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CABINET
23/10/2017 at 6.00 pm



Present: Councillor Stretton (Chair)
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, Chadderton, Harrison, and
Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jabbar and Hussain.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2017 be approved as a correct record.

6 **YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2017/18**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director Children's Social Care and Early Help which sought approval of the Youth Justice Strategic plan 2017/18.

The plan set out how the YJS would achieve and deliver the primary functions and the key objectives over the next twelve month period.

The primary functions of the service were:

- Reduction in First Time Entrants (FTE) to the criminal justice system
- Reduction in Re-Offending following both pre and post court disposals
- Reduction in the use of Custody for offenders
- Effectively safeguard children and young people
- Effectively protect the public

The YJS was managed in an integrated way alongside other services to support children, young people and families within a Targeted Services Directorate at Positive Steps. The Service was overseen by the Youth Justice Management Board which included representatives from the Local Authority and other statutory partners. The Board held the service to account for achieving the performance targets, provided challenge where required and endorsed the strategic direction and operational delivery of the service.

The action plan was separated into two sections, one focussing on service delivery to achieve the outcomes and the second focussing on development which was costed.

The costed plan was a requirement of the Youth Justice Board (YJB) to reflect the decision made by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) that core funding for Youth Offending Teams must be provided by the local authority partnership. The grant provided by the MoJ via the YJB must only be used for development work. Costed Plans had to show detail of how the grant would be used to develop the provision for clients, staff and the service as a whole and had to be agreed by the YJB. All aspects had to be accounted for and an audit trail produced if requested.

Options/alternatives considered:

To note and approve the strategic delivery plan for 2017/18.

RESOLVED – that the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2017/18 be approved.

7

PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE USE OF THE LINK CENTRE

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director, Health & Wellbeing that asked the Cabinet to determine its preferred option for the future use of the Link Centre and delegate specified functions to enable this to proceed.

On 23 January 2017, Cabinet gave approval for Adults Social Care to decommission the existing Link Centre provision, including directly provided services, and for a tender to be undertaken, with the aim of identifying a provider who would take over the day-to-day management and running of the building. This approach sought to enable continued access for local groups, to meeting rooms and facilities, as per the public consultation outcomes and the equality impact assessment. Since that time, developments across Adults Social Care, relating to integration, and the emerging strategic review of the Council's corporate estate, had presented additional issues to be duly considered. At the same time, appetite from the voluntary and independent sector to take on the service provision as a consequence of backlog maintenance requirements of the asset and time limits associated with their funding, had led to the need to review the proposal to tender out the service and management of the building to an alternative provider.

The report outlined proposals which sought to mitigate against the challenges of the proposal, whilst also having due regard to the needs of a range of stakeholders. It was noted that it was intended to continue the dialogue with Age UK regarding potential future involvement.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 - Close the Link Centre, incorporate the asset into the corporate estate and seek to lease the asset on a commercial basis;

Option 2 - Continue with the decommissioning of the Link Centre service, incorporate the asset into the corporate estate, utilise the asset within the integration agenda with continued access to meeting facilities for groups;

Option 3 - Continue with the decommissioning of the Link Centre service and incorporate the asset into the corporate estate, with continued access to meeting facilities for groups;

Option 4 - Incorporate the Link Centre into the corporate estate for occupation by Council services, with no continued access to meeting facilities for groups

Option 5 - Close the Link Centre, incorporate the asset into the corporate estate and seek to sell the asset to generate a capital receipt for the Council.

