

CABINET

Thursday, 14th January, 2021

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 46

The following action taken in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 46 is reported. In consultation with the appropriate Cabinet Member(s):-

1. The Executive Director (Finance and Resources) authorised:

1.1 Costa and Airport Business Park

To progress with a commercial transaction to deliver a Costa Drive-Thru unit at the entrance to Airport Business Park using funds already allocated in the Capital Programme. Planning permission has been granted by Rochford District Council and the development will ensure that construction activity continues at the business park with the associated benefits to marketing, jobs creation and economic activity whilst providing a long-term commercial income to the Council, the details of which are set out in the Confidential Sheet.

2.1 Final Position and Authority to Exchange Contracts – Victoria Centre Acquisition

The acquisition of the Victoria Shopping Centre by the Council for £10m as a strategic property acquisition to provide the Council with a key foothold in the town centre and high street.

The acquisition has been financed using the Strategic and Regeneration Acquisitions budget. This Acquisitions budget was approved by the Council on 20 February 2020 as part of the overall Budget for 2020/21 and it was exactly this sought of purchase that was envisaged.

2. The Director of Regeneration and Growth authorised:

2.1 SELEP Framework Agreement and Getting Building Fund (GBF) Service Level Agreement

The signing and sealing of the Getting Building Fund Service Level Agreement to safeguard the external funding secured in the sum of £5.4m to support Southend projects.

2.2 Kickstart

Following the successful application to the Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) for the Council to become a Kickstart employer and the the Council's commitment to creating 30 council work placements and enabling 50 work placements in businesses across South Essex through the Gateway application, the implementation of the following recommendations:

- The council enter into agreements with DWP for delivery of Kickstart placements that will help us realise 2050 ambitions;
- Relevant agreements are signed in line with the scheme of delegation when applications are approved by DWP;
- The Real Living Wage to is paid to Kickstart participants employed by the council and match funding is found to enable this.
- Management resource is allocated from within the existing Economic Development team at no additional cost to the council and additional administrative support is provided via Kickstart placements.

3. The Executive Director (Neighbourhoods & Environment) authorised:

3.1 School Streets – Experimental Traffic Regulation Order

Following the allocation of £309K to the Council from the DfT Emergency Active Travel Fund Tranche 1 funding stream, the introduction of an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order introducing waiting restrictions for motorised vehicles as pilot “School Street” schemes at the following locations for the times indicated.

Greenways: From Monday to Friday between 8:15am – 9:15am and 2:30pm – 3:30pm, term-time only; and

North Street: From Monday to Friday between 8:30am – 9:30am and 2:30pm – 3:30pm, term-time only.

The restriction applies to school traffic (excluding school staff) and through traffic only. Residents of the School Street are exempt from the restriction and will be supplied with permit stickers for their cars free of charge from Southend Council. Any resident that requires access to their property for medical or social care staff during these times can also be issued with a permit. The experimental traffic regulation order will not only encourage active travel modes of transport and result in a safer, healthier and more pleasant environment for all but will also allow for adequate safe social distancing.

3.2 Free Parking in Council-Owned Car Parks

Free parking in all Council car parks (not in on-street parking bays) on the following Sundays: 6th, 13th and 20th December 2020 and on the following Thursdays after 4pm: 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th December 2020.

4. The Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director (Housing and Growth) authorised:

4.1 Future of Aviation Inquiry on the impact of Covid 19 on Aviation, Tourism and the economy

The content and submission of a response to the All Party Parliamentary Group on the Future of Aviation Inquiry on the impact of Covid 19 on

Aviation, Tourism and the Economy before the required deadline of close of business on 24th November 2020.

4.2 Independent Commission on Civil Aviation and Noise (ICCAN) survey on the future of aviation noise management

The content and submission of the Council's response to the above mentioned online survey on 17th October 2020 prior to the consultation deadline on 18th December 2020, taking into account feedback from key members including the Cabinet Member for Environment and Planning, elected members of the Airport Consultative Committee, the Director of Planning, Strategic Planning Team and Regulatory Services.