

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in Council Chamber, Crook on **Wednesday 16 January 2013 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

### **Also Present:**

Councillor Armstrong, Arthur, Murphy, D Myers, Shuttleworth, and Tomlinson.

### **1 Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings held on 12 and 19 December 2012 were confirmed 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/10/12/01**

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

- (i) The Local Government Finance Settlement and its impact upon the 2013/14 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan for 2013/14 – 2016/17 (MTFP 3)
- (ii) MTFP 3 Consultation
- (iii) Council Plan and Service Plans
- (iv) Equality Impact Assessments

(for copy see file of minutes).

Cabinet members spoke at length about the difficult decisions they were required to make due to the continued level of unprecedented reductions in Government grants. Representations continue to be made to the Government by this Authority and others in the north east, on the scale of the cuts to the region.

Officers were congratulated on the work they had undertaken in such short a timescale with the announcement of the settlement being at the end of December.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**4 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 which presented the findings of the public consultation on the draft strategy for 'Revitalising Markets' within County Durham and sought approval of the revised strategy. The report also informed of the outcome of soft market testing exercise and next steps in delivering the key priorities set out within the revised strategy (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**5 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 implications of the Coalition Governments policy programme and major policy developments and announcements since the last update in October 2012. The report further analysed the implications for the Council and County Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**6 Overview and Scrutiny Review - Reducing the Council's Carbon Emissions**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which presented a report and recommendations from the Council's Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee that looked at the Council's approach to reducing carbon emissions.

Councillor D Myers, Chairman of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the report to Cabinet, and provided detail on the scope of the review and its findings. The Group welcomed the involvement it had received from members, officers and partners.

Cabinet members thanked the committee for the review work, and would provide a response to their findings in line with the recommendations in the report.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**7 Mid-Year Report for the period to 30 September 2012 on Treasury Management Service**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Resources which presented a mid year treasury review in line with the regulatory framework of treasury management (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**8 NHS reforms and the transfer of public health functions to Durham County Council**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director of Children & Adults Services and Director of Public Health County Durham which provided an update on recent developments in relation to NHS reforms, including the transfer of public health functions to Durham County Council from NHS County Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**9 Annual Report of Local Safeguarding Children Board 2012/13**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Children and Adults Service which shared for information the Annual Report of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

**10 125 Year Lease to the Woodland Burial Trust CIC at South Road Cemetery, Durham**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development and Corporate Director Neighbourhood Services which sought approval to grant a 125 year Lease to the Woodland Burial Trust to occupy Council land for use as a natural burial site at South Road Cemetery, Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.