

# Cabinet

Tuesday 26 September 2017

## PRESENT:

Councillor Bowyer, in the Chair.

Councillor Nicholson, Vice Chair.

Councillors Mrs Beer, Mrs Bowyer, Darcy, Downie, Jordan, Michael Leaves, Ricketts and Riley.

The meeting started at 4pm and finished at 4.39pm.

*Note: The full discussion can be viewed on the webcast of the City Council meeting at [www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk). At a future meeting, the Council will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

39. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

40. **Minutes**

The minutes of the 29 August 2017 were approved.

41. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

42. **Questions from the Public**

There was one question from a member of the public the questioner was not present at the meeting.

Question submitted by: Mr Kevin Westlake
To the Cabinet Member/s for: Street Scene/Environment, Deputy Leader of the Council Safer and Stronger Communities
Question:  Now travellers at Stonehouse have moved on, what are the council going to do to re-instate the pitches to a safe playing condition for the young people of Plymouth and when will Section 106 of £118k become available for appropriate repairs and maintenance?

Response:

Following the recent unauthorised encampment on Stonehouse Creek playing pitches, Council staff have cleared site of rubbish and assessed the damage. The pitches themselves have been severely damaged by vehicles. When the weather conditions improve, we will re-instate the pitches, this is likely to include chain harrowing the surface, filling in depressions and re-seeding damaged areas. We intend to install a soil bund and a secure gate or post to prevent future unauthorised vehicular access whilst retaining emergency access.

This work will be funded from existing maintenance budgets, as Section 106 cannot be used to fund these repairs. The Council has signed Section 106 agreements to secure contributions that will be used to enhance Stonehouse Creek pitches in line with the proposal in the [Plan for Playing Pitches](#). As the payment of these funds are triggered by the progress of development we are unable to predict when they will be received.

#### 43. **Strategic Options for Corporate Services**

Councillor Darcy, Cabinet Member for Finance and IT, introduced the report to Cabinet.

Councillor Darcy thanked the Place and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the pre-decision scrutiny and the recommendations which had been responded to within the report.

Andrew Hardingham, Interim Joint Director for Transformation and Change (Finance), highlighted that the Council's existing back office services would provide more value to Plymouth City Council and Plymouth if delivered through a public sector shared service provider and Delt is recommended as the best option.

Functions of Plymouth City Councils Corporate Services would be considered individually as candidates for migration to Delt over the following 18 months to 2 years, and future business cases for each of the services would require political approval before any transfer takes place.

Following questions Cabinet agreed -

1. to develop business cases and service specifications for services that might be transferred to Delt.
2. that business cases would be reviewed by Scrutiny and Cabinet for approval before any transfers takes place.

#### 44. **Business Rates Discretionary Relief Scheme 2017-18**

Councillor Darcy, Cabinet Member for Finance and IT, introduced the report to Cabinet.

Following questions on the democratic accountability in relation to the administration of the scheme, Andrew Hardingham drew member's attention to the rules as set out within the report. There was a discretionary element of the scheme which Councillor Darcy had overview.

Following a short debate and questions, Cabinet agreed to approve the Business Rates Discretionary Relief Scheme as set out within the report.