

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD  
4th November, 2016**

Present:- Councillor Steele (in the Chair); Councillors Albiston, Councillor Maggi Clark, Mallinder, Sansome, Short, Julie Turner and Walsh.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Cowles, Price and Wyatt.

**25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest made at this meeting.

**26. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS**

There were no questions from members of the public or the press.

**27. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2016, be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

**28. DAY CARE AND TRANSPORT CHARGES**

Further to Minute No. 48 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016, consideration was given to the report which detailed the review of Non-Residential Care Charges 2016/17 where agreement was reached to consult with customers and carers on the proposed increase in charges for Day Care and transport.

This report set out in detail the outcome of the consultation, the key issues arising, options considered and recommended proposals and further consideration on the future charges for Day Care and transport.

In terms of the timetable and accountability for implementing this decision any agreed increases in charges would be effective from 1st January, 2017 and then from 1st October, 2017 for Day Care with transport charges increasing from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

Resolved:-

1. That the information contained in this report be received.
2. That the proposed charges for Day Care be increased on a phased basis from £4.47 to £15.00 per session from 1st January, 2017, with a further increase to £30.00 per session from 1st October, 2017.

3. That the charges for Transport be increased to £5.00 per return journey.

**29. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION - STRATEGIC ACQUISITION OF UNITS AT RIVERSIDE PRECINCT**

Consideration was given to a report which detailed how Forge Island and the surrounding area was identified as a strategic development site in the Rotherham Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and in the brief for the Town Centre Masterplan.

This report recommended that the Council acquired the remaining interests in the properties forming part of Riverside Precinct to assist in the redevelopment of Forge Island and to deliver wider Town Centre regeneration.

It was noted that Riverside Precinct was the land and property on the other side of the footbridge from Forge Island.

Resolved:-

1. That the Assistant Director of Planning, Regeneration and Transport be authorised to negotiate the acquisition of the assets as described at Option 2 at paragraph 4.3 and the Assistant Director of Legal Services be authorised to complete the necessary legal documentation for the acquisition.
2. That it be noted that funding for the acquisition be authorised from the £17 million town centre allocation in the Capital Strategy (2016-2021).
3. That the Council be recommended to approve inclusion of the scheme in the Capital Programme to cover the cost of acquisition.

**30. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) UPDATE REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report which which set out proposals for additional investment in respect of Children and Young People's Services, Adult Services and Corporate Support Services over the next three to five years and the impact on the Council's current Medium Term Financial Plan.

The proposed investment over the current financial plan period was summarised as set out in the report and were requested in order to:-

- Provide the funding needed to deliver the Sustainable Children's Service Strategy detailed in this report;
- Provide capacity to ensure delivery of the Adult Social Care Development Programme; and

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- Fund Corporate Support Services both in respect of support for Children's Services and to address savings assumed in the MTFS which have since been confirmed as undeliverable.

Allocating the additional funding requested would significantly increase the Council's estimated funding gap in 2017/18 and then start to bring the gap back down over the life of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as shown below. The actual final profile of the Medium Term Financial Strategy would depend on choices to be made as part of the forthcoming Budget and are further explained in Section 7 of this report.

It was assumed that the funding in the current year would need to be drawn from reserves and that the final value of this would depend on the overall outturn position of the Council as all services across the Council were attempting to reduce the overall overspend.

It was assumed in this report that in each of the subsequent years, the gap would be addressed through the budget process and further financial planning considerations. A review of all current planned use of reserves was underway and options would be brought forward for rescheduling this use in order to ensure a balanced budget and financial strategy going forward. However, inevitably there would be more savings to be made across the Council in order to fund these investments and cost pressures.

### **Resolved:-**

1. That the contents of this report be noted.
2. That the proposed additional resource allocations required by the Children's Services Sustainability Strategy, Adult Social Care and Corporate Support Services as summarised in section 2.6 be noted.
3. That the additional funding requirement for the demand cost pressure in Children's Services of £7.848m in 2016/17 be subject to the final outturn at year end be noted, but is likely to require funding from reserves should the current year budget not be brought back in balance.
4. That the specific investment proposals of £608k in 2016/17, summarised in paragraph 2.6 and detailed throughout the report, be funded in 2016/17 from the Transformation Reserve and for the addition of these items to the MTFS for future years be noted for approval.
5. That all other corporate earmarked reserves, where there is no formal planned use in the current year, be earmarked for consideration as part of the funding strategy for the proposals in this report and the wider financial strategy as part of budget considerations be noted for approval.

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6. That the revised Estimated Funding Gap for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 of £24.130m, £7.854m and £18.863m respectively, outlined in paragraph 2.6 in light of these proposed funding allocations and in advance of any use of reserves be noted.
7. That tight monitoring and control be approved and implemented in relation to the investments and that the additional budgets be only allocated as the expenditure and investment action is secured and implemented.

### **31. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:- That a further meeting be held on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2016, commencing at 9.00 a.m.