

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

Tuesday, 12 July 2016

PRESENT: Councillor M Gannon

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

C30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Donovan and L Green.

C31 MINUTES

The minutes of the last Cabinet meeting held on 14 June 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

C32 NORTH EAST COMBINED AUTHORITY - DEVOLUTION AND GOVERNANCE UPDATE

RESOLVED - That the item be deferred.

**C33 REVIEW OF SUPPORT FOR OLDER PEOPLE TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY
PHASE 1 - EXTERNALISING PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE CENTRE RESPITE
PROVISION**

Consideration has been given to the implementation of the budget saving agreed by the Council on 25 February 2016 (Minute CL 98) in respect of reviewing support for people to live independently. The saving involves a review of the continued functioning of the Council's four Promoting Independence Centres – PICs (Eastwood at Felling, Shadon House at Birtley, Southernwood at Allerdene, Low Fell and Tynedale at Ryton).

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the closure of Tynedale PIC as the first phase of the review of support for people to live independently be approved.
 - (ii) That delegated authority be granted to the Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing & Learning to implement the remaining phases of the review, following consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and key stakeholders.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To generate savings of £0.6m to contribute towards the £1.75m approved budget saving.
- (B) To facilitate the achievement of the remaining approved budget savings consistent with the agreed budget in order to contribute to the continued financial sustainability of the Council.

C34 ERDF LOW CARBON GRANT FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Consideration has been given to the submission of grant applications to the European Regional Development Fund for the following:

- High Rise Energy Infrastructure for Gateshead Housing Tenants (HEIGHTs)
- Bringing Plastic District Heating Technology to the UK.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the submission of grant applications to ERDF, as set out in the report be approved.
 - (ii) That the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources and Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, be authorised to agree the final scope and costs of the grant applications.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To continue to deliver Council priorities around reducing fuel poverty, energy consumption and carbon emissions.
- (B) To support initiatives to generate costs savings and income streams for the Council.
- (C) To secure significant external grant funding to support the Council's Capital Programme.

C35 TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Consideration has been given to the tenders received for:

- the Supply of a System to Facilitate School Meal Selection for Pupils and Parents; and
- the Supply of a Digital Platform.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the tender from Biostore, Hexham be accepted for the contract for the Supply of a System to Facilitate School Meal Selection for Pupils and Parents and to operate in perpetuity (with a minimum 3 year period) without limit of time until terminated in accordance with the terms and

conditions of contract commencing August 2016.

- (ii) That the tender from Goss Interactive Limited, Plymouth be accepted for the contract for the Supply of a Digital Platform and to operate in perpetuity (with a minimum 3 year period) without limit of time until terminated in accordance with the terms and conditions of contract commencing August 2016.

The above decisions have been made because a comprehensive evaluation of the tenders received has been undertaken. The awarded tenders are the most economically advantageous tenders submitted.

C36

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2017/18 - 2021/22

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2017/18 to 2021/22.

RESOLVED -

That the Council be recommended to:

- (i) Approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2017/18 to 2021/22.
- (ii) Note the review of both general fund and strategic earmarked Council reserves.
- (iii) Note that the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources, following consultation with the Chief Executive, will continue to produce and monitor on an annual basis, a rolling programme of five-year budget forecasts taking account of the key issues facing the Council.
- (iv) Note that the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources, following consultation with the Chief Executive will continue to keep under review and update the MTFS as appropriate to respond to Government policy and funding announcements.

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 financial sustainability of the Council over the medium to long term.

C37

CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2016/17 - FIRST QUARTER REVIEW

Consideration has been given to the latest position on the 2016/17 capital programme and Prudential Indicators at the end of the first quarter to 30 June 2016.

RESOLVED -

That the Council be recommended to:

- (i) Approve that all variations to the 2016/17 Capital Programme as detailed in appendix 2 to the report be agreed as the revised programme.
- (ii) Approve the financing of the revised programme.
- (iii) Note 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 2016/17 have been breached.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure the optimum use of the Council's capital resources in 2016/17.
- (B) To accommodate changes to the Council's in-year capital expenditure plans.
- (C) To ensure performance has remained within the approved Prudential Limits.

C38

REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

Consideration has been given to recommending the Council to approve amendments to the Council's Constitution.

RESOLVED -

That the Council be recommended to approve the proposed amendments to the Council's Constitution as set out in appendix 2 to the report.

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

C39

CHANGE PROGRAMME - PROGRESS REPORT SECOND QUARTER

Consideration has been given to an update on the activity and direction of travel of the Change Programme since April 2016.

RESOLVED -

That the progress being made in devising the Change Programme be noted.

The above decision has been made to ensure the Cabinet is able to monitor progress of the Change Programme and give direction in a timely manner.

