

## **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 - Meeting held on 15 December 2021**

### **Communities Service Update**

2. Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Communities providing an update on the work of the Communities Service, including progress on the Review of Community Involvement.
3. The report was for information and followed on from the update provided to Cabinet in June 2021.
4. In addition to providing a position statement on the progress of Community Hubs in relation to the cross-party review of community involvement, a snapshot of wider work across the Communities Service was provided.
5. A question was asked about progress regarding the Youth Council. The Cabinet Member (Social Justice, Communities and Wealth Building) indicated that a report was being prepared and would be submitted to Cabinet, however in the meantime a written update would be provided to Councillor Ogilvie. Councillor Trafford, Leader Member for Youth and Mental Health Awareness gave verbal update including the priorities identified such as period poverty and knife crime. He was happy to be contacted for further information.
6. The Cabinet resolved that the work of the Communities Service be noted; that the evaluation of Community Hubs be noted and that the continuation of the current model be agreed.

### **Moss Side Community Centre Update**

7. A report was presented by the Director of Communities informing the Cabinet of the findings and recommendations of the Moss Side Community Centre Task Group. The report sought approval on resource and management arrangements for the Centre going forward.
8. Recommendations were made following a robust public consultation exercise and appraisal by a member of the task group. The task group was satisfied that the proposals in the report are in the best interests of both existing centre users, and the wider community who are potential users.

9. The creation of a new revenue budget, a charging structure, usage conditions and staffing requirement were key to the effective management of the community centre, and its ongoing sustainability.
10. Cabinet therefore resolved to:-
  1. To approve the proposal of the task group, as listed in paragraphs 25 to 34.
  2. To approve the creation of a new £16,000 revenue budget, to support the operational management of the community centre.
  3. To agree to delegated authority to the Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Assets) to create a charging structure, general conditions for community use and determine staffing requirements.

### **Leyland Town Deal – Stage 2 Designs**

11. A report of the Director of Planning and Development was presented to the Cabinet giving details of the Stage 2 Designs for the Leyland Town Deal.
12. The initial concept design (stage 2) had been produced in line with the design brief established in stage 1, which had now been presented to the client and was appended to the report for consideration by Members.
13. The report indicated that a series of stakeholder consultation events were undertaken week commencing 22 November 2021, with a project and staff members consultation on 11 November 2021.
14. The various stakeholder consultation events were scheduled with various stakeholder groups and provided an opportunity for these stakeholders to see and learn more about the designs and provide feedback via an online survey.
15. The report was noted.

### **Urgent Item – Delivery of Improvement Works at Vernon Carus Sports Club**

**In accordance with paragraph 5.5 of Part 4C of the Council’s Constitution, the Mayor agreed that the following be considered as a matter of urgency for the reasons that the Council has only just received the cost information to allow the contract to be awarded and contract procedure rules need to be waived for the project to deliver to the set timescales.**

16. A report of the Director of Commercial Services was presented to Cabinet seeking approval to depart from Contract Procedure rules and to delegate the award of a contract to undertake refurbishment works at Vernon Carus Sports Club.

17. Councillor Walton, Leader of the Opposition, expressed concerns about the lack of notice given for this proposed decision. She made a comment about the use of urgency procedures, which the Leader disputed. Councillor Walton was invited to put her views in writing.
18. The decision was required to meet the small window of opportunity for refurbishment of the club between January and April, following commitments to venue hire and prior to the start of the cricket season and to reflect the current market conditions in the construction industry and the limited availability of contractors to undertake the works in the required timescale, which have been particularly exacerbated by the Covid pandemic.
19. Cabinet agreed the following:
  1. That a waiver of relevant contract procedure rules is granted in line with the South Ribble Borough Council Constitution;
  2. That any changes to the scope of works or spend within the approved budget levels are delegated to the Director of Commercial Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Assets);
  3. That approval of the contract award is delegated to the Cabinet Member (Finance, Property and Assets).

### **Approval for Contract Procedure and Award for the Procurement of ICT hardware and software support**

20. A report of the Director of Customer and Digital was presented informing members of the proposed shared procurement for ICT hardware, software and support to seek agreement to the sharing of costs and assessment criteria. The report followed on from a report to Cabinet on 10 February 2021 requesting approval for a number of joint procurements for hardware, software and support services.
21. An addendum to the report was also presented, seeking approval for the direct contract award for use across South Ribble and Chorley Council for time management and door access.
22. The addendum proposed that the contracts will not be joint but will be separate for each Council; that capital costs are funded from Facilities, and software costs are funded from ICT; and explained the procurement route.
23. Cabinet therefore resolved to:-

That with regard to the addendum to the main report:-

1. Cabinet approves the direct award for the delivery of a time management and door access system and associated implementation as detailed in the addendum to the report;

That with regard to the main report, Cabinet agrees to:-

2. With the exception of the contract referred to above at (1), approve the contract award procedure for a number of further joint procurements outlined at Appendix 1 for software, hardware and support services;
  3. To approve carrying out appropriate tender exercises via the councils' e-procurement portal (The Chest) or alternatively the use of existing procurement frameworks such as Crown Commercial Services or similar;
  4. To approve evaluation criteria of 80% cost and 20% quality where appropriate;
  5. To waive the requirement to use the Social Value Portal;
  6. That the decision to award the contracts is delegated to the Cabinet Member (Communities, Social Justice and Wealth Building).
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24. With regard to the decision at (1), the Councils wished to award a door access and time management solution via a direct award. Following negotiations directly with the current provider the Council had reached a compelling commercial position as detailed in the report.
  25. With regard to decisions at (2 – 6), by jointly procuring the remaining contracts it ensured alignment of software and hardware across both Authorities supporting Shared Services.

COUNCILLOR PAUL FOSTER  
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL