

Decision Schedule



Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Housing

TO ALL MEMBERS OF NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL

Decision Schedule published on 29 August 2017

The Cabinet Member took the following decisions on 29 August 2017. They will become effective at Noon on 6 September 2017 with the exception of any particular decision, which is the subject of a valid "call-in".

The deadline for submission of a 'Call-in' request form is 4.00 pm on 5 September 2017.

Information relating to the 'Call-in' process can be found via [Democratic Services](#).

Reports relating to staffing issues/Confidential reports are not circulated to all members of the Council as part of the consultation/call-in processes.

R&H 03/17

Request from Cardiff University to approve Investment of Joint Venture monies into the National Software Academy

Options Considered/Reasons for Decision

To seek approval from the cabinet member for Regeneration and Housing to commit £575,000 (as a maximum) of Welsh Government / Newport City Council Joint venture monies (to be termed as JV monies within this document). This will be used to gap fund the refurbishment of the Information Station, which will create a custom-designed, innovative teaching facility across 3 floors of the Information Station to make it a suitable long term home for the National Software Academy in Newport.

A cabinet member report for disposal of use for the info station (3 floors) has also been put to the cabinet member Assets. Both papers co-exist and will require successful sign off to continue this venture.

It should be noted that a future Cabinet member report will be forthcoming which will require further financial support in order to deliver capital improvements at council venues.

This report provides information on a request from Cardiff University to commit £575,000 of Joint Venture monies into the creation of a National Software Academy in Newport. This will require the refurbishment of 3 floors of the Information station and a total investment from Cardiff University of 1.15 million pounds thus requiring 50% gap funding from Joint Venture monies. Any further monies required would be met by the university

Decision

Approve investment of Joint Venture Monies into the National Software Academy at the request of Cardiff University.

Newport City Council (NCC) and Welsh Government (WG), through its Joint Venture activities has accrued £2.6m (to date), which has formally been agreed, by both parties, to be spent on Regeneration activities Within Newport City Centre.

Cardiff University has approached NCC / WG to gap fund £575,000 of the total cost (£1.15m) of refurbishment of 3 x floors of the Information Station to create a National Software Academy. In return Cardiff University will invest a minimum of £575,000 in order to refurbish the building.

The University wish to lease the premises for 9. 4years (Full internal repairing lease / for the life time of the councils agreement with Network Rail) and this will be undertaken in the format below.

1. One floor from December 2017
2. A further two floors from May 2018.

The full refurbishment plan and costings from Cardiff University have been provided and are considered by Newport NORSE our Property partner and confirmed to be in keeping with Industry standard costs.

Heads of terms has been created by the NCC Legal Department and agreed by NCC and Cardiff University. This should be signed by the end of August.

Consultation

Monitoring Officer, Head of Finance and Head of People & Business Change

All members were consulted and provided with an opportunity to comment. Any comments received and response thereafter are set out in the report.

Implemented by: Head of Regeneration, Investment & Housing
Implementation Timetable: Immediate

COUNCILLOR J MUDD, CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION & HOUSING

29 August 2017
