

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in **The Throne Room, Auckland Castle, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham** on **Wednesday 19 November 2014** at **10.00 am**

Present:

Councillor S Henig (Leader of the Council) in the Chair

Members of the Committee:

Councillors J Brown, N Foster, L Hovvels, O Johnson, A Napier, M Nicholls, B Stephens and E Tomlinson

Apologies:

An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Plews

Also Present:

Councillors J Clare, M Dixon, O Gunn, K Henig, J Lethbridge and A Surtees

1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15 October 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

2 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Proposal to Change the Age Range of Leadgate Junior School from 7-11 to 3-11 from 1 April 2015 to create a Primary School and to close Leadgate Infant and Nursery School as a separate school on 31 March 2015 **Key Decision: CAS/03/14**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which sought approval to change the age range of Leadgate Junior School from 7-11 to 3-11 from 1 April 2015 to create a Primary School and to close Leadgate Infant and Nursery School as a separate School on 31 March 2015 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

**4 Proposal to enlarge Greenfield Community College from 1 January 2015 and close Sunnydale Community College as a separate school on 31 December 2014
Key Decision: CAS/04/14**

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which sought approval to enlarge Greenfield Community College from 1 January 2015 and close Sunnydale Community College as a separate school on 31 December 2014 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

5 Forecast of Revenue and Capital Outturn 2014/15 for General Fund and Housing Revenue Account - Period to 30 September 2014

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources which provided a forecast of 2014/15 revenue and capital outturn, based on the period to 30 September 2014 for the Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The report also included the updated forecasts for the Collection Funds (Council Tax and Business Rates) (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

6 Mid-Year Report for the Period to 30 September 2014 on Treasury Management Service

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Resources which provided a mid-year treasury review, alongside a forward looking annual treasury strategy and backward looking performance, against the previous strategy (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

7 Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which presented the County Durham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2013/14 and Business Plan 2014/15 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the report be approved.

8 Children's Services Update

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which provided an update on the national and local developments in relation to Children's Services (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

9 The Manufacturing Sector in County Durham

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which reported on the importance and value of the engineering and manufacturing sector to the economy of County Durham and outlines opportunities to retain and create jobs and generate economic prosperity (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the report be approved.

10 Supporting the Private Rented Housing Sector

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which provided an overview of how resources are being targeted to contribute to improvements in the private rented housing sector, and, proposed the introduction of a Landlord Accreditation Scheme in the County (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations contained in the report be approved.

11 North East Industrial Estate, Peterlee - Project Update

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which provided a summary of progress made towards facilitating the redevelopment of North East Industrial Estate, Peterlee and requested Cabinet's approval to use compulsory purchase ('CPO') powers in order to acquire interests in property within the redevelopment area (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendation contained in the report be approved.

12 Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Customer First Task and Finish Group Review

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which presented the Corporate Issues Overview and Scrutiny Committee Customer First Task and Finish Group report (for copy see file of minutes).

Councillor Lethbridge, Chairman of the Corporate Issues 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 would provide a response to their findings in line with the recommendations in the report.

Resolved:

That the recommendation contained in the report be approved.

13 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 Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the said Act.

14 Development of Market Housing on Council Land - Project Update

The Cabinet considered a Joint report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development and the Corporate Director, Resources which provided Cabinet with an update on progress for the council to develop and manage a programme of market housing for rent and sale on its own land (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

The recommendations contained in the report be approved.

Signed by Councillor

Chair of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 December 2014