

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in Council Chamber, Spennymoor - Council Offices, Spennymoor on **Wednesday 13 March 2019 at 10.00 am**

Present:

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

Cabinet Members:

Councillors A Napier (Deputy Leader of the Council), J Allen, O Gunn, L Hovvels, O Johnson, K Shaw and B Stephens

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jane Brown and Councillor Carl Marshall

Also Present:

Councillors J Clare, A Surtees, A Savory, J Shuttleworth and T Tucker

1 Public Questions

A response was provided to the question submitted from Councillor Roger Cornwell of the City of Durham Parish Council about the site for the erection of a new headquarters office.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Declarations of interest

Councillor Savory, a local county councillor for the Weardale division who was a registered speaker in relation to item 4 on the agenda declared an interest in relation to her position as a school governor of Wolsingham School and Technology College, and other schools in the area.

4 Review of School Provision - Wolsingham School and Sixth Form: Future Options for Education in the Weardale Community

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services and the Corporate Director of Resources which provided an update on the work that has been undertaken as part of the review of education provision in County Durham which was agreed by Cabinet on 15 November 2017.

The report made recommendations in relation to Wolsingham School and Sixth Form which could affect other schools and education provision in general in the wider Weardale area (for copy see file of minutes).

Councillor O Gunn, Cabinet portfolio holder for Children and Young People's Services responded to the questions submitted by Councillors Savory and Shuttleworth, members of the public, and comments made by a representative of Stanhope Parish Council. Written responses would be provided to those members of the public who had submitted questions in advance and not attended the meeting in person.

Councillor Gunn emphasised that the county council were fully committed to continue working with the schools and the community to find a long term sustainable solution to the issues of financial viability of the school, and that there were two viable options set out in the report which she asked the community to focus on. She thanked all those who had been involved in the review for discussing and sharing their views.

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

5 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2018/19 - Period to 31 December 2018

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources which provided information on the:

- a) updated forecast revenue and capital outturn for 2018/19;
- b) updated forecast for the council tax and business rates collection fund position at 31 March 2019;
- c) updated forecast use of earmarked, cash limit and general reserves and estimated balances to be held at 31 March 2019.

The report also sought approval of the budget adjustments and proposed sums outside of the cash limit (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

6 Update on the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan 8

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which provided an update on progress made at the end of December 2018 on the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP8) (for copy see file of minutes).

Cabinet members thanked members and officers for their hard work in continually delivering savings.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

7 Quarter Three 2018/19 Performance Management Report

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which presented progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

8 Annual Review of the Constitution

The Cabinet considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which presented proposals for the revision of the Council's Constitution, with the full amendments being set out in appendix 9 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

9 County Durham Health and Social Care Plan Update

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services which described a developing Health and Social Care Plan for the County and a progress update on the development of an Integrated Strategic Commissioning function (for copy see file of minutes).

Welcomed to the meeting was Dr Stewart Findley of the NHS Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group. Cabinet members noted that the report would also be presented to the governing bodies of both North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

10 Council Activity Report

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Local Partnerships which provided an update on work undertaken to support some of the Council's key priorities (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.