Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Information Pack

February 2021

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WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

FEEDBACK FROM CABINET TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2020

Agenda Decision Item No.

7.2 Capital Portfolio Fund Temporary Arrangements for Acquisition Geography

In line with the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 5th November 2020;

The Cabinet RECOMMEND to Council:-

- 1.1 That until further notice, only within district purchase proposals are considered for the balance of the Capital Portfolio Fund.
- 1.2 That the Capital Strategy is temporarily amended to reflect 1.1 above.
- 1.3 That for the duration of the period in 1.1 above, for acquisitions made through the Capital Portfolio Fund a threshold of a score of 200 will be used when assessing proposals against the scoring criterial matrix.
- 8.1 Response to Homeworking Consultation

Having had regard to the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 5th November 2020;

The Cabinet DECIDED that Council be recommended to:

- 1.1 Note the responses which were submitted in response to the consultation process;
- 1.2 Agree to proceed with a review of teams and the services they deliver with a view to enabling more individuals to operate on a hybrid model working at home and in the office where it is feasible for employees to do so; and to introduce such working from 1st April 2021 or when the Government advice is such that a return to working from the office is safe, in the event that this is later than 1st April 2021.

8.2 Green Homes Grant – Local Authority Delivery Scheme

In line with the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 5th November 2020;

The Cabinet RECOMMEND to Council that:

There is an amendment to the Capital Programme to include expenditure of £300,000 to provide Green Homes Grants fully matched by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) funding.

9.1 Establishment of Independent Museum Trust

Having had regard to the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 5th November 2020;

The Cabinet DECIDED to:

- 1.1 endorse the project plan to establish Bewdley Museum as a selfstanding trust with a board of trustees with the Council transferring its role as trustee of the Bewdley Museum Trust (No 527511) to the new trustees or to a new charitable incorporated organisation that would subsume that Trust ("the museum trust");
- 1.2 note that all property and collection items vested in the Bewdley Museum Trust will remain vested in the museum trust;
- 1.3 subject to confirmation that sufficient trustees can be appointed, agree that
 - a. the properties known as The Guildhall, 12 Load Street;
 Bewdley Museum, 12 Load Street; 11 Load Street and
 Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Gardens, High Street, all in
 Bewdley, should be transferred to the museum trust at nil
 consideration, in accordance with the Council's power
 under section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to
 dispose of land at less than best value;
 - b. the Council's leasehold interest in Unit 4 Building 329, Rushock Trading Estate should be assigned to the museum trust;
 - c. any collection items owned by or deposited with the Council should be transferred to the museum trust, at nil consideration in respect of items owned by the Council and without affecting depositors' rights in respect of deposited items;

- d. the stock of the shop as it exists immediately prior to the new trustees assuming responsibility for the museum should be transferred to the museum trust but the value of the stock should be appropriately recognised in the agreement about financial arrangements that will be reached between the Council and the Museum trust;
- 1.4 note that, subject to completion of the steps outlined above, relevant staff of the Council will be transferred to the museum trust in accordance with the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 ("TUPE");
- 1.5 note that estimated costs of up to £100k will be incurred in establishing the museum trust and that these will be funded from the innovation fund:
- 1.6 note that the medium term financial strategy will need to address the future funding levels from the Council, as set out in paragraph 5.5;
- 1.7 delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Corporate Director: Resources and the Solicitor to the Council all steps necessary to implement the successful establishment of the museum trust. This includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Arrangements to recruit trustees, the arrangements to be made in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Community Protection;
 - Advertising the disposal of public open space and, in consultation with the said Cabinet Member, considering and deciding on any objections received;
 - c. Dealing with all matters related to transfer of staff from the Council to the museum trust in accordance with TUPE;
 - d. obtaining landlord's consent for the assignment of the leasehold interest in the store and consent to share occupation with the Council to enable the Council's archive to remain;
 - e. Agreement of the financial arrangements with the museum trust, including the level of grant to reflect the adopted medium term financial strategy.