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| DECISION-MAKER: | COUNCIL | | |
| SUBJECT: | EXECUTIVE BUSINESS | | |
| DATE OF DECISION: | 16 TH JULY 2014 | | |
| REPORT OF: | LEADER OF THE COUNCIL | | |
| <u>CONTACT DETAILS</u> | | | |
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| STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY | | | |
| None | | | |

BRIEF SUMMARY

This report outlines Executive Business conducted since the last Council meeting on 4th June 2014.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) That the report be noted.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. This report is presented in accordance with Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not applicable.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

INTRODUCTION

2. This report highlights the contribution of different Portfolios towards the council's priorities since the last council meeting on 4th June 2014.
3. In celebration of Southampton's 50th birthday, and to mark the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay, a day of activities culminating in a spectacular diving display in Guildhall Square took place on 4th June 2014. This event was followed by SkyRide on 29th June and Race for Life on 6th July. Over 6,000 women took part in the annual race around The Common to raise money for cancer research, and more than 11,000 people hopped onto their bikes to enjoy an exclusive tour of the city centre, pedalling down some streets that are usually closed to the public. This is the 5th successive year Southampton has held the SkyRide event and attendance was 10% up on 2013, creating a great social event that helps promote cycling in the city.
4. Southampton Music Hub ensured that June was an amazing month for music in the city. To help celebrate Southampton's 50th anniversary of city status, Southampton Music Hub hosted 50 musical events across the city in June, including an exciting mix of workshops, concerts and showcases for school children as well as anyone else who wanted to get involved in Southampton. It is great to note that approximately 3,000 young people took part in the celebrations.

5. We continue to be recognised for the excellent work we do and since the last report I am delighted that we have been recognised for:
- Our Telecare, CAREline and Responding Services successfully completed the three-year audit inspection to retain accreditation to the Telecare Services Association (TSA) which sets the national industry standards and good practice for this sort of support. These services mean our customers can receive the help they need, often in emergency situations, at the touch of a button, 24 hours a day.
 - Our national performance over the last year in making the council more energy efficient has been deemed 'exemplary' by Salix. Salix enables public sector organisations across the UK to take a lead in tackling climate change by increasing their energy efficiency. It provides 100% interest-free capital for the public sector to reduce its energy costs by enabling the installation of modern, energy efficient technologies and replacing dated, inefficient technologies. Southampton came fourth nationally for use of the Salix fund. Our energy reduction projects in 2013/14 included replacement LED lighting, insulation and building management systems upgrades. Looking forward to this year (2014/15), we are continuing with LED lighting upgrades and significant improvements to the IT server room in the Civic Centre – which could save us in excess of £30K per year and reduce our carbon footprint.
 - On 11 June 2014 at the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transport engineers annual awards, the Council and our partners Balfour Beatty Living Places, received a commendation for designing and constructing the Oxford Street scheme.
 - We received a Certificate of Achievement as part of the Adult Learners' Week Awards 2014. The certificate recognises our organisation's commitment to supporting life-long learning for the benefit of our local community.

PROMOTING SOUTHAMPTON AND ATTRACTING INVESTMENT

6. A joint bid for funding with the Isle of Wight Council, via the Solent Local Economic Partnership, has been successful. The two authorities submitted a joint bid to fund a regeneration project in Southampton and East Cowes to include new highways infrastructure and improved public spaces. The £14.95m Local Growth Fund award will allow both councils to move quickly forward with the relocation of the ferry terminals on either side of the Solent. Land will be freed up for redevelopment in East Cowes and in Southampton. At the same time, parts of the waterfront will be returned to public use. Moving the terminal is a crucial element to the Royal Pier development, the jewel in the crown of our City Centre Master Plan.
7. In June 2014 the council approved Hammerson's plans for the £70million Watermark WestQuay development. This is exciting, ambitious and imaginative scheme will add a new dimension to Southampton's leisure offering. The plans include a luxury ten-screen cinema, up to 20 restaurants,

promenades, water features and a public piazza. Importantly, the development will create around 500 jobs for the city; not including the construction jobs that will come during the build phase.

