

# NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Loxley House on 15 OCTOBER 2013 from 2.00 pm to 2.09 pm**

	<b>Portfolio</b>
✓ Councillor Jon Collins (Chair)	Leader/Strategic Regeneration and Community Safety
✓ Councillor Graham Chapman (Vice Chair)	Deputy Leader/Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration
✓ Councillor Alan Clark	Energy and Sustainability
✓ Councillor Nicola Heaton	Community Services
✓ Councillor Dave Liversidge	Commissioning and Voluntary Sector
Councillor Nick McDonald	Jobs and Growth
✓ Councillor David Mellen	Children's Services
✓ Councillor Alex Norris	Adults and Health
✓ Councillor David Trimble	Leisure and Culture
Councillor Jane Urquhart	Planning and Transportation

✓ indicates present at meeting

### **Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:**

David Bishop	-	Corporate Director for Development
Candida Brudenell	-	Acting Corporate Director for Children and Families
Ian Curryer	-	Chief Executive
Chris Henning	-	Director of Economic Development
John Kelly	-	Corporate Director for Communities
Tracy Laxton	-	Business Administration Manager
Carole Mills	-	Deputy Chief Executive/Corporate Director of Resources
Noel McMenamin	-	Constitutional Services Officer
Roxy Shamsolmaali	-	Executive Performance Officer
Keri Usherwood	-	Marketing and Communications Manager

### **Call-in**

Unless stated otherwise, all decisions are subject to call-in and cannot be implemented until Friday 25 October 2013.

### **57 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Jane Urquhart

### **58 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Alex Norris advised the Board that he had an interest in agenda item 5 (Proposal to expand Rosslyn Park Primary School) as a Council-appointed governor at Rosslyn Park Primary School. Councillor Norris considered that such an interest would not prevent him from keeping an open mind when considering the proposal.

### **59 MINUTES**

The Board confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2013 as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

**60 PROPOSAL TO LOWER THE AGE RANGE OF ROBERT SHAW PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE A NURSERY**

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services’ report detailing the positive response to the consultation on the proposal to lower the age range of Robert Shaw Primary School from 4-11 to 3-11 so a nursery can be run at the school from 1 January 2014, and seeking approval to move to the next stage of consultation.

**RESOLVED to note the outcomes of the consultation, outlined in Appendix 1 of the report, and approve the move to the next stage of consultation, the issuing of Statutory Notices.**

Reasons for decision

Following the positive response to the consultation, moving to the next stage of consultation, issuing Statutory Notices, will enable the nursery to be open for January 2014.

Other options considered

The option not to include a nursery was rejected as building a Foundation Unit at the school provides opportunity for a 52 (full time equivalent) place nursery, which is an increase in the number of places currently available.

**61 PROPOSAL TO EXPAND ROSSLYN PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL, ASPLEY**

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services’ report detailing the positive response to the consultation on the proposal to expand Rosslyn Park Primary School from 450 places to 630 places, and seeking approval to move to the next stage of consultation.

**RESOLVED to note the outcomes of the consultation, outlined in Appendix 1 of the report, and approve the move to the next stage of consultation, the issuing of Statutory Notices.**

Reasons for decisions

Following the positive response to the consultation, moving to the next stage of consultation, issuing Statutory Notices, will enable the schools to expand to 630 places.

Other options considered

No other options were considered as there is a demand for schools places in the area.

**62 ROYAL CENTRE CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY – KEY DECISION**

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture’s report seeking approval for the replacement of seats in the Concert Hall and the installation of a new front of house lift at the Theatre Royal.

**RESOLVED to**

- (1) approve inviting tenders for the replacement of seats in the Concert Hall and the installation of a new front of house lift at the Theatre Royal, and delegate**

authority to the Corporate Director for Development to enter into the appropriate contracts, provided that the cost of both does not exceed the budget available (£1,077,000);

- (2) delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture, to implement the appropriate procurement process, including going out to tender, where necessary, and entering into contracts, for the additional works identified by Focus Consultants, such as remodelling the Concert Hall entrance foyer and box office, increasing the café and bar areas, the creation of more meeting/hospitality space and the development of the roof terraces, as and when sufficient funding is identified, noting that Delegated Decision recording the final decisions will need to be completed;
- (3) amend the Capital Programme as follows:

	Estimated total cost £'000	Estimated payments 2013/14 £'000	Estimated payments 2014/15 £'000
Works	1,000	0	1,000
Fees	77	27	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1,050</b>

#### Reasons for decisions

It is essential that upgrading works are implemented to both ensure that patronage is not lost to other similar venues and to comply with energy efficiency policies.

The replacement of the seating in the Concert Hall is a key step in a planned asset replacements programme, and the installation of a lift in the Theatre Royal will improve access for all. The two initiatives will update the facilities and sustain a successful venue for citizens.

Further bids will be submitted to the Arts Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund to fund the additional works to improve the offer that the Theatre Royal and Concert Hall provides to citizens.

#### Other options considered

No other options were considered because taking no action would result in the decline of the Royal Centre and it would fail to meet the expectations of its customers, who have a choice to go elsewhere.

### **63 REPLACEMENT OF THE VICTORIA CENTRE ROOF AND ERADICATION OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED – KEY DECISION**

The Board considered the Portfolio Holder for Commissioning and Voluntary Sector's report seeking authority to instruct Nottingham City Homes (NCH) to bring forward a programme of works, for which funding is already in place within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme, to replace sections of the Victoria Shopping Centre roof covering, for which the Council is responsible, and to eradicate Japanese Knotweed there.

