

# **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

## **CABINET**

At a meeting of **Cabinet** held in the **Council Chamber, County Hall, Durham** on **Wednesday 15 September 2021 at 9.30 am**

### **Present:**

**Councillor A Hopgood, Leader of the Council in the Chair**

### **Cabinet Members:**

Councillors R Bell, T Henderson, J Rowlandson, E Scott, A Shield, J Shuttleworth and M Wilkes

### **Apologies:**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S McDonnell and P Sexton

### **Also Present:**

Councillors B Avery, R Crute, O Gunn, L Holmes, C Hood, P Jopling, C Marshall and K Shaw

## **1 Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

## **2 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2021 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## **3 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations.

## **4 County Durham Plan: Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document [Key Decision: REG/04/21]**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to commence consultation on the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document which supports the recently adopted County Durham Plan (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**5 NETPark Phase 3 Development Funding  
[Key Decision: REG/05/21]**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to finance the development of a third phase of NETPark, together with authorising the next stage of the programme to appoint a design and build delivery partner (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**6 Treasury Management Outturn 2020/21**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Interim Corporate Director of Resources which provided information on the treasury management outturn position for 2020/21 (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**7 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2021/22 - Period to 30 June 2021 and Update on Progress towards achieving MTFP(11) savings**

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

- (a) forecast revenue and capital outturn for 2021/22, based on the position to 30 June 2021;
- (b) forecast for the council tax and business rates collection fund position at 31 March 2022, based on the position to 30 June 2021; and
- (c) forecast use of and contributions to earmarked, cash limit and general reserves in 2021/22 and the estimated balances to be held at 31 March 2022.

The report also sought approval of the revised capital programme, other budget adjustments and proposed sums treated as outside of the cash limit in year. The Cabinet was also provided with an update on progress towards achieving MTFP(12) savings in 2021/22 (for copy see file of Minutes).

Cabinet members thanked officers for all their hard work.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**8 Discharge of Transport Functions by Durham County Council 2020/21**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which provided information on the transport activity carried out by the Council under delegation originally from the North East Combined Authority (NECA) which has continued under the North East Joint Transport Committee (for copy see file of Minutes).

Thanks were made to the transport team of DCC, and all of the service providers who worked to continue to provide services during this difficult period, which included the front-line public transport services and staff.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**9 Maintained Schools Budget Plans and Permission to Set Deficit Budgets 2021/22**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Services and the Interim Corporate Director of Resources which provided an overview of maintained schools' initial budget plans for 2021/22 as agreed by the relevant Governing Bodies. The report highlighted where the Interim Corporate Director of Resources had exercised his judgement in terms of approving the setting of deficit budgets, in accordance with the Council's constitution and the Scheme of Financing for Schools. The report also included details of changes to sparsity funding for the 2022/23 funding formula and a consultation about the future of locally set funding formulas, which is currently considered via the Schools Forum (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor Bell provided a detailed response to a question from Councillor Gunn about the pupil premium funding, and the impact on school budgets.

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**10 A Patient Group Direction Policy for Durham County Council**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Adult and Health Services and the Director of Public Health on the adoption of the Patient Group Direction Policy (PGD) (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**11 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 item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely discussion of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**12 NETPark Phase 3 Development Funding  
[Key Decision: REG/05/21]**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to finance development of a third phase of NETPark, together with authorising the next stage of the programme to appoint a design and build delivery partner (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations in the report be approved.