

THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON THURSDAY, 21 DECEMBER 2017. MINUTE NO. 96 (5) IS NOT SUBJECT TO CALL-IN

CABINET

MEETING HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Maher (in the Chair)
Councillors Atkinson, Cummins, Fairclough, Hardy,
John Joseph Kelly, Lappin, Moncur and Veidman

90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with Paragraph 9 of the Council's Code of Conduct, the following declaration of personal interest was made and the Member concerned remained in the room during the consideration of the item:

Member	Minute No.	Nature of Interest
Councillor Fairclough	Minute No. 95 – Revenue and Capital Budget Update – Treasury Management 2017/18 – Position to October 2017	His employer is referred to in the report

92. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Decision Made:

That the minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 2 November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

93. THE DEVELOPMENT OF FAMILY WELLBEING CENTRES

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Social Care and Health in relation to the Development of Family Wellbeing Centres. The report referred to Council approval in March 2017 of the proposed development of locality working in light of community feedback gathered in recent years and extensive research into early intervention prevention models. As part of this work the Director of Social Care and Health had worked with others to develop a draft strategic approach for Family Wellbeing Centres, taking into consideration Children Centres, Family Centres, School Readiness funding and the childcare subsidy. The report provided an update including the public consultation feedback, an

equalities analysis and presented options considered and discounted and recommendations for consideration and decision.

In developing the proposals relating to locality working and the proposed Family Wellbeing approach the Council had actively listened to the views of the community and the recommendations in the report reflected this. The community clearly supported the principles of the 0-19 Family and Wellbeing approach and Officers would progress the implementation of this strategic approach, subject to Cabinet considering the information in the report. However, the community did not support the development of three 0-19 Family Wellbeing Centres, and the recommendations in this report take account of this feedback.

If the recommendations were to be approved how the change was implemented would be explored and reviewed within the Council and with the Head Teachers and Governing bodies. The potential decisions and changes if approved were:

- The three 0-19 Family Wellbeing centres not being developed, and early help being wholly delivered by the Children Centres
- Seaforth not being relocated
- A new funding methodology to be introduced in 2018 that considered:
 - The reach (geography) that Family and Children Centre management were responsible for thereby impacting on their budgets
 - All early help being within Children Centres
 - A possible impact on the number and type of activities taking place
 - A possible reduction in opening hours for a number of Family and Children Centres
 - Management and staffing
- Officers would work with Health colleagues to look at the potential development of Health and Wellbeing Centres

As the locality model developed and the 0-19 strategic approach was implemented the Council and partners would continue to explore future opportunities. The Council was keen to work with partners to ensure that positive approaches were put in place that would help all members of our community to live happy and healthy lives, with positive approaches in place for those that needed that bit of extra support from time to time.

In the future and once current service delivery had been redesigned and the duplication of current Council activity removed, a more integrated model with NHS partners could be reconsidered; as through existing work it was clear that they had an ambition to explore the development of Health and Wellbeing Centres.

Prior to determining a course of action in respect of the development of Family Wellbeing Centres the Cabinet:-

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- (1) was advised that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services and Safeguarding) had pre-scrutinised this matter at its meeting held on 5 December 2017 and had noted the report;
- (2) watched a video produced by Netherton Children's Centre that offered the views of users of the Centre;
- (3) received a presentation from Dwayne Johnson, Director of Social Care and Health that updated on:-
 - the engagement and consultation process
 - details of the proposals
 - the public response and key consultation themes
 - how the proposals were revised following consultation responses
 - financial aspects of the proposals
 - practicalities associated with the proposals relating to locality working and alterations to reach areas; managing the new offer; a commissioned model; and alignment with the Council Locality Model
 - the next steps to be undertaken which included meetings with all Head Teachers to discuss the Council decision and the development of revised specification within context of the new funding formulae; meetings with Trade Unions and staff to keep them informed; keeping the public informed; keeping Overview and Scrutiny Committee informed; and the anticipated implementation of the full plans in Spring/Summer 2018; and
- (4) was advised by Dwayne Johnson, Director of Social Care and Health about the following matters:-
 - (A) that since the expiration of the consultation exercise a petition had been received (out of date) signed by local residents urging the Council to keep open the Springwell Park Children's Centre;
 - (B) that in connection with Section 6.9 of the report that highlighted the proposed timescale linked to the removal of the Childcare subsidy, the report stated that Seaforth Children's Centre (Sand Dunes) was in receipt of £121,000 childcare subsidy and that this would be removed from April 2018. However, this should read that the subsidy has ceased from April 2017. Sand Dunes Nursery had identified that providing childcare was not financially viable, based on the cost of provision and the number of people accessing the facility. They therefore gave notice to the Local Authority that they were ceasing to offer childcare provision to parents in March 2017. As a result the school had also

implemented a staffing review to reflect that they would only provide support for 2 — 4 year old children; and

