



Minutes

Extraordinary Scrutiny Committee

Venue:	Committee Room
Date:	Tuesday 20 January 2015
Present:	Councillors J Crawford (Chair), Mrs L Casling, I Chilvers, D Mackay, Mrs M McCartney, D Peart and S Shaw-Wright (for Mrs W Nichols)
Also Present:	Councillors Mrs G Ivey (Deputy Leader of the Council), and C Lunn (Executive Member, Finance and Resources)
Apologies for Absence:	Councillor Mrs W Nichols
Officers Present:	Jonathan Lund – Deputy Chief Executive, Karen Iveson – Executive Director (s151), Palbinder Mann - Democratic Services Officer and John-David Laux - Democratic Services Officer
Press:	None
Public	None

80. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Peart and Shaw-Wright informed the Committee that they were members of the Leisure Centre Project Board. It was clarified that as they were not involved in the Executive's decision to allocate additional funding to cover the costs of additional works at the Selby Leisure Centre this would not prevent them from taking part in the discussion or voting at this meeting.

81. Call In – Decision E/14/62 – Selby Leisure Centre – Key Decision

The Chair outlined the reasons for the call in and asked what discussions had taken place about the possible increase in costs when the decision had been

made to revise the plans for the car park at the new leisure centre. He invited the Deputy Leader of the Council to respond

The Deputy Leader of the Council explained that a decision had been taken to revise the car park plans at Selby Leisure Centre in order to help facilitate potential future development at the Scott Road site. The new works would also avoid the danger of landscaping and car parking works having to be dug up and redone as part of the further development of the site. Budget estimates had shown that the new additional works could be accommodated within in the original leisure centre project budget. Subsequent detailed design work and the need to appoint a new sub-contractor had increased the costs beyond the budget estimates and it had been necessary to report the change and seek additional funding to cover the costs.

The Deputy Chief Executive explained that whenever a new project was started, contingency funding was built into the planning. As the project progressed the likely need to use the contingency decreased. As a consequence it had been intended to use the unspent contingency to fund the additional works and remain within budget. However, both the subsequent detailed design development and the need to engage a new sub-contractor because the previous one had ceased trading had added to the costs to the extent that the unspent contingency was no longer sufficient. A report had been taken to the Executive seeking a decision on the extra funding required.

In response to queries concerning the contract, the Deputy Chief Executive explained that the construction contract included a fixed price build a new leisure centre including car parking which was largely based upon the car park layout of the former Abbey Leisure Centre. The revised scheme substantially relocated the car parking to make provision for additional development at the site. This was a variation to the original contract, and could not be funded from within the original contract price.

Concern was raised at the lack of detailed discussion at the Executive meeting where it was considered. The Deputy Leader of the Council acknowledged that the discussion on the decision was limited at the meeting, but she reassured the Committee that extensive discussions had taken place between officers and the Executive previously and all issues had been taken in account when making the decision.

In response to a question about the Leisure Village project, the Deputy Chief Executive explained that the project was currently coming to the end of the competitive dialogue process and final detailed proposals would be submitted to the Council in February.

Discussion took place on the potential for sending the relocation of the car park out to tender however it was agreed that the time constraints rendered this impossible.

The Chair invited the Committee to discuss the three options available to them, it was agreed that the Committee should not refer the decision back to

the Executive or Council. It was proposed and seconded that the Committee agree with the decision made by the Executive and take no further action. Upon being put to the vote, this motion was carried.

RESOLVED:

To agree with the decision made by the Executive and take no further action.

The meeting closed at 5.57pm