

COUNCIL, 27 January 2016

REPORT OF CABINET

ROMFORD MARKET TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

Cabinet, at its meeting on 18 November considered proposals (report attached) for the transformation of Romford Market. Those fell under four main headings: branding identity and vision; operational management, business development and the physical transformation and improved use of space.

Cabinet approved the recommendations which were, essentially, to apply to the London Development Fund for funding, but the decision was called-in and considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board on 8 December. The Board upheld the requisition and the report was reconsidered by Cabinet at its meeting on 16 December.

Cabinet acknowledged the concerns of the Board but re-stated its decision to proceed on the basis of the original recommendations as the report was essentially to apply for funding at this stage and that more detailed reports would follow concerning specific details as they became available.

Cabinet acknowledged that Overview and Scrutiny would have a significant contribution to make on this project which would define the Market for the future as the transformational plan would see a fundamental change in the way Romford Market looked, felt, was managed and operated as well as changes to the Market Place itself and how it would be used on both market and non-market days.

Cabinet accordingly refers to Council for its approval the following recommendation:

The appointment of architects to cost and develop full proposals for the physical development of the Market Place be approved along with the allocation of £1m Council capital funding of the programme subject to securing sufficient match-funding from other sources and subject to a business case being signed-off by the Finance Business Partner and Group Director, Communities & Resources in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment.