

**DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023**

CABINET

Tuesday, 4 April 2023

PRESENT – Councillors Dulston (Chair), Bartch, Clarke, Durham, Keir, K Nicholson, Renton and Tostevin

INVITEES – Councillors Curry, Harker and Snedker

NOTE - At the outset of the meeting, the Chair announced that the Ordinary Meeting of the Cabinet, scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 25 April 2023, had been cancelled.

C274 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

C275 TO HEAR RELEVANT REPRESENTATION (FROM MEMBERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC) ON ITEMS ON THIS CABINET AGENDA.

No representations were made by Members or members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

C276 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THIS CABINET HELD ON TUESDAY 7 MARCH 2023.

Submitted – The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Cabinet held on 7 March 2023.

RESOLVED – That the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

REASON – The represent an accurate record of the meeting.

C277 MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET

There were no matters referred back for re-consideration to this meeting.

C278 ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were no issues arising from Scrutiny considered at this meeting.

C279 KEY DECISIONS:-

(1) (URGENT REPORT) HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND 2023/24

The Cabinet Member with the Stronger Communities Portfolio introduced the report of the

Chief Executive (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to a programme of support to deliver the third extension of the Government funded Household Support Fund (HSF) for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.

The submitted report stated that as part of a number of measures to provide help with global inflationary challenges and the significantly rising cost of living, the HSF would be extended from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. It was noted that the current programme was being delivered effectively, and that the proposed programme delivered in this next round would take forward the elements in the current programme.

It was reported that authorities were required to send a delivery plan to the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) by 17 May 2023, which outlined their intentions for the Fund.

A Member welcomed the third extension of the Government funded HSF, and, whilst acknowledging the increase in school holiday provision, expressed disappointment at the reduction in the food voucher. The Cabinet Member with the Children and Young People Portfolio stated that the Council could only allocate the funding received, and endorsed the prioritisation of the school holiday provision.

RESOLVED - (a) That the proposed programme and estimated costings, as outlined in the submitted report, be approved.

(b) That delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, to amend funding pots as necessary to ensure full utilisation of the grant within the time period.

(c) That a submission to government be made based on the programme, as outlined in the submitted report.

REASONS – (a) To address the criteria laid down in the guidance.

(b) In order to secure the grant funding.

(2) RELEASE OF CAPITAL 2023/24 - ESSENTIAL REPAIRS TO PLAY AREAS, A BRIDGE ACROSS THE SKERNE RIVER AND RELEASE OF ADVANCE DESIGN FEES

The Cabinet Member with the Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Group Director of Services (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the release of capital funding approved in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to undertake essential repairs to play areas, repairs to a bridge over the River Skerne and release advanced design fee funding to enable projects to be developed.

The submitted report stated that the MTFP 2023/24 to 2026/27 included the following financial allocations, namely £200,000 over the next four years for repairs to play areas over and above the annual revenue maintenance to replace/maintain play equipment to the required safety standard, and £50,000 to carry out essential maintenance work to a bridge over the River Skerne in the Parkgate area. It was also reported that the MTFP 2022/23 to 2025/26 included a financial allocation of £150,000 in 2022/23, and the same amount in 2023/24 for advanced design work on projects, to ensure projects are developed to

appropriate standards for funding applications and Council decision making processes. The Cabinet Member with the Resources Portfolio sought the release of the capital funding to deliver the works and projects outlined.

A Member requested that an inspection of North Lodge Park be undertaken, which the Cabinet Member with the Resources Portfolio duly noted.

RESOLVED – That it be recommended that the following amounts approved in the Medium Term Financial Plan be released :-

- (a) £200,000 for essential play area equipment replacement/ maintenance;
- (b) £50,000 for essential repairs to a bridge over the River Skerne; and
- (c) £300,000 of advanced design fees be released for the development of Council priority projects.

REASONS – (a) To ensure the play areas/equipment are safe for children to use.

(b) To ensure the bridge is in a safe condition to enable its ongoing use.

(c) To ensure that schemes which are Council priorities are progressed.

C280 MEMBERSHIP CHANGES - TO CONSIDER ANY MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO OTHER BODIES TO WHICH CABINET APPOINTS.

There were no membership changes reported at the meeting.

**DECISIONS DATED –
TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2023**