

DECISION REVIEW – CAMBRIDGE CENTRAL LIBRARY ENTERPRISE CENTRE

To: General Purposes Committee

Meeting Date: 14th April 2015

From: Monitoring Officer

Electoral division(s): All (*in particular Market Ward in the City*)

Forward Plan ref: N/A **Key decision:** No

Purpose: To review the decision of the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee on 17th March 2015.

Recommendation: General Purposes Committee is asked to consider the decision and either:

- i) Dismiss the decision review request with the effect that the original decision shall stand, or
- ii) Refer the decision back to the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee for re-consideration including a recommendation from General Purposes Committee.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The meeting of Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee held on 17th March 2015 considered a proposal to create an enterprise and innovation centre in Central Library, Cambridge. The Committee agreed to:
- a) approve the development of an enterprise centre within Cambridge Central Library;
 - b) enter into an agreement with Kora (part of the Regus Group) to create and run the Cambridge Library Enterprise Centre (CLEC); and
 - c) delegate to the Executive - Director of Economy, Transport and Environment in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee authority to approve the final negotiations required to complete this project.
- 1.2 Following this meeting a number of requests were received under the council's decision review process in relation to three elements of this decision. The requests were received from Councillors Ashwood, Bourke, Cearns, Leeke, Manning, Nethsingha, Onasanya, Sales, Scutt, Taylor, van de Ven, Walsh, Whitehead, Williams and Wilson.
- 1.3 The text of the decision review is as follows:
- "I am writing to you as Chief Executive to request a call-in of Item 5 from the last meeting of the Highways and Community Infrastructure committee, which was a proposal to create an Enterprise Centre in Cambridge Central Library. I request that the decision be reviewed by the General Purposes Committee.
- I challenge the validity of the decision on the following grounds:
- there was no consultation either with the library members or with the wider public
 - members had inadequate information with which to make a decision – about the company to which the library space might be offered and about the financial performance of the catering outlet."
- 1.4 One of the members supporting the decision review has also asked for the following to be included in the review:
- "I would add a further reason for call-in, namely the complete lack of information regarding the logistics of establishing such an enterprise given the displacement of services it would generate."
- 1.5 A copy of the report considered by Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee is attached at **Appendix A**. The appendices of this report are confidential and will be circulated separately. If the Committee wish to discuss any information in the appendices, it will be necessary to exclude the press and public. The relevant extract from the minutes of that meeting is also attached at **Appendix B**.

- 1.6 To date, the following officers have been invited to attend the Committee in order to provide advice and information regarding the decision:

Graham Hughes – Executive Director: Economy, Transport and Environment
John Onslow - Service Director: Infrastructure Management & Operations
Christine May – Head of Community and Cultural Services

- 1.7 Councillors who have requested the review have the right to address the Committee when it deals with the issue subject to the usual limits on speeches.

2. OPTIONS

- 2.1 Having reviewed the decision of the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee and the reasons for the decision review, General Purposes Committee may decide to do either of the following:

- (i) dismiss the decision review request leaving the original decision to stand.
- (ii) refer the decision back to the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee for reconsideration, with a recommendation.

- 2.2 If the request is dismissed, those members requesting the review will be notified and the original decision shall take effect by 9.30a.m. the next working day following the day of the General Purposes Committee meeting which reviewed the request.

- 2.3 If the decision is upheld the matter shall be referred back to the relevant committee with a recommendation from General Purposes Committee.

Source Documents	Location
Report and minutes of the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee – 17th March 2015	Room 117 Shire Hall Cambridge