### **Notice of Meeting**

# Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration Programmes Decisions



Date & time Tuesday, 9 April 2013 at 1.00 pm

Place
Room 107, County
Hall, Kingston upon
Thames, Surrey KT1
2DN

Contact James Stanton Room 122, County Hall Tel 020 8541 9122 Chief Executive
David McNulty

If you would like a copy of this agenda or the attached papers in another format, eg large print or braille, or another language please either call 020 8541 9068, write to Democratic Services, Room 122, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DN, Minicom 020 8541 8914, fax 020 8541 9009, or email.

This meeting will be held in public. If you would like to attend and you have any special requirements, please contact James Stanton on 020 8541 9122.

Cabinet Member: Mr Tony Samuels

#### **AGENDA**

#### 1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests from Members in respect of any item to be considered at the meeting.

#### 2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

#### 2a Members' Questions

The deadline for Member's questions is 12pm four working days before the meeting (3 April 2013).

#### 2b Public Questions

The deadline for public questions is seven days before the meeting (2 April 2013).

#### 2c Petitions

The deadline for petitions was 14 days before the meeting, and no petitions have been received.

# 3 RELOCATION OF PHAB AND DISABILITY CHALLENGERS FROM (Pages 1 LINTONS YOUTH CENTRE TO THE NORTH EAST SURREY COLLEGE - 10) OF TECHNOLOGY, (NESCOT), EPSOM

The Cabinet Member is requested to approve the capital expenditure on building adaptation works at North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT), Epsom, in order to permanently relocate Disability Challengers (DC) and Phab from Lintons Lane Youth Centre, Epsom. The commencement of these works is necessary in order to successfully relocate Disability Challengers and Phab from Lintons Lane by 31 December 2013.

#### 4 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information under the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

# 5 RELOCATION OF PHAB AND DISABILITY CHALLENGERS FROM (Pages LINTON'S YOUTH CENTRE TO THE NORTH EAST SURREY COLLEGE 11 - 16) OF TECHNOLOGY, (NESCOT), EPSOM

This is a Part 2 Annex to Item 3.

Exempt: Not for publication under paragraph 3.

Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Confidential: Not for publication under Paragraph 3
Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

David McNulty Chief Executive Published: 28 March 2013

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#### SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

## CABINET MEMBER FOR ASSETS AND REGENERATION PROGRAMMES

**DATE:** 9 APRIL 2013

LEAD SUSIE KEMP, ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS: JOHN STEBBINGS, CHIEF PROPERTY OFFICER

SUBJECT: RELOCATION OF PHAB AND DISABILITY CHALLENGERS

FROM LINTONS YOUTH CENTRE TO THE NORTH EAST SURREY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, (NESCOT), EPSOM

#### **SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The Cabinet Member is requested to approve the capital expenditure on building adaptation works at North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT), Epsom, in order to permanently relocate Disability Challengers (DC) and Phab from Lintons Lane Youth Centre, Epsom. The commencement of these works is necessary in order to successfully relocate Disability Challengers and Phab from Lintons Lane by 31 December 2013.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that:

- 1. The Cabinet Member approves the capital expenditure relating to adaptation works at NESCOT (subject to receipt of competitive quotations) as detailed in the schedule of works and budget costings (circulated as Annexe 1 Appendix A under item 5 in Part 2 of the agenda).
- 2. That the works are not commenced until NESCOT has entered into an Agreement For Works with Surrey County Council; and NESCOT, Disability Challengers and Phab have entered into a formal Licence, the terms of which meet with the council's approval, and which guarantees Phab and Disability Challengers' use and enjoyment of the new facilities for a minimum period of 20 years.
- 3. Approval of the final costs, when quotations have been procured, to be delegated to the Chief Property Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration Programmes, SCC Procurement and the Assistant Chief Executive.
- 4. The council meet the cost of reasonable legal fees (not expected to exceed £6,000) incurred by NESCOT and Disability Challengers in agreeing a formal long term licence to safeguard Disability Challengers' future use of the completed facilities. (The Cabinet Member has previously approved payment of fees to be incurred by Phab and NESCOT in formalising such a licence, on 22 November 2012).

#### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To ensure the valuable services to the community offered by Disability Challengers and Phab continue to be available to young local people following the closure of Lintons Youth Centre, with a minimum of disruption to those organisations. The proposal represents an opportunity for Disability Challengers and Phab to move from an outdated, unsustainable property to one which has been specifically adapted for their long term use.

