

Minutes of a meeting of the EAP Health & Wellbeing and Vulnerable People

At 9.30 am on Friday 3rd December, 2021 in the Members Room, Corby Cube, George Street, Corby, NN17 1QG

Present:-

Members

Councillor Helen Harrison (Chair)
Councillor Ken Harrington
Councillor King Lawal

Councillor John McGhee
Councillor Russell Roberts

Officers

David Watts – Executive Director Adult’s Communities & Wellbeing
Kerry Purnell – Assistant Director Housing & Communities
Daniel Hannam – Property Services Manager
Valerie Finke – Economic Development Officer
Francesca McHugo – Democratic Services

Also in attendance – Councillor A Mercer, Executive Member Housing & Community

40 Chair's Announcements

Councillor Harrison welcomed members and officers to the meeting.

41 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor G Shacklock

42 Members' Declarations of Interest

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair invited those who wished to do so to declare any interests in respect of items on the agenda.

The following interests were received:

Minute Number	Councillor/Officer	Type of Interest
46	Councillor K Lawal	Interest – member of Groundwork

43 Minutes of the Meeting Held on 29 October 2021

It was AGREED:

That the minutes of the Health, Wellbeing & Vulnerable People Executive Advisory Panel held on 29 October 2021 be brought to the next meeting of the Panel.

44 Housing Property Team - Material and Parts Suppliers Procurement Update

The Assistant Director for Housing and Communities introduced the report which detailed procurement advice that established the use of a Framework Provider for provision of compliant, robust and resilient contracts.

It was highlighted that the Kettering and Corby Property Services teams wished to enter into joint contracts which would cover the supply of parts and materials for heating and plumbing, electrical, general building, decorating, kitchens, windows and doors and flooring.

The Panel considered the procurement of the supply of parts and materials for the Corby and Kettering Housing Property Services and raised the following principal points:

- i. The HRA Budget should next year review prioritisation of needs;
- ii. The Council should ensure it's providers are nimble in their' abilities to utilise new technologies;
- iii. The use of in-house staff and apprenticeship schemes should be encouraged;
- iv. The Council should build on best practice and ensure suppliers can meet the needs of our environmental targets;
- v. Members supported the approach to the use of local suppliers and emphasised it's importance;
- vi. Members noted that going forward the Council would introduce one HRA to comply with legislation.

It was AGREED:

That the request for the delegation of authority from the Executive to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities in consultation with the Executive Director for Adults, Communities and Wellbeing, to take any further decisions and/or actions required to appoint a framework provider and enter into contract with suppliers be supported.

45 Social Prescribing

This item was deferred to the January meeting of the Panel due to the absence of the guest presenter. A presentation had been circulated to members which would lay the foundation for future discussion.

46 Corby Town Fund

The Economic Development Officer presented members with an updated summary of the Corby Town Fund with a focus on the Multi-use Building project.

Members noted the planned next steps for an 'Option 2' as a result of the funding reduction agreed by the Town Deal Board which had been outlined in the briefing document.

The Chair advised members that the Executive were committed to delivering Community Hubs and asked the Panel to consider whether the Executive should top up the funding to enable a return to the original new build plan.

During discussion, the Panel raised the following principal points:

- i. The 10,000 sq ft reduction in space for Option 2 could limit opportunities for a more widely varied multi-use community building;
- ii. The larger project outlined in the original plan could allow for health hubs through partnership working;
- iii. Members raised concern over the facilities that could be lost through pursuing the smaller scale project;
- iv. Supporting the original plan would offer an opportunity for progression and to show a strong Council commitment to the community;
- v. Safety concerns were highlighted for the location of Option 2;
- vi. Refurbishment of an existing building could have a positive impact in uplifting the immediate area and increasing footfall within the town;
- vii. Option 2 provides an opportunity for enhancement of existing buildings and a reduction in empty premises within the town;

It was AGREED:

That the Panel challenge the Executive to be bold in their' commitments and ask that an uplift of £750,000 is granted by the Executive. The Panel request that the Executive ask for £750,000 match funding from the Public Health Fund.

(Reasons for decision – This would allow the original proposals for a new build multi-use building to be pursued in the development of the final business case.)

47 Better Care Fund Update

The Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing provided members with a verbal update on the progress of the Better Care Fund Paper submission and outlined that whilst the narrative plan and financial schemes of the draft submission were supported in the pre-assurance checks, further work was needed on the Key Performance Indicators (KPI's).

Members noted that new split data from NHS England had been used to amend targets in the resubmitted papers. A formal update would be brought to a subsequent meeting.

It was AGREED:

That the Better Care Fund Update be noted.

48 Scrutiny Task Group - Levelling up Communities Update

The Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing presented a report that had previously been considered by the Scrutiny Commission. The report outlined the progress to date of the 'Levelling up communities Scrutiny Review'.

It was indicated that an interim report would be fed back to the January meeting of the Scrutiny Commission and that a final report would be submitted at the end of the municipal year.

Members noted that whilst the review focussed on the 3 nationally identified areas of Kingswood in Corby, Avondale Grange in Kettering, and Queensway in Wellingborough, the learning gathered throughout the review process could be applied elsewhere within the community in response to identified needs.

Members commended the local workshops and the added value through inclusion of the community, partner and local organisations. It was noted that this could be developed through the use of social responsibility and probation opportunities.

Members welcomed the review and thanked the leadership for taking action.

49 Forward Plan of Executive Items

The Panel received the Executive Forward Plan covering the period 1 November 2021 to 28 February 2022.

It was AGREED that the Executive Forward Plan of items be noted.

50 Work Programme

Members reviewed the forward list of items for future consideration by the panel.

It was AGREED that the following amendments be made to the work programme of the Health, Wellbeing & Vulnerable People EAP:

- i. Public Health – Communications & Engagement Strategy be removed.
- ii. Community Assets Transfer Policy – be included for December 2021
- iii. Better Care Fund report – be included for January 2022
- iv. Social Prescribing – be included for January 2022

51 Updates and Alerts

The Executive Director Adults, Communities and Wellbeing provided updates on the Afghan Resettlement Programme and the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) discussion on Integrated Care Systems (ICS).

Members noted that an urgent decision had been taken to bring forward powers of resettlement and allow for the first suitable property to be secured. It was confirmed by officers that the financial support from central government could be used in paying property deposits and rents to secure accommodation prior to the arrival of the tenants.

Members received an update on the HWBB community workshops that had recognised the strong identity of town communities within North Northamptonshire. It was noted that proposals would move forward with the naming of the four geographic areas, reflecting the historic sovereign councils in referencing communities.

Members noted the addition of provision for engagement with Local Wellbeing Forums. There would also be scope for clusters of wards with common needs and a 30-50k population to receive targeted intervention.

It was AGREED that:

The Panel noted updates on the following items:

- i. Afghan Resettlement Programme
- ii. Integrated Care Systems

52 Close of meeting

Chair

Date

The meeting closed at 11.35 am