County Council

21 June 2023

Report from the Cabinet



Electoral division(s) affected:

ΑII

Purpose of the Report

To provide information to the Council on issues considered by the Cabinet at its meetings held on 19 April, 17 May and 31 May 2023 to enable Members to ask related questions by no later than midday 3 working days before the day of the meeting

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19 April 2023

1. Consultation on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan 4 (ROWPI4) - Cabinet Portfolio Holders - Councillor John Shuttleworth, Portfolio Holder for Rural Communities and Highways and Councillor E Scott, Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration and Partnerships

We considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods and Climate Change and the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to begin a 12-week public consultation on the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plan 4 (ROWIP4).

Decision

We

- a) agreed the content of the report and the Rights of Way Improvement Plan 4 (2023-2033);
- b) agreed to a 12-week public consultation on the draft ROWIP4 as set out in Appendix 2;
- c) agreed that another report would be brought to Cabinet covering the consultation feedback and the adoption of the final ROWIP4.
- 2. Corporate Asset Management Plan 2023-2025 Cabinet Portfolio Holder Councillor James Rowlandson, Portfolio Holder for Resources, Investment and Assets

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which presented the Corporate Asset Management Plan for 2023-2025, setting out how the property portfolio would support the Council's corporate priorities and objectives and providing the direction for the ongoing management of the portfolio over the next two years.

Decision

We

- (a) approved the Corporate Asset Management Plan 2023-2025;
- (b) agreed to the continued development of a second stage Corporate Asset Management Plan to be presented to Cabinet in 2025.

17 May 2023

Submission of Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document and Revised Statement of Community Involvement - Key Decision REG/02/2023 -Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Councillor Elizabeth Scott, Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration and Partnerships

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which advised Cabinet on the representations received following the final statutory consultation on the Publication Draft of the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document (M&WDPD) and to sought approval to recommend that Council agree the Publication Draft of

the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document for Submission.

The report also sought approval of a revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which set out how stakeholders were involved in local plan and neighbourhood plan preparation and the determination of planning applications.

Decision

We

- (i) Considered the representations received during the final statutory consultation on the Publication draft of the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document;
- (ii) Authorised formal submission of the of the Minerals and Waste Policies and Allocations Development Plan Document at Appendix 2 and associated submission documentation to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012; and
- (iii) Authorised the Corporate Director of Regeneration Economy and Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration to:
 - approve the submission of the documents required to be submitted alongside the M&WDPD to the Secretary of State as required by Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for consideration at public examination;
 - 2. agree statements of common ground with neighbouring authorities and other interested parties in order to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working;
 - continue discussions with interested parties and suggest to the Inspector any edits and consequential changes necessary following Council approval up to and during the Examination; and
- (iv) Authorised the Corporate Director of Regeneration Economy and Growth to ask the Inspector appointed to hold the Examination in Public to recommend modifications to the M&WDPD Publication Draft under Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 necessary to satisfy the requirements of Section 20(5b) of the Act and make the document sound.
- (v) Agreed the Statement of Consultation at Appendix 3;
- (vi) Agreed the amendments identified in the 'Schedule of Minor (Additional) Modifications' at Appendix 4; and
- (vii) Agreed the Waste Technical Paper (Appendix 5) and an updated County Durham Local Aggregate Assessment (Appendix 6).

(viii) Adopted the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) at Appendix 8;

2 Solar Energy Supplementary Planning Document - Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Councillor Elizabeth Scott, Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration and Partnerships

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to commence consultation on the first draft of the Solar Energy Supplementary Planning Document. The document supported the County Durham Plan, adopted in October 2020.

Decision:

We agreed the first draft of the Solar Energy Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix 2) for consultation from 29 May to 9 July 2023.

3 Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document - Cabinet Portfolio Holder – Councillor Elizabeth Scott, Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration and Partnerships

We considered a report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth which sought approval to commence consultation on the latest draft of the Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document. The document supported the County Durham Plan, adopted in October 2020.

Decision

We

- (a) agreed the draft of the Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document (Appendix 2) for consultation from 29 May to 9 July 2023; and
- (b) agreed to delegate to the Corporate Director of Regeneration, Economy and Growth in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Regeneration and Partnerships the power to make minor modifications and adopt the Parking and Accessibility Supplementary Planning Document following consultation.

31 May 2023

 North East Devolution - Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Councillor Amanda Hopgood, Leader of the Council

We considered a report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on the outcome of public consultation which the councils have undertaken in relation to proposals for North East Devolution. The report sought approval to submit the consultation report to the Secretary of State as the next step in the process of establishing the new mayoral combined authority and to agree in principle to consent to the Secretary of State establishing an Order to create the new Mayoral Combined Authority.

Decision:

We:

- (a) considered the content of the report and the attached consultation report at Appendix 2;
- (b) agreed that the consultation that had been undertaken was sufficient for the purposes of the legislation and that the findings set out in the consultation report demonstrated that the statutory criteria (referred to in paragraph 9 of the report) had been met;
- (c) agreed that the consultation report should be submitted to the Secretary of State so that the Secretary of State could:
 - (i) consider whether they are satisfied that the consultation has been sufficient and that the statutory criteria have been met; and
 - (ii) (if so satisfied) request Parliament to make an order to abolish the existing combined authorities and establish NEMCA;
- (d) agreed in principle to consent to the making of the necessary statutory order; and
- (e) agreed that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of Council, be authorised to take all steps necessary to implement the above proposals, including (but not limited to) finalising the terms of the consultation report which is submitted to the Secretary of State.

Background Papers

Cabinet Agenda and Reports

Cabinet - 19 April 2023

Cabinet - 17 May 2023

Special Cabinet - 31 May 2023

Councillor A Hopgood, Leader of the Council 13 June 2023