To all Members of the Cabinet

7th March 2017
Our ref: C/LMK

Dear Member,

Supplementary Agenda – Meeting of the Cabinet - Tuesday, 7th March, 2017

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some additional information for items 5. and 10. on the Cabinet agenda.

5a Briefing Note from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee - Connecting Communities - Phase 2 Outcome of Consultation (Pages 3 - 4)

5b Briefing Note from Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Cabinet Member for Education and Skills - Connecting Communities Phase 2 Outcome of Consultation (Pages 5 - 8)

10a Briefing Note from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee - Public Space Protection Order - City Centre (Pages 9 - 10)

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on the telephone number shown above.

Yours sincerely

Lara Knight
Governance Services Officer
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To: Cabinet                                                                                                     Date: 7th March 2017
Subject: Connecting Communities Phase 2

1 Purpose of the Note

1.1 To inform Cabinet of recommendations from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee following the consideration of the Connecting Communities Phase 2 report at their meeting on 3rd March 2017.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet are recommended:
   1) To involve Ward Councillors in further discussions about the implementation of the proposals.
   2) To provide Ward Councillors with mapping information so they can see how the proposed changes affect theirs and surrounding wards.
   3) That no childcare or children’s centre provision is closed without outreach services in place to support vulnerable families and ensure that there are no gaps in provision.
   4) That before any umbrella organisation is considered for youth provision in the city, careful consideration is made as to how this would operate, the impact it would have and the potential cost of delivery.

3 Information/Background

3.1 At their meeting on 3rd March 2017, Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered the Connecting Communities Phase 2 report.

3.2 Officers representing Involvement and Partnerships, Children’s Services, Youth Services and the Library Service presented to Members.

3.3 Members questioned officers on the following:
   - Physical space to deliver the services from Family Hubs and what the hub and spoke model will look like
   - Support for community organisations who will be involved in delivering library services, especially in terms of financial viability
Contingency if community and voluntary organisations are unable to continue, both in partnership and community library models

That more emphasis on the grant reductions should be made to explain the reasons for the changes.

Support for vulnerable families in areas where Children's Centre services are being withdrawn and packages of support for the transition to the Family Hub model, particularly for those families who are going to have to travel further.

Details on reduction of posts and whether these would be voluntary or compulsory redundancies.

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Briefing note

To: Cabinet                                                                                                     Date: 7th March 2017
Subject: Connecting Communities Phase 2 Proposals – Petitions

1 Purpose of the Note
To inform the Cabinet of the consideration of petitions submitted as part of the Connecting Communities consultation by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People on 28th February 2017 and the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills at his meeting on 6th March 2017.

2 Recommendations
1) The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People recommends that the Cabinet take account of the issues raised through the petitions, submitted as part of the Connecting Communities consultation on the ‘Family Hubs’ proposal, when considering the Connecting Communities report at their meeting on 7th March 2017.

2) The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills recommends that the Cabinet:
   i) Takes into account the issues raised through the petitions submitted as part of the Connecting Communities consultation on Library proposals when considering the Connecting Communities report at their meeting on 7th March, 2017.
   ii) Recognising the high level of community support and interest in maintaining libraries, recommends that the Cabinet considers using that level of support to campaign for increased Government funding.

3 Information/Background
3.1 A public consultation took place from 12th September 2016 to 12th December 2016 on a set of proposals across Children’s Centres, nurseries, youth service and libraries with an associated Phase 2 savings target of £3.8m.

3.2 The proposals included the development of integrated Family Hubs for 0 – 19 year olds, located in areas of highest need (turning 8 Children’s Centres into Family Hubs and retaining Council delivery of a targeted and specialist youth offer focused on young people who are hardest to reach and most vulnerable as part of the Family Hub model).

3.2 The proposals also included the development of sustainable, modern and comprehensive libraries as community hubs in three broad categories of core libraries, partnership libraries and community-led libraries.
3.4 During the consultation, 1 e-petition and 5 written petitions were received in relation to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills’ portfolio and 2 e-petitions and 3 written petitions were received in relation to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s portfolio. 1 of the written petitions related to Youth Services, Children’s Centres and Public Libraries, therefore this petition was considered by both Cabinet Members.

3.5 In accordance with the City Council’s procedure for dealing with petitions, the petitions relating to the ‘Family Hubs’ proposal were submitted for consideration by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People at his meeting on 28th February 2017 and the petitions relating to the ‘Libraries’ proposal were submitted for consideration by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills at his meeting on 6th March 2017.

