

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

Tuesday, 15 March 2016

PRESENT: Councillor M Henry

Councillors: M Gannon, C Donovan, A Douglas, M Foy,
G Haley, J McElroy, M McNestry and L Twist

C185 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L Green.

C186 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 23 February 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

C187 CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION AND OPERATION OF A COMPOSTING FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES

Consideration has been given to the tenders received for the contract for the provision and operation of a composting facility and associated services which is being arranged on behalf of the South of Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership.

RESOLVED - That the tender from A Willey, trading as Greentech Recycling, Gateshead, be accepted for the contract for the provision and operation of a composting facility and associated services for a 36 month period commencing 1 April 2016, with the option to extend for a further 3 x 12 month periods.

The above decision has been made because an evaluation of the tenders received has been undertaken and the tender accepted is the most economically advantageous tender submitted.

C188 REFRESH OF EQUALITIES OBJECTIVES

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve its refreshed equality objectives which aim to address the challenges of inequality across Gateshead, and to demonstrate the Council's compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the refreshed equality objectives as set out below:

- To support vulnerable groups most at risk of poverty and deprivation
- Gateshead the place – to improve the range of housing across Gateshead for vulnerable group
- To promote healthy and inclusive communities
- To increase levels of ambition and aspiration of vulnerable groups across Gateshead
- To develop the Council's workforce which recognises the diversity of the community it serves

The above decisions have been made to demonstrate the Council's commitment to tackling areas of inequality in Gateshead, whilst ensuring compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty.

C189 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME

Consideration has been given to the recent review of Gateshead Members' Allowances Scheme and the subsequent recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the scheme of members' allowances for Gateshead as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

The above decision has been made to ensure that the scheme of members' allowances remains adequate to recognise the time and effort given by councillors to their Council duties.

C190 LOCALISM ACT 2011 - PAY ACCOUNTABILITY PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approved a revised pay policy statement for 2016/17 in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the pay policy statement as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

The above decision has been made to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.

C191 TREASURY POLICY STATEMENT AND TREASURY STRATEGY 2016/17 TO 2018/19

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the Treasury Policy Statement and Treasury Strategy for 2016/17 to 2018/19.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the

Treasury Policy Statement and the Treasury Strategy for 2016/17 to 2018/19 as set out in appendices 2 and 3 to the report.

The above decision has been made to comply with the requirements of good financial practice in treasury management.

C192 IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW CHARGEABLE SERVICE - SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICE

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the implementation of a new chargeable service delivered by Facilities Management with effect from 1 April 2016, namely, the Supporting Independence Service.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the implementation of the Supporting Independence Service with effect from 1 April 2016 and introduction of the charge of £11.50 per hour for the service and for this charge to be added to the published list of fees and charges for 2016/17.

The above decision has been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To initiate a new financially sustainable service that will help people to live independently in their own homes.
- (B) To reduce the demand on services provided by the Council to meet its statutory duties.
- (C) To sustain employment opportunities with the Council in a financially sustainable service.

C193 SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES POST 16 HOME TO SCHOOL/COLLEGE TRANSPORT CHARGING

RESOLVED - That the item be deferred.

C194 GATESHEAD POLICY FOR THE EDUCATION OF TRAVELLER CHILDREN

Consideration has been given to the policy for the education of traveller children.

RESOLVED - That the policy for the education of traveller children as set out in appendix 2 to the report be approved.

The above decision has been made to ensure that children and young people are allocated a school place as quickly as possible.

C195 CHILD CARE SUFFICIENCY REPORT 2015

Consideration has been given to the Childcare Sufficiency Report 2015 which details the availability and sufficiency of childcare in Gateshead in order to fulfil the Council's duties as required by the Childcare Act 2006 (amended by The Children and Families Act 2014).

RESOLVED - That the Childcare Sufficiency Report 2015 be endorsed and officers be authorised to address gaps in provision where identified.

The above decision has been made to fulfil statutory duties and ensure sufficiency of childcare places within Gateshead.

C196 NOMINATION OF A LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS AND APPOINTMENT OF AN ACADEMY GOVERNOR

Consideration has been given to the:

- nomination of a local authority governor to a school where a vacancy has arisen, in accordance with The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations; and
- appointment of a local authority governor in accordance with Article 51 (Articles of Association of Academies) to an academy seeking a Local Authority governor appointment.

RESOLVED - (i) That the nomination/appointment of Councillor Michael Hood as a local authority governor to Furrowfield School and Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy for a period of four years with effect from 15 March and 28 March respectively, be approved.

(ii) That it be noted that the term of office is determined by the school's instrument of governance and the academy's articles of association.

The above decision has been made to ensure the governing bodies have full membership.

