

## **Cabinet**

**Monday 11 November 2019**

### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Evans OBE, in the Chair.

Councillor P Smith, Vice Chair.

Councillors Haydon, Coker, Dann, Lowry, Penberthy, Jon Taylor, Laing and Kate Taylor.

The meeting started at 1pm and finished at 3.50pm.

*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.*

56. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

57. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 08 October 2019 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

58. **Questions from the Public**

There were no questions from members of the public.

59. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business from the Chair.

60. **Leader's Announcements**

The Leader, Councillor Evans OBE made the following announcements:

- Councillor Penberthy received an award from the Local Government Information Unit Awards under the Innovation and Transformation section and was commended for his balanced approach to risk, and his work on the City Challenge Fund;
- The opening of the Barcode complex which houses the third largest Imax cinema in the UK;
- The arrival of figureheads at the Box – the biggest conservation project of this kind in the UK;
- Commencement of work on Oceansgate phase two;
- A 126 Bed hotel has been announced for Millbay

- Securing of £700k of funding to host the British Arts Show in 2021;
- A planning application to be submitted prior to Christmas for Langage phase three;
- Broadley Park – work will start on site in January 2020 on a project which will develop 22,500 sq. ft.
- Plymouth International Business Park which will develop 20,000sq ft.
- Work at Brunel Plaza continues with planning consent now granted to the University of Plymouth for a change of use for Intercity House to become the Faculty for Medical Sciences;
- Mount Batten Watersports Centre is being reimagined to do more to encourage participation. Councillors Derek and Goslin are driving a piece of work to encourage greater participation of young people on the water. Cabinet will be updated in March on progress;
- The Council has been shortlisted for four Local Government Chronicle Awards including team of the year for the Joint Local Plan team; Community Involvement for the City Change Fund; the Housing award for Plan for Homes and for the entrepreneurial work for the Plymouth Family of Companies;
- Congratulations were offered for the exceptional memorial service conducted on Plymouth Hoe yesterday; thanks were extended to the Council staff and the volunteers who supported the event.

#### 61. **Monthly Activity Round Up**

Councillor Kate Taylor, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care made the following announcement:

- Last week saw the launch of the culinary care cookbook, a collaboration between Plymouth City Council, City College Plymouth and Plymouth College of Art. The book brings together a selection of favourite recipes, offering choice and variety and acting as a resource library for care homes.

Councillor Haydon, Cabinet Member for Customer Focus and Community Safety made the following announcements:

- A consultation has been launched regarding Public Space Protection Orders to tackle alcohol related antisocial behaviour. The proposal is not a ban on consuming alcohol outside in the city but to tackle antisocial behaviour and keep residents safe;
- The Best Bar None awards take place tomorrow evening with awards being given to establishments for being safe places to drink. All of these establishments took part in the Purple Flag Award.
- The new crematorium will be situated on 7.1 hectares of space next to the Drake Memorial Park Cemetery. This new development has yet to be named and suggestions are welcome to be sent to the bereavement team; the site is due to open in summer 2021.

Councillor Lowry, Cabinet Member for Finance made the following announcements:

- There are currently 450 CCTV cameras in Plymouth and investment in these continues, particularly on housing estates and in anti-social behaviour hotspots. Recently a number of additional cameras have been installed both to tackle anti-social behaviour and to monitor traffic flow.

Councillor Dann, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene made the following announcements:

- Attendance at a recent International Air Quality Summit saw the importance of urgent action to eliminate air pollution highlighted as a national priority. Since a Climate Emergency was called by the Council actions have already been underway such as the replacement of our fleet to electric vehicles and improved pedestrian access; cycle lanes will be a priority going forward;
- The Plymouth Waterfront Partnership has received a special recognition award for their work on the elimination of single use plastics.

Councillor Coker, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure made the following announcements:

- Plymouth City Council has been shortlisted for the People's Award for Transport Planning for the Plymotion initiative – 13 per cent of those residents engaged with by the programme are now cycling where they wouldn't have before and 22 per cent are leaving their car at home. Plymotion have also engaged with 2300 employees in 44 workplaces to talk to them about sustainable travel. Free bus travel has also been negotiated, working with Jobcentre Plus this has supported people to attend interviews, with over 50 individuals securing employment.

Councillor Jon Taylor, Cabinet Member for Education, Transformation and Skills made the following announcements:

- The procurement tender for the full fibre network will go to tender this week, this is an important investment in the city's infrastructure;
- The Customer Advocacy Service will be launched in December - this service will assist those individuals who cannot access digital services. The service will also act as a signpost to offer help and support to those who could access digital services with the right support and training;
- There has been some positive news on school funding with removal of the gains cap. However, a report from the National Education Union predicts that the vast majority of constituencies will see schools with less funding in 2020 than they had in 2015. Cabinet will receive a report once further detail is known - a select committee has also been established;
- There is still concern over funding for maintained nurseries given the vital role they play, a report will be taken to Full Council in due course.

Councillor Penberthy, Cabinet Member for Housing and Cooperative Development made the following announcements:

- In respect of the award nominations, Plan for Homes 3 is currently underway; 5563 new homes were delivered in 5 years under phase one and two, 1529 of which were affordable homes;
- The topping out ceremony at Millbay took place last week at the Abbeyfield site, this scheme will provide specialist homes for older people with a wealth of onsite facilities, especially for those living with dementia;
- Planning permission has been granted for five socially rented bungalows with planning permission for a further five submitted. These homes will help local older people to downsize to homes that meet their needs and remain in the community;
- The Make a Change campaign has been launched and 14 referrals have already been received from people reporting rough sleepers. The 'Tap to Give' points are also in operation for donations to nominated homeless charities in Plymouth;
- The numbers of people in temporary accommodation has reduced from 170 to 148 and as this point there are no children living in Bed and Breakfast accommodation;
- As part of the work on co-operatives, Plymouth Arts Centre will be screening a special showing of the Rochdale Pioneers this week and It's a Wonderful Life in December.
- The Social Enterprise Festival will take place during the latter part of November.
- Crowdfund Plymouth has secured a global award for our work as an engaged city. This has involved funding of 80 projects, attracting 8697 supporters who otherwise may not have known these projects existed, raising well over £1.5m.