3.6 The following petitions were considered by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People:

   i) ‘Save Our Children’s Centres’ – 6 signatures
   ii) ‘Save Our Youth Services’ – 11 signatures
   iii) ‘Save Jardine Youth Centre and Tile Hill Children’s Centre’ – 382 signatures
   iv) ‘Please Stop Cuts to Youth Services’ – 209 signatures
   v) ‘Stop the Cuts’ – 327 signatures

Three of the petition organisers attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of the petitioners. The other two petitions were considered in the petition organisers’ absences.

Officers referred to the details of the proposals as set out in the published “Connecting Communities Phase 2” Cabinet report and appendices which are due to be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 7th March 2017.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s decision was as follows:

RESOLVED that, the Cabinet Member, having heard and considered the petitions submitted as part of the Connecting Communities Consultation on the ‘Family Hubs’ proposal:

1) Agrees to write to the Minister of State for Children and Families to lobby the Government for funding to support the provision of youth services in the City.

2) Recommends that the Cabinet take into account the issues raised through the petitions, when considering the Connecting Communities report at their meeting on 7th March 2017.

3.7 The following petitions were considered by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills:

   i) ‘Save Coventry Libraries’ - 26 signatures
   ii) ‘Save our Libraries’ - 2,666 signatures
   iii) ‘Save Coundon Library’ - 555 signatures
   iv) ‘Stop Caludon Library from Closing’ - 43 signatures
   v) ‘Object to closure of Finham Library’ - 155 signatures
   vi) ‘Stop the Cuts’ - 327 signatures

Five of the petition sponsors/organisers attended the meeting and spoke on behalf of the petitioners. The other petition was considered in the petition organiser’s absence.
Officers referred to the details of the proposals as set out in the published “Connecting Communities Phase 2” Cabinet report and appendices which are due to be considered at the Cabinet meeting on 7th March 2017.

The Cabinet Member for Education and Skills’ decision was as follows:-

1. Notes that Finham Library is the only community facility in Wainbody Ward and recognises the importance of maintaining community buildings in all areas of the City.

2. Recommends that the Cabinet takes into account the issues raised through the petitions submitted as part of the Connecting Communities consultation on Library proposals when considering the Connecting Communities report at their meeting on 7th March, 2017.

3. Recognising the high level of community support and interest in maintaining libraries, recommends that the Cabinet considers using that level of support to campaign for increased Government funding.

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To: Cabinet  
Date: 7 March 2017

Subject: Creation of a City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order

1 Purpose of the Note

1.1 To provide Cabinet with comments and recommendations from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on their consideration of the Creation of a City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) at their meeting on 3rd March 2017.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet is recommended:

1) To monitor levels of begging outside of the city centre to ensure there is no displacement effect of the PSPO.

2) As part of the redesign of city centre car parks, to carefully consider the location of payment machines, to discourage begging and improve safety.

3) To ensure a standard, multiagency procedure is offered when supporting vulnerable people with multiple complex needs, who may be begging or rough sleeping in the city centre.

4) To identify a clear and transparent way for members of the public to complain about anti-social activities that are covered by the PSPO.

5) To support the development of a city centre skatepark and continue to work with partners to enable this to happen.

6) To develop a clear cycle plan for the city centre, so both cyclists and pedestrians are aware of suitable and appropriate cycle routes through the city centre.

3 Information/Background

3.1 At their meeting on 3rd March 2017, Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee considered the Creation of a City Centre Public Spaces Protection Order.

3.2 Members heard contributions from members of the public representing Coventry Skatepark Project and Coventry Older Voices.

3.3 Members questioned officers and representatives of Coventry Skatepark Project and Coventry Older Voices on the following:
• Police support for the PSPO, enforcement and fines.
• Displacement of activity to areas outside of the city centre as a result of the order.
• Whether prostitution and curb-crawling could be addressed via a PSPO
• Flexibility and discretion in implementing the PSPO, especially regarding buskers and performers in the city centre.
• Current powers regarding prohibiting cycling in the city centre.
• The issue of encouraging more people to cycle, but also wanting to restrict dangerous cycling.
• Support to vulnerable people who are begging as well as enforcing the PSPO.
• Code of conduct for charity subscription collector to ensure they don’t target vulnerable people.
• How evidence to support extending or enhancing the PSPO can be gathered and how members of the public and the Council can do this.

3.4 Member of the Board also requested that a further report is presented in 12 months’ time to review progress.

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