

## **REGENERATION, HOUSING AND SKILLS**

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Regeneration, Housing and Skills on:-

**TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2011**

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

Councillor Ibrahim	Executive Member for Regeneration, Housing and Skills
Councillor Cox	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor D. Wilkinson	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. K. Davies	Director of Development and Regeneration
Mr. S. Godley	Development Manager (Planning Strategy)
Mr. G. Gallagher	Support Services/Pinpoint Manager
Mr. J. Gorton	Partnership Manager, Leisure Trust
Mrs. S. Bailey	Principal Democratic Services Officer

### **32. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS**

The Director of Chief Executive's Department submitted a report which contained monitoring information related to decisions taken at the Executive Member's previous meetings.

**The Executive Member NOTED the progress on decisions previously taken, as detailed in the Appendix to these minutes.**

### **33. BOLTON'S DRAFT ALLOCATIONS PLAN**

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report which sought the Executive Member's approval of the draft Allocations Plan for consultation and as a material consideration for development management purposes.

The Executive Member was reminded that, the Council adopted Bolton's Core Strategy on 2nd March, 2011, and the next stage in the preparation of Bolton's Development Plan was to prepare and adopt the Allocations Plan.

It was explained that the regulations on development plans allowed the Council considerable discretion at this early stage about the format of plans and method of consultation. For the Allocations Plan the focus of consultation would be on site specific issues and, like the Core Strategy, was based on the six Community Strategy themes as follows:-

- Healthy Bolton;
- Achieving Bolton;
- Prosperous Bolton;
- Safe Bolton;
- Cleaner, Greener Bolton; and
- Strong and confident Bolton.

The Executive Member was also advised that the Government was currently consulting on a draft National Planning Policy Framework which would replace the current series of Planning Policy Guidance Notes and Statements and Minerals Planning Guidance and Statements. It was stated that the Allocations Plan must be consistent with the Framework and this was likely to be one of the tests of soundness which a Planning Inspector would examine.

In terms of the next steps, it was stated that once approved there would be a period of public consultation and all comments received would be taken into account and the Plan amended accordingly. It was then intended to publish the Plan in line with the timetable outlined in the report.

**The Executive Member APPROVED the draft Allocations Plan for consultation and as a material consideration for development management purposes.**

### 34. SAVINGS AND EFFICIENCIES – LEISURE PROVISION

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report which advised the Executive Member of the progress made in achieving the savings target for 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 financial years in relation to the Leisure Budgets.

By way of background the Executive Member was reminded that, as part of the savings and efficiencies programme, the Development and Regeneration Department were charged with the progression of the corporate target of £100,000 in 2011/2012 and £500,000 in 2012/2013 from the Council's budget to support leisure provision.

<b>Option</b>	<b>2011/12 (£'000s)</b>	<b>2012/13 (£'000s)</b>
Contractual arrangements ceased at Hayward Dual Use Centre/Essa Academy	100	
Contractual arrangements will cease at Withins Dual Use Centre		137
Contractual arrangements will cease at Turton Dual Use Centre		118
Reduction in grant payment as a result of increased income at Harper Green Dual Use Centre		20
Contractual arrangements will cease at Kearsley Dual Use Centre/Kearsley Academy		67
Reduction in grant payment due to increased income at Westhoughton Dual Use Centre (Part Year)		91
Reduction in grant payment due to increased income at Sharples Dual Use Centre		20
Contract Efficiencies		13
		34

Reduction in subsidy to Bolton  
Middlebrook Leisure Trust

<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>500</b>
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As a result, the report outlined a range of options which had been developed by Bolton Community Leisure Trust (BCLT) and Bolton Middlebrook Leisure Trust in order to meet this target and these were summarised as follows:-

The report outlined in detail in each of the proposals and it also put forward two further possibilities which BCLT had been considering in relation to the potential revised management arrangement at Ladybridge Dual Use Centre and the potential for increased income at Farnworth Leisure Centre. It was stated that if both these options were progressed then it was anticipated that there could be further reduction in the grant payment payable from the Council to BCLT in future years.

The Executive Member was also advised that the other main development which BCLT had considered was Bolton One the new Health, Leisure and Research Centre in Bolton Town Centre which was due for completion in early 2012. Consequently, it was now felt appropriate to obtain approval to vary the Grant Agreement between the Council and the Trust to include the Bolton One leisure facility and for the Trust to formally resolve to accept the variation of the agreement to include this facility. It was explained that as soon as the necessary approvals were in place and the final Business Plan for Bolton One was agreed the variation of the Grant Agreement could be progressed. This would then result in BCLT taking overall responsibility for Bolton One and, therefore, formal approval was also sought for Bolton One to be included within BCLT's portfolio and in this respect an annual grant payment in the region of £250,000 to be made from the Council to BCLT starting 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2012. Provision for this had already been made within the Council's approved budget.

In conclusion it was stated that the proposals contained in the report had been developed in partnership between BCLT, Serco and the Council based upon the evidence from the 2009

Leisure Review and consultation had taken place at an early stage with schools and Children's Services when a budget option affected a Dual Use Centre. Following the necessary approvals, further communication would take place with staff, schools, governing bodies and customers to ensure, where applicable, continuity of access and clear communication of alternative offers where appropriate.

The necessary Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken and was detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

**The Executive Member NOTED the progress made by the Bolton Community Leisure Trust and Bolton Middlebrook Trust in identifying budget savings; APPROVED –**

**(i) The proposals as detailed in the report in principle to achieve those savings; AGREED –**

**(ii) To delegate authority to the Director of Development and Regeneration to:**

- (a) Finalise the budget options leading to a reduction in grant;**
  - (b) Finalise negotiations with BCLT (and Serco) for the inclusion of Bolton One in the grant agreement between the Council and BCLT; and**
  - (c) In consultation with the Director of Chief Executive's Department, amend the grant agreement between the Council and Bolton Community Leisure Trust and Bolton Middlebrook Trust, as appropriate; and**
- AUTHORISED -**

**(iii) The Director of Chief Executive's Department to carry out all the necessary legal formalities.**

## **CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

**The background papers and report in relation to the following item were considered confidential as defined in paragraphs 1 and 4 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.**

### **35. REVIEW OF CHOICE BASED LETTINGS SERVICES (FIND A HOME AND PINPOINT)**

The Director of Development and Regeneration submitted a report which set out the results of the formal consultation on the amalgamation of Bolton's Find a Home Choice Based Letting (CBL) service and the Greater Manchester combined authority Pinpoint CBL service and sought the Executive Member's approval to implement the final proposals.

Details of the consultation process and the responses of consultees, including staff and Trades Unions were included in the report.

The amended final proposals taking into account the results of the consultation process were detailed in the report and the necessary Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken and was detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.

The report would also be considered by the Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity at her meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2011.

**The Executive Member AGREED subject to the approval of the Executive Member for Human Resources, Organisational Development and Diversity, the final proposals and AUTHORISED the Chief Executive and the Director of Corporate Resources to implement the structure, including details of (any) voluntary redundancy arrangements and consequential recruitment and selection.**