



## **CABINET DECISION NOTICE**

Publication Date: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

At the special meeting of the Cabinet held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

### **Present:**

Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Fenty, Lindley, Procter, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

### **DN.143 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence from this meeting.

### **DN.144 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Shreeve declared a personal interest in item DN.145 as a trustee of Harbour Place.

### **DN.145 COVID-19 RECOVERY PLAN**

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council presenting the Council's approach to Covid-19 recovery.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the approach to recovery, as set out in the Appendix to the report now submitted, be approved.**
- 2. That this report be referred to the Communities Scrutiny Panel for consideration and any further recommendations.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - The overarching strategic aims are to facilitate and support local economic recovery, support and sustain local community resilience, support the health and care system, maximise digital capability, support workforce wellbeing, remain focused on prevention and effective outbreak management and build as much financial resilience (organisation and Borough) as possible.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – None.

## **DN.146 LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS**

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council recommending the Council's continued membership of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership, following the Government's review of LEP arrangements.

**RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the Council remaining a full member of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) be supported.**
- 2. That the development and completion of a transition agreement giving effect to the Council ceasing to be a member of the Humber LEP, on such date to be agreed, be supported.**
- 3. That the development and implementation of appropriately robust and effective collaboration arrangements between the Council and the remaining three unitary authorities in the Humber sub-region, be supported.**
- 4. That authority be delegated to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer, to take all necessary steps to progress the above recommendations.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – To meet the requirements of the Government's "strengthening local enterprise partnerships" review.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – Council membership of a Local Enterprise Partnership is essential, in order to support the pursuit of key strategic economic growth objectives.

## **DN.147 FUTURE HIGH STREET FUNDING APPLICATION**

Cabinet considered a report from the Leader of the Council on the development of a transformational scheme for the heart of Grimsby town centre which responds directly to the opportunity to apply for up to £25m of Future High Street Funding from the Government.

## **RESOLVED –**

- 1. That the Director of Economy and Growth be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to submit a funding application up to £25m to the Future High Streets Funds (FHSF) by the closing date of 31 July 2020.**
- 2. That the Director of Economy and Growth and Director of Resources and Governance be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to accept the resultant grant funding on behalf of the Council, if the application is successful.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to develop the FHSF scheme and enter into in principle negotiations with third party landowners and delivery partners, including the development of a joint venture delivery vehicle with the owners of Freshney Place.**
- 4. That it be approved in principle for the Council to exercise its powers to compulsory purchase various parcels of land designated as the development site for the FHSF scheme.**
- 5. That the Director for Economy and Growth be authorised, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to take all preliminary actions regarding the implementation of compulsory purchase orders in the event that the Council is unable to agree terms through the ordinary course of negotiations accepting that the final decision of completion of any such order rests with Cabinet and be subject to a further report.**
- 6. That authority be delegated to the Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to deal with all matters arising from and ancillary to the above.**

## **REASONS FOR DECISION –**

To enable the submission of the grant application and acceptance of the funding if awarded. Also, to enable negotiations on land assembly to proceed to ensure the scheme can be delivered within the funding timeframe.

Further detail of the scheme will be presented to Cabinet if the grant application is successful. This future Cabinet report will include detail of the scheme's management strategy, the funding model and delivery plan.

## OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Do nothing – this would be an option which would not achieve the Council's key strategic aims for the regeneration of the town centre, as described in the Local Plan and Grimsby and Cleethorpes Town Centre Investment Plan.

Development of an alternative scheme - The proposed scheme has been developed following a site options appraisal carried out by a team of specialists commissioned to assist the Council and the owners of Freshney Place. Their study reviewed a list of seven potential sites in the centre of the town which resulted in a more detailed site options review undertaken for two locations: Riverhead Square and Freshney Place. The further appraisal of these two shortlisted sites then considered how the development would address over provision of retail space in the town as well as how much confidence it would offer in securing cinema and leisure operators to the site, the ability to achieve increased footfall and having the most likely positive economic impacts.

A 'Do Less Option' was also explored which was a scaled down version of the preferred scheme described below, also situated on the same site. The appraisal process however, found this option offered less value for money and would not achieve the transformational impact expected from the investment of FHSF.

The Preferred Option – Following the shortlist appraisal the western side of Victoria Street incorporating the former BHS site, Flottergate, Old Market Place parade and the site of the current Top Town market were chosen as the preferred site for the development offering the most opportunity for transformational change to the core of the town centre. Locating the development at the entrance of the shopping centre provides the most lettable location for the cinema and leisure units, it offers a gateway anchor for Freshney Place and a better arrival to the town's central retail core. It also incorporates an enhanced market hall, future proofing this important community asset, whilst strengthening Victoria Street West.

Following the options appraisal process which identified the preferred site and interventions a business case was prepared and a financial appraisal carried out. The preferred site offers the most transformational impact, value for money, which is a key economic measurement required by the FHSF programme and is the more viable proposition.

## **DN.148 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).**

## **DN.149 FUTURE HIGH STREET FUNDING APPLICATION**

Cabinet considered an appendix to the report from the Leader of the Council referred to at DN.47 above.

**RESOLVED – That appendix two to the report, pursuant to the decision at DN.47 above, be noted.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – As per DN.47.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – As per DN.47.