

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

Tuesday, 19 October 2021

PRESENT: Councillor M Gannon

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

C66 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 September 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

C67 **HEALTH AND WELLBEING GROUP REVIEW - UPDATE**

Consideration has been given to an update on progress of the ongoing Public Health and Wellbeing Group review.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the short-term management actions to secure efficiencies within leisure services, as set out in appendix 1 to the report, be endorsed.
 - (ii) That the development of a three-year transformation plan for leisure and library services, as set out in appendix 1 to the report, noting the separate report on Library services consultation (minute C68 refers), be endorsed for progression.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To enable officers to begin making changes within Leisure Services to align the service offer with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and to begin to make efficiency savings.
- (B) To develop and implement a three-month public consultation on library services, which will be required due to the statutory nature of these services.

C68 **HEALTH AND WELLBEING GROUP REVIEW - LIBRARY SERVICE**

Consideration has been given to the commencement of a public consultation on proposals to change the way that some library buildings in Gateshead are run and managed.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That a 12-week public consultation on changing the five council library buildings at Chopwell, Crawcrook, Leam Lane, Pelaw and Wrekenton, into Voluntary and Community Sector run "community spaces" from which a library service will be

provided, be approved.

- (ii) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet following analysis of the results of the public consultation to agree the next steps of the Library Review.
- (iii) That the Integrated Impact Assessment and Gateshead Libraries Needs Assessment as set out in appendices 2 and 3 to the report be noted.

The above decisions have been made to implement a 12-week public consultation on library services, which will be required due to the statutory nature of these services and will contribute to the understanding of future library service delivery models.

C69

WELCOME BACK FUND - PROPOSED SPENDING

Consideration has been given to the proposed use of the allocation of £357,856 received from the Welcome Back Fund, which is being provided to help local shopping centres recover from the Covid 19 pandemic.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the proposed elements of spend as set out in the report be approved subject to all shopping centres being included.
 - (ii) That the Service Director, Planning Policy, Climate Change and Strategic Transport be authorised to finalise the programme spend following consultation with the Cabinet Members for Economy and Environment and Transport and ward councillors.

The above decision has been made to enable the available funding to be put to best use in supporting local shopping centres recover from the Covid 19 pandemic.

C70

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2022/23 - 2026/27

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2022/23 to 2026/27, including the proposed MTFS principles and the medium-term financial context as set out in the report and appendices.

- RESOLVED -
- That the Council be recommended to:
- (i) Approve the Medium-Term Financial Strategy for 2022/23 to 2026/27, including the proposed MTFS principles and the medium-term financial context as set out in the report and appendices.
 - (ii) Agree the outcome of the reserves review and approve the reserves balances as outlined in appendix 1 to the report.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To contribute to the good financial management practice of the Council.

- (B) To assist the maintaining of the financial sustainability of the Council over the medium to long term.

C71 TREASURY MANAGEMENT - PERFORMANCE TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

Consideration has been given to Treasury Management performance for the six months to 30 September 2021, covering investments and borrowing and which is consistent with approved performance management arrangements.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to note the Treasury Management Performance to 30 September 2021.

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

C72 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) 30 YEAR BUSINESS PLAN

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30-year Business Plan 2021-2051.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30 Year Business Plan 2021-2051 as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

The above decision has been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure the medium to long term sustainability of the Housing Revenue Account.
- (B) To realise the Council's policies and objectives in relation to the Housing Strategy in order to maintain and enhance Council Housing provision in Gateshead.
- (C) To assist in the delivery of the Council's vision for Gateshead as set out in Making Gateshead a Place where Everyone Thrives.

C73 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve to the implementation of the new HRA Asset Management Strategy, 2022-2027, that will support a statutorily compliant business plan (Minute C72 refers) able to fund a compliant, well maintained and sustainable housing stock.

RESOLVED - (i) That the Council be recommended to approve the Housing Revenue Account Asset Management Strategy 2022-2027, as set out in appendix 2 to the report, that will support a statutorily compliant business plan able to fund a compliant, well maintained and sustainable housing stock.

- (ii) That a programme of consultation and awareness raising activities with members, tenants and leaseholders to support the shaping and prioritising of the resultant future investment priorities for the Council's housing stock, be approved.
- (iii) That the commencement of a detailed consultation with members, residents and stakeholders on a review of the Council's purpose-built older persons sheltered housing blocks and the future options for the high-rise blocks identified as uneconomic to maintain, be approved.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To set a Housing Revenue Account that is not in debit as required under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Part VI) and is able to meet its short- and long-term investment requirements.
- (B) To realise the Council's policies and objectives in relation to the Housing Strategy in order to maintain and enhance Council housing provision in Gateshead.
- (C) To assist in the delivery of the Council's vision for Gateshead as set out in Making Gateshead a Place where Everyone Thrives.

C74

APPRENTICESHIP STRATEGY & DELIVERY PLAN

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the Apprenticeship Strategy 2021-2024 and Delivery Action Plan.

RESOLVED - That the Council be recommended to approve the Apprenticeship Strategy 2021-2024 and Delivery Action Plan.

The above decision has been made to ensure the Council's strategic ambitions within the Thrive agenda to create opportunities for employment and economic growth are achieved and that the Council can meet the challenges around workforce planning and skills gaps by having a highly trained, ambitious and flexible workforce.

C75

GATESHEAD COUNCIL SPEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Consideration has been given to the outcomes of the consultation with residents and other stakeholders regarding the Gateshead Council Speed Management Plan, and to recommending the Council to approve the final revised version of the Plan.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the feedback from the consultation that has been taken into account when producing the revised version of the Speed Management Plan be noted.
 - (ii) That the Council be recommended to approve the final version of the Gateshead Council Speed Management Plan as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

The above decisions have been made to assist the Council in achieving its Thrive Agenda targets and to improve road safety in the borough.

