

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Cabinet** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **11 May 2016** at **10.00 am**

Present:

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

Members of the Committee:

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

Also Present:

Councillors D Boyes, J Clare, P Conway, M Dixon, D Freeman, B Graham, I Geldard, B Kellett, A Liversidge, H Nicholson, A Surtees, K Thompson and J Turnbull

1 Public Questions

Drew Watson referred to the current consultation on the youth service review and asked that the proposals to reduce the youth service be dropped and to allow the continuation of open access youth work. It was confirmed that his comments would be fed into the consultation.

2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2016 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

3 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 North East Combined Authority: Decision on Proposed Devolution Agreement Key Decision: CORP/R/16/01

The Cabinet considered a report of the Chief Executive which summarised the proposed devolution agreement, outlined the developments since the report to Cabinet in March and considered the pros and cons of the agreement, in the light of what we now know about the consequences of opting-in or opting-out of the North East Combined Authority (NECA) and to make recommendations on next steps (for copy see file of minutes).

The Leader and Cabinet members thanked the Corporate Management Team for the time and resources that they had input into this.

The Leader gave an update on developments since the last Cabinet meeting and explained how fair funding was integral to making devolution work as without it there were no prospects to proceed, which they had kept emphasising was vital for County Durham and the north east. He referred to the poll undertaken by electors in county Durham and how moving forward was reflective of the results of the poll.

Cabinet members spoke about how this was such an important decision for county Durham, its purpose being to improve the quality of life for people in the county. They emphasised the importance in getting the right deal so were supportive of moving to the next stage in the process in making an order, however prior to the laying of a second order that the conditions set out in the report be met.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

5 Children, Young People and Families Plan 2016-2019

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which presented the refreshed Children, Young People and Families Plan (CYFP) 2016-19 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendation in the report be approved.

6 Annual report of the Director of Public Health

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services which presented the annual report of the Director of Public Health for County Durham (for copy see file of minutes).

The Leader advised that this would be the last annual report of Anna Lynch, as Director of Public Health for County Durham prior to her retirement and thanked her for the excellent work undertaken.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

7 Flood Prevention Update and Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services which provided an update on the work undertaken by the Council working with partners and local communities in relation to flood prevention works and improved community flood resilience, and, sought approval to enter into a public consultation on a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

8 Schools 20 mph Part-Time Speed Limits Project – Update and Scrutiny Review

The Cabinet considered a joint report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services and the Assistant Chief Executive which provided Cabinet with an update on the Schools 20mph Part-time Speed Limits Project and the work of the 20mph Overview and Scrutiny Working Group (for copy see file of minutes).

Councillor D Boyes, Chairman of the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee advised of the work that the scrutiny working group had undertaken and were delighted when Cabinet agreed to take this forward.

Cabinet members spoke of the project work that had been undertaken in partnership and welcomed the expansion of the project to the next phase.

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.

9 Regeneration of Spennymoor Town Centre

The Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development which updated Members on progress in regenerating Spennymoor in line with the agreed masterplan, and, sought the approval for the purchase of property to facilitate regeneration within the town centre (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be approved.