

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 10 October 2012 at 10.00 a.m.**

### **Present:**

**Councillor A Napier (in the Chair)**

### **Cabinet Members:**

Councillors Foster, Hovvells, Nicholls, Plews, Robson, Stephens and Vasey

### **Apologies:**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Henig and B Young

### **Also Present:**

Councillors J Armstrong, B Graham, J Gray, N Harrison, E Huntington and R Todd.

### **1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2012 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3 Medium Term Financial Plan (3), Council Plan and Service Plans 2013/14 - 2016/17**

**[Key Decision: Corp/A/10/12/1]**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Resources and Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on the following:

- (i) 2013/14 Budget Planning and Changes since 11 July Cabinet Report.
- (ii) The Government proposed Business Rate Retention Scheme and its impact on Durham.
- (iii) Development of 2013/14 – 2016/17 MTFP (3) Model.
- (iv) Development of Council Plan and Service Plans.
- (v) Equality Impact Assessments.
- (vi) Consultation Process.

The report further sought approval for Corporate Directors to continue to utilise delegated powers where relevant to action savings plans to ensure financial targets are met (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**4 Implications for Durham County Council of the Government's Policy Programme**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on the major policy developments and announcements, following the report which was considered by Cabinet on 30 May 2012, on the implications of the Coalition Government's policy programme (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**5 County Durham Partnership Update**

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

**Resolved:-**

That the report be noted.

**6 Corporate Peer Challenge**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which set out the key findings of the recent peer challenge visit by the Local Government Association and identified key areas for future development (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

## **7 A167 / B6300 Sunderland Bridge Junction Improvement**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which sought authority to:-

- (i) Make a Compulsory Purchase Order under the provisions of sections 239 and 240 of the Highways Act 1980 and Acquisition of Land Act 1981 in order to acquire the land required for the construction of a new roundabout at the A167/B6300 Sunderland Bridge junction;
- (ii) To make a Side Roads Order under section 14 of the Highways Act 1980 in order to stop up sections of Highway cross or enter the new highway layout.

(for copy see file of Minutes).

### **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 which presented the outcome of the retendering of bus services, and key issues and risks (for copy see file of Minutes).

### **Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

## **9 New Tenancy Strategy and Tenancy Policy for Durham County Council**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which sought approval of two new housing papers:-

- (i) The County Durham tenancy strategy
- (ii) The tenancy strategy policy for Durham County Council's housing stock.

(for copy see file of Minutes).

### **Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

## **10 Transfer of Public Health Functions to Durham County Council**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services and Director of Public Health which provided an update on recent developments with regards to the transfer of public health functions from NHS County Durham to Durham County Council by 1st April 2013 (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**11 NHS Reforms**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which provided an update on recent developments in relation to NHS reforms (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:-**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.