

Agenda Item 14
Council – 18 July 2023
Recommendation from Cabinet
11 July 2023

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 11 July 2023

Present:

Cabinet Members: Councillor G Duggins (Chair)
Councillor R Brown
Councillor K Caan
Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor K Sandhu
Councillor P Seaman
Councillor P Hetherton

Non-Voting Deputy
Cabinet Members: Councillor S Agboola
Councillor P Akhtar
Councillor G Hayre
Councillor A Jobbar
Councillor G Lloyd

Non-Voting Opposition
Members: Councillor S Gray
Councillor P Male
Councillor R Simpson

Other Non-Voting
Members: Councillor N Akhtar
Councillor R Auluck
Councillor R Lakha
Councillor C E Thomas

Employees (by Service):

Chief Executive J Nugent

Business, Investment and
Culture S Weir

Children's Services N Macdonald (Interim Director), A Whitrick

Finance B Hastie (Chief Operating Officer (Section 151 Officer),
P Jennings, T Pinks

Law and Governance J Newman (Chief Legal Officer), S Bennett

Streetscene and
Regulatory Services

R Back, C Styles

Transportation and
Highways

C Knight (Director of Transportation and Highways),

Apologies:

Councillor L Bigham
Councillor AS Khan
Councillor D Welsh

Councillors L Harvard, C Miks, S Nazir, Ridley

Public Business

7. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

9. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that Cabinet agrees to exclude the press and public under Sections 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the private report in Minute 17 below headed 'Residential Children's Homes Strategy' on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as it contains information relating the identity, financial business affairs of an organisation and the amount of expenditure proposed to be incurred by the Council under a particular contract for the supply of goods or services, and in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Private Business

RECOMMENDATION

17. Children's Residential Children's Home Strategy

Further to Minute 14 above, the Cabinet considered a private report of Interim Director of Children's Services which set out the commercially confidential matters relating to the Residential Children's Homes Review and Strategy 2023-2026.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:

- 1. Approves the Residential Children's Homes Review and Strategy 2023-2026 appended at Appendix 1 of this report.**

- 2. Delegates authority to the Director of Children's Services following consultation with the Chief Operating Officer (section 151 officer) and the Chief Legal Officer to undertake the necessary due diligence (including the power to enter into any necessary legal agreement) required to facilitate the following:**
 - a) Purchase land and build an additional children's home for the purpose of accommodating four looked after children with a disability**
 - b) Purchase land and re-build an existing short breaks children's home (Broad Park House) for the purpose of accommodating children with disabilities and additional needs**
 - c) Purchase and renovate two properties to open two additional children's homes for the purpose of accommodating looked after children whose needs are best met within this type of provision**
- 3. Delegates authority to the Director of Children's Services following consultation with Chief Operating officer and Chief Legal Officer to (where required) commence all necessary procurement for works or services necessary to bring into effect the recommendations set out in 1 and 2 above.**
- 4. Recommends that Council approve capital expenditure of up to the sum identified in the report to be met from prudential borrowing which shall be utilised solely for the delivery of the recommendations set out in 1-3 above as well as the objectives set out in the Residential Children's Homes Review and Strategy 2023-2026 which is appended to this report.**