

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

Tuesday, 20 November 2018

PRESENT: Councillor M Gannon

Councillors: J Adams, M Brain, A Douglas, M Foy, L Green, G Haley,
J McElroy and M McNestry

C79 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

Councillor C Donovan

C80 MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on 16 October 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

C81 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN: CAPITAL PROGRAMME MID-YEAR UPDATE

Consideration has been given to the Council's programme of investment in the local transport network, including funding received through the Local Transport Plan process.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the revised programme for 2018/19 as set out in appendices 2-4 of the report be approved and it be noted that there may be a need to review scheme priorities during the course of the financial year in line with the available resources.
 - (ii) That the Service Director, Development, Transport and Public Protection be authorised to award the relevant works to the Service Director, Street Scene under the terms of the Highways, Drainage and Street Lighting Maintenance Contract.
 - (iii) That the Service Director, Development, Transport and Public Protection be authorised to make changes to the approved programme following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport as and when the need arises.
 - (iv) That the use of the SCAPE Civic Engineering and Infrastructure Framework to appoint contractors to undertake specialist major concrete repairs to structures on the A184 at Whitemare Pool be approved.

- (v) That the indicative Integrated Transport and Maintenance programmes for 2019/20 be approved as a basis for future planning.

The above decisions have been made to enable the design and implementation of transport schemes in support of the Tyne and Wear Local Transport Plan and the Council's policy objectives.

C82

TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Consideration has been given to tenders received for the contract for the provision of an Integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health Service.

RESOLVED - That the tender received from South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust be accepted for a 48 month period commencing 1 April 2019 with an option to extend for a further 2 x 12 month periods.

The above decision has been made for the following reasons:

- (A) A comprehensive evaluation of the tender received from South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust has been undertaken. The tender received from South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust passed all the required evaluation criteria and was the only compliant bid received to deliver this contract.
- (B) The tender received from Community Based Care Health Ltd was deemed to be non-compliant as its costs considerably exceeded the maximum annual budget of £1,125,000 stated in the tender documents and therefore could not be considered to deliver this contract.

C83

REVISIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S RETIREMENT POLICY AND REDUNDANCY POLICY

Consideration has been given to a revised Retirement Policy and Local Government Pension Scheme Discretions Policy and also a revised Redundancy Policy.

RESOLVED - That Council be recommended to:

- (i) approve the attached revised Retirement and Redundancy Policies, which include the Council's policy on pension discretions; and
- (ii) authorise the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any minor amendments to the policies that may be

required following further consultation with Trade Unions.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (i) To ensure the Retirement Policy reflects current good practice, taking into account the Council's ongoing financial position, and the fact that releasing pension on an unreduced basis can result in a significant associated cost for the Council in the form of a 'strain on the fund'.
- (ii) To reflect in the Retirement Policy the most recent updates to the Local Government Pension Regulations.
- (iii) To ensure that employees do not have unrealistic expectations of the ability to secure voluntary redundancy at age 55 by providing clarification in the Redundancy Policy that applications for voluntary redundancy will be approved only where to do so will clearly support effective business planning and service delivery; and, will take into account the cost to the Council.

C84

GAMBLING STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES 2019 - 2022

Consideration has been given to a Statement of Principles for 2019-22 in accordance with the Gambling Act 2005.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to adopt the amended Gambling Statement of Principles, as set out in appendix 4 of the report, and to publish it in accordance with the requirements of the Gambling Act 2005.

The above decision has been made to ensure that the Council's functions under the Gambling Act 2005 can be discharged effectively.

C85

CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2018/19 - SECOND QUARTER REVIEW

Consideration has been given to the latest position on the 2018/19 Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators at the end of the first quarter to 30 September 2018.

RESOLVED - That Council be recommended to:

- (i) to agree all variations to the 2018/19 Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix 2 as the revised programme.

- (ii) to agree the financing of the revised programme.
- (iii) confirm that the capital expenditure and capital financing requirement indicators have been revised in line with the revised budget and that none of the approved Prudential Indicators set for 2018/19 have been breached.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (i) To ensure the optimum use of the Council's capital resources in 2018/19.
- (ii) To accommodate changes to the Council's in-year capital expenditure plans.
- (iii) To ensure performance has been assessed against the approved Prudential Limits.

C86

CAPITAL STRATEGY 2018/19 TO 2023/24

Consideration has been given to the Capital Strategy for 2018/19 to 2023/24 to support the framework used to set and monitor the Capital Programme.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to agree the Capital Strategy 2018/19 to 2023/24, attached at Appendix 2 to the report.

The above decision has been made to ensure that the Council fully complies with the requirements of good financial practice in capital accounting.

C87

LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME FOR 2019/20

Consideration has been given to a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20.

