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## Cabinet

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Minutes of  
04 June 2024 at 2.00 pm

**Present:**

<b>Chair:</b>	Councillor Grace Williams	Leader of the Council
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Clyde Loakes	Deputy Leader (Climate and Air Quality)
	Naheed Asghar	Portfolio Lead Member - Inclusive Economy
	Paul Douglas	Portfolio Lead Member - Finance and Resources
	Kizzy Gardiner	Portfolio Lead Member - Children and Young People
	Khevyn Limbajee	Portfolio Lead Member - Community Safety
	Louise Mitchell	Portfolio Lead Member - Adults and Health

**Officers in Attendance:**

Rachel Bowerman	Interim Head of School Effectiveness
Ian Buckle	Head of Electoral and Democratic Services
Joe Garrod	Acting Strategic Director, Place
Shazia Hussain	Deputy Chief Executive
Mark Hynes	Director of Governance and Law
Anthony Jackson	Democratic Services Officer
Rob Manning	Interim Strategic Director, Resources
Darren McAughtrie	Director of Adult Care & Quality Standards
Daniel Phelps	Director of Children's Social Care
Debbie Porter	Strategic Director, Neighbourhoods and Environment
Lisa Redfern	Strategic Director, Adults

## **9. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Vicky Ashworth, Ahsan Khan and Rosalind Dorè.

## **10. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

## **11. Minutes of Cabinet**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 9 May were approved and signed as a correct record.

## **12. Learning Disabilities Review and Consultation on the Future of the Markhouse Centre**

Councillor Mitchell introduced the report and, in doing so, gave thanks to Lisa Redfern, Darren McAughtrie and Maureen McEleney – Assistant Director for Adult Services for their hard work.

The Leader gave thanks to Councillor Mitchell and relevant officers for a high-quality consultation and added that a person centred approach was the right way forward.

### **Decision**

Cabinet:

- (1) noted the findings from the Learning Disabilities and Autism Day Opportunities service review, as outlined in paragraphs 3.1 – 3.15 of the report;
- (2) agreed that a consultation should be carried out on the potential closure of the Markhouse Centre building, in view of the key findings; and
- (3) noted that analysis of the consultation will be undertaken and the outcome and recommendations regarding the future of the Markhouse Centre will be brought back to Cabinet for decision in November 2024.

## **13. Exclusion of Press and Public**

Cabinet agreed not to discuss the content of the exempt appendices and therefore continued the meeting in open session.

#### **14. Tackling Homelessness through a second Joint Venture Housing Scheme with Mears and Procurement of Temporary Accommodation through the Dynamic Purchasing System**

The Leader introduced the report and, in doing so, said that the Council needed to be flexible in looking for solutions due to a challenging financial market. She gave thanks to Joe Garrod, Meera Kumar – Director of Regeneration, officers in the wider housing team and finance team for their hard work. The Leader also thanked Councillor Khan for his leadership in this area.

#### **Decision**

Cabinet:

- (1) agreed to proceed with the second joint venture with Mears to procure up to 400 homes to provide settled accommodation for households currently owed a main housing duty and living in temporary accommodation;
- (2) delegated authority to the Strategic Director of Place, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead Member for Housing and Regeneration, the Strategic Director of Resources, and the Corporate Director of Governance and Law, to:
  - approve the updated financial model for the second joint venture with Mears, and;
  - agree terms and enter into legal agreements on behalf of the council to set up and operationalise the joint venture;
- (3) agreed to suspend operationalisation of the joint venture should the council and Mears, not be able to secure a financially viable bond rate and enter into legal agreements by 31 March 2025; and
- (4) approved the procurement of temporary accommodation through the Dynamic Purchasing System, established for that purpose, to the value within the agreed budget.

**The meeting closed at 2.11 pm**

**Chair's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_