

# GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

## CABINET MEETING

Tuesday, 20 March 2018

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Gannon

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

### **C166 MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20 February 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **C167 TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF GOODS AND SERVICES**

Consideration has been given to tenders received for the supply of goods and services.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That tenders received from Gateshead Crossroads Caring for Carers, operating as Carers Trust Tyne and Wear, Gateshead, for each of the lots listed below, for the contract for the Provision of Supporting Carers Together in Gateshead, be accepted for a 60 month period commencing 2 July 2018:  
  
Lot 1 – Young Carers Service  
Lot 2 – Adult Carers Service  
Lot 3 – Carer Relief
  - (ii) That further to the above contract award a Members briefing be issued on the process undertaken and to give assurance on the new service to be provided and similarly appropriate steps be taken to give assurance to current carers.
  - (iii) That tenders received from the companies for each of the lots listed below, for the contract for the Provision of Direct Access Assessment, Shared Living, Semi-Independent Living, Supported Lodgings and Floating Support Services for Young People Aged 16 – 25, be accepted for a 36 month period commencing 1 July 2018 with an option to extend for a further 2 x 12 month periods:  
  
Lot 1 - Direct Access, Assessment & Emergency Accommodation Unit - The Cyrenians Limited (Operating as Changing Lives)  
Lot 2 - Shared Living Supported Housing Service and Semi-Independent Living & Floating Support - Home Group Ltd  
Lot 3 - Supported Lodgings Accommodation Service for Looked After Children/Care Leavers - Barnardo Services Limited.

The above decisions have been made because a comprehensive evaluation of the tenders

received for all lots has been undertaken and the successful tenderers submitted the most economically advantageous tenders.

## **C168 MAKING GATESHEAD A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE THRIVES**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve its new strategic approach 'Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives' which is predicated on the following five pledges:

- Put people and families at the heart of everything that we do
- Tackle inequality so people have a fair chance
- Support our communities to support themselves and each other
- Invest in our economy to provide sustainable opportunities for employment, innovation and growth across the borough
- Work together and fight for a better future for Gateshead.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Council be recommended to approve 'Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives' as its new strategic approach, superseding the Council Plan 2015-2020.
  - (ii) That it be noted it is proposed to further develop the next steps, detailed in the report, and report back to Cabinet as appropriate and also to review the corporate performance management framework, so that appropriate measures are in place to ensure delivery of the strategic approach through service business plans and monitoring through Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

The above decisions have been made to ensure the Council is well placed to respond to the needs of the borough and achieve positive outcomes for the people of Gateshead.

## **C169 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve adoption and implementation of a Corporate Social Responsibility Pledge within the Council's procurement activity.

- RESOLVED -
- That the Council be recommended to:
- (i) approve the Corporate Social Responsibility Pledge as set out in appendix 2 to the report and implementation of the processes outlined within the report; and
  - (ii) authorise the Service Director, Corporate Commissioning and Procurement, following consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Council's Procurement Champion, to make minor amendments and/or additions to the Corporate Social Responsibility Pledge.

The above decisions have been made to engage our supply chain and help our suppliers to understand their role in helping the Council to deliver its five pledges under the new strategic approach 'Making Gateshead a Place Where Everyone Thrives' and achieve the best outcomes for the people of Gateshead.

**C170 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2018/19**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the calendar of meetings for 2018/19.

- RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to:
- (i) approve the calendar of meetings 2018/19;
  - (ii) agree that, as far as possible, meetings should not be held during school holidays; and
  - (iii) authorise the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make any necessary amendments to the calendar of meetings.

The above decisions have been made to assist in the preparation of the Cabinet's schedule of decisions and to allow councillors and officers to plan commitments in their diaries.

**C171 REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve a number of amendments to the Constitution.

- RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the proposed amendments to the Constitution as set out in appendix 2 to the report, subject to the proposed amendment to Executive Delegation (19) to the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance being withdrawn to enable further consultation with councillors.

The above decision has been made to ensure that the Constitution remains fit for purpose and that its aims and principles are given effect.

