

UPDATE FROM THE LEADER ON THE WORK OF THE EXECUTIVE

Members, the meeting has already received the minutes of meetings of the Executive since our last Full Council meeting on 13 December 2022. I am happy to provide an update, for information purposes, on business dealt with by the Executive since then.

At its meeting on 19 January the Executive resolved:

- That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director and the Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Economy & Climate, to allocate and spend funding for 2022/23 in accordance with the Council's approved UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan.
- That a new lease be signed for the Council owned asset, part of a sports pavilion and open area, located at Fairview Playing Field, Victoria Road, Rayleigh to Trudge Fitness Limited for gymnasium and fitness centre use.
- That authority be delegated to the Director of Assets & Investment, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning & Assets, to finalise the terms of the lease with Trudge Fitness Limited.

At its meeting on 7 February the Executive resolved:

- That the Sustainability Strategy be approved and adopted.
- That the Climate & Sustainability Officer post be made permanent.
- That a Climate & Sustainability Committee of nine Members be established on a politically representative basis.
- That the Climate & Sustainability Committee meets on a quarterly basis.
- That the Community Investment Plan (CIP) Community Engagement exercise should include meaningful market research to achieve the best outcome for the Mill Hall.
- That the regeneration strategy is aligned with the New Local Plan.
- That the Council looks to work in partnership with charitable organisations and others that can access grants.

- That the delegated spending authority is limited to £100,000; and any decisions more than this value are referred to the full Executive for decision.
- That the Community Investment Plan objectives as set out be approved.
- That delegated authority be given to the Interim Director of Resources and the Director for Assets and Investments, in consultation with the Leader and the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Climate & Economy, to drawdown funds from the CIP ringfenced to support the following:-
 - i. Up to a total of £255,000 to support expected works of £185,000 at the Mill Arts & Events Centre to enhance the offering for events there plus up to £25,000 to support the external resource to deliver future plans and business case for the Mill Arts & Events Centre.
 - ii. Up to a total of £350,000 to support the objectives of regeneration outlined within the CIP proposal. This money will support the technical work to bring forward regeneration sites in the district to RIBA stage 2 supporting the Regeneration Strategy approved by the Executive on 9 November.
 - iii. Up to a total of £75,000 to deliver a comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement process to support and align with the technical delivery of the regeneration sites.

Portfolio Holder decisions have been taken that have:

- Noted and published the Authority Monitoring Report 2021-22 as part of the Council's evidence base for planning.
- Approved the timetable of meetings for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.