

CABINET - 14 July 2022

MINUTES

Present: Councillors: I Courts, K Grinsell, T Diccico, M Gough, K Hawkins, D Howell, A Mackiewicz, R Sleight OBE. Opposition Group Leaders in attendance L McCarthy and M McLoughlin

Officers: Nick Page, Paul Johnson, Deborah Merry, Mary Morrissey, Perry Wardle, Mark Andrews, Ruth Tennant, Tom Knibbs and Jane Game
Virtual attendance Jonathan Brotherton UGC

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr B Sleight reminded Members he was a Director on UGC in relation to item 7.

3. QUESTIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

No questions or deputations were received.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022 were presented for information.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2022 be received for information.

5. FAMILY HUBS DELIVERY PLAN

The Cabinet was provided with the plans to develop and deliver a Solihull Family Hub offer by March 2024.

Members were advised that the Council had been awarded up to £1 million to create a network of Family Hubs by the Department for Education. The funding had been provided to put in place up to 7 Family Hubs, supported by a digital offer and outreach activity.

The hubs would co-locate a range of existing services for families from pre-conception to 19 years (and 25 years for young people with additional needs). The services would include NHS-led provision such as antenatal checks for pregnant women, clinics and mandated checks from pregnancy to 2 years by Health Visiting, emotional wellbeing and mental health support and therapeutic services. There would also be support for children and young people with additional needs co-delivered by the Council, NHS and the voluntary sector alongside addiction and healthy lifestyle services, parenting support, debt, domestic abuse, housing and employment support and more.

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Council commissioned and provided family services would utilise the hubs for service delivery. Additionally, there would be social activities to foster peer support with a thriving parent volunteer group supporting sessions. This would encourage families to come to the hubs or outreach activity in communities and engage with multiple aspects of the offer, led by their particular needs.

The report went on to detail:

- Aim of the Hub offer
- Programme goals and key outcomes
- Hub locations (Kingshurst, Smiths Wood, Chelmsley Wood, Olton, Meriden, Shirley and Solihull, (specific sites to be identified))
- Virtual (digital offer)
- Outreach services and activities
- Governance & delivery
- Budget

Members very much welcomed the report and recognised the positive impact this initiative would have for children and their families as well as supporting the improvement work taking place within children services.

There was some concern regarding the future funding of the Hubs once they had been developed. Officer advised that in terms of revenue funding a key aspect would be selecting the right sites so they were fit for purpose. As the services being provided were already in existence money was available from existing pots of funding. Work on how the hubs would be managed was being worked through including financial sustainability.

Members sought assurance that partners were fully engaged in the development of the hubs, and that data sharing would not be a problem between partners. Officers advised work was in hand to ensure data sharing would not be a problem and it was a top priority. Officers confirmed that there had been strong engagement from all partners from the very start, which was important as some key NHS services would be delivered via the hubs. Learning from previous partnership projects had also been taken on board, as well as learning from what Coventry and Warwickshire had done with their Family Hub offer.

Members noted that the location, sites and specification of the sites would be important, the buildings would need to be welcoming and accessible for families, and questioned whether this would be a problem. Officers advised that a Parent Carer Forum would be set up to help support this work and there was also a piece of work being undertaken to look at the physical assets of buildings and at existing facilities within the authority and with our partners. Identified sites would then be subject to feasibility studies.

Some concern was expressed with regard to the funding in that it was one off and would be stretched to cover 7 hubs. The branding of the service would be important. With regard to the primary outcomes set out in the report it was important that there was effective signposting to other services, especially around mental health. The long term success of the hubs would depend on how well families engaged with the initial offer. Officers provided clarification on each of these points.

Members were reminded that the Council was now working within the Integrated Care Service (ICS) and Fairer Future Funding of £3m had been provided, which the Place

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Board would distribute. There would be number of demands for this money, but Family Hubs could be considered.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That the proposed locations of the Family Hubs & plans to create a single-branded multi-agency family support offer from pre-conception to 25 years be approved;
- (ii) That the funding for this service from the Department of Education for the development of Family Hubs be noted and accepted; and
- (iii) That the connections between Family Hubs as a key prevention service and the wider children's improvement journey be noted.

6. DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT AND 'CLAW BACK' POLICY

The Cabinet's agreement was sought for the development of the Council's Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (DCSPD) and how this would align with the Council's wider work its Urban Growth Company (UGC) and other stakeholders in delivering upfront infrastructure projects (including at the UKC Hub) where appropriate to do so.

Members were advised that the report considered areas of developer contributions and the need for upfront funding opportunities to be realised in advance of the planning process, with contributions 'clawed back' as permissions were secured.

Members were informed that by agreeing the recommendation, the Council would be able to negotiate contributions either as part of land ownership, promotional arrangements, or as a material consideration when negotiating an s106 agreement.

Such an approach was justified as long as the infrastructure in question was directly related to the development that would come forward. That reflected the three CIL tests outlined in paragraph 3.2 of the report. If the infrastructure did not meet those tests, then there would be no legal justification for seeking a contribution. In that respect it was important to note the work going on around the Hub area in particular that offered a fairly unique set of circumstances for the Borough. This included the joined-up investment and forward planning of infrastructure and upgrading of capacity to specifically unlock capacity for, and the sustainability of, future development.

The continued progression of the draft local plan, evolution of site masterplans and planning proposals, coupled with the unique situation around infrastructure planning, funding and delivery provided the Council with an opportunity to progress this approach now. This approach would also help manage site viability in the longer term by adding a further degree of clarification for developers and promoters by shaping and telegraphing infrastructure requirements.

On receiving the report Members made a number of comments which Officers responded to including how the DCSPD fitted in with the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and how the DCSPD sat alongside s106 agreements. There was some discussion around the risk of releasing funds for infrastructure development, and then waiting for the money to come back. Member were advised to look at this as a measure to preserve the possibility of securing contributions in the future, and it would not affect the Planning Committees decision making.

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RESOLVED:

- (i) That the development of a Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (DCSPD) be approved; and
- (ii) That in advance of the DCSPD being adopted, that the principle of seeking developer contributions towards infrastructure projects that have been funded in advance of a planning decision being taken, but which directly relate to making the relevant scheme acceptable in planning terms be approved.

7. URBAN GROWTH COMPANY BUSINESS PLAN 2022-23

Cabinet approval was sought for the Urban Growth Company (UGC) Business Plan for the period 2022-23.

Members were reminded that the UGC was required to present an annual business plan to SMBC. The UGC was governed by a Board, with an Independent Chair (Nick Brown) and two Non-Executive Directors. The Council had two seats on the Board, being the Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Resources and the Director of Economy and Infrastructure. The UGC Board approved the Business Plan earlier in the year.

Consistent with previous versions, Section 2 of the Business Plan highlighted progress made in 2021-22 and Section 4 set the priorities for the coming year, as it continued to deliver on its overall objectives. The key achievements during the last year included:

- The appointment of a design and build contractor to take forward the multi-storey car park (MSCP) proposals, which were fundamental to the delivery of the vision for the UKC Hub;
- The completion of a suite of legal agreements that set out the roles and responsibilities of the partners and how they would collaborate to bring about the development of land around the interchange station;
- Progress on realigning the route of the Automated People Mover (APM); and
- Organisational development and the delivery of social value.

The Business Plan identified a series of activity for the coming twelve months. The most critical outcome was to secure commitment to a MSCP rather than surface car parking, which was the default plan approved in the HS2 Act. Without a MSCP, the vision for development around the Interchange Station was severely compromised.

On receiving the report Members made a number of comments which Officers responded to. Members recognised the importance of securing the MSCP.

RESOLVED:

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- (i) That the Urban Growth Company Business Plan 2022-23 be approved;
and
- (ii) That it be agreed to receive a further report on an updated Business Plan once the implications and arrangements for implementing the Multi-Storey Car Park ('Go/No Go') decision have been assessed.

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be now excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the business to be transacted, on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information in terms of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

9. PRIVATE APPENDIX URBAN GROWTH COMPANY BUSINESS PLAN 2022-23

10. PRIVATE MINUTES

The meeting ended at 7.10 pm