#### **DETAILS:**

#### **Business Case**

- On 20 December 2011, the Cabinet made a decision to dispose of the Lintons Youth Centre in Epsom, and seek to re-provide the youth and community facilities in a more suitable alternative location to be identified. An estimate for the capital cost of reprovision was included within the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 2. Following the Cabinet's decision, the Lintons Lane Working Group, chaired by the council's Assistant Chief Executive and including representatives of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, council officers, and the two main community organisations at Lintons, Phab and Disability Challengers (DC), worked to identify and appraise suitable alternative venues for the two community groups. At the same time, Property Services and Services for Young People (SYP) officers have been working together to identify and appraise possible alternative property solutions for the core SYP functions at Lintons.
- 3. Since December 2011, Property Services officers have also been in extensive negotiations with both the freeholder and the purchaser to attempt to secure an extension of the earliest date by which the developer can obtain vacant possession of Lintons, in order to allow additional time for relocation of the current occupiers. These negotiations successfully resulted in the deadline for vacant possession being extended by one year to 31 December 2013.
- 4. On 22 November 2012 the Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration Programmes approved expenditure for works at NESCOT to accommodate Phab (the amount is provided in Annexe 1, attached under item 5 in Part 2 of the agenda. This annex has been circulated to Members only as it contains financial details which, if made public at this stage, could affect the contract tendering process and the council's ability to deliver best value for residents).
- 5. At that meeting the Cabinet Member requested that officers continue their ongoing work with DC to support their move to NESCOT alongside Phab.
- At that time, discussions had been progressing over DC's relocation; officers had been investigating whether 'The Edge' youth centre in West Ewell could be adapted and extended to provide a suitable solution. However, it became apparent that combining the use of The Edge for both DC and the YMCA (SYP's contractor for the delivery of 'centre based' youth work), may have caused serious operational conflicts for both organisations, given that the YMCA run workshops for young people during DC's required session times.

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- 7. Discussions were therefore renewed with NESCOT and DC to identify a scheme of works which could accommodate both DC and Phab together at NESCOT.
- 8. Over January and February 2013, NESCOT further developed and amended their own master plan proposals for the college (due for implementation, subject to funding, in 2016). This resulted in changes to the configuration of the refectory, which in turn necessitated changes in the council's scheme to accommodate Phab. The main change was that the Phab store could not be constructed in the courtyard area, necessitating the creation of two separate stores in a different location. The position of the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) has also changed, being now closer to the refectory. (The new layout is shown in the plan at Annexe 2).
- 9. The challenge was therefore to identify a scheme which would offer a permanent and suitable new home to both Phab and DC, with their own specific accommodation requirements, without conflicting with NESCOT's own developing and longer term master-plan proposals, thereby providing reassurance for the organisations that the proposed scheme of works to accommodate them would not have to be scrapped or substantially redesigned in 3 years time.
- 10. That challenge has now been met, with NESCOT, Phab and DC now in agreement over the details of a scheme which will provide suitable permanent accommodation and which will not conflict with NESCOT's own proposals outlined in their developing master plan. NESCOT has further agreed to the principle of a minimum 20 year licence to Phab and DC for use of the premises and external games area, and they will enter into a formal Agreement for Works with the council prior to commencement of construction.
- 11. In summary, the works comprise:
  - a. Alterations to the student refectory, to create a retractable partition to allow various quiet and noisy activities to be carried on at the same time, with smaller removable partitions for further sub-division when required.
  - b. A new masonry disabled toilet block with direct access from the refectory
  - c. Two new stores for storage of Phab and DC's equipment (one external, one internal)
  - d. A new 780 sq metre MUGA which will be covered with a permanent cover to provide full year use in all weathers.
- 12. The justification for providing a permanent cover to the MUGA is as follows:
  - a. One of DC's main aims is to make play and leisure activities accessible for disabled children and young people all year. Their activity times are extensive compared with Phab (they run sessions every day of the week plus every Saturday during school holiday times) and they have a need for a suitable environment to play ball games all year long. The refectory at NESCOT is a confined space

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- with a relatively low ceiling and is therefore not suitable for this purpose.
- b. Some of the DC young people have conditions which mean that they are susceptible to illnesses brought about by climatic conditions, so an uncovered MUGA would not offer an inclusive opportunity for them in wet, hot or cold conditions. The removal of this structure from the scheme would have a significant impact on DC's ability to access or benefit from NESCOT's outside area.
- c. The covered MUGA solution would allow disabled young people, as well as the wider community, to play active games in a large but sheltered space all year round, in all weathers, day and night (including the extremes of winter and summer). Without the cover the majority of DC's young people would be limited to only using the MUGA in fair weather.
- d. Although there is an existing sports hall at NESCOT, this is approximately 150 metres from the refectory, which means that DC could not offer a safe indoors play environment as their staff team would be too stretched to patrol the area sufficiently.

