

Subject:	ADULT & COMMUNITY LEARNING – Extract from the proceedings of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 30 April 2020		
Date of Meeting:	15 June 2020		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
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Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Action Required of the Council:

To receive the item referred from the Policy & Resources Committee for information.

Recommendation. That the decisions of the Policy & Resources Committee be noted.

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

4.00pm 30 APRIL 2020

VIRTUAL MEETING

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Platts (Chair) Yates (Deputy Chair), Mac Cafferty (Opposition Spokesperson), Bell (Group Spokesperson), Allcock, Clare, Gibson, Moonan, Miller and Shanks.

PART ONE

167 ADULT & COMMUNITY LEARNING

- 167.1 The Interim Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning introduced the report concerning the future delivery model of the Council's Adult & Community Learning offer funded by the Education & Skills Funding Agency. She noted that the Housing Committee had agreed to the use of HRA funding for Year 1.
- 167.2 Councillor Shanks welcomed the report and formally moved an amendment on behalf of the Green Group which sought to enable alternative options to be looked at.
- 167.3 Councillor Clare formally seconded the amendment.
- 167.4 Councillor Bell stated that he fully supported the scheme although was concerned about the call on HRA funding and questioned whether it would be more appropriate to use the General Fund.
- 167.5 The Acting Chief Finance Officer stated that the HRA was to be used for then benefit of tenants and this had been demonstrated in the report. However, the decision was for Members although the current pressures on the General Fund should be taken into consideration as outlined in the options listed in the report.
- 167.6 Councillor Allcock noted that the Housing Committee had agreed to the funding from the HRA for the first year and welcomed the Green Group's amendment. He believed there was a need for the service in the city and noted the support of the Trustees from the Friend's Centre.
- 167.7 Councillor Gibson stated that any future funding needed to be proportionate to the tenants' benefits and future consultation on how the service would be provided needed to be improved. He hoped that the service could be turned around and could then continue to provide the important support to adults in the city.

- 167.8 Councillor Miller expressed some reservations about the use of HRA and noted that some people would effectively be paying twice for the service. He was also concerned about funding elements and welcomed the Green amendment.
- 167.9 Councillor Moonan acknowledged the need to look at the funding elements and stated that the service provided an important second opportunity to develop skills and knowledge and hoped that it could be supported.
- 167.10 The Chair noted the comments and put the Green Group's amendment to the vote which was carried unanimously.
- 167.11 The Chair then put the recommendations to the vote, noting that the recommendation to use the £40k funding from the HRA in Year 1 was being put forward as the preferred option.

167.12 **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That a contribution of £40,000 from the HRA be set aside in the 2020/21 financial year only to support the funding requirements detailed in Option 1 in the report and subject to recommendation 3 below, and that any future HRA contributions be conditional on tenants support evidenced by consultation and that should this consultation be favourable, the HRA contribution be proportionate to the established benefits derived by tenants from these services, as also described in paragraph 3.41 of the report;
- (2) That the Adult and Community Learning be brought in-house following the expiry of the current arrangements on 31st July 2020;
- (3) That additional funding to be allocated to the Families, Children and Learning Directorate to cover the associated costs of bringing delivery in-house based on the option below be approved:
 - (i) Funding anticipated being in the region of £61,030 in year 1, based on funding of £20,000 each for Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities (Hangleton and Knoll and Whitehawk Inn) is provided by the Housing Revenue Account; and
 - (ii) If necessary, to explore other options to mitigate any loss of NLDC funding to the Hangleton and Knoll and Whitehawk Inn project resulting from the in-house proposal moving beyond year one, should no further funding be obtained from the HRA in future years .

Note: the costs for year two onwards for both options is dependent on securing suitable accommodation within the council.

- (4) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Culture to:
 - (i) Secure a 1year lease or license as appropriate on Isetta Square from the Friends Centre; and

- (ii) Take any other steps necessary to implement the recommendations in this report.
- (5) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director for Families, Children & Learning to:
 - (i) Take forward TUPE arrangements to facilitate the in-house provision of community learning currently delivered by the Friends Centre.
 - (ii) Take forward the option to bring in-house two externally funded projects, Step by Step and Get Socially Active projects and manage TUPE arrangements and subsequent liaison with funders.
 - (iii) Take any other steps necessary to implement the recommendations in this report including a comprehensive review of the service after one and three years of operation to assess value for money, opportunities for efficiencies, investment and growth opportunities, performance, satisfaction, and impact on equalities data.
- (6) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director for Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities to take forward the recommendation to fund Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities from the Housing Revenue Account of £40,000; and
- (7) That the Audit & Standards Committee receive a report, to ensure good financial governance for the city council.