**RESOLVED to**

- (1) approve the expenditure of £2.428 million from the HRA Capital Programme to enable the Council to undertake its obligation to maintain the water tightness of the roof at the Victoria Shopping Centre, and to treat and remove the Japanese Knotweed, with the precise date of commencement to be confirmed in the context of the emerging investment project by Intu;**
- (2) approve that NCH manage the project as it is responsible for maintaining the Victoria Centre.**

Reason for decisions

The work will allow the Council to meet its obligation to the owners of the site, Intu Victoria Centre, to ensure that the roof is properly repaired and that the deck, whether or not turfed or planted, is maintained in a watertight condition.

The work is essential to ensure the structural integrity of the building and to keep the roof in a well maintained state.

The replacement of the roof will give comfort to Intu that their planned investment in the centre will not be undermined by any existing structural problems with the building.

Other options considered

Doing nothing or postponing the work the work to another time was rejected as Intu want the matter resolved before they make the planned investment in the Victoria Centre, and Japanese Knotweed is an aggressive and invasive plant with the ability to penetrate and damage building structures.

**64 STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN) REFRESH PROJECT – KEY DECISION**

The Board considered the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Resources and Neighbourhood Regeneration's report seeking approval for the replacement of the storage and data replication infrastructure that the Council uses, as part of the IT programme to stabilise and develop the quality of IT services underpinning customer facing business activities.

**RESOLVED to**

- (1) approve the purchase of new storage and data replication infrastructure and associated technologies and services, within the cost of £2.2 million to be funded from the IT Efficiency Fund;**
- (2) grant delegated authority to the Director for Information Technology to carry out procurement processes, through the Government Procurement Service (GPS) framework, and enter into a contract with the preferred supplier for new storage and data replication infrastructure and associated technologies, to the value of £2.2 million;**
- (3) amend the Capital Programme to include expenditure of £1.799 million, noting that this will be financed by revenue reserves.**

### Reasons for decisions

This storage system will enable the Council to fulfil its strategic plan and the IT FIT Programme by replacing the disparate, end-of-life storage and data replication technology.

The solution will provide a long term resolution for the service incidents experienced over the last 12 months, as well as allowing for the planned expansion over the project lifecycle of 5 years.

It will ensure that data is fully protected, easily recoverable and that the business demand can always be met. The corporate systems will be defined against criticality levels for recovery times in the event of failure. By simplifying and standardising working practices and developing internal capability the service will be more easily managed by internal resources. The development of internal IT capacity will provide a foundation for the establishments of deeper partnership working and, potentially, the sharing of IT infrastructure services with partner organisations.

### Other options considered

Doing nothing was rejected because:

- current SAN maintenance needs to be renewed for continued use and these costs will increase over time;
- regular disruption to Council services will continue;
- there is a lack of resilience for critical systems;
- existing SAN storage is at full capacity.

Retaining existing storage and backup infrastructure with additional capital investment to provide additional capacity alongside existing systems and renewing ongoing maintenance contracts was rejected because, although this would provide short term mitigation of service disruption risk and capacity constraints, it would not address the underlying strategic priority to deliver a known quality of services over a known lifecycle. Extended maintenance terms for existing equipment are anticipated to become increasingly costly due to the age of the equipment, the availability of, or costs of these, cannot be predicted over an additional 5 year lifecycle. There comes a point where it may not be possible to repair the equipment and, as replacement parts become limited in availability, companies use refurbished parts where the quality and reliability is reduced.

Retaining the existing storage and backup infrastructure would only provide for the short term mitigation of service disruption risk if business demand were actively managed and reduced by constraining access to IT services, and is not considered a viable option. As with the option above, the potential availability and costs of maintenance terms cannot be predicted over a 5 year lifecycle. There comes a point where it may not be possible to repair the equipment and, as replacement parts become limited in availability, companies use refurbished parts where the quality and reliability is reduced.

Options for alternative storage provisioning, e.g. Cloud (which is a pay on demand services) have been compared against traditional upfront capital expenditure. The external IT market space is undergoing rapid change as a result of disruptive factors such as the advent of Cloud 'as a service' computing. In concept, the adoption of a form of Cloud computing would allow the Council to purchase IT capability of known quality, as required with minimal time lag and at known cost. It offers a way to quickly match IT demand to IT supply and is similar in concept to the purchase of a traditional utility such as electricity or gas – a service consumer pays for what they use as they use it. Although, in principle, attractive, 'as a service' Cloud computing has been rejected as a viable option for the following reasons:

- the poor fit of available offerings through GPS 'G-Cloud' with the Council's requirements. G-Cloud offers predominantly commoditised offerings which are designed to address specific limited requirements substantially different to the Council's;
- the Council's existing capability relating to demand and associated IT capacity planning is limited and requires significant development to support a move to 'as a service' matching of IT supply to business demand tied to credible forecasts of future expenditure need. This capability will be built over time as an outcome from this project.

## **65 RECORD OF TRANSACTIONS WITH A VALUE OF £25,000 OR GREATER**

The Board considered the Deputy Leader/Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Resources and Regeneration's report setting out items of expenditure of £25,000 or more.

**RESOLVED to note the details of transactions with a value of £25,000 or greater, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and Portfolio Holder decisions, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.**

### Reasons for decisions:

This is a regular submission which allows consideration of the details of transactions with a value of £25,000 or greater.

### Other options considered:

No other options were considered.