#### **Budget Cost Estimates**

13. The total estimated budget cost of the revised building adaptation works described in paragraph 11 above, which are required to accommodate both Phab and DC at NESCOT, are provided for the Cabinet Member in Annexe 1, Appendix A (attached under item 5 in Part 2 of this agenda). Part of these costs have previously been approved, as detailed in Annexe 1.

#### **CONSULTATION:**

- 14. The Cabinet Member for Community Safety was consulted on 26 March 2013 and supports the recommendations.
- 15. The local Members, Mr Colin Taylor and Mrs Jan Mason have been involved in the discussions with the Lintons Relocation Task Group and have been consulted. Mr Eber Kington was informed of the proposed scheme and noted that it appeared that a resolution could be reached to satisfy and meet the needs of all.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

16. Officers have mitigated the risks of failing to secure the relocation of Phab and DC to NESCOT by securing agreement between all three parties to the proposed works and to the timing of the works.

#### **Financial and Value for Money Implications**

17. The capital costs of the proposed works at NESCOT to jointly accommodate Phab and DC will be reported in the confidential Annexe 1: Appendix A to be presented as a Part 2 item. There are no ongoing revenue costs for the council, although it is proposed that the council meets NESCOT, Phab's and DC's reasonable legal fees (as detailed in Recommendation 4).

18. If the occupiers of Lintons (Phab, Disability Challengers, and Services for Young People) are relocated to suitable alternative locations, the Local Plan policy to protect community uses will have been met, thereby increasing the overall chances of the developer securing planning permission.

#### **Section 151 Officer Commentary**

19. The Section 151 Officer (Head of Finance) confirms that all material, financial and business issues and risks have been considered and addressed.

#### **Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer**

- 20. Prior to the commencement of works, and in order to safeguard Surrey County Council's capital investment in this facility, the council will enter into a formal 'Agreement for Works' with NESCOT.
- 21. Upon completion of the works NESCOT, DC and Phab will be required to enter into a formal licence, in a form approved by the council, which guarantees both organisations' long term use of the facility during their normal hours of use.
- 22. Completion of the sale of the council's long leasehold interest in Lintons Youth Centre took place on 13 March 2013, with the council and the current occupiers being able to remain in occupation if required until 31 December 2013.
- 23. The council has a contractual obligation to deliver vacant possession of Lintons Youth Centre by 31 December 2013.

#### **Equalities and Diversity**

- 24. The equalities implications of the sale were addressed within the report to Cabinet dated 20 December 2011. Since that Cabinet decision, officers and Members have worked to understand exactly how each group functions, their individual requirements and needs, and have worked with them to agree the precise criteria for assessing the suitability of alternative premises.
- 25. The proposed adaptation works to NESCOT are supported by Phab and DC and will provide modern fit for purpose facilities which will be well used by Phab members and by NESCOT students and the wider community alike. The proposed works will ensure that both Phab and DC continue to thrive as important local resources for disabled and non-disabled young people, with a minimum of disruption and no loss of service continuity.
- 26. There are synergies and wider community benefits to be gained from a joint relocation of Phab and DC to NESCOT. The college propose to expand and develop courses in disability care, and the presence of two nationally recognised disability groups on-site would enable wide ranging educational and practical synergies to be achieved, to the ultimate benefit of all three organisations and the wider community.

#### Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults:

27. The proposals presented in this report will have a positive effect for vulnerable children and adults.

#### **Public Health:**

28. The proposals presented in this report will have a positive effect on the health and well-being of young people using these facilities.

#### Carbon emissions and Climate change:

29. The County Council attaches great importance to being environmentally aware and wishes to show leadership in cutting carbon emissions and tackling climate change. New buildings and refurbishment work will comply with the standards set out in the Building Regulations.

#### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

- 30. If the Cabinet Member approves the proposal set out in this report, the council will formalise an Agreement for Works with NESCOT and ensure that an acceptable long term Licence is agreed between DC, Phab and NESCOT.
- 31. The council will obtain competitive quotations for the approved works, seek to obtain all relevant planning consents, and a building contract will be procured to complete the works, in accordance with the work programme attached in Annexe 3.