- (C) that since the publication of the report Freshfield School had requested an alternative model be considered to that presented and outlined in section 6.3 of the report. This would see Freshfield operating separately to First Steps (Kings Meadow and Farnborough). Subject to consideration today, Cabinet were asked to recommend that any variation to distribution of funding to be agreed by the Cabinet Member - Children, Schools and Safeguarding. The most significant change would be made to the three centres mentioned above though a smaller change of no more than £3,000 would apply to the remaining seven Children's Centres.

Decision Made:

That:

- (1) it be noted that Cabinet has taken account of the Vision Outcomes Framework at paragraph 1.6 of the report, in considering the recommendations in this report;
- (2) it be noted that Cabinet has considered and taken account of community feedback, risks, and equality reports when considering the options and recommendations;
- (3) the principles, as described at paragraph 3.6 to the report, for a 0-19 Family Wellbeing approach, as described at paragraph 6.3 to the report be approved;
- (4) all existing Children and Family centres remain open in their current locations; and that the offer is revised to take account of the extended age range (0-19 year olds). The funding for the Family, Children centres and School Readiness will be contained within a new funding methodology identified in paragraph 7.4 to the report which will in many cases reduce budgets, which will in turn potentially impact on activity delivery and opening hours;
- (5) the Council explore its ambition to work with health and all partners to deliver Health and Wellbeing centres within the context of locality working;
- (6) the funding methodology be refreshed on a biennial basis (every two years), using updated information;
- (7) the management oversight of all Family and Children centres sitting within Council control be approved;
- (8) the Council Officers continue to engage with schools on the

implementation of the approved change;

- (9) it be noted that the Health and Wellbeing Executive Group, with Officers, will consider opportunities for the formation of Health and Well Being Centres in Sefton that would potentially see the community able to access Health and Council services in shared locations;
- (10) the schedule of childcare subsidy removal, and the further consultation with Head Teachers and governors as shown at paragraph 6.9 to the report be approved;
- (11) the commencement of all appropriate activity as detailed, including for example, consultation with Head Teachers, governors, employees and engagement with partners and contractual changes be approved and that subject to discussions the new arrangements are to be introduced by the end of July 2018;
- (12) it be noted that officers will comply with agreed HR policies, with particular attention to staffing, equalities and procedures including relevant consultation with Trade Unions and reports to the Cabinet Member - Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services; and that Officers may be permitted to implement change as required after appropriate procedures;
- (13) authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member - Children, Schools and Safeguarding in consultation with the Director for Social Care and Health, for future decisions relating to the implementation of this recommended change and biennial changes to the methodology; and
- (14) in connection with the alternative model suggested by the Freshfield Centre and referred to in (4) (C) above the Cabinet Member - Children, Schools and Safeguarding be authorised to approve any variation to the distribution of funding.

Reasons for the Decision:

Council decisions over the last 6 years have centred on the priority given to our most vulnerable people and those core services that communities expect to see delivered. The Council has a proven track record of engagement, consultation, listening and considering feedback in the decision making process. The recommendations in this report take account of community and partner feedback, the Council's Core Purpose and seek to protect the most vulnerable, shift focus towards prevention and ensure equity of funding across Children's, Family Centres and School Readiness. Only such a strategic approach can mitigate the demand and financial pressures that will continue to be faced by the Council.

The Council is at a point where doing more of the same or trying to do more of the same with less money is going to fail children, young people, families and the communities.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

Maintaining the status quo is not an option due to demographic and budgetary pressures and the lack of a transparent funding methodology.

There have been a number of alternative proposals submitted by schools, Family and Children centres and members of the public. These have given the Council additional useful suggestions and have been considered, however they, for the most, did not consider borough wide need nor provide the equity that a funding methodology provides. In developing the methodology Officers considered the suggestions made but not the centre focused suggestions that were given. The options considered are listed within the report at paragraph 5.4 and rejected including:

- Proposal consulted on - Move to three Family Wellbeing Centres with additional complementary bases
- Continue with current funding allocation methods

94. PRELIMINARY FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Further to Minute No. 27 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Skills) held on 7 November 2017 the Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Locality Services – Commissioned on the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment Review (PFRA).

