

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held at the Town Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 7 March 2012 at 10.00 a.m.**

Present:

Councillor A Napier in the Chair

Cabinet Members:

Councillors Foster, Hovvels, Nicholls, Plews, Robson, Stephens, Vasey and B Young

Other Members:

Councillors Armstrong, Bailey, Blakey, Chaplow, Laing, C Marshall, Stradling, D J Southwell, Temple, Todd, Wilkes and Williams

An apology for absence was received from Councillor S Henig

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 25 January and 8 February 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Street Naming and Numbering Policy Key Decision NS/17/12

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which sought endorsement of the draft policy covering Durham County Council's statutory duty for Street Naming and Numbering (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

4 Stanley Town Centre Masterplan Key Decision R&ED/01/12

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development that sought approval for the Stanley Town Centre Masterplan and to establish timescales for the delivery of the initial elements of the

proposed regeneration programme. Subject to approval of the masterplan, approval was also sought to the principle of the use of Compulsory Purchase Powers to facilitate the completion of land acquisition needed to implement a consented development highlighted in the masterplan (for copy see file of Minutes).

Support for the Town Centre masterplan was received at the meeting from Councillor C Marshall, Mr P McLaughlin, Chair of Stanley AAP, and Ms C Bell, Chair of Stanley Traders' Association.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**5 School Admission Arrangements September 2013 and Beyond
Key Decision: CYPS/05/12**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services to consider the proposed admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2013/14 academic year and beyond (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

6 Examination and Test Results 2011

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services that set out the nationally validated results from Key Stage 2 tests and GCSE (and equivalent) examinations for 2011. These are seen as the key outcome measures for Primary and Secondary education respectively (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor Vasey, and other cabinet members congratulated the Corporate Director, and Dave Ford, the Head of Achievement Services for the tremendous work undertaken, and asked for their thanks to be conveyed to Dave Ford, who was to retire from the service shortly.

In response to Councillor Temple, Councillor Vasey provided information requested on GCSE and equivalent qualifications, and to the recent announcement on the changes to the classification of GCSE equivalents.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

7 Quarter 3 2011/12 Performance Management Report

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that set out progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators (PIs) and reported other significant performance issues for the third quarter of 2011/12, and sought agreement to make changes to the Council Plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor J Armstrong, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board advised of the work undertaken by one of the scrutiny committees on the issue of empty homes. Responses were made to Councillor Wilkes on his questions relating to the number of apprenticeships in the County, and targets relating to empty homes, and to Councillor Bailey on the performance of buses.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

8 Bus Service Retendering

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development that outlined the planned programme for retendering of bus services during the coming year and highlighted the key issues and risks (for copy see file of Minutes).

In response to questions from Councillors Bailey and Wilkes, clarification was provided on service quality, penalty clauses, and regulations relating to the tendering process.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

9 Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2011

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Adults, Wellbeing and Health, Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services, and Director of Public Health County Durham that provided the key messages from the County Durham Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2011, and an update on how the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is used in health and social care plans and strategies, including the development of the County Durham Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

10 Transfer of Public Health Functions to the Local Authority

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Adults, Wellbeing and Health, Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services, and Director of Public Health, NHS County Durham that sought agreement on the public health transition arrangements which are included in the NHS County Durham and Darlington Public Health Transition Plan 2012-2013, and the date of transfer of public health functions to Durham County Council (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.