

## City of Durham

At a Special Meeting of the **CABINET** held in the Town Hall, Durham, on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2008, at 3.00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor Reynolds (in the Chair)  
and Councillors Bell, Jackson, Moderate, Pitts, Southwell, van Zwanenberg and Woods.

**Also Present:** Councillors Bartle, Carr, Cowper, Holland, Howarth, Kellett, Kelly, Marsden, Robinson, Simmons, D. Smith, M.J.A. Smith, Stoddart, Turnbull, Wilkes, Wilkinson and Young.

### **131. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.

### **132. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Thomson.

### **133. PRESENTATIONS**

The Head of Community Services gave members a presentation on Community Engagement.

Following a question and answer session, the Chairman thanked Mike Thompson for a very informative presentation.

### **Portfolio Member Recommendations or Items Requiring a Cabinet Decision**

#### **134. THE EARLY INTEGRATION OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FUNCTION ACROSS COUNTY DURHAM**

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration and the Head of Planning Services submitted a comprehensive report to request Member agreement to the early integration of all District and County Council work on the production of Local Development Frameworks in anticipation of the forthcoming creation of a unitary authority for County Durham and to establish an Interim Team to carry out this work. The Department of Communities and Local Government had now published draft regulations for consultation, which proposed an immediate transfer of responsibility for Local Development Framework preparation from the Districts to the County Council. This would also require the transitional authority to submit a revised Local Development Scheme by 30<sup>th</sup> September, which would replace all the existing Local Development Schemes.

**Resolved:** (i) That the formal cessation of direct work on the City of Durham Local Development Framework be approved.

(ii) That the early integration of the Local Development Framework function in line with The Department of Communities and Local Government draft transitional arrangements be approved.

(iii) That the creation of an Interim Team (including City of Durham Officers) to bring forward the new County-wide Local Development Framework, be approved.

(iv) That the interim appointment of a Strategic Planning Manager be approved.

**135. DESIGN BRIEF FOR FORMER ICE RINK**

The Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Regeneration and the Head of Planning Services submitted a comprehensive report to provide an update on progress regarding the finalisation of the brief and action being undertaken to realise the site's potential for redevelopment.

**Resolved:** (i) That the progress update be noted.

(ii) That the principles and parameters contained within the Brief be re-affirmed and supported.

(iii) That the Brief be finalised by the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with EDAW and the portfolio holder to reflect the outcome of stakeholder discussions.

**136. LEADER'S BUSINESS**

The Leader of the Council gave Members an update on the Freeman's Quay Leisure Centre and presented to Councillor Bell a certificate of appreciation and a small gift in recognition of the time, effort and support he had given to the project.

The Meeting terminated at 3.50 p.m.

Chair