

## CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday, 13 December 2018 at 5.00pm in Meeting Rooms G3-G4, Addenbrooke House, Ironmasters Way, Telford, TF3 4NT

PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2018

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: THURSDAY, 27 DECEMBER 2018)

**Present:** Councillors S Davies (Leader and Chair), R A Overton (Deputy Leader and Vice Chair), L D Carter, A R H England, R C Evans, S A W Reynolds and H Rhodes.

**Also Present:** Councillors A J Eade (Conservative Group Leader) and W L Tomlinson (Liberal Democrat / Independent Group Leader)

### **CB-032      Apologies for Absence**

Councillor J C Minor

### **CB-033      Declarations of Interest**

Councillor S Davies declared an interest in minute number CB-035, Youth Justice Plan 2018/19, due to his work as a solicitor occasionally practising in the Youth Court.

Councillor A R H England also declared an interest in minute number CB-035, Youth Justice Plan 2018/19, due to his work in the Youth Court.

### **CB-034      Minutes**

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### **CB-035      Youth Justice Plan 2018/19**

**Key Decision** identified as **Youth Justice Plan 2018/19** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 14 November 2018.

### **Recommendation for Full Council – not subject to Call-in.**

Cllr P R Watling, Cabinet Member: Children and Adults Early Help & Support presented the report of the Director: Children's and Adult Services which outlined the responsibilities of the West Mercia Youth Offending Service and presented the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 for approval and endorsement to Council.

It was noted that the Youth Justice Service was a youth justice partnership between the Local Authorities and NHS organisations across West Mercia, National Probation Service, West Mercia Police and the Office for the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner. Youth justice partnerships had a statutory duty to produce an annual youth justice plan which was prepared on behalf of Herefordshire Council, Shropshire Council, Telford and Wrekin Council and Worcestershire County Council.

The Youth Justice Plan for 2018/19 was prepared in May/June 2018 in line with the guidance issued by the Youth Justice Board (YJB), agreed at the West Mercia Youth Justice Service Management Board on 12 July 2018 and submitted to the YJB at the end of July 2018.

The Youth Justice Plan sets out how youth justice services across West Mercia were structured and funded and identified key actions to address identified risks to service delivery and improvement. Members noted the partnerships priorities for 2018/19 and commentary on the three national performance indicators for youth offending services (YOS). Performance against the indicators was outlined in the plan and actions identified to address risks to performance improvement. For the 'rate of first time entrants to the youth justice system' it was reported that Telford and Wrekin's performance had significantly improved. For 'the number and rate of custodial sentences', Telford and Wrekin's rate equated to a rate of 0.30 per 1,000 youth population which compared favourably to the national rate of 0.39. For 'the proportion of young people re-offending', Members noted that there were proportionally less young people re-offending in Telford and Wrekin than for West Mercia.

The plan provided additional data across all 4 Local Authorities in West Mercia. In 2017/18 Telford and Wrekin recorded 105 young people entering the criminal justice system which equated to 0.64% of our youth population. The peak age of offending was 17 years of age.

Members noted the twelve main priorities for 2018/19 which were detailed in the report and the actions being taken to address each priority. Members also discussed the impact on young people of reforms in the Court Service which had seen the centralisation of remand cases in Kidderminster and it was agreed that group leaders would write jointly to HM Courts and Tribunal Service on this issue. Members also noted that they would appreciate a more detailed breakdown of the data for future reports.

**RESOLVED that the Youth Justice Plan 2018/19 be RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL for approval and endorsement and that the West Mercia Youth Justice Service responsibilities be noted.**

**CB-036      Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021**

**Key Decision** identified as **Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 14 November 2018.

Councillor R C Evans, Cabinet Champion for Domestic Violence presented the report of the Assistant Director: Health & Wellbeing

This report introduced the Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021. The strategy proposed a joined up response aimed at tackling domestic abuse across strategic partnerships, with a clear recognition that no single agency could address this complex issue in isolation.

The strategy recognised that domestic abuse was wider than violence, and therefore the scope included: controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

The lives of women and children and young people and men were significantly affected by domestic abuse and it was not always easy to identify. Domestic abuse rarely took place in a vacuum and substance misuse and poor physical and mental health could contribute and amplify the consequences. Its impact could be seen across many aspects of the community, including child development and attainment, family dynamics, crime rates, the local workforce.