RESOLVED – That:

The continuation with the decommissioning of the Link Centre service, incorporating the asset into the corporate estate, utilising the asset within the integration agenda with continued access to meeting facilities for groups be approved and authority for the following functions be delegated:

1. For the Director of Economy and Skills to progress any estate requirements as part of the Corporate Portfolio, in liaison with the Leader of the Council, as Portfolio Holder for Corporate Property, including incorporation of the Link Centre asset into the Corporate estate and subject to further due diligence regarding revenue/capital feasibility/implications and additional budget provision as required;
2. For the Director of Adult Social Care and the Director of Economy and Skills to lead on the implementation of any service implications at the Link Centre;
3. For the Director of Adult Social Care to lead on the implications for the workforce, in liaison with People Services;
4. For the Director of Adult Social Care and the Director of Economy and Skills to lead on the implementation of all required logistical arrangements to facilitate implementation of the preferred option;
5. For the Director of Legal Services to enter into and seal any documents or associated agreements including any leases.

8

HOMELESSNESS PRESSURES

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director - Economy, Skills & Neighbourhoods.

They were informed that the Homelessness Reduction Bill received Royal Assent on 27th April 2017 and was now an Act. The date of enactment was April 2018. A significant amount of work would be required in preparing for the new legislation and it was anticipated that the number of households seeking support would increase.

There had already been a recent increase in the number of households accessing the Oldham Housing and Advice Service (OHAS), including a significant increase in the number of households requiring temporary accommodation. There was an immediate need to increase access to accommodation within the private rented sector to meet these increasing demands, as well as developing proposals to increase the number of directly managed units of temporary accommodation to alleviate the reliance on, and cost of, Bed & Breakfast accommodation. There was therefore a need to increase resources within the OHAS contract and within the Council to meet these demands.

New burdens funding was announced in March 2017 but it was not anticipated that the local allocation (when announced) would be sufficient to meet the additional costs.

There was a need to increase access to the private rented sector for households in need, including those who were homeless and changes introduced under welfare reform also meant that many young people would only receive restricted payments in respect of their housing. There was therefore a need to increase the number of units of shared accommodation or Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) to meet the needs of this group.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option One – Increase resources available to homelessness services

Option Two – Do not increase resources available to homelessness services

RESOLVED - That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 13 of the agenda before making a decision.

9

SUPPORTED HOUSING FOR ADULTS WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY AND COMPLEX NEEDS

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director - Economy, Skills & Neighbourhoods that sought final approval to delegate all the necessary remaining consents to complete the development of a new purpose built supported housing scheme for adults with a learning disability and complex needs to the Executive Management team in consultation with the Leader.

In July 2016, Cabinet approved the proposals for the Council to develop a specialist supported housing scheme for adults with learning disabilities and/or complex behaviour. Since then good progress had been made and Cabinet was asked to approve the final phases of this transformation programme through delegation to the relevant Executive Directors following consultation with the Leader.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1- Approve the recommendations to grant delegation to complete the development of a specialist supported housing scheme for adults with learning disabilities and/or complex behaviour.

Option 2 - Do not approve the recommendations and the development stalls and is delayed.

Option 3- Do not approve the recommendations to grant delegation to complete the development of a specialist supported housing scheme for adults with learning disabilities and/or complex behaviour.

RESOLVED - That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 14 of the agenda before making a decision.

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DECISION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF OLDHAM AND ROCHDALE COLLABORATIVE

SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SERVICE

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director Health and Wellbeing that sought approval to award the contract for the provision of Oldham and Rochdale collaborative substance misuse treatment and recovery service.

Cabinet had previously given approval to extend the substance misuse treatment system contract for one year until 31st March 2018 and to jointly procure and commission an integrated substance misuse treatment system with Rochdale Council to be delivered from 1 April 2018, for a period of 3 years with an option to extend for up to 2 years on an annual basis.

An Inter-Authority Agreement had been signed by both Councils which agreed that Oldham Council would lead the procurement and be the lead commissioner. Rochdale Council had given delegated authority for Oldham Council to award the contract on its behalf.

A collaborative procurement process had taken place. An Open Invitation To Tender (ITT) was undertaken, in accordance with Oldham Council's Contract Procedure Rules and European Union Procurement Regulations. Providers were invited to bid for a single holistic treatment and recovery service to be delivered across the two boroughs.

RESOLVED - That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 15 of the agenda before making a decision.

