

## **DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL**

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham on **Wednesday 13 March 2013 at 10.00 a.m.**

### **Present:**

**Councillor S Henig (Leader of the Council)**

### **Members of the Committee:**

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

### **Apologies:**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B Young

### **Also Present:**

Councillors Arthur, A Bainbridge, B Bainbridge, Blakey, Graham, Gray, Moran, R Ord, C Potts, Stradling and Wilkes

### **1 Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **2 Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings held on 16 January and 6 February 2013 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **3 Welfare Reform Update Key Decision CORP/A/03/1**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Assistant Chief Executive, Corporate Director Resources and Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development which provided an update on recent policy developments relating to the government's welfare reforms and what the council was doing to prepare for the implementation of those changes. The report further considered in more depth the recent guidance in relation to Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) and sought approval to a proposed approach to DHP (for copy see file of Minutes).

An amendment to the recommendations in the report was reported, in that the six went from a) to f), rather than c) to h).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report, amended as outlined above, be approved.

**4 Warm Up North; Arrangements and Governance  
Key Decision R&ED/06/13**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development which provided an update on progress of the Government's Green Deal programme and the development of a regional initiative, 'Warm Up North', which would be available for all residents to reduce energy consumption and would also provide focused training and social benefits within County Durham (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**5 Quarter 3 2012/13 Performance Management Report**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on progress against the council's corporate basket of performance indicators and other significant performance issues for the third quarter of 2013/13(for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**6 Update on the Delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which provided an update on the progress made at the end of December 2012 on the delivery of the 2012/13 to 2015/16 Medium Term Financial plan (MTFP 2) (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**7 Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Review of Empty Homes**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which presented the Draft Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny review report, which focused upon bringing empty homes back into use (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor J Moran, Chairman of the Economy and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the report to Cabinet, and provided detail on the scope of the review and its findings.

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

Councillor C Robson responded to the questions and comments made by Councillor M Wilkes, a participant of the review group, who was seeking clarification on the assistance that was being provided by the Authority for those who had empty properties.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**8 Joint Report of Children & Young People's & Adults Wellbeing & Health Joint Working Group, Support for Children and Young People with Mental Health Issues**

The Cabinet considered a joint report from the Council's Children and Young People's and Adults Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny committees that looked at support for children and young people with mental health issues (for copy see file of Minutes).

Councillor J Blakey, Chairman of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the report to Cabinet, and provided detail on the scope of the review and its findings.

Cabinet members thanked the scrutiny group for the review work, and agreed they 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.

**9 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2012/13 for General Fund and Housing Revenue Account - Period to 31 December 2012**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Resources which provided a forecast of 2012/13 revenue and capital outturn for the period to 31 December 2012 for the Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**10 Annual Review of the Constitution**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which presented proposals for the annual revision of the Council's Constitution (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**11 Health and Wellbeing Board**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services which sought approval and adoption of the composition, functions, and rules of procedure of the County Durham Health and Wellbeing Board (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**12 County Durham Youth Justice Plan 2012/14**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Adults Services which sought approval of the County Durham Youth Justice Plan 2012/14 (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**13 North East Local Transport Body Assurance Framework**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development which provided details of a delegated decision, made under the urgency provisions to agree the Assurance Framework under which the North East Local Transport Body (NELTB) would operate in line with DfT requirements for the management of developed local major transport scheme funding (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**14 Exclusion of the Public**

**Resolved:**

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

**15 Strategic Partnering Agreement for Capital Works within the Council Owned Housing Stock  
Key Decision R&ED/05/13**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development and Corporate Director Resources which provided details of the procurement arrangements for future delivery of the Council's social housing capital programme (for copy see file of Minutes).

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

**16 Durham County Cricket Club - Financial Support**

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director Regeneration and Economic Development and Corporate Director, Resources relating to financial support for Durham County Cricket Club (for copy see file of Minutes).

The Corporate Director, Resources provided clarification to the questions raised by Councillor Arthur.

**Resolved:**

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.