#### **Contact Officer:**

Keith Barker (Asset Strategy Partner) 020 8541 9744

#### Consulted:

Cabinet Member for Community Safety
Local Members - Mr Colin Taylor and Mrs Jan Mason,
Borough Councillor Mr Neil Dallen
Strategic Director for Change and Efficiency Julie Fisher
Head of Commissioning and Development, Mr Frank Offer

#### Informed:

Mr Eber Kington, Local Member Ms Frances Rutter, Chief Executive of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council

#### Annexes:

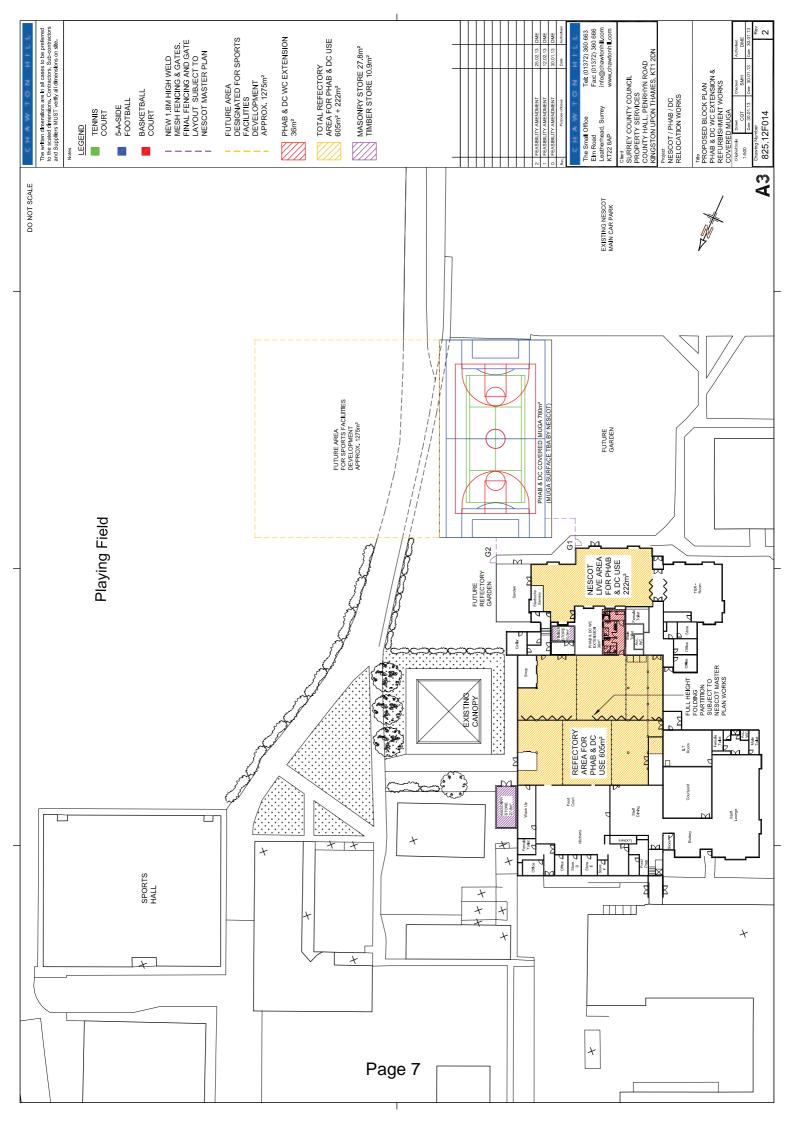
Annexe 1: Financial information (Exempt information – circulated with part 2 of the agenda for Members)

Annexe 1: Appendix A - schedule of works and budget costings (Exempt information – circulated with part 2 of the agenda for Members)

Annexe 2: Proposed layout Annexe 3: Programme of Works

#### Sources/background papers:

- Report to Cabinet Member for Assets and Regeneration Programmes dated 22 November 2012.
- Report to Cabinet 20 December 2011.



### <u>Phab and Disability Challengers - Nescot</u> <u>Project Milestones</u>

Milestone	Date
Investment Panel Sign Off	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
Planning Application Period	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2013
Building Control Application	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
Tender Preparation and Submission	17 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
Cabinet Member Approval – Contractor Sign Off	11 <sup>th</sup> June 2013
Contractor Mobilisation Period	9 <sup>th</sup> July 2013
Contract Period	25 <sup>th</sup> October 2013
Phab and Disability Challengers Move in	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2013

Document is Restricted

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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