NOTICE OF MOTION - CLLR I JOHNSON - YORK ROAD PROJECT

Executive Summary

At its meeting on 11 February 2021, the Council referred the following Notice of Motion to the Executive.

Councillor I Johnson

"That the Council, in relation to York Road Project

- a) appreciates the valuable work of the Project to support Woking's homeless people through its hostel, move on services and day facilities,
- b) recognises the need of the Project to find permanent modern facilities fit for the challenges of the future and
- c) resolves to work with the Project and a developer, potentially as part of the Housing Infrastructure Fund, to provide such facilities in, or near to, the town centre."

Officer Comment

"York Road Project (YRP) is an excellent and highly valued local charity, whose work is instrumental in supporting people off the streets and into settled homes. The Council has worked with them particularly closely over the last year to secure alternative night shelter premises at the Woking Hotel/HG Wells Centre through the pandemic. Through this strong partnership working, we have also successfully prepared funding bids to Government, which have benefitted both the Council and YRP.

YRP was heavily involved in the design of the proposed night shelter as part of the wider development in Goldsworth Road, which was to provide them with a modern and bespoke facility for the future. The Council had already committed capital funding towards it. Unfortunately, the application was refused at Planning Committee, which has resulted in this uncertainty for the charity.

York Road Project offers a vital local service and should be supported in delivering a long-term solution."

Background Papers: None.

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