

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held at the County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 30 May 2012 at 10.00 a.m.**

Present:

Councillor S Henig in the Chair

Cabinet Members:

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

Other Members:

Councillors Armstrong, Dixon, Graham, N Harrison, Shuttleworth, Stradling and Williams

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 April 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Revitalising Markets within County Durham Key Decision NH/06/11

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services, and Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development that presented the findings of the County Durham market review and which sought approval of the draft strategy for 'Revitalising Markets' within County Durham' for public consultation, and options for the future management and operation of markets across the county for further consideration (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

4 Welfare Reform

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that advised of the Government's welfare reform agenda and the implications for County Durham and the Council (for copy see file of Minutes).

Cabinet members spoke at length about the significant impact that the reform would have on families and local business both in County Durham and the region, especially with the difficulties already faced in the current economic climate. Officers were thanked for the work they had undertaken in producing such a comprehensive report. Due to the importance of this agenda, a presentation would be given at the next full Council in order to make all members aware of the impact of this policy development.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

5 Durham Tourism Management Plan 2012-2016

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development that sought endorsement for the Durham Tourism Management Plan 2012-16 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

6 Visit County Durham Business and Operational Plan 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2014

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development that presented the updated Visit County Durham Business and Operational Plan 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2014 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

7 The National Planning Policy Framework and the Impact on the County Durham Plan

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development that presented key elements of the newly published final National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). It also identified the specific impacts on the County Durham Plan including changes to its structure and a new timetable, which will be set out in a revised Local Development Scheme. In addition, it set out how the Council intends to deal with development proposals at this time of national change to planning policy (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Corporate Director, and his officers, together with the cabinet portfolio holder who had lead the project group, were thanked for all their hard work in taking this forward.

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

8 Design and Development Brief for Milburngate House, Durham City

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which sought approval of the Milburngate House Design and Development Brief for use in planning and related matters (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

9 Implications for Durham County Council on the Government's Policy Programme

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive that provided an update on the major policy developments and announcements since the last report in December, and analysed the implications for the Council and County Durham (for copy see file of Minutes).

Cabinet noted the vast number of policy development areas from the government, and expressed concern at the significant impact that some of the policies would have on County Durham, and the region.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

10 County Durham Partnership Update

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on issues being addressed by the County Durham Partnership (CDP) Board, the five Thematic Partnerships and all Area Action Partnerships (AAPs). It also included updates on other key initiatives being carried out in partnership across the County (for copy see file of Minutes).

Members commented on the unprecedented levels of attendance at some of the events, and public meetings organised by AAPs, which emphasised their success.

Resolved:-

That the report be noted.

11 Children, Young People and Families Plan 2012-2016

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services that presented the final draft of the Children, Young People's and Families Plan 2012-2016 before approval by full Council (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

12 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 12A to the said Act.

13 Acquisition of Land at Woodham Community Technology College

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development relating to the Acquisition of Land at Woodham Community Technology College (for copy see file of Minutes).

Resolved:-

That the report together with the recommendations included therein be approved.