

Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 19th November 2020

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB38 MERSEY GATEWAY

The Board considered a report presenting the outcome of a consultation held in relation to the updating of the *Road User Charging Scheme Order* for the Mersey Gateway Bridge and the Silver Jubilee Bridge (the 'Bridges').

The public consultation took place from 23 September 2020 to 14 October 2020 and a summary of the responses received were outlined in the report. Appended to the report was the updated *Road User Charging Scheme Order 2020 (RUCSO)* and the consultation response analysis.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) confirms that no further consultation is required in respect of the updated RUCSO;
- 2) confirms that no public inquiry is required to be held into the making of the updated RUCSO;
- 3) agrees to the making of the updated RUCSO in the form (or substantially the same form) as that in Appendix 1 and delegate to the Operational Director – Legal and Democratic Services, the authority to make any non-material or consequential amendments as necessary to enable the updated RUCSO to be made;
- 4) agrees to the toll charges being unchanged – as specified in the updated RUCSO; and
- 5) agrees to the administration fees in relation to registering with Mersey Gateway / Merseyflow being unchanged.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

EXB39 DISABLED PARKING SPACES POLICY

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which presented the revised Disabled Parking Spaces Policy.

It was reported that the current Policy required updating to bring Halton’s approach in line with those of neighbouring authorities within the Liverpool City Region. Further, the current process required review due to changes to how mobility allowances were defined and awarded, increasing levels of on-street parking congestion, and the need to update explicit guidance and qualifying criteria in the existing Policy.

For Members information, the current application form was available at appendix A, and appendix B presented the proposed new application form, which also included the updated list of guidelines.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the revised Disabled Parking Spaces Policy.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB40 HALTON HOUSING TRUST PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report on the progress of Halton Housing Trust, since the last report to the Board on 17 January 2019.

Members welcomed Neil McGrath, Liz Haworth and Clive Deadman, from Halton Housing Trust who presented the report – *Annual Report to HBC Executive Board, October 2020*, which outlined some of the key organisational achievements over the past 18 months. Highlights included the completion of an additional 134 new homes to bring the total stock since transfer to almost 1,300; the appointment of five new apprentices; and the achievement of the highest possible regulatory rating of V1 G1.

The guests’ responded to Members’ questions on the report and Members congratulated the Trust on its achievements, recognising the challenges they faced generally, as well as in more recent times with the onset of the Pandemic and the need to support more vulnerable customers.

RESOLVED: That the Board note the progress made as set out in the report.

EXB41 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE COUNCIL'S HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Board considered a report describing changes to the eligibility criteria for accessing housing and homelessness support that were made as a result of delegated powers to the Chief Executive, during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

The report explained the impact and implications of the changes in eligibility and discussed the arrangements going forward. Members agreed, taking into account the placement of Halton into Tier 3 and the subsequent national lockdown, and with the onset of winter, that Halton should adopt a similar approach as the LCR and continue with the wider eligibility of access to homelessness support, thus protecting the most vulnerable from the illness.

A review of the eligibility criteria would take place at the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED: That the Board

- 1) notes the contents of the report; and
- 2) agrees to continue with the current approach to determining homelessness eligibility, subject to a review towards the end of the financial year.

EXB42 UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENTS (SDPS)

The Executive Board received a report that requested the removal of the Draft Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) from the Halton Local Development Scheme (LDS).

It was noted that the following documents had not progressed and were now unlikely to be progressed in their current form due to the expiration of the Unitary Development Plan:

- Draft Runcorn Old Town SPD;

Strategic Director
- People

- Halton Lea SPD;
- West Bank SPD; and
- Halebank Regeneration Area SPD

The reasons why each SPD was not progressed were outlined in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the removal of the draft Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) from the Halton Local Development Scheme (LDS), in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

EXB43 LOCAL PLAN - ADDENDUM TO STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI)

The Board received a report that explained the requirement for an addendum to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) within the Local Plan and sought a resolution from the Board for formal implementation of this.

Members were advised that due to national legislative change, an addendum was required to be temporarily added to the adopted SCI, which formed part of the Halton Local Plan Framework. This was presented in Appendix A – *Addendum (Covid-19) to the adopted SCI 2019*.

RESOLVED: That the Board approves the addition of the addendum (Appendix A) to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for Local Plan making.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 10th December 2020

COMMUNITY AND SPORT AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIOS

EXB55 LEASE OF RECREATION CLUB BUILDING AND KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS, DUNDALK RD, WIDNES

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which sought approval to the granting of a lease to Widnes FC Ltd, for the Recreation Club building on Dundalk Road and King George V playing fields.

The report outlined the background and history of the

Club in recent years and Members were referred to the plan of the site attached to the report.

The Council invited Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease the Recreation Club building and King George V playing fields, subject to them being retained for social, sports and recreational use. Following a site visit made by interested parties, only Widnes FC Ltd expressed an interest to continue with discussions and went on to present a proposal to the Council.

It was noted that the proposal would require significant investment and resources to deliver and the report laid out the Council's position and steps required to be taken should the granting of a lease to Widnes FC Ltd be approved.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Council enter into a lease agreement with Widnes FC Ltd;
- 2) the Council bring forward the site for sporting development, subject to planning permission; and
- 3) the Board delegates responsibility for oversight of the development and lease to the Operational Director – Economy, Enterprise and Property and the Operational Director – Communities and Environment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Physical Environment and Community and Sport.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 21st January 2021

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB62 RUNCORN TOWN INVESTMENT PLAN (TIP)

The Board considered a report from the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which sought approval to submit Runcorn's Town Investment Plan (TIP).

In November 2019, the Government issued the Towns Fund Prospectus inviting 100 towns to develop a Town Investment Plan to benefit from up to £25m funding each from a national £3.6bn fund. Runcorn was invited to

develop a TIP, which was now in its final draft stage and would be ready for the submission deadline date of 31 January 2021.

The report outlined the details of the TIP and discussed the list of emerging projects to be included in the Plan. The Board was requested to delegate the final sign off to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Physical Environment.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Board

- 1) agrees in principle to the Runcorn Town Investment Plan and project list; and
- 2) delegates approval of the final submission of the Runcorn Town Investment Plan to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Physical Environment, in order to meet the 31 January 2021 deadline.

Strategic Director
- Enterprise,
Community and
Resources