

ITEM No ...12.....

REPORT TO: CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 28 OCTOBER 2024

REPORT ON: CONSULTATION PROCESS: EAST END COMMUNITY CAMPUS

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVICES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES AND DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND CULTURE DUNDEE

REPORT NO: 299-2024

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to consult on the proposal to re-locate services from existing buildings in Whitfield, Linlathen and Douglas to the new East End Community Campus and options for the existing buildings, if they are deemed surplus to requirements.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended the Committee:

- (a) agrees to consult on the proposals set out in section 5 of this Report.
- (b) authorises officers to make arrangements to undertake the consultation and to report back to the Committee with the findings and appropriate recommendations.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications associated with this report.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 Report 241-2020 (Article VIII of Policy & Resources Committee on 28 September 2020 refers) agreed the principles and rationale of a community HUB model which aims to make best use of our high-quality school estate, explore how schools can be utilised more as community assets and better meet the needs of communities by integrating services for children, young people, their families, and the wider local community. It also takes on board learning from our Community Support Centres (CSCs) that were established as part of our COVID-19 response.

4.2 Report 106-2023 (Article II of Policy & Resources Committee on 27 March 2023 refers) agreed the building of the new East End Community Campus to provide a modern school and community facility. The campus will be accessible and inclusive, housing a music and drama centre suitable for city-wide school and community use, and with the inclusion of a café and library. Also included are sport facilities including floodlit all weather pitches, a fitness suite, and a dance studio in addition to the standard gym and games halls. All facilities are accessible during the day, evenings and weekends for combined community and school use.

4.3 In line with our agreed approach to the community hub model, it is envisaged that a wide range of services could be relocated to the new East End Community Campus from existing buildings in the Whitfield, Linlathen and Douglas areas, combining community sports and activities, advice services, digital inclusion, adult learning, and community development as well as health-related services to integrated care for children and families.

4.4 The East End Campus has been developed with co-design and community involvement principles at the core. From the initial conception design workshops and events have been held with children and young people, community groups and the wider community inputting to

the architects plans and shaping the design and use of the campus both internally and externally. Throughout the build work there has been ongoing community engagement undertaken with young people and the wider community seeking their views regarding the provision of services which could be offered in the new East End Community Campus.

- 4.5 Due to the proposed re-location of services and options for any surplus building, it is recommended that the Council undertake public consultation on the basis set out in Section 5 of this report prior to determining whether, and if so, how to proceed with any of the proposals and that it be remitted to officers to make the necessary arrangements to carry out the consultations with service users and other interested parties and report back with recommendations for the Committee's decision in due course.

5 CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 5.1 Dundee City Council is currently building a new Community Campus to serve the East End of the city which will open in August 2025. As part of this flagship project, the Council, in partnership with Leisure and Culture Dundee will consult on the proposed relocation of both Council and Leisure & Culture Dundee run services from the following facilities:

1. The Hub Library & Community Facilities
2. Whitfield Library (The Crescent)
3. Douglas Community Centre & Library
4. Douglas Sports Centre

- 5.2 The purpose of this six-week consultation, running from 4 November to 15 December 2024, is to identify any impacts the relocation of services from these facilities would have on the local community, consider any measures that can be taken to address these, and explore the future of the existing community buildings.

- 5.3 The consultation will explore options for the future of the above properties, if deemed surplus to requirements and these could include:

- Using them for other purposes.
- Transferring them to community organisations.
- Selling the buildings.
- Closing the buildings.

- 5.4 Before any final decisions are taken, it is essential that we understand what implementing these proposals would mean for users and the wider community. This is particularly the case for those who have characteristics protected by law: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

- 5.5 All the facilities list at 5.1 will be the subject of one consultation, which will set out details of what is being proposed and asking a number of questions. Users of the four existing facilities in the area will be encouraged to take part, but it is important to stress that all interested parties are invited to have their say on the proposals.

- 5.6 Consultees will be able to respond to the consultation online via the Council's website. It is important that all users of the facilities and the wider communities have a fair and equal opportunity to take part so paper copies will be made available at the facilities affected by the proposals. Drop-in sessions will also be run.

- 5.7 Following the conclusion of the consultation, the results of the consultation will be included in a further report to Committee with recommendations for consideration.

6 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services, or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.
- 6.2 Once the consultation process is complete an Integrated Impact Assessment will be prepared to take account of any issues raised in responses. This will be submitted to the Council alongside any recommendations.

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Council Leadership Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report and are in agreement with its content.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Audrey May
Executive Director of Children and Families Service

Tony Boyle
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

Judy Dobbie
Executive Director of Leisure and Culture Dundee