**C172 LOCALISM ACT 2011 - PAY ACCOUNTABILITY PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2018-19**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve a revised pay policy statement for 2018/19.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Council be recommended to approve the pay policy statement for 2018/19.
  - (ii) That the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance, be authorised to agree changes to the policy statement arising from the relevant national pay awards for 2018-19, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources and Leader of the Council.

The above decisions have been made to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

## **C173 REVIEW OF FLEXTIME SCHEME**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve changes to the Council's Flexi Time Scheme.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the revised Flexi Time Scheme as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure that the Council has modern and appropriate employment policies which reflect the need to maximise employee motivation and satisfaction.
- (B) To ensure that the Council's approach to reward and recognition supports the need to recruit and retain a diverse range of talented people.

## **C174 TREASURY POLICY STATEMENT AND TREASURY STRATEGY 2018/19 TO 2022/23**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the Treasury Policy Statement and Treasury Strategy for 2018/19 to 2022/23.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the Treasury Policy Statement as set out in appendix 2 to the report and the Treasury Strategy as set out in appendix 3.

The above decision has been made for the following reason:

To ensure that the Council fully complies with the requirements of good financial practice in Treasury Management.

## **C175 COUNTER FRAUD AND CORRUPTION ARRANGEMENTS**

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the proposed Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy and the revised Council Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Council be recommended to approve the proposed Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy as set out in appendix 2 to the report and the revised Council Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy as set out in appendix 3.
  - (ii) That the Council be recommended to note the Fraud Response Plan as set out in appendix 4 to the report.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure compliance with best practice to support strong internal governance and controls.
- (B) The proposals are considered to be the optimum arrangement for the achievement of value for money and deliverability.

**C176 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME, TRANSFER OF UNCOLLECTABLE AMOUNTS**

Consideration has been given to transferring out of the Council's Accounts outstanding balances in excess of £500 from miscellaneous income accounts and also Housing Benefits overpayments, where all possible recovery action has been taken and the balances are now considered to be uncollectable.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the transfer of balances on 105 sundry debtor accounts, amounting to £169,694.91 and 138 Housing Benefits overpayments accounts, totalling £204,284.22 be approved.
  - (ii) That the action taken under delegated powers to transfer out of the Council's accounts 1244 sundry debtor balances totalling £121,118.83 and 684 Housing Benefit overpayment balances totalling £100,844.15 be noted.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure the effective management of the Council's resources.
- (B) To ensure that the Council Accounts accurately reflect the correct financial position.

**C177 LOCAL CARE LEAVERS OFFER**

Consideration has been given to the proposal to consult on the draft Local Care Leaver Offer.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the draft Local Care Leaver Offer as set out in appendix 2 to the report be endorsed for the purpose of consultation and engagement with stakeholders.
  - (ii) That a further report recommending a final Local Offer be submitted to Cabinet following the proposed consultation activity.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure the Council meets statutory requirements.
- (B) To ensure that Care Leavers are supported by both the Council and partners in their transition to independence.

**C178 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 the nomination of Councillor J Eagle as a local authority governor of Bede Community Primary School for a period of 4 years commencing 20 March 2018 be approved.

- (ii) That it be noted the term of office is determined by the school's Instrument of Government.

The above decisions have been made to ensure the School Governing Body has full membership.

## **C179 THE GATESHEAD FUND**

Consideration has been given to the advice of the Gateshead Fund Advisory Group from its meeting held on 20 February 2018 and specifically in relation to Round 3 applications for funding from the Gateshead Fund; Sporting Grants to Individuals/Talented Athlete Scheme and the approach for the Gateshead Fund 2018/19.

RESOLVED - That the advice of the Gateshead Fund Advisory Group from 20 February 2018 be endorsed and specifically:

- (i) The recommendations for Round 3 of The Gateshead Fund, as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 4 and appendix 3 of the report.
- (ii) The recommendations for Sporting Grants to Individuals and Talented Athletes as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 4 of the report.
- (iii) The recommendation to carry over the remaining budget of £116,006 to 2018/19 as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 5.2 of the report.
- (iv) The agreed approach to the Gateshead Fund as set out in paragraphs 23 to 27 of the report, appendix 2 paragraph 5.3 and appendix 4; in particular the in-principle agreement to support the Newcastle City Futures' matched Crowdfunding platform with £30,000 from the Gateshead Fund.

