

CABINET MEMBERS REPORT TO COUNCIL

26 February 2020

COUNCILLOR GREG HAYMAN - CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMERCIALISATION AND ASSETS

For the period December 2019 to February 2020.

1 Progress on Portfolio Matters.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCP) – the facilities and charge points here at the Cromer office are now operational.

Ren Energy have been awarded the contract for the main car park works and the enabling works elements have already commenced. The installation and commissioning of the works is scheduled to be completed by the end of March.

Office cleaning contract – the tenders for the new contract opportunity for the office cleaning have now been assessed and the preferred supplier is Norse Commercial Services. The cost for this service is within the current budget envelope and the new contract is expected to be in place from April.

Condition surveys – the results from these surveys continue to be assessed so that a work programme can be established. The chalet works are currently being prioritised with a view to the majority of the works being undertaken over the coming months ahead of the start of the summer season.

Cromer office roof works – the works to the glulam beams and roof glazing at the main administrative office in Cromer continue to progress well and the scaffolding to the southern elevation of the west wing has now been removed. The works commenced back in December 2018 and have an anticipated completion date of March 2020.

Public convenience improvement programme – the tender documents for the remaining schemes (New Road – North Walsham, Stearmans Yard – Wells-next-the-Sea and Bridge Street – Fakenham) have now been returned and assessment is currently ongoing. The total scheme budget is £600k.

Cromer pier – as per my last update the pier works have now been suspended until the spring due to the reduction in daylight hours, worsening weather conditions (unworkable wind speeds) and the Christmas show. The suspension will now see us through the worst of the winter weather and allow the works to restart in the spring.

North Norfolk Information Centre (NNIC) – the improvements to the public conveniences at the NNIC, which have been included as part of the Deep History Coast are now complete and operational and showcase the Council's first Changing Places facility.

2 Forthcoming Activities and Developments.

Delivery Plan (DP) – there are a number of areas of policy and strategy formulation within the ‘Financial Sustainability’ theme of the new Delivery Plan, several of which are progressing as follows;

Public Convenience Policy (DP action 1.2) - the baseline information is in the process of being pulled together to support the production of a Public Convenience Policy. The objective of the policy is to identify ways in which the current £600k a year spend on the provision of public conveniences (to serve users of town centres, recreational and visitor attractions) can be funded, so that good quality provision can be maintained whilst providing council tax payers with value for money.

Financial Sustainability Strategy (DP action 2.1) - work is progressing in relation to the development of a new Financial Sustainability Strategy which will consider how the Council can take a more commercial and business like approach to service delivery, efficiency and income generation.

Car Parking Policy (DP action 2.2) – an initial meeting has been held to consider current and future car parking policy. This review will look to maximise the revenue generated from car parking income, an important source of funding for council services. The new policy needs to reflect: the needs of local residents; the vitality of town centres; visitor demand; and providing best value for council tax payers.

Advertising and Sponsorship Policy (DP action 2.3) – this policy will provide a framework within which to explore opportunities to generate income for the Council from advertising and sponsorship. This policy is due to come forward to Members for consideration over the coming months.

Leases, licences, acquisitions and disposals – the current case load in respect of the Estates team continues to be reviewed to ensure that all pending property transactions provide best value for the Council and consider and take advantage of improved use of assets wherever possible.