Councillor Pete Smith, Deputy Leader made the following announcements:

- The annual bonfire celebration recently took place on Plymouth Hoe and attracted in the region of 20,000 people. Positive feedback was received from the emergency services on the reduction in demand due to the provision of this communal event;
- A PA system is due to be installed across the waterfront which will allow the public to be kept informed in the event of an emergency;
- The Illuminate festival commences on the 28 November and runs to 01 December, this marks the beginning of the Mayflower 2020 celebrations;
- Plymouth has been awarded the National Diving Championships for 2020 taking place in the Life Centre;
- Refurbishment of the Elizabethan House is well underway with traditional techniques being applied to renovate this historic building; the house is on track to reopen in 2020.

## 62. **Scrutiny Recommendations: Impact of Brexit on Plymouth**

The Leader, Councillor Evans OBE invited Councillor Winter, Chair of the Brexit, Infrastructure and Legislative Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee to introduce the report on Scrutiny Recommendations: Impact of Brexit on Plymouth.

Following a discussion, Cabinet agreed to:

- seek a response to the letter written by Councillor Evans OBE, Leader of the Council to the Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding the potential impact of Brexit on the City of Plymouth;
- seek a formal response from the city's three MPs regarding the support and assistance they are providing to the City Council with Brexit-related issues;
- seek clarification on the methodology behind the initial assessment undertaken by central Government which had not identified Plymouth as a Strategic Port, and request a reassessment, acknowledging that Plymouth is a growing port city.

63. **Completed Pledges Report**

Councillor Mark Lowry, Cabinet Member for Finance introduced the report on completed pledges.

Following the completion of a further 6 pledges in October, the total number of pledges completed is 60 out of 100.

After a discussion, Cabinet agreed to:

- Note the completion of pledges 6, 56, 64, 46, 50 and 53 in October 2019, bringing the total number of completed pledges to 60.

64. **Corporate Performance, Capital & Revenue Monitoring Report 2019/20 - Quarter 2**

Councillor Lowry, Cabinet Member for Finance introduced the Corporate Performance, Capital and Revenue Monitoring Report 2019/20 – Quarter 2.

In terms of performance against the Corporate Plan, this report provides analysis as at the end of September 2019 of performance against the Council's key performance indicators (KPIs), providing a detailed performance update against the Corporate Plan priorities.

The Revenue and Capital report outlines the finance monitoring position of the Council as at the end of September 2019. The primary purpose of this report is to detail how the Council is delivering against its financial measures using its capital and revenue resources, to approve relevant budget variations and virements, and to report new schemes approved in the capital programme

Following a discussion, Cabinet agreed to:

- Note the Corporate Plan Quarter Two Performance Report and consider the implications for delivery of the Council's priorities;
- Note the current revenue monitoring position and action plans in place to reduce/mitigate shortfalls;

- Approves the non-delegated virements which have occurred since 1 July 2019;
- Recommend to Council that the Capital Budget 2019-2024 is revised to £845.354m (as shown in Table 5 of the Capital and Revenue Monitoring Report 2019/20 Quarter 2).

65. **Joint Arrangements: Torbay Council Children's Services (to follow)**

Councillor Laing, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People introduced the report on Joint Arrangements: Torbay Council Children's Services. The Director for Children's Services then provided an overview of the proposals and the options considered. This was following an annual stocktake meeting held early in October 2019 between both local authorities and the Department for Education.

Following a discussion, Cabinet agreed:

- That the joint arrangement for the provision of children's services between Plymouth and Torbay Councils be drawn to a close by mutual agreement with effect from the end of January 2020, in recognition of the need to revert to a full time, dedicated Director of Children's Services (DCS) in Torbay and to establish equivalent DCS capacity in Plymouth.

66. **Healthy Weight Declaration**

Councillor Kate Taylor, Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, introduced the Healthy Weight Declaration.

The 'Healthy Weight Declaration' sets out a number of commitments to support development of a Healthy City; produced by Food Active, this has been adopted by Public Health England, and provides a national benchmark on how serious local authority areas are in tackling this issue

Following a discussion, Cabinet agreed that:

- The Council makes the Healthy Weight Declaration communicating the consistent progress which has been made as a result of the Plymouth Plan, Thrive Plymouth and other health related strategies in the city.
- The Council commits to continuing to prioritise healthy lifestyles in the city through progressing the 14 commitments of the declaration
- The Council commits to progressing the three local commitments
- The Council agree to support the delivery of the action plan

67. **Adoption of Highways Permitting Scheme (to follow)**

Councillor Coker, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Infrastructure introduced the report on the Adoption of Highways Permitting Scheme.

Under the new permitting scheme anyone wishing to carry out works on the public highway must initially apply to the City Council as Highway Authority for permission. As such the Highway Authority can refuse, approve and place conditions on each notice.

Following a discussion, Cabinet agreed:

- For the Council to proceed to the statutory consultation process;
- That following the consultation process, any objections or comments are considered by the Cabinet Member Strategic Planning & Infrastructure and delegated authority is provided to the Head of Plymouth Highways to proceed to adopt the Plymouth City Council Permit Scheme.