C40 COUNCIL PLAN – YEAR END ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE AND DELIVERY 2015/16

Consideration has been given to the Council Plan – Year End Assessment of Performance and Delivery for 2015/16.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the recommendations of all of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees in relation to 2015/16 year end performance, as set out in appendix 5 to the report be approved.
 - (ii) That it be confirmed the Council has satisfactorily met its performance objectives and is addressing the outcomes in delivering the Council Plan 2015-2020.

The above decisions have been made to ensure performance supports the delivery and achievements of the Council Plan 2015-2020.

C41 CORPORATE 2020 TARGET SETTING REPORT

Consideration has been given to the setting of 2020 targets as part of the Council's Corporate Performance Management Framework to support the delivery of the Council Plan and Vision 2030.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the comments made at each of the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committees on the proposed targets, as set out in appendix 3 to the report be noted.
 - (ii) That the proposed 2020 targets for strategic indicators as set out in appendix 2 to the report be approved.

The above decision has been made to ensure the Council's performance is continuously improving to contribute to the delivery of Vision 2030 and the Council Plan.

C42 RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

Consideration has been given to responses to recent consultations.

- RESOLVED -
- That the responses to the following consultations be endorsed.
- Strategic Land Review, Green Belt Review (Stage 1) and Local Plan growth options – Sunderland City Council
 - Ambition for Libraries – Department for Culture, Media and Sport

- New policy directions for the Big Lottery Fund – The Office for Civil Society
- Local Land Charges Rules 2017 – Land Registry

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

C43 REVENUE BUDGET - FIRST QUARTER REVIEW 2016/17

Consideration has been given the latest monitoring position on the 2016/17 revenue budget at the end of the first quarter to 30 June 2016.

RESOLVED - That the Council's revenue expenditure position at 30 June 2016, as set out in appendix 1 to the report be noted.

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

C44 FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 'REVIEW OF CHILD PROTECTION IN GATESHEAD'

Consideration has been given to the recommendations of the Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee's (OSC) review of Child Protection in Gateshead.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the findings and analysis of evidence outlined in appendix 2 to the report be noted.
 - (ii) That the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee review, as detailed in appendix 2 to the report be approved.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding in Gateshead.
- (B) To contribute to the future development and delivery of child protection within Children's Social Care Services.
- (C) To inform the work of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board in terms of how it oversees the whole child protection system.

C45 NOMINATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS AND APPOINTMENT OF ACADEMY GOVERNORS

Consideration has been given to:

- the nomination of a Local Authority Governors to schools where a vacancy has arisen, in accordance with The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations; and

- the re-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 two nominations and reappointment of Local Authority Governors as set out below for a period of four years be approved.

School	Nomination	Date from
Bill Quay Primary	Cllr A Wheeler	12.07.16
Dryden Hilltop Federation	Cllr Leigh Kirton	12.07.16
Academy	Reappointment	
Riverside	Cllr P Dillon	12.07.16

(ii) That it be noted that the term of office, Schools - as determined by the school's Instrument of Government and Academy - as determined by the Academy's Articles of Association.

The above decisions have been made to ensure the School Governing Bodies and Academy have full membership.

C46 LIBRARY SERVICE REVIEW

Consideration has been given to proposals for the reshaping of the library service in Gateshead to achieve a network of Community and Council libraries; that set out a new statutory level of provision in Gateshead and a four year plan for the service to deliver the Council Plan.

RESOLVED - (i) That the approach regarding a strategic plan for Culture and Leisure Integrated Business be approved.

(ii) That the draft options for consultation with residents, Councillors, employees and Trade Unions as set out in the report, to take place between August -October 2016 be approved.

(iii) That a report on the outcome of the consultation be submitted to Cabinet in November 2016 for consideration as part of the Council's budget setting process.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To achieve the vision and outcomes for the library service approved at Cabinet in February 2015.
- (B) To ensure that Gateshead has a library service fit for the 21st century.

- (C) To achieve the budget approved by Cabinet and Council in February 2016.

C47 GATESHEAD FUND (CAPACITY BUILDING FUND)

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

- The approach to the Capacity Building Fund for 2016/17
- Round 1 applications for capacity building funding
- Gateshead Volunteers Month small grants
- Sporting Grants to Individuals.

RESOLVED - That the advice of the Capacity Building Fund Advisory Group from 22 June 2016 be accepted and specifically:

- (i) The agreed approach for the Gateshead Fund (Capacity Building Fund) as set out in appendix 2 to the report;
- (ii) The recommendations for Round 1 Capacity Building Fund as set out in appendix 3 paragraphs 3 and 4 and appendix 4 to the report and to authorise the Chair of the Capacity Building Fund Advisory Group to approve the applications for the outstanding 5 organisations which are pending further information;
- (iii) The recommendations for Gateshead Volunteers Month Small Grants as set out in appendix 3, paragraph 5 to the report; and
- (iv) The recommendations for Sporting Grants to Individuals as set out in appendix 3, 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.

