

APPENDIX 1

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2021

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL PORTFOLIO

EXB8 EAST RUNCORN CONNECTIVITY CORRIDOR SCHEME DEVELOPMENTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources, which sought approval to develop a transport scheme for East Runcorn Connectivity Corridor (ERRC).

It was reported that initial pre-development funding was available from the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Combined Authority on a competitive basis to develop schemes such as the ERRC.

The ERCC scheme was highly complex and it was estimated that delivery of all elements would be over a ten-year period. Therefore, in advance of site works being procured, a considerable amount of planning and preparation needed to be undertaken to inform options and investigate construction details. The purpose of this advanced pre-development work was to create a well designed, feasible, and cost effective scheme.

Members were advised that as part of the LCR's Transport Pipeline, the ERCC was an ambitious scheme that would support the delivery of new homes and employment opportunities by providing a resilient, sustainable transport corridor within East Runcorn. The area was home to the Enterprise Zone, business parks and large housing sites and the scheme would significantly enhance the existing transport network in the Borough. The proposed ERCC scheme consisted of four elements, these were outlined in the report, paragraph 3.2.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) a transport scheme covering the East Runcorn connectivity Corridor be developed and added to the

Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and

Council's Capital Programme (paragraphs 3.8 and 5.10); Resources

- 2) an initial programme (Year 1) covering technical investigations to inform options appraisal and scheme feasibility be approved (Appendix 1);
- 3) Mott MacDonald, an external consultant, be commissioned via Direct Award under the Warrington Consultation Framework to undertake the Year 1 programme (paragraph 3.10); and
- 4) approval be delegated to the Operational Director - Policy, Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder Environment and Urban Renewal, to advance the initial programme (Year 1) for the scheme.

EXB9 HIGHWAY SAFETY INSPECTION POLICY

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which presented a revised Highway Safety Inspection Policy and requested its adoption.

Members were advised that the revised policy was based on the Liverpool City Region Highway Safety Inspection Framework that was drafted in accordance with the recommendation set out in the *Well Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice 2016*, relevant to highway safety inspections. This introduced a move to a risk based approach with regard to safe use of the highway.

It was noted that Section 41 of the Highways Act 1980, placed a statutory duty on all Highway Authorities to maintain the highway network under their control; for there to be a breach of Section 41, there must have been a failure to maintain or a failure to repair the highway.

Members were advised of a collaboration of local authorities, as listed in the report, who had contributed to this framework of principles in order to provide a regionally consistent special defence by virtue of Section 58 of the Highways Act 1980, in an action against the Council for an alleged breach of Section 41. Appended to the report at Appendix A was the Highway Safety Inspection Policy and Guidance and B, the Inspection Areas and Frequencies.

Strategic

RESOLVED: That the Board approved the revised Highways Safety Inspection Policy (Appendix A) and the schedule of inspection areas and frequencies (Appendix B).

Director -
Enterprise,
Community and
Resources

CLIMATE CHANGE PORTFOLIO

EXB10 PUBLIC SECTOR DECARBONISATION FUND

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which provided an update on a recent bid to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund and to seek approval for additional funding from the Capital Programme to support the bid.

The Council developed a bid focussed on the DCBL Stadium, which included replacing the current gas boilers with air source heat pumps; replacing existing lighting fittings with new energy efficient LED lighting; replacing single glazed windows; and installing additional insulation.

The report provided Members with details of the bid process and it was reported that in February 2021, the Council was awarded £1,295,846 to deliver the improvements. Since the award of the funding a number of cost variations had been identified, which would increase costs for the project by approximately £370,000, these were discussed in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the award of £1,295,846m from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund be noted; and
- 2) Council be asked to include the Decarbonisation Scheme at a gross cost of £1,677,673 within the 2021/22 capital programme, to be funded as set out within paragraph 3.4.

Strategic Director -
Enterprise,
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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 15 JULY 2021

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL PORTFOLIO

EXB17 ATI UK LTD CREMATOR ISSUE AT WIDNES CREMATORIUM

The Board received a report of the Strategic

Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which proposed a solution to the current situation that existed at Widnes Crematorium with the two cremators.

Members were advised that Widnes Crematorium currently had two ATI UK Ltd cremators for which a service and maintenance contract was entered into with them, at the time they were installed. Unfortunately on 18 March 2020, the Council received confirmation that ATI UK Ltd had ceased to trade, which had left the Council with no service and maintenance contract.

The report discussed the importance of regular servicing of the equipment and the steps taken to find a solution. The proposal presented would see the replacement of one of the ATI UK cremators and the parts of the one removed would be kept for replacement parts for the other. The current temporary cremator supplied would be removed, saving the cost of hire.

The Board considered the financial implications of the proposal, taking into consideration the income generated from the Crematorium per annum.

Strategic Director -
Enterprise,
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RESOLVED: That

- 1) delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Urban Renewal, to procure a replacement cremator and associated service and maintenance contract; and
- 2) Council be recommended to include £200,000 in the 2020/22 Capital Programme for the scheme, as outlined in Section 5.0 of the report.

EXB18 MASTERPLAN FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT ARLEY DRIVE PLAYING FIELDS AND LAND ON THE NORTH OF BANKFIELD ROAD, WIDNES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which sought approval on the proposed Arley Woodland and Bankfield Green Park Masterplan.

The proposals would see a comprehensive set of improvements to the existing playing fields and open

space at Arley Drive and land north of Bankfield Road. Approval was also sought to deliver the project in line with the Masterplan, including making any suitable grant applications that may be required.

The report outlined the history of the site; current facilities and usage; access problems and its poor infrastructure. The five key elements to the Masterplan proposals and budget requirements were also discussed. Members were referred to appendices 1, 2 and 3 which showed the existing site plan, Arley Drive Playing Fields Site photographs and the Masterplan.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

- 1) approves the Masterplan; and
- 2) gives delegated authority to the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Urban Renewal, to progress the Arley Woodland Park project and prepare all necessary information for suitable grant applications.

Strategic Director -
Enterprise,
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EXB19 PAVEMENT LICENCE POLICY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which presented the Pavement Licence Policy and recommended its adoption as a formal policy of the Council.

Members were advised that in order to support economic recovery and encourage vibrant town centres, a policy was proposed to support Pavement Cafes. The policy would guide those wishing to offer pavement café seating and table service. It was important however, that a balance is struck to maintain the needs of other street users and ensure travel was unobstructed. Therefore, the policy would require a minimum of 1500mm free space between the furniture and the edge of the footpath.

The report outlined details of the pavement licence and how it would be used by the authority and a business that had applies for one. The Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

considered the pavement licence proposal at its meeting on 23 June 2021 and recommended the approval and adoption of the policy (appended to the report) by the Executive Board.

Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources

RESOLVED: That the policy set out in Appendix A be adopted as a formal policy of the Borough Council.

EXB20 HALTON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Enterprise, Community and Resources, which requested approval to update the Local Development Scheme (LDS), attached at Appendix 1.

Members were advised that under statute, a council must prepare and keep updated a Local Development Scheme (LDS) that provides a timetable for the production of their statutory development plan (or 'Local Plan'). The LDS describes the planning policy documents that a council intends to prepare, and gives target dates for key stages in their production. The updated LDS covers the remaining stages in the preparation of the Delivery and Allocations Local Plan that had recently gone through examination by an independent government inspector.

It was noted that the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board considered the updated LDS at its meeting held on 23 June 2021 and recommended its approval and adoption by the Executive Board.

RESOLVED: That the Local Development Scheme 2021 be adopted as a formal part of Halton Borough Council's planning framework.

Strategic Director - Enterprise, Community and Resources