

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in the **Council Chamber, Spennymoor Council Offices, Green Lane, Spennymoor, Co Durham, DL16 6JQ** on **Wednesday 18 March 2015** at **10.00 am**

### **Present:**

**Councillor S Henig (Leader of the Council) in the Chair**

### **Members of Cabinet:**

Councillor J Brown, N Foster, L Hovvells, O Johnson, A Napier, M Nicholls, M Plews, B Stephens and E Tomlinson

### **Also Present:**

Councillors J Allen, J Armstrong, D Bell, C Carr, P Conway, I Geldard, B Graham, A Surtees, R Todd and M Williams

### **1 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2015**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2015 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **2 Declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

### **3 Council Plan and Service Plans 2015-2018 - Report of Assistant Chief Executive [Key Decision: CORP/A/03/15/1]**

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided details of the draft Council Plan for 2015-18, for approval by Council on 1 April 2015 (for copy see file of minutes).

### **Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

### **4 School Admission Arrangements Academic Year 2016/2017 - Report of Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services [Key Decision: CAS/02/14]**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which presented the proposed admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2016/17 academic year (for copy see file of minutes).

The Leader advised that as Ms Llewellyn was not present a written response would be provided to the question she submitted in advance relating to Benfieldside Sure Start Centre.

Cabinet Members asked that their thanks be recorded to all who had been involved in this detailed and lengthy review.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**5 Review of Children's Centres in County Durham - Report of Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services [Key Decision: CAS/10/13]**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which reported on the consultation carried out between 31 July 2014 and 23 October 2014 on the future of Children's Centre services in County Durham and made recommendations on the future of the Children's Centre buildings and future service model (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**6 Proposal to Change the Age Range of Shotley Bridge Infant School from 4-7 to 4-11 from 1 September 2015 to create a Primary School and to close Shotley Bridge Junior School as a separate school on 31 August 2015 - Report of Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services [Key Decision: CAS/06/14]**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services, which sought to change the age range of Shotley Bridge Infant School from 4-7 to 4-11 from 1 September 2015 to create a Primary School and to close Shotley Bridge Junior School as a separate school on 31 August 2015 (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**7 Quarter 3 2014/15 Performance Management Report - Report of Assistant Chief Executive**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which presented progress against the Council's corporate basket of performance indicators and report other significant performance issues for the third quarter of 2014/15 covering the period October to December 2014 (for copy see file of minutes).

The report was commended by Cabinet Members, referring to the achievements that had been made in such difficult times. Specific mention was made of the high

levels of education attainment which were higher than the national and north east average, and the creation of 219 apprenticeships.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**8 Update on the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan 4 - Report of Assistant Chief Executive**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on the progress made at the end of December 2014 on the delivery of the 2014/15 to 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP 4) (for copy see file of minutes).

Despite the level of financial cuts imposed on the Authority, the plan remained on track and was attributable to all officers involved.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**9 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2014/15 for General Fund and Housing Revenue Account - Period to 31 December 2014 - Report of Corporate Director, Resources**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources which provided an updated forecast of 2014/15 revenue and capital outturn, based on the period to 31 December 2014 for the Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account which included updated forecasts for the Council Tax Collection Fund and Business Rates Collection Fund (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**10 Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report - Report of Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which presented the Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**11 Care Act and Adult Social Care Transformation Update - Report of Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which provided an update to Cabinet on the national and local development in relation to the implementation of the Care Act and the transformation of Adult Care Services (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**12 A690 Milburngate Bridge - Major Maintenance - Report of Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which informed Cabinet of the proposals to undertake major maintenance of Milburngate Bridge and the implications this will have on the highway network (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendation contained in the report be approved.