RESOLVED – That Council be recommended to:

- (i) approve the proposed scheme as set out in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report; and
- (ii) delegate powers to the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources, to provide regulations to give effect to the scheme.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (i) To meet the statutory requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 2012 in relation the

establishment of a framework for Localised Council Tax Support.

- (ii) To mitigate the impact of budget cuts and other Welfare Reform changes on Council Tax support claimants.
- (iii) To mitigate the impact of funding reductions on Council finances.
- (iv) To support the Council's "Thrive" policy priority.

C88 BUDGET CONSULTATION

Consideration has been given to a proposal to consult on the Council's budget framework and proposals as part of the budget setting process for 2019-20.

RESOLVED - That consultation be undertaken on the budget proposals for the period 2019/20 contained within this report.

The above decision has been made to ensure the Council is well placed to respond to the needs of the borough, whilst addressing the financial challenge placed on the Council and the residents of the borough.

C89 REVENUE BUDGET - SECOND QUARTER REVIEW 2018/19

Consideration has been given to the latest monitoring position on the 2018/19 revenue budget at the end of the second quarter to 30 September 2018.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Council's revenue expenditure position at 30 September 2018, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be noted.
 - (ii) That the administrative virement, outlined in paragraph 9 of the report be approved.

The above decision has been made to contribute to sound financial management and the long-term financial sustainability of the Council.

C90 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN UNIT ANNUAL REPORT AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITY DESIGNATED OFFICER (LADO) ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

Consideration has been given to the Safeguarding Children Unit Annual Report and the Local Authority Designated Officer Annual Report 2017/18 in respect of managing allegations against adults who work with children.

RESOLVED - That the Safeguarding Children Unit Annual Report 2017/18 and the Local Authority Designated Officer Annual Report 2017/18 be endorsed.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (i) To ensure the Council is meeting its statutory duties.
- (ii) To continue to ensure that the needs of children, young people and families continue to be met.

C91 **SAFEGUARDING BOARDS UPDATE**

Consideration has been given to the Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board and Local Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Reports.

RESOLVED - That the Annual Reports and Strategic Plans be endorsed.

The above decision has been made to ensure that statutory duties of the Gateshead Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board are met.

C92 **NOMINATION OF A LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNOR**

Consideration has been given to the nomination of a Local Authority Governor to a school seeking to retain their Local Authority governor in accordance with The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That Councillor Anne Wheeler be reappointed as a Local Authority Governor to The Drive Community Primary School for a four year period with effect from 14 February 2019.
 - (ii) That the term of office as determined by the schools' Instrument of Government be noted.

The above decisions have been taken to ensure the school has a full governing body membership.

C93 **GATESHEAD HIGHWAY ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN AND THE NEW CODE OF PRACTICE FOR WELL MANAGED HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Consideration has been given to a revised strategy towards Highways Asset Management 2018-30 in Gateshead, associated documentation, and adoption of the New Code of Practice for Well Managed Highway Infrastructure 2016 which has provided the guidance for the development of the revised approach, including a new risk based approach to managing the highway network.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the revised strategy for highways asset management in Gateshead, including the Highway Asset Management Framework, the revised Highway Asset Management Plan and the

Highway Maintenance Plan be approved.

- (ii) That the New Code of Practice for Well Managed Highway Infrastructure 2016 be adopted.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (i) To provide the basis for improved management and maintenance of Gateshead's highway network and ensure the effective use of resources.
- (ii) In order to maximise external funding streams awarded to authorities who carry out effective highway management.

C94 **CORPORATE COMPLAINTS AND COMPLIMENTS PROCEDURE - ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18**

Consideration has been given to an analysis of the complaints and compliments recorded during 2017/18.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Corporate Complaints and Compliments Procedure Annual Report for 2017/18 be approved.
 - (ii) That it be noted that the report will be considered by the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The above decisions have been made to have an effective and timely complaints procedure.

C95 **PETITIONS SCHEDULE**

Consideration has been given to an update on petitions submitted to the Council and the action taken on them.

RESOLVED - That the petitions received and the action taken on them be noted.

The above decision has been made to inform Cabinet of progress made on the petitions.

C96 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining business in accordance with paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

C97

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Consideration has been given to a revised Strategic Risk Register as a framework for the reporting and management of strategic risks.

RESOLVED - That the revised Strategic Risk Register, at appendix 2 of the report, and its continued use as the basis for regular reporting on strategic risks to the Audit and Standards Committee be approved.

The above decision has been made to ensure that the Strategic Risk Register continues to provide a relevant and robust framework for the management and reporting of the Council's strategic risks.

C98

PROPOSED LEASE BILL QUAY FARM

Item withdrawn.

Copies of all reports and appendices referred to in these minutes are available online and in the minute file. Please note access restrictions apply for exempt business as defined by the Access to Information Act.

The decisions referred to in these minutes will come into force and be implemented after the expiry of 3 working days after the publication date of the minutes identified below unless the matters are 'called in'.

Publication date: 22 November 2018

Chair.....