough Council with the guidance and tools to undertake high quality consultations as and when needed.
7. Cabinet approved the Consultation Framework in Appendix A and agreed that a "Consultation Checklist" be developed complementary to the list produced as part of the Community Involvement Review.

Quarter 4 (January - March) Performance Monitoring Report 2020-21

8. Cabinet considered a report of the Deputy Chief Executive providing Cabinet with a position statement for the Corporate Strategy for quarter one (April – June) 2021/22.
9. Cabinet also gave consideration to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel made at its meeting on 13 September 2021, as follows:
10. Cabinet noted the report and accepted the recommendations of the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel made on 13 September 2021.

Workplace Strategy

11. The Deputy Chief Executive presented a report giving details of the Workplace Strategy 2021-24 for consideration and approval.

12. The Workplace Strategy is the beginning of an ambitious plan and programme of works to transform where and how the council will work over the next three years. The aim and vision of the Workplace Strategy is to “To provide a high quality, modern, fit for purpose workplace for all staff that enables mobility, flexibility, productivity, and collaboration across the council whilst supporting behavioural and cultural change to adopt new ways of working’.
13. The Cabinet agreed that the Workplace Strategy be approved and progressed to support the future efficient operation of the organisation.

Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 1

14. The Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Assets) presented a report of the Director of Finance with 2 elements:
 - i) setting out the revenue and reserves forecast for the Council as at 31st July 2021 and
 - ii) overall financial position of the Council in respect of the capital programme as at 31st July 2021.
15. The Cabinet also considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Budget and Performance Panel on 13 September 2021.
16. The Council’s Medium-Term Financial Strategy reported that working balances were to be maintained at existing levels due to the financial risks facing the Council. The balance at the last reporting period (2020/21 Outturn) was £4.141m. The forecast level of general fund balances as at 31st March 2022 remains at £4.141m.
17. The decision ensures that the Council’s budgetary targets are achieved and the Council’s Capital Programme is monitored effectively.
18. The Cabinet agreed to:
 1. To note the forecast position for revenue and reserves as at 31st July 2021.
 2. To note the virements to the revenue budget made during the period, as detailed in **Appendix 2** of the report.
 3. To approve the revised capital programme as attached at **Appendix A** which reflects all amendments to the programme that have been approved in the 4 months to 31st July 2021, as detailed in paragraph 11.
 4. To note the position in the Balance Sheet Monitoring section of the report in respect of cash, investment and loan balances, and debtors as at 31st July 2021.

Land Transfer at Vernon Carus

19. The Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Finance) presented a report of the Director of Commercial giving details of taking forward the ambitions of the Council’s Leisure

Facilities Strategy which has the key ambition of developing local Sport and Community hubs across the Borough as a means of widening access to Leisure Facilities and promoting the concept of Leisure Local.

20. The report also built on a report taken to Cabinet on 20th June 2020 which gave permission for Officers to commence negotiations on the transfer of the land the Vernon Carus Site. The new report sought a final decision on agreeing a transfer of land at the Vernon Carus Sports Club, Factory Lane, Penwortham and Penwortham Reservoir (see Appendix A - Plan of sites) to South Ribble Borough Council from Lane End Developments Construction Ltd.
21. The Transfer of the land in question is linked to a wider Housing development being driven by Trafford Housing Trust. The transfer of the site to the Council is an opportunity to take forward the new concept of Leisure Local as put forward in the Leisure Facilities Strategy adopted by the Council in October 2020.
22. Strategically, the Council has adopted a new Leisure Facilities Strategy through Cabinet. This highlights an ambition to develop a leisure and community hubs across the borough as part of the concept of Leisure local.

The Cabinet agreed to take the following decision:

23. That Cabinet approves the transfer of the land and reservoir to South Ribble Borough Council and the receipt of the sum of £500,000
24. That Cabinet approves the principles of the outline Master Plan. Further reports will come back through Cabinet and Council around the phasing of delivery and funding options for the component parts.
25. That Cabinet approves the funding of £150,000 plus a £25,000 contingency for the refurbishment of the existing Sports Club and Changing Rooms as phase 1A of the proposed Master Plan. The £150,000 is to be funded from s106 and £25,000 from the new Leisure Local budget.

Museum, culture and tourism review

26. The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member (Strategy and Reform) presented a report of the Deputy Chief Executive requesting approval for the new structure for the shared museum, culture and tourism team following a period of formal consultation.
27. Cabinet agreed the proposals for the new structure as set out in Appendix A.
28. The new structure completes the creation of a shared communications and visitor economy service with a new team that will take on the tourism function and the operation of the South Ribble Museum and Exhibition Centre and Worden Hall.

Award of contract for work on South Ribble tennis centre car park

29. Cabinet considered a report concerning the awarding of the contract to the successful contractor for the work to extend the Car park at South Ribble Tennis and Fitness Centre as part of a wider refurbishment programme at the Council's Leisure Centres.

30. This is a long-standing project that has been discussed for a number of years whilst SERCO managed the Leisure Centres. This decision is about taking this project forward to relieve the congestion experienced at the South Ribble Tennis and Fitness Centre car park at peak time use within the Leisure Centre and allow for increased use of the facilities.
31. Cabinet approved the following:
 - i) That Cabinet agrees to the spending of up to £180k on the car park at South Ribble Tennis Centre to be funded from the Capital programme sum earmarked for the refurbishment of the Council's Leisure Centres.
 - ii) That Cabinet delegates responsibility to the Cabinet Member for Finance, Property and Assets in liaison with the Director of Commercial Services for the awarding of the contact to the successful bidder to complete the extension to the car park at South Ribble Tennis and Fitness Centre following a procurement exercise underway which is being carried out under the Council's procurement rules.

Councillor Paul Foster

Leader of the Council