

# FRESHNEY PLACE CABINET SUB COMMITTEE

# **DECISION NOTICE**

Publication Date: 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

At a meeting of the Freshney Place Cabinet Sub Committee held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of the Cabinet Sub Committee are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

**Present:** Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors, Harness and Shepherd.

# DN.SC.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received for this meeting.

#### DN.SC.2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest from any Councillor for this meeting.

#### DN.SC.3 MINUTES

The minutes of the Freshney Place Cabinet Sub Committee meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

#### DN.SC.4 ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRESS

The Cabinet Sub Committee considered an update on the asset management progress at Freshney Place Shopping Centre.

**RESOLVED – That the update be noted.** 

## DN.SC.5 UPDATE ON MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS AT FRESHNEY PLACE SHOPPING CENTRE

The Cabinet Sub Committee considered a report from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder Economy, Net Zero, Skills, and Housing providing an update of the current management arrangements at Freshney Place Shopping centre.

#### **RESOLVED** –

- 1. That the progress made since acquisition of Freshney Place Shopping Centre be noted.
- 2. That the Executive Director, Place & Resources, in consultation with the Leader of the Council be delegated authority to commence a procurement exercise to appoint professional asset management and property management providers and to carry out all activity reasonably arising, including award, implementation and mobilisation.
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute and complete all requisite legal documentation in relation to the matters outlined above.

REASONS FOR DECISION - To enable the continued effective management and operation of Freshney Place Shopping Centre.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED -

1. Continue with current appointments - The Council could choose to extend the current appointments. The performance of the current Asset and Property Management providers is not in question, and both have provided good service. However, the initial appointments were made due to the short time available at the time of acquisition on the basis that a wider procurement exercise would be undertaken to fully test the market for these services, which this report proposes.

2. Bring in-house – The Council could choose to end the current appointments and bring both the Asset and Property management functions in-house. These are specialist services that the Council does not currently employ, plus this approach would counter the agreed position of operating Freshney Place at arms-length.

## DN.SC.6 COMMUNITY DIAGNOSTIC HUB OCCUPATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Cabinet Sub Committee considered a report from the from Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder Economy, Net Zero, Skills, and Housing seeking approval to locate a Community Diagnostic Centre within Freshney Place.

#### **RESOLVED** –

- 1. That the principle of locating a Community Diagnostic Centre within Freshney Place as set out in the report now submitted be approved.
- 2. That the Executive Director Place and Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council be delegated authority to settle the terms of occupation in order to secure the centre and to deal with all matters arising from and ancillary to the above.
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute all documentation arising from the above.

REASONS FOR DECISION - To facilitate, subject to final business case approval, the introduction of a new CDC in Freshney Place, providing residents with access to critical health services in the community whilst reducing hospital visits.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED - The CDC could be located outside of Freshney Place and indeed the town centre. However, this would not provide the same level of community access and moreover, would not support the transformation of the town centre to the same degree as the proposed arrangements.

# DN.SC.7 FRESHNEY PLACE – NEW LETTING

The Sub Committee considered a report from the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder Economy, Net Zero, Skills, and Housing seeking to approve the principle of the letting within Freshney Place

#### **RESOLVED** –

- 1. That the principle of the letting as laid out in the report now submitted be approved.
- 2. That the Executive Director Place and Resources in consultation with the Leader of the Council be delegated authority to deal settle heads of terms, complete the letting and

deal with all matters arising from and ancillary to the above.

# 3. That the Assistant Director Law and Governance (Monitoring Officer) be authorised to execute all documentation arising from the above.

REASONS FOR DECISION – This is a key letting and will be beneficial to the town and the centre. It will contribute to the commercial performance of the asset and brings an established and popular retailer into Freshney Place.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – The alternative to not progressing with this letting is for the unit to remain vacant for an undetermined length of time.

# DN.SC.8 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

#### **DN.SC.9 FRESHNEY PLACE NEW LETTING**

The Cabinet Sub Committee considered the closed appendices referred to at item 7.

#### **RESOLVED – That the appendix be noted.**