

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Wednesday 13 September 2017 at 10.00 am**

Present:

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

Members of the Committee:

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

Apologies:

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jane Brown

Also Present:

Councillors H Bennett, J Clare, R Crute, S Dunn, I Jewell, L Maddison, M McKeon, A Patterson and J Shuttleworth

1 Public Questions

There were no public questions.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair

3 Declarations of interest

In relation to item 4 Councillor C Marshall declared an interest as an employee of Durham Community Action.

4 Sugar Smart Programme

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services which provided an update on the Sugar Smart programme following a countywide launch (for copy see file of minutes).

Cabinet members welcomed the launch of this initiative.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

5 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2017/18

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Resources which provided information on the forecast revenue and capital outturn for 2017/18, the forecast for the Council's Council Tax and Business Rates Collection Fund position at 31 March 2018, and the use of earmarked, cash limit and general reserves (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

6 Children's Services Update - Quality Improvement Board (QIB) One Year On -

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which examined progress to date against the improvement activity across the Children and Young People's Services following the Ofsted Inspection which took place between February and March 2016 (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Cabinet members spoke of the excellent work that had been taken in this area, and congratulated all those involved for their hard work.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

7 Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service Model

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services which provided an overview of the new model for the Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service and sought Cabinet approval for the tender process for drug and alcohol services (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Those involved were commended for their work in this area, particularly the staff working in this field who have already encountered changes to their working practices.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

8 Locomotion

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Local Services which sought approval to enter into new management arrangements at Locomotion (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Cabinet members spoke of the success of Locomotion and its national status.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

9 Update on the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan 7

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which provided an update on the progress made at the end of June 2017 on the delivery of the 2017/18 Medium Term Financial Plan 7 (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Staff were congratulated for the continuation of high level of service provided despite the cuts made during austerity which continues.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

10 Quarter One 2017/18 Performance Management Report

The Cabinet considered a report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships which presented progress against the Council's corporate performance framework by Altogether priority theme for the first quarter of the 2017/18 financial year (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

11 Welfare reform and poverty issues

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Director of Transformation and Partnerships and the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services which provided an update on welfare reform with a particular focus on the latest developments in relation to Universal Credit and the work the council and its partners are doing in relation to child poverty (for copy of report see file of minutes).

Members spoke at length about the impact that welfare reform was having on residents in County Durham, and of the measures that the Authority was taking to assist residents in conjunction with its partners.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.