C76

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK

Consideration has been given to the proposed interventions and measures to be included as part of the Council's new Performance Management and Improvement Framework.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the interventions and measures to be included in the Performance Management and Improvement Framework, as set out in appendix 2 to the report be approved.
 - (ii) That the interventions and measures to be updated by the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital, in line with agreed Council policy and strategy and following consultation with the relevant Cabinet member and Strategic Director.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure there is an effective framework in place to enable the Council to manage performance across its priorities and understand the impact of decisions.
- (B) To ensure the framework is responsive to changing Council priorities as they are agreed to enable the effective monitoring of performance.

C77

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND GOVERNANCE

Consideration has been given to the proposed changes to the governance of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) neighbourhood fund following a review of the current arrangements.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the recommended changes to the governance of the CIL neighbourhood fund as set out in appendix 2 to the report be approved subject to early engagement and consultation with ward councillors also being part of the arrangements going forward.
 - (ii) That the Strategic Director, Economy, Innovation and Growth and the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance be authorised to complete a revised legal agreement with the Community Foundation for Tyne and Wear and Northumberland in order to deal with the administration of the fund.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To improve processes, flexibility and governance of the fund.

- (B) To ensure that regulatory requirements regarding CIL continue to be met.

C78

ACTIVE THROUGH FOOTBALL PROJECT

Consideration has been given to the action taken by the Director of Public Health, in consultation with the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital, in accepting grant funding of £0.57million within the timescales required, following a successful Gateshead consortium bid to Sport England's Active Through Football initiative, delivered by the Football Foundation.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the update on the Active Through Football Project be noted.
 - (ii) That the urgent decision taken by Director of Public Health, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital to accept the grant award, within the timescales required, from the Football Foundation, in accordance with Schedule 5, Part 2 General Delegations to Managers, Paragraph (4)(e) of the Council's Constitution be noted.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To support delivery of the Council's Thrive Agenda and priorities.
- (B) To work with key local partners to develop opportunities for residents from lower socio-economic groups to create sustained behaviour change through football in a Place based approach.
- (C) To increase participation in sport and physical activity, notably football.

C79

NOMINATION OF A LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNOR

Consideration has been given to the nomination of a local authority school governor.

- RESOLVED -
- That Councillor D Burnett be nominated as a local authority school governor for St Aidan's Church of England Primary School, for a period of four years, in accordance with the School's Instrument of Government, commencing 10 November 2021.

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

C80

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

C81

GATESHEAD QUAYS

Consideration has been given to an update on the Gateshead Quays project, progress against each of the Development Agreement conditions and to the actions necessary to commence the construction works and delivery of Gateshead Quays.

The alternative option to those being recommended, but which was discounted, included not satisfying the conditions of the Development Agreement.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the proposal from Ask Real Estate and Patrizia UK (A&P) to proceed with enabling works, with an estimated value of the amount set out in the report, in advance of satisfying the remaining Development Agreement conditions, be approved.
 - (ii) That the Strategic Director, Economy Innovation and Growth, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Services & Governance and Strategic Director, Resources & Digital and the satisfaction of the remaining Development Agreement conditions, be authorised to proceed to enter into the long-term lease agreements, in accordance with the Development Agreement, with the commercial funder.
 - (iii) That the provision of a capital contribution of the amount set out in the report, to A&P through the Council's Capital Programme, to facilitate the development of the scheme be approved and the Strategic Director, Resources & Digital be authorised to agree the detailed funding terms with the commercial funder, and any associated variations to the Development Agreement, including those necessary to ensure the early progression of the enabling works, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Services & Governance.
 - (iv) That the submission of an external funding application for Levelling Up Funding of the amount set out in the report be noted.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To bring forward the regeneration of Gateshead Quays, which supports the Council's aspiration of making Gateshead a place where everyone thrives, and in doing so reaffirms the commitment to invest in the local economy to provide sustainable opportunities for employment, innovation and growth across the borough.
- (B) To manage the assets of the Council's non-operational portfolio in line with the Corporate Asset Strategy and Management Plan 2015 -2020.

C82

PROPOSED LEASE SURRENDER - 11 GLADSTONE TERRACE

Consideration has been given to the surrender of a lease held by the Council on number 11 Gladstone Terrace, to facilitate the development of a new Youth Service in the building, by the owner, BBC House Boys Club and the Young Women's Outreach Service.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the surrender of a lease held by the Council on 11 Gladstone Terrace be approved.
 - (ii) That a simultaneous surrender of the Under Lease of 11 Gladstone Terrace held by Walking with the Wounded be approved.
 - (iii) That the Service Director, Property Assets and Traded Services be authorised to negotiate the detailed terms of both surrenders.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To reduce the number of Council operational assets and holding costs.
- (B) To enable the BBC House Boys Club and the Young Women's Outreach Service to develop a new youth service from number 11 Gladstone Terrace.

C83

NEWCASTLE AIRPORT UPDATE

Consideration has been given to a decision taken under delegated powers by the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital, on grounds of urgency, on a matter relating to Newcastle International Airport Limited as outlined in the report.

- RESOLVED -
- That the urgent decision taken by the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital on a matter relating to Newcastle International Airport Limited, for the reason set out in the report, in accordance with Schedule 5, Part 2 General Delegations to Managers, Paragraph (4)(e) of the Council's Constitution, be noted.

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: DeadlinePubminutes

Chair.....

