

## CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 at 5.00 p.m. at the Civic Offices, Telford

PUBLISHED ON FRIDAY, 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER, 2008

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN WEDNESDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2008)

**PRESENT:** Councillors A.J. Eade (Chairman), D.G. Allen, S. Bentley, S. Burrell, A. Lawrence and J.M. Seymour

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors R.K. Austin, G.M. Green, W.L. Tomlinson and V. Tonks (Opposition Group Leaders) plus Cllr G Ashcroft (for Cllr Carter)

### **CB-59      MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

### **CB-60      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor E.J. Carter,

### **CB-61      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor S Burrell declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Agenda item 5, "Putting People First in Telford & Wrekin" and left the meeting room during its consideration and determination.

### **CB-62      BOROUGH TOWNS GRANT SCHEME**

**Key Decision** identified as **Capital Strategy and Capital Programme Decisions within the agreed Capital Programme** in the Forward Plan published on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

Councillor G Ashcroft, for Councillor E Carter Cabinet Member for Regeneration (who was absent from the meeting) and the Corporate Director: Environment & Regeneration, presented the report of the Head of Planning & Environment, which sought approval for the necessary administrative procedures to be put in place to manage the Borough Towns Initiative funding package approved by Cabinet in January 2008. In addition, approval was also sought to agree the allocation of the first 3 years funding from the newly created Business Grant Scheme for 2008/9, 2009/10, 2010/11.

Members were reminded that Telford & Wrekin Council recognised the vital importance of Borough Towns regeneration and had established a substantial fund for addressing the issue. The Council placed a very high priority on working in partnership with local communities to achieve the economic and physical regeneration of its Borough Towns.

**CAB 290908 minutes**

The report before the Cabinet outlined which procedures were needed to administer the Borough Towns Initiative, following the Cabinet resolution of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008 and the third “summit” held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

The recommendations included targeted investment in Dawley/Malinslee, Newport, Wellington and Ironbridge. That would have to be funded from recycling capital receipts generated within the schemes. The Borough Towns Grant scheme which was initially a one year allocation of £250,000 had now been established as a rolling annual capital budget. However, the grant scheme was limited to the Borough Towns. It was indicated that any other local centre seeking support for projects would need to make a special case for future funding and each bid would be treated on its merits.

Members were informed that the Council’s Enterprise HQ Initiative was intended to provide commercial headquarters for multiple home-based enterprises and work space for mobile flexi-workers. Designed to help small businesses start and grow, the business hub was part of the first business development project of its kind in Europe. The scheme therefore had the potential to support many businesses and would be an effective use of the initial years of the grant scheme. It was suggested that the initial 3 years funding be allocated to supporting the Enterprise HQ Scheme.

During discussion of the report, various amendments were suggested, namely:- in paragraph 5.2.1 a revision of the ‘community chest’ figure to read £110,000; in paragraph 2.3.1 of appendix 1 – the insertion of the word “general” between “within the” and “District Centre Boundary”

There was also a request to clarify the “clawback” arrangements. It was agreed that the wording in the guidance would be amended to make it clear that clawback would not apply where amendments to the original project had been agreed.

The requirement of all identified Borough Towns to submit a Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan was discussed. It was noted that these did not need to be major documents, but could be a few pages long setting out key issues and priorities for action.

It was emphasised that the Council valued the contribution made by local communities and encourage them to be involved in the process. The funds for regeneration would be specifically allocated to each identified Borough Town and a half year review of the process would be reported to Members.

**RESOLVED** – that, subject to the amendments to paragraphs 5.2.1 of the report and paragraph 2.3.1 of appendix 1, as stated above,

- (a) **the Head of Planning & Environment be granted delegated authority, following consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Regeneration, to manage the grant scheme under**

**Borough Towns Initiative (BTI). The delegated powers would cover the following :**

- **Approve projects carried out under the Borough Towns Initiative capital programme in Newport, Wellington and Ironbridge, in consultation with local partnerships or task groups.**
  - **Approve any changes to the criteria for the Borough Towns Grant scheme**
  - **Approve any bids for external funding as part of the Borough Towns Initiative**
  - **Appoint project officers to manage BTI capital projects projects in Newport, Wellington and Ironbridge**
  - **Nominate officers to administer the Borough Towns grant scheme**
- (b) **the criteria for the Borough Towns grant scheme (as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report) be approved**
- (c) **the network of Borough Towns should comprise Dawley, Madeley, Newport, Oakengates, Wellington together with the historic centre of Ironbridge.**
- (d) **each Borough Town should be required to prepare a Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan.**
- (e) **the Council endorses the role of the Regeneration Forum as the “umbrella” body to represent the interests of all the Borough Towns and to submit projects on their behalf for “community chest” grant funding.**
- (f) **the first 3 years funding of £50,000 p.a. of the Business Grant Scheme be allocated to support the development Enterprise HQ initiative in Ironbridge.**

**CB-63        PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST IN TELFORD & WREKIN**

**Non-Key Decision**

Note: Councillor S Burrell, having previously Declared an Interest, left the room during the consideration and determination of the item.

Councillor J.M.Seymour, Cabinet Member for Adult & Consumer Care, presented the report of the Corporate Director: Adult & Consumer Care, which showed how the *Putting People First in Telford & Wrekin* programme would develop and improve social care services

It was reported that, in December 2007, the national Putting People First concordat was published setting out proposals for major changes in Adult Social Services. In Telford & Wrekin a “Re-thinking Community Care” project

had already commenced, which aimed to develop services within the context of changing demographics, resources and expectations. That work was now being established as a formal corporate programme, entitled *Putting People First in Telford & Wrekin* and the report before the Cabinet set out the programme's key priorities and how they would be progressed.

The main features of the concordat were: The move from a targeted to a universal system, of Social Care; the introduction of personal budgets for all users of Adult Social Services by 2011; development of services to maximise personal well-being, health, independence and choice; workforce and technological development to support the changes; and the introduction of a 3 year Social Care Reform Grant from 2008/09 to ensure implementation of the changes.

Putting People First in Telford & Wrekin (PPF) would be a major corporate programme to develop and improve adult social care services in Telford & Wrekin. It would be delivered as part of the Health and Well-being Strategy (Priority Plan for Healthier Communities & Improving the Quality of Life for Older and Vulnerable People) and in accordance with corporate priorities around efficiency and service improvement. The programme's six main work streams were: Access; Enablement; Personal & Individual Budgets; Brokerage; Provider Development and Workforce, Systems & Skills – all of which were explained in detail in the report.

The proposals would be taken forward by a Board chaired by the Cabinet Member for Adult & Consumer Care and including Portfolio, NHS and voluntary sector representatives to encourage public involvement in the process via road shows held from November '08. A request for further representation on the proposed Board, namely, the Shadow Cabinet Member for Adult and Consumer Care, would also be considered. Furthermore, appropriate Ward members would be notified and invited to the Road Shows.

**RESOLVED – That the plans for taking forward *Putting People First in Telford & Wrekin* be approved; and that further reports be submitted as and when required.**

The meeting ended at 5.29 p.m.

**Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices**

**Ken Clarke**  
**Head of Audit & Democracy**  
**Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008**

**Signed:** .....

**Date:** .....

**CAB 290908 minutes**