

DEPUTY LEADER

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Adults, Public Health, Looked After Children, Safeguarding, Early Years, Schools and Skills:-

MONDAY, 20TH MAY, 2013

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

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| Councillor Mrs Thomas | - | Executive Cabinet Member – Deputy Leader |
| Councillor Cox (as deputy for Councillor Morgan) | - | Major Opposition Spokesperson |

Schools and Skills Portfolio

- | | | |
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| Councillor McKeon | - | Cabinet Member |
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Looked After Children, Safeguarding and Early Years Portfolio

- | | | |
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| Councillor Murray | - | Cabinet Member |
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Adults Portfolio

- | | | |
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| Councillor Peacock | - | Cabinet Member |
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Public Health

- | | | |
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| Councillor Bashir-Ismail | - | Cabinet Member |
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Officers

- | | | |
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| Ms M. Asquith | - | Director of Children's and Adult Services |
| Mr J. Livesey | - | Assistant Director of Children's |

	and Adults Services
Mr D. Smith	- Head of Finance (Adults and Children's Services)
Mrs S. Bailey	- Principal Democratic Services Officer

1. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Deputy Chief Executive 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.

2. SOCIAL NEEDS TRANSPORT – PROCUREMENT OF CLIENT BUSES

The Director of Children's and Adults Services submitted a report which sought approval to replace the existing fleet of Social Needs Transport vehicles with 40 new minibuses in order to improve the service to clients and produce an annual revenue saving of £317k.

The report outlined the current arrangements for transporting vulnerable children and adults from their home to either a school or day facility. The in-house fleet currently consisted of 40 vehicles that were leased through a seven year leasing agreement.

The report proposed the achievement of an annual budget saving in the costs of transporting vulnerable children and adults through the capital purchase of vehicles rather than the existing revenue vehicle leasing arrangement. Once the current lease expired, it was proposed that the Council would purchase vehicles using funding from the Children and Adults Services general reserves, rather than leasing them. The effect of this would be to generate an on-going revenue budget saving of £317k.

The report estimated that in order to implement the proposal, an initial capital investment of approximately £2.2m would be required and capital funding for vehicle replacement totalling £314,000 per annum be set aside to facilitate the purchase of replacement vehicles at the end of their useful life, which was estimated to be 7 years. The revenue generated would be from the cessation of the payments for the leasing of the vehicles.

A vehicle specification had been drawn up taking into account service user needs and full details of the types of vehicles that would be purchased were also outlined in the report.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

- (i) The transfer of up to £2.2m reserves to Environmental Services to fund the capital purchase of up to 40 new Social Needs Transport vehicles, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted;**
- (ii) The setting aside of capital funding totalling £314,000 per annum to fund replacement buses at the end of their useful life; and AUTHORISED –**
- (iii) The Director of Environmental Services to tender for up to 40 Social Needs Transport vehicles at a cost of up to £2.2m.**

3. DISCRETIONARY EDUCATION AWARDS

Further to Minute 13 of the meeting of the Executive Member for Children's Services held on 27th July, 2010, the Director of Children's Services submitted a report which proposed changes to the award of discretionary education awards to pupils of compulsory school age and post 16 students attending independent fee paying schools for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years.

Previously, the Executive Member had determined that in the light of decisions made by the Executive relating to the budget situation, discretionary awards would not be made for pupils to attend independent fee paying schools or colleges for the 2010/11 and 2011/12 financial years.

The report now sought approval to extend this determination for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years.

It was noted that the above proposal would not remove the possibility of such awards being made in future financial years and that the Executive Cabinet Member would need to make further determinations with regard to discretionary education awards in future financial years from 2015/16 onwards.

The Executive Cabinet Member AGREED –

That applications for discretionary education awards to pupils of compulsory school age and post 16 pupils attending independent fee paying schools will not be considered for the 2013/14 and 2014/15 financial years, it being noted that the Executive Cabinet Member will make further determinations in respect of discretionary education awards in future financial years.

4. STRATEGIC RESOURCES AND PARTNERSHIPS TEAM – INVEST TO SAVE RESOURCE

The Directors of Children's and Adult Services and Corporate Resources submitted a joint report which sought approval for a proposal to create an additional post within the Strategic Resources and Partnerships Team dedicated to securing additional resources through successful bids to improve outcomes for Adults within the Borough.

The report advised that since the merger of the Children and Adult Services Department, it had been noted that there was no resource within the Adult Services Department to identify and secure additional resources to support adults.

In this regard, it was proposed to increase the establishment of the Strategic Resources and Partnerships Team by an additional Principal Strategic Resources and Partnerships Officer. This post would focus upon identifying additional resources, preparing bids, providing advice and guidance to

others in the preparation of bids and giving general advice on opportunities for securing external funding.

The Team currently focused on securing resources for children and young people, however it was felt that the expertise of the team would be invaluable in securing additional funding for adults within Bolton. Many opportunities for securing additional resources had been identified, particularly in relation to support to voluntary sector social care organisations, including groups that supported carers.

The proposed job description and person specification was attached to the report and Appendix B.

The proposal would cost £40,700 which would be financed from funding received through successful bids.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Cabinet Member (Leader) at his meeting on 10th June, 2013.

The Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED, subject to the approval of the Executive Cabinet Member (Leader) –

The creation of an additional post of Principal Strategic Resources Partnership Officer at Grade 9, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The background papers and reports in relation to the following item 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.

5. SCHOOLS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14

The Director of Children's and Adult Services submitted a report which put forward the Schools Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16 for consideration and approval.

The report sought approval to progress the individual projects contained within various appendices to the report relating to:

- The Building Maintenance Programme (£2,090,000);
- The Schools Kitchen Refurbishment Programme (£100,000);
- The Schools Access Initiative Programme (£200,000); and
- Local Coordinated Voluntary Programme.

The report provided details of the individual projects that were proposed to be included in these programmes.

Following a recommendation by the Cabinet Member for Schools and Skills, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The Schools Capital Programme for 2013/14, as now submitted.