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SMART PROJECT

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services that informed them of ongoing discussions with the Council's strategic partner in a joint venture company about assuring sustainability of service provision in the context of reducing budgets.

RESOLVED- That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 16 of the agenda before making a decision.

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EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

13

HOMELESSNESS PRESSURES

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 8 – Homelessness Pressures.

RESOLVED - That:

1. The staffing resource within the Council be increased to :

- Repurpose the vacant Principal Housing Strategy Officer post to take a more proactive approach and undertake strategic engagement with the private rented sector to selectively develop the sector in Oldham, with particular reference to Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and developing an offer for Oldham landlords
 - Approve the establishment of Bond Scheme Officer post. This post would develop links with private sector landlords and letting agents and also develop and administer a paper Bond Scheme to assist households who do not have access to a cash bond to access accommodation. In addition approve establishment of funding pot to underwrite bonds issued by the Bond Scheme Officer.
 - Establish a permanent, additional Senior Housing Needs Officer post within the Housing Strategy Team to support the work required to transition to the requirements of the new Act, and respond to the increased level of demand once the legislation is in place.
2. The financial resources available to FCHO for the OHAS in respect of provision of emergency temporary accommodation and proactive homelessness prevention be increased.
 3. The financial resources available to Oldham CAB in respect of increased demands following introduction of UCFS be increased.
 4. A full review be undertaken of the OHAS contract during 2018, to inform decisions regarding future delivery of homelessness and housing advice services
 5. Proposals be progressed to increase the number of units of temporary accommodation, shared accommodation and Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) thereby reducing the use of Bed & Breakfast accommodation which may include the use of Housing Revenue Account (HRA) reserves to acquire or develop suitable properties to meet this demand.
 6. The inclusion of the addition of a budgetary pressure to cover payments to FCHO and Oldham CAB be reviewed.
 7. Work would be undertaken with colleagues in Exchequer Services to review the DHP policy to ensure it supports the homelessness prevention agenda.

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SUPPORTED HOUSING FOR ADULTS WITH A LEARNING DISABILITY AND COMPLEX NEEDS

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 9 – Supported Housing for Adults with a Learning Disability and Complex Needs.

RESOLVED- That:

1. The allocation of Housing Revenue Account funding to support the tendering and subsequent construction of the new build scheme at the former site of the Limecroft Resource Centre site be approved.

2. The allocation of Housing Revenue Account funding to support the tendering and subsequent housing management and facility management of the new build scheme at the former site of the Limecroft Resource Centre site be approved.
3. Delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Leader, to award the contract for the construction of the new build SHALD scheme and any necessary ancillary appointments within the limits of the approved funding.
4. Delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director of Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Leader, to award the contract for housing/facility management of the new build SHALD scheme within the limits of the approved funding.
5. Delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director for Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods, the Director of Finance and the Director of Legal Services (acting separately or together), or their respective nominated representatives, in consultation with the Leader, to the affixing of the common seal/signature of the Council to any contract together with any other incidental or ancillary documents or agreements necessary to complete the transaction of the construction of the new build facility at the Limecroft Resource Centre site.
6. Delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director for Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods, the Director of Finance and the Director of Legal Services (acting separately or together), or their respective nominated representatives, in consultation with the Leader, to affix the common seal/signature of the Council to the contract together with any other incidental or ancillary documents or agreements necessary to complete the award of the contract for the housing and facilities management service of the new build facility at the Limecroft Resource Centre site.
7. The progress of the development including the overall financial implications for the Council be noted.

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DECISION TO AWARD CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF OLDHAM AND ROCHDALE COLLABORATIVE SUBSTANCE MISUSE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SERVICE

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 10 – Decision to award contract for the provision of Oldham and Rochdale collaborative substance misuse treatment and recovery service.

RESOLVED – That the recommendation set out within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

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SMART PROJECT

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 11 – Smart Project.

RESOLVED- That recommendations 1-4 as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.18 pm

