

COUNCIL – 6 MARCH 2014

REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

COUNCIL CONSTITUTION – CALL-IN AND URGENCY PROVISIONS

I wish to report that the Chairs of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees gave their consent, under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in the Council Constitution to the following issues being dealt with, on the basis that the decisions could not be reasonably deferred, and not be subject to call-in.

CABINET MEMBER – TRANSPORTATION – 5 DECEMBER 2013

Christmas Parking Concessions 2013

Purpose:

The Cabinet Member considered a report seeking a decision on parking concessions to be introduced on the run up to Christmas 2013 and in support of Small Business Saturday on the 7th December. This will be the first Small Business Saturday in the UK and is about encouraging everyone in the UK to support small businesses, both on the day and beyond.

In various fora, Cabinet and Cabinet Member have listened to and considered the views of local retailers and businesses. In an attempt to reflect their opinions as to how the Council can assist small and large businesses alike in the pre-Christmas period, parking concessions as set out in the body of this report have been identified.

Decision:

That:

- (1) approval be given to the concessions for Saturdays 7th, 14th and 21st December; and Thursdays 12th and 19th December; as detailed in the report submitted; and
- (2) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration & Environmental Services) had given their consent under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for this decision to be treated as urgent and not subject to "call in" on the basis that it cannot reasonably be deferred because of the requirement to effectively publicise and implement the measures within the pre-Christmas period in order to maximise the potential benefits of the concessions.

Reasons for Decision

To confirm a decision on parking concessions to be introduced on the run up to Christmas 2013 and in support of Small Business Saturday on the 7th December. This will be the first Small Business Saturday in the UK and is about encouraging everyone in the UK to support small businesses, both on the day and beyond.

In various fora, the Cabinet and Cabinet Member have listened to and considered the views of local retailers and businesses. In an attempt to reflect their opinions as to how the Council can assist small and large businesses alike in the pre-Christmas period, parking concessions as set out in the body of the report submitted have been identified.

Alternative Options Considered

As set out in the report submitted

CABINET MEMBER – COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT - 19 DECEMBER 2013

Community Support Proposals

Purpose:

The Cabinet Member considered a report seeking approval for various allocations from the Community Support Fund, as detailed within the report and to update Cabinet Member on financial commitments to date.

Decision:

That:

- (1) an allocation of £20,532 be made to for Royal Voluntary Service to set up a Good Neighbour befriending service as detailed within the report;
- (2) an allocation of £40,000 be made to help redevelop Bedford Road Community Centre as detailed within the report;
- (3) an allocation of £7,500 to support Christmas activities, as detailed within the report;
- (4) an allocation of £45,000 to help Venus redevelop the Esplanade Centre as detailed within the report;
- (5) that the commitments against the Community Support Fund total £326,032 as detailed within the report;

- (6) it be noted that the relevant Cabinet Member whose portfolio are affected have been consulted on these proposals and are content for them to be agreed; and
- (7) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) had given their consent under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for these decisions to be treated as urgent and not subject to “call in” on the basis that they cannot be reasonably deferred because of the short timescales involved in enabling the organisations requesting funding to start developing their proposals before Christmas. This funding is to support resilient communities and is required by organisations as soon as possible.

Reasons for Decisions:

To support the Council’s corporate priority of community resilience by enabling community organisations to provide valuable services in communities with no ongoing commitment from the Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

Options have been considered for best use of resource and the recommendations contained within the report reflect these.

CABINET – 16 JANUARY 2014

86. Government Consultation on a Combined Authority for Greater Merseyside

Further to Minute No. 51 of the meeting of the Council held on 27 September 2013, the Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive on the Liverpool City Region’s draft response to the Government’s consultation on the creation of a Combined Authority for Greater Merseyside.

The Chief Executive informed the Cabinet that the report had been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) at its meeting held on 14 January 2014 and that the Committee had expressed concern about the proposal to name the Combined Authority “Greater Merseyside” and concurred with the consultation response to name it the “Liverpool City Region Combined Authority”; and raised questions about the ‘travel to work area’ and the method of scrutinising decisions of the Combined Authority via the panel of Councillors nominated by the six local authorities. In particular, a question was asked as to who the Members would be serving on the Scrutiny Panel.

The Chief Executive indicated that the Council at its meeting to be held on 6 March 2014 would be requested to consider and approve all

constitutional details including the scrutiny function and membership of the Combined Authority.

Decision Made:

That:

- (1) the opportunity to respond to the national statutory consultation on the creation of a Combined Authority for Greater Merseyside be welcomed;
- (2) after taking in to account the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services), the consultation response set out in Appendix One to the report be approved;
- (3) the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council be given delegated powers to make any minor amendments to the consultation response prior to submission; and
- (4) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) had given their consent under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for this decisions to be treated as urgent and not subject to "call in" on the basis that it cannot be reasonably deferred because the Government's deadline for submission of responses is 12 noon on Wednesday 22 January 2014.

Reason for Decision:

To submit the consultation response to the Government.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

The consultation response could be amended or rejected.

CABINET MEMBER – TRANSPORTATION – 5 FEBRUARY 2014

Sefton Council Response to West Lancashire Highway and Transport Masterplan Consultation Draft

Purpose:

The Cabinet Member considered a report which sought approval to provide the comments detailed within the attached report as a basis for the response to the consultation on the West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan.

Decision:

That:

- (1) the proposed response to Lancashire County Council on the consultation draft of the West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan be approved;
and
- (2) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) had given their consent under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for this decisions to be treated as urgent and not subject to "call in" on the basis that it cannot be reasonably deferred because the deadline for the submission of responses is 7 February 2014.

Reasons for decision:

To provide a response to the consultation on the West Lancashire Highways and Transport Masterplan on the issues that affect Sefton.

Alternative options considered:

The Cabinet Member could have chosen not to respond to the consultation, but this would mean that issues of concern to Sefton Council would not be taken into account in the final published version of the plan.