8. The council has been successful in its bid for Arts Council funding of £1,264,251, to support the development of Southampton's new arts complex and a dynamic programme of arts up to and beyond its launch in 2016. The funding is awarded for three years from April 2015 to March 2018. The council's application met a number of requirements in order to be awarded the funding, including: having an excellent vision, strong partnership (both existing and planned), the ability to support diversity and talent development, and plans to engage 'hard to reach' audiences. The funding will support the arts complex in creating a great future and a solid foundation for its work. It will enable it to further its reputation locally and nationally as a hub for the arts, at the heart of the city, and its Cultural Quarter.

RAISING AMBITIONS AND IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

9. The council has a statutory duty in respect of delivering its Corporate Parenting Responsibilities and in ensuring sufficient and suitable placements for looked after children. At the Cabinet meeting on 17 June we approved the Looked After Children Strategy, a key document which outlines how the Council will discharge its responsibilities and prioritise delivery of services for this group of children. The Looked After Children Strategy identifies eight priorities framing our services for looked after children:
 - Safeguarding
 - Participating and Having your Say
 - Staying Together, Identity and Relationships
 - Ensuring Good Educational Outcomes
 - Providing Clear Care Pathways and Timely Permanence
 - Promoting Health and Well being
 - Positively Managing Risk Safe and Stable Placements
 - Widening Access to Culture and Leisure Activities

It is envisaged that early intervention strategies and swift planning for permanence will begin to favourably impact the care population over the next three years.

10. Southampton's adult learners were recognised for their outstanding achievements in skills and community learning at an awards ceremony held at the Art Gallery on Wednesday 18 June 2014. At this event 47 adult learners received awards from across 11 categories, including Outstanding Learner, Outstanding Volunteer, Outstanding Tutor, Learning Life Skills and Learning for Work, among others. The celebration event was held as part of Southampton City Council's Skills & Community Learning programme, which supports a range of activities across the city to ensure that local people can gain skills and qualifications, take up new interests and engage with their communities. The awards were organised by the council and the Workers

Educational Association (WEA), the UK's largest voluntary sector provider of adult education.

11. The council is committed to increasing appropriate Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision in order to accommodate those children that require SEN support. To meet the increase in demand for specialist education Cabinet approved the expansion of Great Oaks School from the 1 September 2014 by the addition of 17 places from 1 September 2014 and an additional 8 places from 1 September 2015.
12. To facilitate the expansion of St John's Primary and Nursery School from a 210 place school to a 420 place school Cabinet also approved the leasehold transfer of the Eagle Warehouse and Mission Hall from the Council to St John's Primary and Nursery School.

IMPROVING HEALTH AND KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE

13. At its meeting on 17th June 2014, Cabinet approved the award of the three contracts which make up the substance misuse tender. The new integrated substance misuse treatment system will integrate, as far as is currently possible, drug and alcohol treatment into a single treatment pathway and will comprise 3 elements:
 - Early support, assessment and planning service (ESAP) for young people aged between 11-24 years
 - Assessment, Review, Monitoring and Recovery planning service (ARM) for adults aged 24 years and over
 - Delivery of Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Service (DDATRS).
14. The appointed providers will work with the Integrated Commissioning Unit to improve outcomes and contribute towards the delivery of objectives and outcomes within local strategies including the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Community Safety Strategy as well as the national Drug Strategy 2010 and Alcohol Strategy 2012. The budget available for the three year period of the contract, excluding inflation, is £9,870,600.
15. Cabinet considered a report on controlling the spread of betting shops, pay day loans premises and fast food outlets in June. Recommendations approved by Cabinet include the Planning & Development team assesses the impact of betting shops, pay-day loan businesses, and takeaways near schools as part of the work on the new Local Plan to see if new policies are necessary to give more control, and, in recognition that pubs can fulfil an important community function, to delegate authority to the Director of Place to progress work on an article 4 direction to prevent the conversion of pubs to other uses.