The report indicated that the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 (FRR 2009) required each Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) to complete a PFRA and identify Flood Risk Areas (FRA) for local flood risk, primarily surface water runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses; that in Sefton this was completed in 2011; that FRR 2009 required a review of the PFRA on a 6 year cycle to be coordinated by the Environment Agency; that LLFAs must therefore submit their draft reviews to the Environment Agency by 22 June 2017 to enable the Environment Agency to undertake an internal review and request any changes; and that Sefton Council's draft review was submitted to the Environment Agency in April 2017.

The report also identified that the Environment Agency provided a self-assessment template to be completed by each LLFA and Sefton's completed template was attached to the report as a background paper; that the September 2012 significant flood event report, investigated as required by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, was contained in annex 1 of the review attached to the report as background paper; and that overall there had been little change to the 2011 PFRA (also attached to the report as a background paper) following the review with much of the understanding remaining unchanged or with minor amendments. There

had, however, been improvements or confirmation of understanding particularly in respect of Sefton's future flood information and the following pieces of work have contributed to our understanding:-

- Sefton Council PFRA desktop study 2013 to improved understanding of initial PFRA assessment and flood risks.
- Modelling of catchments in Formby, Maghull and Seaforth/Litherland.
- Groundwater monitoring locations across Sefton.
- Sefton Council Local Plan. The plan identified flood risks on development sites.

The report concluded by detailing future developments that the PFRA review would feed into the update of Sefton's Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy 2015-2018, which was currently underway; that the PFRA review would feed into the review of the Environment Agency's Flood Risk Management Plans that operated at a catchment wide scale; that Sefton would continue to seek funding to improve the situation for residents and communities at risk of flooding or coastal erosion; and that Sefton would continue to review and update its understanding of flood risk.

Decision made:

That the review of the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment prior to submission to the Environment Agency be approved.

Reasons for the decision:

The assessment has been completed following guidance documents provided by Defra and the Environment Agency and reflects our best available knowledge.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

To not undertaking the review would but this would mean that Sefton Council would fail to undertake a duty in the Flood Risk Regulations 2009, with the likelihood that the Environment Agency would undertake the review without any local input and could impose actions upon Sefton Council.

95. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET UPDATE - TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2017/18 - POSITION TO OCTOBER 2017

The Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources that provided Members with a review of the Treasury Management activities undertaken to 31 October 2017 which allowed monitoring against the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy statement approved by Cabinet and Council in March 2017. The report was the second of the ongoing quarterly monitoring reports provided to Audit and Governance Committee, whose role was to carry out scrutiny of treasury management

policies and practices.

Decision Made:

That:

- (1) the Treasury Management update to 31 October 2017 be noted;
- (2) the effects of decisions taken in pursuit of the Treasury Management Strategy be noted; and
- (3) the implications of changes resulting from regulatory, economic and market factors affecting the Council's treasury management activities be noted.

Reasons for the Decision:

To ensure that Members are fully appraised of the treasury activity undertaken to 31 October 2017 and to meet the reporting requirements set out in Sefton's Treasury Management Practices and those recommended by the CIPFA code.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

There were no alternative options considered.

96. REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGET PLAN 2017/18 – 2019/20

The Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources that informed of the current forecast revenue outturn position for the Council for 2017/18 as at the end of October; the current forecast on Council Tax and Business Rates collection for 2017/18; and the current position of the Capital Programme including an additional request to include a section 106 scheme.

Decision made: That

- (1) the forecast deficit outturn position of £1.790m as at the end of October 2017 be noted and the development of a remedial action plan as set out within the report, with the aim of delivering a balanced in year budget and establish a sustainable position for future years be approved;
- (2) the progress to date on the achievement of approved Public Sector Reform savings for 2017/18 be noted;
- (3) the forecast position on the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates for 2017/18 be noted;
- (4) the current progress in the delivery of the 2017/18 Capital Programme and forecast outturn position for the year be noted;

and

- (5) Council be recommended to approve the inclusion of an additional section 106 scheme in the Capital Programme relating to the installation of a new path in the Netherton and Orrell Ward, as outlined in paragraph 6.9 of the report.

Reasons for the Decisions:

To ensure that the Cabinet is informed of the forecast outturn position for the 2017/18 revenue and capital budgets as at the end of October 2017 and to provide an updated forecast of the outturn position with regard to the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates; and to seek approval for an additional scheme financed from Section 106 monies, to be included within the Capital Programme.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

No alternative options were considered.