At a Special Meeting of the **CABINET** held in the Gala Theatre, Durham, on Wednesday, 13th February, 2008, at 2.00 p.m.

Present: Councillor Woods (in the Chair)

and Councillors Bell, Dickie, Jackson, Pitts, Rae, Southwell and Thomson.

Also Present: Councillors Colledge, Cowper, Holland, Howarth, McDonnell, Marsden, Mitchell, D. Smith, M.J.A. Smith, Stoddart, Wilkinson, Wolstenholme and Young.

489. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.

490. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Reynolds and van Zwanenberg.

Portfolio Member Recommendations or Items Requiring a Cabinet Decision

491. ANNUAL REVIEW OF FEES & CHARGES 2008/2009

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Director of Financial Services submitted a comprehensive report that set out the Fees and Charges that had been taken into account in the preparation of the 2008/2009 budgets, which would be considered by Council on 26th February, 2008. The purpose of the report was to provide Members with a schedule of the proposed Fees and Charges for 2008/2009.

Resolved: That the Schedule of Fees and Charges be approved.

492. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGETS 2008/2009

The Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Director of Financial Services submitted a comprehensive report that set out the Council's proposed budgets for 2008/2009 and indicated the Council Tax that Cabinet may recommend to Council. Cabinet's approval for the Revenue and Capital Budgets covering both General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account was sought.

Resolved: (i) That the Revenue, Capital and Leasing/Plant Replace Estimates for the General Fund as set out in the 2008/2009 Budget Report be approved.

(ii) That the Housing Revenue Account budget as set out in the 2007/08 Budget Report be approved.

(iii) That the rent for individual properties as determined by the rent restructuring calculation based on an average inflationary increase of 5.5% and allowing for the effects of rent convergence and limits be agreed.

(iv) That the Director of Financial Services be authorised to make any necessary transfers/provisions/adjustments when doing the 2007/2008 and 2008/09 Final Accounts.

(v) That the Director of Financial Services be authorised to suitably finance the General Fund/Housing Capital Programmes in 2007/08 and 2008/2009 in accordance with the budget framework.

The Meeting terminated at 2.10 p.m.