The above decision has been made for the following reasons:

- (i) To ensure that the Gateshead Fund is used to maximise benefits to local communities and is managed effectively.
- (ii) To build capacity and sustainability in voluntary and community organisations in Gateshead.

## **C180 CONTRACT AWARD TO SWITCH2 ENERGY LTD**

Consideration has been given to a contract award to Switch 2 Energy Ltd, for heat metering services, made under delegated powers by the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment.

RESOLVED - That the action taken by the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment in awarding the contract for heat metering services to Switch 2 Energy Ltd, in accordance with powers under the Council's Constitution – Part 2 General Delegations to Managers, paragraph 4(e) be noted and endorsed.

The above decision has been made to ensure the Council has appropriate services in place before supplying heat to domestic customers who are part of the High-rise Energy Infrastructure for Gateshead Housing Tenants (HEIGHTS) project.

## **C181 RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION**

Consideration has been given to responses to recent consultations.

RESOLVED - That the responses to the following consultations be endorsed:

- Fair Funding Relative Needs and Resources – Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
- Proposed changes to the Planning System regarding the use of Planning Conditions – MHCLG.

The above decision has been made to enable the Council to contribute responses to the consultations.

## **C182 PETITIONS SCHEDULE**

Consideration has been given to the latest update on petitions submitted to the Council and 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 the Cabinet of the progress of action on petitions received.

## **C183 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.

## **C184 GATESHEAD QUAYS UPDATE**

Consideration has been given to the provision of grant funding to the Council's development partner Ask Patrizia (GQ) LLP (the joint venture vehicle created by Ask Real Estate Ltd and PATRIZIA UK Ltd (A&P)), ensuring that any public sector resources directed to the project are utilised in a state aid compliant manner and to the proposal to accept Local Growth Fund (LGF) monies awarded to the Gateshead Quays Project by the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP).

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the provision of grant funding to the Council's development partner Ask Patrizia (GQ) LLP be approved.
- (ii) That the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources be authorised to approve the detailed application for funding from Ask Patrizia (GQ) LLP following consultation with the Strategic Directors, Corporate Services & Governance and Communities & Environment.

- (iii) That the acceptance of the grant funding from LGF be approved and the Strategic Directors, Corporate Services & Governance and Corporate Resources be authorised to agree the detailed grant conditions.

The above decisions have been made to progress the development of the Gateshead Quays site.

**C185 PROPOSED LETTING - HILLGATE QUAY**

Consideration has been given to a new approach to the temporary development of Hillgate Quay and Council investment in the project, in order to meet objectives of ensuring a quality attraction on Gateshead Quays for the Great Exhibition of the North (GEOTN), job creation, community use and increasing visitors to the area in advance of longer term development of the site.

RESOLVED - That the recommendations set out in the report be approved for the reasons stated.

**C186 LYNDHURST HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR GATESHEAD TRADING COMPANY**

Consideration has been given to the award of a construction contract to Kier Living Ltd via the SCAPE National Minor Works Framework, for delivery of construction works for the development of 36 houses at Lyndhurst former school site.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the contract award to Kier Living Ltd in the sum set out in the report, via the SCAPE National Minor Works Framework be approved.
  - (ii) That the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment be authorised to negotiate the details of the contract following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To continue to generate additional income streams for the Council.
- (B) To continue to develop new trading and commercialisation opportunities.
- (C) To contribute to new housing development towards the Councils Core Strategy.
- (D) To ensure the early re-use of an under used brownfield site.
- (E) To ensure the development of new affordable housing in the area.



C187

**PROVISION OF A VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS)  
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT SERVICE**

Consideration has been given to commencing a procurement exercise for the provision of a Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Infrastructure Support Service for Gateshead.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the service specification as set out in appendix 2 to the report be approved.
  - (ii) That the joint procurement of a VCS Infrastructure Support Service for Newcastle and Gateshead on the basis set out in the report, with Gateshead acting as lead partner be approved.

The above decisions have been made to help support the growth and development of the VCS sector in Gateshead.

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 March 2018

**Chair.....**