



COUNCIL MEETING

17 December 2015

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER – REVISED POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Jane Robinson, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of a revised policy and procedure relating to Community Asset Transfers.
2. The current Community Asset Transfer (CAT) policy was approved in September 2012. Since this time, the Council has transferred sixteen community centres to occupying community associations and two to sport organisations. More recently, the Council has also transferred two leisure facilities (Gateshead Indoor Bowling Centre and the Dunston Activity Centre).
3. The Council is now receiving applications from community groups and other charitable organisations for a CAT of buildings that have not necessarily been used for community activity and this includes receiving multiple applications for the same building.
4. In order for the Council to consider such applications thoroughly and consistently it is proposed that the applications be assessed against a clear set of agreed criteria. The proposed policy has therefore been reviewed and is outlined in Appendix 2 of the attached report with a copy of the proposed matrix to be used in connection with any application outlined in Appendix 3 of the attached report.
5. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

6. It is recommended that Council agree the revised Community Asset Transfer Policy and Procedure