The rate of domestic abuse offences recorded in Telford & Wrekin was high. The strategy aimed to raise awareness, identify, prevent, and better support victims of domestic abuse and their children. At the same time as investigating and prosecuting, but also supporting perpetrators to break the cycle of abuse.

The strategy would be delivered through an action plan, based on the six objectives detailed in the report. Engagement with professionals had identified as a clear early priority, the need to strengthen the local offer of specialist services and support to victims, children and young people affected and also to perpetrators, to change their behaviour.

Raising awareness and understanding of domestic abuse across the community was delivered through the White Ribbon campaign, which was strongly supported by Cabinet members.

**RESOLVED that the Telford & Wrekin Domestic Abuse Strategy 2019-2021 be approved and RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL for endorsement.**

#### **CB-037      Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan**

**Key Decision** identified as **Lilleshall Neighbourhood Plan – Post Referendum** in the Notice of Key Decisions published on 14 November 2018.

Councillor R A Overton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member: Communities, Housing and Enforcement, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Business Development & Employment. It was noted, that the Localism Act (2011) introduced legislation which allowed Parish Councils to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan for their administrative area. This Report recommended that Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan became the fifth Neighbourhood Development Plan in the Borough to be adopted (made).

The Plan was part of a programme of Neighbourhood Development Plans being prepared by Parish and Town Councils across the Borough with the support of the Council, reflecting the commitment to engage local communities further in planning for development in their local areas.

Lilleshall Parish Council submitted their neighbourhood development plan (the "Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan") and other supporting documents to Telford & Wrekin Council as local planning authority in February 2018. In response and in accordance with its statutory duties, Telford & Wrekin undertook a number of checks

to ensure that all the procedural and other requirements had been met and completed a 6-week publicity period which allowed written representations to be made. An independent examination took place between July and August 2018.

The appointed Independent Examiner (the Examiner), Mr John Parmiter, submitted his report to the Council on 8 August 2018. The Report recommended proceeding to Referendum, subject to a number of modifications. Those modifications were applied to the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan and on 13 September 2018 Cabinet agreed to proceed to formal Referendum. The Referendum took place on 15 November 2018.

It was outlined that the policies within the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan would become part of the Development Plan for Telford & Wrekin and would be considered in the determination of planning applications in the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan area alongside national and Borough wide planning policy.

**RESOLVED that:-**

- (a) the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan be made**
- (b) the Assistant Director: Business, Development & Employment be authorised to exercise all of the Council's relevant powers and duties and undertake all necessary procedural arrangements relating to the making of the Lilleshall Parish Neighbourhood Plan.**

**CB-038      Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2018**

**Non Key Decision**

Councillor S A W Reynolds, Cabinet Member: Employment, Education and Life long learning, presented the report of the Assistant Director: Education & Corporate Parenting.

The report noted that the Childcare Act (2006) required local authorities in England to ensure a sufficiency of childcare for working parents, parents studying or training, and for disabled children. Childcare sufficiency relates to the provision of registered childcare for children aged 0-14 years old, and up to 18 years old for disabled children and children with additional needs. Under section 6 of the Act there was also a requirement on local authorities to produce an annual sufficiency report on the availability and sufficiency of childcare in their area which involved the collection and publication of information on the supply of provision and demand for childcare in their area.

The Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, appended to the report, was conducted in the Summer Term 2018 by Hemsalls, and was based on an analysis of Ofsted registration data, provider audit responses and the parent/carer questionnaire survey. The findings and recommendations detailed in the report provided a summary of the Sufficiency Assessment.

The Sufficiency Assessment's conclusions were very positive, concluding that there was sufficient registered childcare provision to meet the needs of younger children

(under 5 years) and to deliver the early years entitlements in the borough of Telford and Wrekin. However, there were indications that the offer for older children (aged over 5 years) needed further strengthening. The cost of childcare was the most commonly cited barrier to use.

**RESOLVED that**

- (a) the information in the report be noted about the supply and demand in the borough of:**
  - Early Years childcare for children aged, 2, 3 and 4
  - Childcare for school aged children
  - Holiday care for school aged children
  
- (b) the recommendations made as a result of the sufficiency assessment and the strategies proposed to address these gaps be approved**

The meeting ended at 5.31pm

**Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices**

Jonathan Eatough  
Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning  
Date: 19 December 2018

Signed: .....  
Date: .....