

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, 18 July 2019

PRESENT: THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR M HOOD (CHAIR)

Councillors: J Adams, Anderson, R Beadle, D Bradford, M Brain, C Buckley, D Burnett, L Caffrey, M Charlton, B Clelland, S Dickie, Diston, C Donovan, A Douglas, D Duggan, M Foy, Gallagher, A Geddes, F Geddes, J Gibson, B Goldsworthy, M Goldsworthy, T Graham, L Green, S Green, G Haley, M Hall, H Haran, H Kelly, J Kielty, L Kirton, J Lee, P Maughan, K McCartney, J McClurey, K McClurey, J McElroy, E McMaster, P McNally, M McNestry, R Mullen, B Oliphant, M Ord, R Oxberry, I Patterson, Reay, S Ronchetti, J Simpson, J Turnbull, J Wallace, Waugh and N Weatherley

APOLOGIES: Councillors: P Craig, S Craig, C Davison, K Dodds, John Eagle, K Ferdinand, P Foy, M Gannon, S Hawkins, C Ord and A Wheeler

CL22 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 23 MAY 2019

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2019 be approved as a correct record.

CL23 OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Planning Awards

The Mayor welcomed the Built and Natural Environment Team who have been chosen as Local Authority Planning Team of the Year at the recent National Planning Awards.

The team was recognised for its unique multi-disciplinary approach and its commitment to delivering top quality developments and responding to customer needs.

CL24 PETITIONS

There were no petitions submitted.

CL25 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions submitted by members of the public.

CL26 REVENUE OUTTURN 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report on the Council's outturn position for the financial year 2018/19 prior to audit, and also appropriations to and from reserves.

- COUNCIL RESOLVED -
- (i) That the 2018/19 revenue outturn position of the Council as an underspend of £1.139m, subject to audit, be noted.
 - (ii) That the appropriations to and from reserves outlined in the report be approved.

CL27 CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2018/19 – YEAR END OUTTURN

Consideration was given to a report on the 2018/19 capital programme and the impact of CIPFA's Prudential Code on the programme as well as the monitoring of performance against the statutory Prudential Indicators.

- COUNCIL RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Capital Programme outturn position for 2018/19 be noted.
 - (ii) That all variations to the 2018/19 Capital Programme be approved.
 - (iii) That the financing of the 2018/19 Capital Programme be approved.
 - (iv) That it be confirmed 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.

CL28 TREASURY ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the Treasury Annual Report for 2018/19.

- COUNCIL RESOLVED -
- That the Treasury Annual Report for 2018/19 be approved.

CL29 GATESHEAD ENFORCEMENT POLICY

Consideration was given to a report seeking approval of the adoption of the Council's Enforcement Policy for the Communities and Environment Directorate.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the Enforcement Policy be adopted.

CL30 CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2019/20 – 1ST QUARTER REVIEW

Consideration was given to a report on the latest position on the 2018/19 Capital Programme and Prudential Indicators at the end of the first quarter to 30 June 2019.

- COUNCIL RESOLVED -
- (i) That all variations to the 2019/20 Capital Programme be approved as the revised programme.
 - (ii) That financing of the revised programme be approved.
 - (iii) That it be confirmed 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 2019/20 have been breached.

CL31 REPORT FROM THE CABINET

The Leader of the Council reported on a number of key issues currently affecting the Council.

COUNCIL RESOLVED - That the information be noted.

CL32 NOTICE OF MOTION

Councillor M McNestry moved the following motion:

“The Council notes that:

- there are nearly 16,000 people over 65 in Gateshead
- that during 2018-19 there were over 2600 people receiving Adult Social Care service during 2018-19
- in 2018-19 the Council spent over £66 million (net) on Adult Social Care Services and a further £3.1 million on supported housing and prevention services
- since 2010 the Council has made savings of £38 million on Adult Social Care, despite rising costs of care and rising demand for services

This Council also notes that many residents are struggling with unmet care needs and believes that in light of an ageing population we need bold changes to deliver a long-term funding solution for social care.

The Council believes that England’s care system needs major reform to provide a long-term sustainable funding solution and to make care free at the point of use. This Council believes there is an unacceptable gap between NHS care which is free at the point of delivery, and social care which is means tested – closing the gap by making social care free would make it easier to integrate the delivery of health and social care services.

The Council also believes that it is fundamentally unfair that to access basic care many older people face catastrophic costs that can run into hundreds of thousands of pounds, wipe out a lifetime of savings, and force families to sell their homes. The Council therefore supports Independent Age’s call for the introduction of free personal care for all older people in England, learning from practice in Scotland, and calls upon the Government to fully fund the introduction of free personal care.

This Council is proud of the work of its social care team and NHS representative bodies in integrating health and care planning and ensuring that there is no purchaser/provider split in Gateshead with outcomes focused strategic planning. Nevertheless, this Council calls upon the Government to build a National Care Service alongside the National Health Service, with a shared requirement for single commissioning, partnership arrangements, pooled budgets and joint working arrangements.

The Council calls on the Government to take the necessary steps to implement this policy as swiftly as possible to end the care crisis and properly support older people in Gateshead.

The Council also calls on our local MPs to support the campaign for free personal care, and to speak up in favour of the policy in the House of Commons and through their wider engagements.”

On the motion being put it was declared to be carried.

CL33 QUESTIONS

The following question was received from Councillor V Anderson:

“What work is currently underway to assess the legacy of the Great North Exhibition on the Gateshead economy?”

Councillor A Douglas responded.

Mayor.....