

CABINET DECISIONS ON REPORTS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OSC

The following report was presented to the OSC on 3 October 2018 for comment prior to determination by the Cabinet on 9 October 2018.

The following is an extract from those Cabinet minutes:

(1) Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Support Services Commission

The report advised Cabinet of the outcome of the consultation process associated with the Council commitment to cease the VCS Support Services Commission from the end of March 2019 (copy attached to the signed minutes as Appendix F, along with the report of the Communities and Place OSC circulated at the meeting).

Councillor Homer reported that the results of the consultation exercise had shown that the VCS organisations demonstrated value in the community in many ways. They were also of value to the Council in terms of their contribution and involvement to the various strategies produced by the Council including the Cultural Strategy, the Economic Strategy and the Physical Activity Strategy. A complete removal of the commission would impact on County Council staff and increase workloads. However, officers had looked at this in detail, and were of the view that a sustainable service could still be delivered at a reduction of £35,000 pa.

Councillor Swithenbank reported the views of the Communities and Place OSC, which had understood the value of the sector and opposed the complete removal of the commission. The proposal to allocate £100,000 to VCS commission had been supported by Scrutiny on the understanding that a six monthly monitoring report on the impact would be provided.

Members endorsed the proposal to continue the VCS commission given the role that it played to support Council services and communities.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) in the light of the feedback from the consultation process, the VCS Support Services Commission be continued at a reduced level of £100,000 from the end of March 2019; and
- (b) the report of the Communities and Place OSC be endorsed.