

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

AT A MEETING of the **CABINET** held at the County Hall, Durham on **THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2009** at **10.00 a.m.**

PRESENT

COUNCILLOR HENIG in the Chair

Cabinet Members:

Councillors Hodgson, Hovvels, E Huntington, Nicholls, Robson, Stephens, Vasey and B Young.

Other Members:

Councillors Armstrong, Arthur, Boyes, Chaplow, Hancock, N Harrison, G Huntington, O Johnson, Martin, O'Donnell, R Ord, Shuttleworth, Southwell, Stelling, Stradling, Thompson, Todd, Walker, Wilkes, Wilkinson, Williams and Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Foster and Tomlinson.

A1 Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held on 29 January and 5 February 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

A2 Declarations of interest

None declared.

A3 LGR Update

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Chief Executive (for copy see file of Minutes) providing an update on progress with LGR. In addition the Chief Executive also informed Members that John Healey MP Secretary of State for Local Government had visited County Durham last week to receive an update on progress at first hand.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

**A4 Interim Sustainable Community Strategy
[Key Decision Corp/CEO/03/08]**

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (for copy see file of Minutes) about the County Durham Interim Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and outlining the next steps in finalising the SCS. It was emphasised that the process of review, refinement and consultation will begin following Vesting Day.

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the Report be agreed.

A5 Statutory Officer Appointments in Outgoing Authorities

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Acting Director of Corporate Services (for copy see file of Minutes) seeking approval to making appropriate staff available to District Councils in the run up to Vesting Day.

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the Report be agreed.

A6 Corporate Risk Management in the Quarter Period October to December 2008

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Corporate Director, Resources on behalf of Corporate Risk Management Group (for copy see file of Minutes) providing an insight into the work carried out by the Corporate Risk Manager and the Corporate Risk Management Group during the period October - December 2008. The report also responds to the Key Lines of Enquiry in the Use of Resources element of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment. Risks are assessed and managed at both a service and corporate level. Throughout the report all risks are reported as Net Risk, which is based on an assessment of the impact and likelihood of the risk occurring with existing controls in place.

The Corporate Director, Resources provided a number of points of clarification, in response to questions from Members.

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the Report be agreed.

A7 Murton Community Primary School Organisation: The Outcomes of Consultation with I on the Proposal to Increase the Size of the School from 1 September 2009

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services (for copy see file of Minutes) about the outcomes of

consultation on the proposal to increase the size of Murton Community Primary School by 60 places from 1 September 2009, commenting on these responses in the context of statutory guidance and recommending the next steps.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the Report be agreed.

A8 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That under Section 100 A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12 A to the said Act.

B9 Contract for the Supply and Installation of Aural and Visual Teaching Aids

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Acting Director of Corporate Services (for copy see file of Minutes) about the awarding of a contract for the supply of Aural and Visual Teaching Aids for a two year period commencing 1 April 2009 with an option to extend for a further two years.

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the Report be agreed.

**B10 Building Schools for the Future: Appointment of Selected Bidder and Finalise and Award of the Contract
[Key Decision LLL/CYPS/02/09]**

The Cabinet considered a Report of the Building Schools for the Future Project Board (for copy see file of Minutes) on the progress of the Building Schools for the Future programme, and specifically requesting approval to -

- Appoint the selected bidder,
- Authorise the Project Board to proceed to Financial Close, and
- Finalise and award the contracts outlined.

In the ensuing discussion Members were informed of the robust mechanisms that were to be put in place to oversee the delivery of the contract, including a Strategic Partnership Board with senior officer and member representation.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the Report be agreed.