

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 28 June 2012 in The Boardroom, Municipal Building*

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, R. Hignett, Jones, Philbin, J. Stockton and Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Nelson

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor Wharton

Officers present: A. Scott, M. Reaney, G. Cook, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan, B. Dodd and L. Crane

Also in attendance: None

### ITEMS DEALT WITH UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

#### EXB32 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2012 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

#### EXB33 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 URGENT BUSINESS

The Board was advised that a matter had arisen which required immediate attention by the Board (Minute EXB 37 refers). Therefore, pursuant to Section 100 B (4) and 100 E, and due to immediate action being required, the Chairman ruled that the item be considered as a matter of urgency.

#### HEALTH AND ADULTS PORTFOLIO AND CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PORTFOLIO

#### EXB34 HEALTH & WELLBEING SERVICE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on the Health and Wellbeing Service Partnership Agreement and the associated Implementation

*Action*

## Action Plan.

The Government's vision for a new integrated and professional public health system was set out in the document 'Healthy Lives Healthy People: Our Strategy for Public Health'. Members were advised that the new system would embody localism with new responsibilities and resources for local government to improve the health and wellbeing of their population within a broad framework set by the Government.

A response to these Government plans had been developed for Halton and was contained in the document 'Health and Wellbeing Service – Partnership Agreement 1 July 2012 – 31 March 2013', (the Agreement), which was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

It was noted that the Agreement set out a phased approach to implementation, as detailed in the report, and provide an opportunity to review the current approach to the delivery of Health Improvement Services, delivered by both health and local authority providers.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- 2) the Partnership Agreement and associated Action Plan be supported and the Board agree that the constituent Partners sign-off the Agreement.

Strategic Director  
- Communities

## **RESOURCES PORTFOLIO**

### EXB35 2011/2012 FINANCIAL OUTTURN

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the final revenue and capital spending position for 2011/12.

The Board was advised that the final accounts for 2011/12 were complete; the revenue spending position for each Department, which would be subject to external audit, was attached to the report at Appendix 1. In September 2011, Executive Board had agreed an Action Plan, as a response to the uncertainty on future funding and potential cost pressures in areas such as Community Care. It was noted that the overall net underspend for the year of £198,000 reflected the successful implementation of the Action Plan, aided in part by early implementation of 2012/13 savings approved by Council in December 2012.

The report provided details on the key budget variances (which were in addition to the overall net underspend) in the following services:

- Children and Families
- Economy, Enterprise and Property
- Policy, Planning and Transportation
- Finance
- ICT and Support Services
- Prevention and Assessment
- Commissioning and Complex Care
- Community and Environment and
- Corporate and Democracy

Members were advised that the Council's Reserves and Balances had been reviewed in accordance with the Reserves and Balances Strategy. The Council's General Balances stood at £7, 565,000, which, given the financial climate, was considered to be at a reasonable level.

With regard to Capital Spending, details of spending against 2011/12 Capital Programme were attached at Appendix 2. It was noted that spending was £7.9m below the revised capital programme of £60.8m, which represented 87% delivery of the revised capital programme. It was reported that the main areas of significant slippage were in respect of Castlefields Regeneration, Extra Care Housing, Wade Deacon High School, Education programme (General), Windmill Hill Primary School (basic need), Lunts Heath Primary School (basic need) and St Bede's Infant and Junior Schools (basic need) schemes.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD LEISURE AND SPORT PORTFOLIO**

### **EXB36 WIDNES RECREATION CLUB DEVELOPMENT - KEY DECISION**

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on proposals for the re-development of the Widnes Recreation Club site in Widnes.

The report provided a brief history of the site since 1996, when ICI divested responsibility of the site. In December 2010, the Council resolved to enter into discussions with Widnes Sport Ltd as the new prospective tenants. It was noted that a number of proposals had been discussed which had been tested against national planning

constraints, affordability and viability criteria.

The site had historically provided an important community sports facility and pitches for the community and Members were advised that in developing the site, multi-sport use had been the prime consideration. In addition, the proposal would see the site regenerated as a major sporting and community facility and would continue to provide playing fields for public use with the addition of a number of artificial pitches. The design details were attached at Appendix 1, and the report provided details on the current and proposed sports facilities.

#### Reason(s) for Decision

These facilities would provide a range of sports facilities, improving the existing site and provision, and it was therefore in the community's interest to develop the area.

#### Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

These were subject of a previous report to Executive Board on 8 April 2010.

#### Implementation Date

To be determined.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the proposal be supported in principle;
- 2) the remains of the club house building on site be demolished as soon as terms can be agreed with our insurers and in line with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations;
- 3) the Strategic Director, Communities, be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Neighbourhood, Leisure and Sport and the Leader of the Council, to take all necessary steps to progress the proposal; and
- 4) before a final decision or any binding commitment on the project is made, a further report be submitted to Executive Board, containing details of the development agreement and business plan and the associated financial implications.

Strategic Director  
- Communities

## **CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PORTFOLIO**

### **EXB37 CONTRACTED SERVICES FOR EARLY HELP AND SUPPORT PROVISION - WAIVER OF TENDERING STANDING ORDERS**

The Board considered an urgent item of business, reported by the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise requesting the waiver of Standing Orders for the tender of the Contracted Services for Early Help and Support Provision.

The Board was advised that the Early Help and Support Provision contract, which encompassed three priority service areas, had a budget of £67,000. The current provider, Kings Cross Project had been approached to offer a six month extension, during which time the contract would be re-advertised on the Council's e-tendering system, 'The Chest'. The report detailed the temporary arrangements which resulted in the offer of a three month extension which the Council accepted.

The report advised that, following the closure of the tendering process, to ensure continuation of the three priority services, the preferred option would be to waive Standing Orders in order to grant the contract to a service nominated by the Council for a limited period while a further quotation process was progressed.

Members were advised at the meeting that, since the report was prepared, Officers had received confirmation of an agreement with Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Trust for them to provide the service for a period of 9 months, effective from 1 July 2012.

#### **RESOLVED: That**

- 1) in the light of the exceptional circumstances set out in the report, Procurement Standing Order 4.1 be waived on this occasion, in order to grant the contract for Early Help and Support Provision to a service nominated by the Council for a limited period in order that delivery of a priority service is not disrupted while the contract is subject to the Advanced Request for Quotation process; and
- 2) that the period of the grant of contract does not exceed nine months.

Strategic Director  
- Children and  
Enterprise

**MINUTES ISSUED: 3 July 2012**

**CALL-IN: 10 July 2012**

**Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 10 July 2012**

*Meeting ended at 2.25 p.m.*