

CHILDREN

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Children's Services, Looked after Children, Schools and Early Years:-

MONDAY, 11th FEBRUARY, 2019

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| Councillor Cunliffe | - Executive Cabinet Member – Children |
| Councillor P. Wild (as deputy for Councillor C. Wild) | - Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Wilkinson (as deputy for Councillor Bagnall) | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Hornby | - Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Sanders (as deputy for Councillor Flitcroft) | - Minor Opposition Spokesman |

Officers

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Mr T. Birch | - Assistant Director – Education and Learning |
| Mr A. Crook | - Assistant Director – Commissioning and Integration |
| Mr P. Rankin | - Assistant Director, Performance, Planning and Resources |
| Ms L. Butcher | - Head of Finance |
| Mrs S. Bailey | - Principal Democratic Services Officer |

46. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Cabinet Member.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

47. FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT – QUARTER THREE 2018/19

The Interim Director of People and the Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which provided information relating to the financial position for the Department of People as at Quarter Three of the 2018/19 Financial Year.

With regard to revenue expenditure, the report advised that the position for the Local Authority Block was expected to be in line with budget following use of reserves of £4.933m.

Revenue expenditure for the Dedicated Schools Grant was projected to be £0.812m greater than the grant available.

In relation to Capital Expenditure, the report advised that the original Capital Programme was approved at the Council meeting in February, 2018 which totalled £38.3m. The programme had now decreased to £17.8m due to likely slippage into 2019/20 as the phasing of projects took place. Expenditure at Quarter Three was £13m.

Reserves were expected to be £48m at 31st March, 2019 which was a decrease of £9.6m due to the use of school's balances, funding of the current years Capital Programme and the estimated revenue position being offset by Schools Capital in year allocations. Of the £48m reserves, £29.3m related to capital monies held for future work on schools and £6.1m

related to school's balances and other Dedicated Schools Grant reserves.

With regard to the Capital Programme, the report recommended that the Director of People be authorised to procure for schemes under the limit of £300k via the Council's Corporate Procurement Team either through under any available frameworks or via open tender procurement process to enable the capital programmes to progress.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report and APPROVED –

- (i) The revenue budget changes and savings options realised in quarter;**
- (ii) The changes within the Capital Programme as now detailed; and**
- (iii) That the Director of People be given delegated authority to call off on the Framework(s) for the Capital Programme on the basis detailed in Section three of the report now submitted.**

**48. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT –
QUARTER THREE 2018/19**

The Interim Director of Place submitted a report which provided an update on the performance of the People Services Department as at Quarter Three of 2018/19.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

**49. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT BUDGET REPORT
2019/20**

The Interim Director of People and the Director of Corporate Resources submitted a joint report which summarised the financial position of the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2019/20 and sought agreement for its allocation.

The report advised that extensive consultation had taken place with the Schools Forum, the report recommended the allocation of the Grant via a local formula which had taken into account the changes resulting from the October, 2018 census. It included the transfer to the high needs block, de-delegation, growth fund criteria and central schools budget approvals as agreed by the Schools Forum.

A copy of the report considered by the Schools Forum at its meeting on 11th January, 2019 was appended to the report.

The Executive Cabinet Member AGREED –

The Dedicated Schools Grant, on the basis set out in the report now submitted.

50. PLACEMENTS NORTH WEST REDESIGN

Further to Minute 73 of the meeting of the Executive Cabinet Member Deputy Leader held on 12th February, 2018, the Interim Director of People submitted a report which sought approval to revise the structure of the Placements North West Service following the transfer of responsibilities to Bolton, as follows:

- the establishment of a Leaving Care Monitoring Officer post and the subsequent TUPE transfer of an employee from St Helen's Council;
- the re-designation of the Principal Marketing Officer post to Project Manager; and
- the establishment of a Commissioning Officer post.

Details of the existing and proposed structures were provided together with relevant job descriptions and person specifications.

There were no additional costs to the local authorities to fund the proposed restructure.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The revised staffing structure of the Placements North West Service, as follows:

- (i) The establishment of a Leaving Care Monitoring Officer post and the subsequent TUPE transfer of an employee at St Helen's Council;**
- (ii) The re-designation of the Principal Marketing Officer post to Project Manager; and**
- (iii) The establishment of a Commissioning Officer post.**

51. EARLY HELP ESTABLISHMENT

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which summarised the results of the recent Strategic Review of Early Help and outlined the proposed next steps.

The report reminded the Executive Cabinet Member that between September and December, 2018, over 250 key stakeholders had been involved in reviewing Early Help within Bolton. The findings had been presented to a multi-agency group of senior managers and to the Children's PDG and were summarised as follows:

- there was a need to 'do with' children, families and communities rather than 'do to';
- a lesser focus on the process and more on making a difference and ensuring positive outcomes;
- a move to a more pro-active relationship-based support rather than reactive service involvement when issues had already reached crisis point; and
- further development of a whole system approach to Early Help across all agencies in Bolton to ensure appropriate links across organisations and programmes of work.

In this regard, the report put forward Early Help Development proposals which would be managed as part of the People Services Change Programme and contained seven workstreams of strengths and relationships working, getting help, Bolton all age approach to meeting needs earlier, creating Bolton Early Help and Targeted Service, proactive strategic

commissioning, good governance and managing demand and better outcomes.

Additional capacity would be required to provide strategic direction to the development of the workstreams and to provide strategic leadership to the Bolton Early Help and Targeted Service. Approval was therefore sought for the creation of a new post of Head of Service – Early Help which would be funded from earmarked unification hub monies. The remainder of the programme would be funded using existing resources.

An Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken in respect of the proposals and was appended to the report.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

- (i) The initiation of the Early Help Project, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted; and**
- (ii) The establishment of a post of Head of Service Early Help.**

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The background papers and reports in relation to the following items were considered confidential as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

52. START WELL ESTATES REVENUE COST SHARING REPORT

The Interim Director of People submitted a report which outlined the current challenges in facilities management of Harvey Street Well Centre and the wider estate and sought approval for the creation of a new post of Start Well facilities Development Manager from within the existing Budget.

Full details of the post together with a person specification and job description and the associated funding arrangements were

included in the report. It would initially be a fixed term post for twelve months.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

- (i) The creation of a fixed term post of Start Well facilities Development Manager – Grade 7, subject to the necessary job evaluation; and**
- (ii) The use of Start Well reserves to fund this post for 12 months to be reviewed once NHS partners have been co-located and revenue costs sharing agreement has been reached.**