HELPING INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES TO WORK TOGETHER AND HELP THEMSELVES

16. To help improve the lives of people living with dementia, their families and carers I am pleased to say we recruited around 90 new 'dementia friends' at our events, arranged by the Supported Housing Team, during Dementia Awareness Week in May 2014.
17. We have been given the green light to progress phase 2 and 3 of the Freemantle and Shirley Network, thanks to a further grant of £15,500, secured through the Our Place programme. Our Place is a government initiative aiming to give local people more power and say over local services and where money is invested in their area. The Freemantle and Shirley Network will seek to establish a more cohesive and 'technically connected' community by harnessing the strengths of a remarkably diverse and active population. Local communities will get involved in shaping local services according to emerging priorities such as improving health and wellbeing, the environment, community safety, the local economy and enterprise, and support for young people. The network was launched in May 2014 with over 60 community representatives. In the next phase we will start to identify local assets and resources, and find ways to bring together organisations and voluntary groups to improve services and increase the digital capacity in the area.

MAKING THE CITY MORE ATTRACTIVE AND SUSTAINABLE

18. The Eco Fair returned to Southampton with an exceptional turnout of 1,442 visitors. Stalls included crafts, foods, recycling and the Hawthorns Wildlife Centre. Local groups including the Southampton Real Nappy Network and Greenpeace also attended the event held at Central Library.
19. The kerbside collection of glass, from houses, was introduced in March 2014 along with collection day changes. Residents in houses have a glass box and flats and HMOs have access to either a wheeled bin or a communal bank. In May, 354 tonnes of glass were collected helping to increase the city's recycling rates and make it much easier for residents to recycle their glass.

ENCOURAGING NEW HOUSE BUILDING AND IMPROVING EXISTING HOMES

20. In a first for Southampton, an extension consisting of a bedroom and bathroom was crane lifted over rooftops, and added to a property in Millbrook all in just one hour. This is an exciting pilot project for the council to enable disabled people to live in their homes with family, with an improved quality of life. The 'pod' extension will support a lady with Huntington's disease and her family who live in one of our properties.

DEVELOPING AN ENGAGED, SKILLED AND MOTIVATED WORKFORCE

21. A report outlining the next phase of the council's Transformation Programme is on the Cabinet agenda for decision on 15 July 2014. To become a sustainable council and one which will help us deliver the savings, become more customer-focused and commercially minded, and maximise the

potential of our employees, the report identifies that the next phase of the ambitious programme will focus on:

- Improving the experiences of our customers
- Embracing a range of delivery models for service delivery
- Using technology as a tool to innovate and become a digitally driven organisation
- Adopting smarter working practices
- Supporting our communities to take action to improve their neighbourhoods and lives through a strong sense of ownership.

IMPLEMENTING BETTER WAYS OF WORKING TO MANAGE REDUCED BUDGETS AND INCREASED DEMAND

22. The wider channel shift programme is designed to improve the experience of our customers when they contact the council, and achieve savings. As part of this customers will now be able to request numerous services online via a number of dynamic web forms, known as 'achieve forms'. Working with Capita, the Highways form enables customers to report potholes, missing street signs, road work clearance and more. Improvements for Waste Services are already in place. Further enhancements will be made to the forms over the next 12 months, alongside the launch of our new council website in September, and the potential implementation of a customer portal next year. This important work will improve customers' experiences and make our systems more efficient.
23. In June 2014, Cabinet approved the addition of £300,000 to the Health and Adult Social Care Capital Programme in 2014/15 for the upgrade of the Council's Social Care system from Paris 4.4 to Paris 5.1. The upgrade will provide the City Council with a system that is more conducive to more modern computer applications, and a platform that will better enable transformation.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

24. N/A

Property/Other

25. N/A

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

26. As defined in the report appropriate to each decision.

Other Legal Implications:

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

27. Council Plan 2013-16

KEY DECISION? No

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| WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: | All |
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

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| 1. | None |
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Documents In Members' Rooms

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| 1. | None |
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Equality Impact Assessment

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| Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out. | No |
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Other Background Documents

Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

| Title of Background Paper(s) | Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable) |
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