C197 GATESHEAD COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY DRAFT CHARGING SCHEDULE AND MAPS – PUBLIC EXAMINATION

Consideration has been given to:

- the progress made in submitting Gateshead's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Draft Charging Schedule (DCS) and maps, and other supporting evidence, for public examination; and

- to delegating authority to the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment and the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance following consultation with the Lead Cabinet Members for Environment & Transport and Economy to prepare and present evidence in support of Gateshead's CIL at the examination; and to suggest to the CIL Examiner any edits and consequential modifications necessary to the submission of CIL DCS and Maps during the examination.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the progress that has been made in submitting Gateshead's CIL for examination be noted.
 - (ii) That delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment, and Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance following consultation with the Lead Cabinet Members for Environment and Transport and Economy to:
 - a. prepare and give evidence in support of Gateshead's Community Infrastructure Levy at the examination; and
 - b. suggest to the CIL Examiner any edits and consequential modifications necessary to the submission CIL Charging Schedule and Maps during the examination.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To comply with the statutory procedure for the Council to become a CIL charging authority.
- (B) To ensure that a justified and effective CIL is progressed through examination.

C198 GATESHEAD FUND (CAPACITY BUILDING FUND)

Consideration has been given to the advice of Capacity Building Fund Advisory Group to Cabinet, specifically in relation to:

- Round 3 deferred applications for capacity building funding;
- Round 4 applications for capacity building funding;
- Round 4 mitigation against council budget decisions; and
- Sporting Grants to Individuals

- RESOLVED -
- That the advice of the Capacity Building Fund Advisory Group from its meeting on 29 February 2016 be approved and specifically:
 - (i) The recommendations for Round 3 deferred capacity

building funding as set out in appendix 2 paragraphs 1 and 4 and appendix 3 to the report.

- (ii) The recommendations for Round 4 capacity building funding as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 4 and appendix 3 to the report.
- (iii) The recommendations for Round 4 mitigation against council budget decisions as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 4 and appendix 3 to the report.
- (iv) The recommendations for Sporting Grants to Individuals as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 5 to the report.
- (v) The recommendation for the remaining capacity building fund budget as set out in appendix 2 paragraph 6 to the report.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

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

C199 ENERGY PERFORMANCE OF BUILDINGS NEW ENFORCEMENT DUTIES

Consideration has been given to the changes introduced by the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations 2015 and the proposal to enter into a partnership agreement with Sunderland City and South Tyneside Councils to carry out the inspection and enforcement of each parties buildings on a reciprocal basis as required by the Regulations.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Council enter into an agreement with Sunderland City and South Tyneside Councils to authorise and act on behalf of Gateshead Council in carrying out inspections and enforcement of council owned buildings within the borough of Gateshead.
 - (ii) That the Council enter into an agreement with Sunderland City and South Tyneside Councils for Gateshead Council employees to undertake inspections and enforcement of council owned buildings in the partner authorities' areas.

The above decisions have been made to fulfil the requirements of the Regulations.

C200 RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

Consideration has been given to responses to recent consultations.

RESOLVED - That the responses to the following consultations as set out in appendices 2 and 3 to the report be endorsed.

- North East Combined Authority 'our journey' transport manifesto
- Introducing a Stalking Protection Order – Home Office

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

C201 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME ACCOUNTS - TRANSFER OF UNCOLLECTABLE AMOUNTS

Consideration has been given to the transfer out of the Council's accounts outstanding balances in excess of £500 from miscellaneous income accounts including 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 188 sundry debtor accounts, amounting to £404,027.81 and 202 Housing Benefits overpayments accounts, totalling £325,625.17 be approved.
 - (ii) That the action taken under delegated powers to transfer out of the Council's accounts 536 sundry debtor balances totalling £58,716.70 and 640 Housing Benefit overpayment balances totalling £107,042.01 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.

C202 DISPOSAL OF LAND AND BUILDINGS AT THE FORMER WEST PARK AGED PERSONS UNIT AND GARAGES, MEADOW LANE , DUNSTON.

Consideration has been given to the detailed terms for sale of property comprising: the building which was the former West Park Aged Persons' Unit; and nearby garages at Meadow Lane, Dunston to Keelman Homes Ltd at less than market value in accordance with the procedures for such sales agreed by Cabinet on 30 January 2007 (Min.no.C268) and following Cabinet's agreement in principle to this

sale at its meeting on 23 February 2016 (Min.no C180).

RESOLVED - That the disposal of the two sites shown edged black and hatched black on the plan attached to the report for nil consideration to Keelman Homes Ltd be approved on the terms and conditions set out in the report.

The above decision has been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To manage resources and rationalise the Council's assets in line with the Corporate Asset Strategy and Management Plan.
- (B) To facilitate the delivery of new affordable rented housing within the Borough.

C203 PETITIONS SCHEDULE

Consideration has been given to the latest 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 the Cabinet of the progress of action on petitions received.

C204 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.

C205 DISPOSAL OF LAND AT WREKENTON

RESOLVED - That this item be deferred.

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: 17 March 2016

Chair.....