

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held at the County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 16 November 2011 at 10.00 a.m.**

Present:

Councillor S Henig in the Chair

Cabinet Members:

Councillors Foster, Hovvells, Napier, Nicholls, Plews, Robson, Stephens, Vasey and B Young.

Other Members:

Councillors Arthur, N Harrison, D Myers, Naylor, R Ord, Shuttleworth, Temple, Wilkinson and Williams.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 12 and 27 October 2011 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillor C Vasey, in respect of minute 12, declared an interest in her capacity as a Governor of the North Durham Academy.

Councillor L Hovvells, in respect of minute 15, declared an interest in her capacity as a member of the Police Authority.

3 Surface Water Management Plan Key Decision NS/10/11

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services that provided an update on the progress on the content of the Surface Water Management Plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

4 Winter Maintenance: State of Preparedness for 2011-2012 and Winter Service Plan Update

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services that provided an update on the improvements and state of preparedness for winter 2011-2012, together with details of the annual Winter Service Plan 2011-2012 for approval and adoption (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor D Myers, Chairman of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee, welcomed the report, and was pleased that it incorporated the recommendations that had been made by the scrutiny working group.

Cabinet members thanked officers and scrutiny members for the work undertaken.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

5 Olympic and Paralympic Programme

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services that set out options with regards to funding commitments linked to the Olympic Torch Relay and Durham County Council's proposals with regards to an Olympic and Paralympic programme, and lasting legacy offer (for copy see file of Minutes).

Cabinet members were delighted that the torch would go through 20 villages in County Durham over a three day period. It was pointed out that further details would be released nearer the time about the event that would be held in Durham city.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

6 Mid-Year Report on Treasury Management Service

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources which provided for the revisions to the regulatory framework of treasury management that had introduced a requirement that the Council receive a mid year treasury review, in addition to the forward looking annual treasury strategy and backward looking annual treasury report required previously (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

7 Forecast of General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Revenue and Capital Outturn 2011/12 – Period to 30 September 2011

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources that provided a forecast of 2011/12 revenue outturn for the period to 30 September 2011. The report updates the information presented to Cabinet on 22 September and incorporates the recommended changes to cash limits within Service Groupings agreed at that time (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

8 Review of Discretionary Council Tax Discount on Long Term Empty Properties

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources that proposed an amendment to the current policy on Council Tax discount for Long Term Empty Properties, reducing the discount from 50% to nil with effect from 1 April 2012 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

9 County Durham Partnership Review

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that provided an overview of the County Durham Partnership Away Day which took place on 7 September 2011 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the report be received.

10 Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Adults, Wellbeing and Health that provided the current position of the County Durham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2010/11 and plans for the future (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the report be received.

11 County Durham Health and Wellbeing Partnership: Altogether Healthier Delivery Plan Report – County Durham Health Inequalities Strategy

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Adults, Wellbeing and Health on the refresh of the Altogether Healthier Delivery Plan (2011-2013), which represents the Health Inequalities Strategy for County Durham, which was approved by the Health and Wellbeing Partnership on 19 July 2011 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the report be received.

12 North Durham Academy Contract Award

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services which advised that all contracts for the design and build of the North Durham Academy, including all ICT contracts (the NDA Contracts) have been awarded to and completed with Durham County Council's Local Education Partner on 15 September 2011 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

13 Employment Land Review

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which highlighted the key findings and recommendations of the recently completed County Durham Employment Land Review (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

14 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 paragraphs 1,2, and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

15 Land at Italby Paddock, Burnhope

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development relating to land at Italby Paddock, Burnhope (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.