Councillors Brain, Douglas and McNestry together with non Cabinet Members Councillors Caffrey and Wallace declared personal interests in the above matter because they have involvement with applicant organisations.

C48 GATESHEAD FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Consideration has been given to the draft Gateshead Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Council as lead local flood authority (LLFA) and how these are to be delivered.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the proposed draft strategy attached in appendix 3 to the report be approved for public consultation.
 - (ii) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet recommending a final strategy for adoption following the consultation process.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To ensure the Council is compliant with its duties as the LLFA as outlined in the FWMA.
- (B) To ensure the Council takes a proactive and sustainable approach to managing flood risk.

C49 APPROVAL OF SCHEMES, ESTIMATES AND TENDERS DURING THE SUMMER RECESS

Consideration has been given to authorising the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment and the Service Director, Council Housing, Design and Technical Services, following consultation with the Strategic Directors, Corporate Resources and Corporate Services & Governance and the Leader of the Council, to approve schemes and estimates, to consent to the invitation of tenders and to approve the acceptance of tenders, during the summer recess.

RESOLVED - That the Strategic Director, Communities and Environment and the Service Director, Council Housing, Design and Technical Services, following consultation with the Strategic Directors, Corporate Resources and Corporate Services & Governance and the Leader of the Council, be authorised to approve schemes and estimates, to consent to the invitation of tenders and to approve the acceptance of tenders, during the summer recess.

The above decision has been made to enable projects to progress and to avoid delay in delivery of the capital programme and its related expenditure.

C50 APPROVAL OF PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS DURING THE SUMMER RECESS

Consideration has been given to authorising the Strategic Director, Corporate Services & Governance and the Service Director, Legal, Democratic & Property Services, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources to approve transactions in respect of land and property, during the summer recess.

RESOLVED - That the Strategic Director, Corporate Services & Governance and the Service Director, Legal, Democratic & Property Services, following consultation with the Strategic Director, Corporate Resources be authorised to approve transactions in respect of land and property, during the

summer recess.

The above decision has been made because the achievement of capital receipts and rental income from the sale/letting of properties are dependent upon the individual transactions progressing without delay.

C51 SURPLUS DECLARATION AND DISPOSAL OF LAND AT LESS THAN MARKET VALUE - LAND AT WINLATON MILL

Consideration has been given to the land at Winlaton Mill as identified in the plan attached to the report, being declared surplus to the Council's requirements and to the disposal, in principle, of this land to Groundwork NE and Cumbria at less than the best consideration that can reasonably be obtained, in accordance with the procedure for such sales agreed by Cabinet on 30 January 2007 (Min. No. C268) to facilitate the development of the Visitor Centre for the Land of Oak and Iron project.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the land identified in the plan attached to the report be declared surplus to the Council's requirements.
 - (ii) That the disposal of the land at Winlaton Mill at less than best consideration to Groundwork NE and Cumbria be approved in principle.
 - (iii) That the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance be authorised to agree the detailed terms for the disposal of the land to Groundwork NE and Cumbria, which will be the subject of a further report to Cabinet.

The above decisions have 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 deliver meaningful long term benefits to rural Gateshead and to raise the profile of the area to potential visitors.

C52 SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATIONS

Consideration has been given to declaring the following properties surplus to the Council's requirements:

- 107/109 Coatsworth Road
- Land adjacent to the Mount Community Centre, Eighton Banks

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That in respect of 107/109 Coatsworth Road the land be declared surplus to the Council's requirements.
 - (ii) That in respect of the land adjacent to Mount Community

Centre, Eighton Banks, the land be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance be authorised to proceed with a 35 year lease to the Trustees of the Mount Community Centre pursuant to the Council's Community Asset Transfer policy.

The above decisions have been made to manage resources and rationalise the Council's assets in line with the Corporate Asset Strategy and Management Plan.

C53 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.

C54 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

C55 TRADING BEREAVEMENT SERVICES (PARAGRAPH 3)

Consideration has been given to the proposal to develop an expanded, commercially traded bereavement service.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the proposal to develop a commercial bereavement service as a traded service be approved in principle.
- (ii) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet in September recommending a proposed delivery model, and the financial arrangements required to facilitate this trading proposal.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To generate income to the Council through development of sustainable marketable services as set out in the Council Plan.
- (B) To increase choice and affordability for local people as well as improve customer service through the availability of an 'end to end' funeral offer.

C56 HOUSING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (PARAGRAPHS 3&4)

Consideration has been given to seconding the Service Director, Construction Services and all relevant staff (those employed on relevant activities in Construction Services and Housing Repairs and Maintenance staff who will transfer in from Mears in 2017) to The Gateshead Housing Company (“TGHC”) for a period up to two years to ensure the smooth mobilisation and delivery of the Housing Repairs and Maintenance Contract.

Alternative options have been considered.

RESOLVED - That the Service Director, Construction Services and all relevant staff (those employed on relevant activities in Construction Services and Housing Repairs and Maintenance staff who will transfer in from Mears in 2017) be seconded to The Gateshead Housing Company for a period up to two years.

The above decisions have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To achieve best value for the Council and its tenants.
- (B) To minimise risk to the Council.
- (C) To give Council time to consider the implications of the Housing & Planning Act.

C57 BATTERY STORAGE FOR DISTRICT ENERGY SCHEME (PARAGRAPH 3)

Consideration has been given to funding and installing a 1MW battery storage system for the Gateshead District Energy Scheme at Park Road Depot

RESOLVED -

- (i) That additional capital programme funding for the installation of a 1MW storage system for the Gateshead District Energy Scheme at Park Road Depot be approved.
- (ii) That the contract award to British Gas/Warm Up North as the preferred delivery contractor be approved.
- (iii) That the Strategy Director, Communities and Environment be authorised to negotiate the details of the contract following consultation with the Strategic Directors, Corporate Services & Governance and Corporate Resources

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 which could be deployed elsewhere in the borough, or traded outside of the borough.

C58 NORTHERN CENTRE FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGY (PARAGRAPH 3)

Consideration has been given to the submission of a full application for North East Growth and Infrastructure Funds (NEGIF), known as Local Growth Fund, for the Northern Centre for Emerging Technology (NCET) in the Baltic Business Quarter and related to this, the purchase of a capital asset to bring certainty to the delivery of the project.

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance be authorised to submit the NEGIF Full Application for the Northern Centre for Emerging Technology.
 - (ii) That further to (i) above the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance, be authorised to submit a formal, unconditional offer of up to the amount set out in the report, for the Council to acquire the leasehold of the Open University building to facilitate the delivery of the project.
 - (iii) That the Strategic Director, Corporate Services and Governance and Strategic Director, Corporate Resources, be given delegated authority to agree the final acquisition price and complete the transaction.
 - (iv) That a further report be submitted to Cabinet in autumn 2016, following announcement of whether the Council has been successful in securing NEGIF and/or ESIF Funds, to determine whether the Council wishes to draw down the funds, to match with Council funds, and proceed with developing the Northern Centre for Emerging Technology.

The above decision have been made for the following reasons:

- (A) To allow the Council to bid for North East Growth and Investment Funds.
- (B) To reduce the risks associated with securing the NEGIFs and delivery of the project.
- (C) To bring the whole Baltic Business Quarter into Council ownership.

- (D) To support digital technology SME's and the wider SME business community within Gateshead.
- (E) To maximise opportunities, and to build on the mounting recognition on a national level that Gateshead is receiving, for this smart specialism.
- (F) To support the delivery of Vision 2030 in particular the strong economy element of the Sustainable Gateshead big idea.
- (G) To facilitate further development in one of Gateshead's primary employment areas, the Baltic Business Quarter.

C59 REVIEW OF CULTURE SERVICE - INCOME GENERATION AND COMMERCIALISATION PLAN (PARAGRAPH 3)

Consideration has been given to the commencement of a formal consultation with staff and trade unions on the proposed new structure for the Culture Service to support the income generation and commercialisation plan for the Service to ensure its sustainability.

RESOLVED - That commencement of formal consultations with staff and trade unions on the proposed structure set out in appendix 2 to the report be approved and that a further report be submitted to Cabinet following the consultation.

The above decision has been made because the proposals represent the most effective means of the Council achieving the outcomes set out in the Culture Strategy, Creative Gateshead and to maintain a sustainable Service.

C60 THE DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE GATESHEAD FUND (CAPACITY BUILDING FUND) (PARAGRAPH 3)

Consideration has been given to entering into an agreement with the Community Foundation for Tyne & Wear and Northumberland for the development and administration of the Gateshead Fund (Capacity Building Fund).

- RESOLVED -
- (i) That the agreement between the Council and the Community Foundation for Tyne & Wear and Northumberland for the development and administration of the Gateshead Fund as set out in appendix 3 to the report be approved.
 - (ii) That the agreement between the Council and the Community Foundation for Tyne & Wear and Northumberland shall be for a period of 3 years, subject to

an annual review based upon receipt of a satisfactory evaluation report, and subject to the Council's budgetary position.

The above decisions have been made to build capacity and sustainability in voluntary and community organisations 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: 14 July 2016

Chair.....