

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 21st July, 2009 at 5.00 p.m. at the Civic Offices, Telford

PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, 27th JULY, 2009

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN THURSDAY, 30th JULY, 2009)

PRESENT: Councillors A.J. Eade (Leader) J.M. Seymour (Deputy Leader), S. Bentley, S.P. Burrell, E.J. Carter, and A. Lawrence

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors R.K. Austin, G.M. Green and V.Tonks (Opposition Group Leaders)

CB-38 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 7th July, 2009 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

CB-39 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor M.B. Hosken

CB-40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors E.J.Carter and A.J.Eade declared personal and prejudicial interests (as Company Directors of Transforming Telford) in agenda item 19 – Future Delivery of Economic Development & Regeneration Services.

CB-41 PERFORMANCE AGAINST LAA / VISION 2026 MILESTONES AT END OF YEAR 2008/09.

Key decision identified as **Community Strategy /Local Area Agreement (LAA)/ Priority Plans** in the Forward Plan published on 16 June 2009.

The Head of Policy, Performance and Partnerships presented a report that set out end of year performance against LAA targets and Vision 2026 ambition 'milestones'

In early 2009, the Council and its LSP partner organisations agreed a revised Vision 2026 setting out longer-term ambitions for the Borough. They focused on the following themes: an Enterprising and Innovative Community, a Strong and Inclusive Community, a Learning Community, a Modern City, a Sustainable Green Community, and a Safe, Caring & Healthy Community.

The Council's 36 LAA2 targets (2008-11), negotiated with Government Office West Midlands in 2008, were an important mechanism by which the Council would drive forward delivery of those ambitions. Together with the LAA

targets, the Vision identified 33 'key success measures' with which to benchmark progress against those long-term ambitions.

Achieving those improvement targets would represent a real challenge to the Council and its key partners and Thematic Partnerships – The Council was working to address some of the most intractable problems and cross cutting issues in the Borough - teenage pregnancies, young people and adults not in work, educational attainment and low level of skills, alcohol abuse, violent crime and anti-social behaviour, obesity, homelessness and climate change.

Data and targets for 29/36 LAA indicators and 20/33 Vision 2026 'milestone' was available and measured. 48% of LAA indicators were on target; and 60% of the separate Vision milestone measures are on target. Where the Council had appropriate trend data, 11/16 (69%) LAA targets and 7/10 (70%) Vision milestones had shown improvement. A summary assessment of LAA targets /Vision milestones was appended to the report.

Although not all LAA targets had been achieved in the first year of monitoring, there was overall a positive direction of travel against some of the most difficult/intractable issues in the Borough, for example 'teenage pregnancy'. As noted, those LAA targets and Vision 2026 milestones were set out to measure progress against what is seen to be locally important in terms of improving the quality of life in the Borough – delivering against them was a real benchmark of how well the Council was delivering the shared Vision.

Members supported the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that performance against LAA/Vision 2026 milestones be noted;**
- (b) The proposals to drive improvement against these targets be approved**

CB-42 REVISION OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Key Decision identified as **Revised Local Development Scheme** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2009.

Councillor S. Bentley, Cabinet Member for Environment, presented the report of the Head of Planning & Environment that sought consideration of a revised Local Development Scheme (the published programme for preparation of the Local Development Framework) in order to allow formal submission of the document to Government Office West Midlands.

It explained that the Council's current Local Development Scheme (LDS) was approved in August 2007. However the programme it set out was now not deliverable within the timescales set out and no longer reflected Council priorities. It was therefore proposed that it be revised, and the report before Members sought approval of the revised LDS as appended to the report.

The report sought agreement to a revised LDS that set out a more pragmatic development plan programme to respond to priorities in a more streamlined and resource-efficient way. The key proposals were outlined within the report before the Cabinet.

It was suggested that the Development Plan Steering Group should examine any minor changes that needed to be made to the document.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the Local Development Scheme 2009/2012, as summarised in Table 2 and attached in full as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved, in order that the document can be submitted to the Secretary of State.**
- (b) **That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Planning & Environment, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment, to submit any minor changes to the document to the Development Plan Steering Group prior to submission to the Secretary of State.**

CB-43 HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE – WINTER SERVICE REVIEW

Key decision identified as **Winter Service Review** in the Forward Plan published on 16 June 2009.

Councillor S. Bentley, Cabinet Member for Environment, presented the report of the Corporate Director: Environment & Regeneration, which sought to review the operation of the Winter Service with regard to the difficulties encountered during the 2008/9 winter season due to the national shortage of road salt.

The report provided an update on the effectiveness of the Winter Service policy that was approved and adopted in September 2006 and looked at improvements required as a result of the problems encountered during the 2008/9 season.

It was concluded that there should be no significant changes to the policy, but there was a need for the policy to be amended to reflect the difficulties encountered in 2008/9. The details of which were contained within the report.

In essence, it was recommended that the Council should accommodate additional salt storage at Granville House and adopt a similar approach with the Primary routes and Secondary routes (as defined in the report).

RESOLVED – **that the recommended changes to the Winter Service outlined in Section 7 of the report be adopted and that the amended policy be adopted.**

CB-44 PLANNING OF SCHOOL PLACES: CO-LOCATION OF THREE OAKS PRIMARY AND STIRCHLEY PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO FORM A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT STIRCHLEY DISTRICT CENTRE.

Key Decision identified as **Planning of School Places: Co-location of Three Oaks Primary and Stirchley Primary Schools to form a new Primary School at Stirchley District Centre** in the Forward Plan published on 16 April 2009.

Councillor S. Burrell, Cabinet Member for Children & Young People presented the report of the Corporate Director: Children & Young People that sought approval for further formal consultation to take place in relation to proposals to redesignate the proposed new primary school (following the merger of Stirchley Primary and Three Oaks Primary schools), to become a shared part of the Lord Silkin School Trust.

Formal consultation had recently taken place regarding the proposal to merge the existing Stirchley Primary and Three Oaks Primary Schools. That process had now been completed. Recent guidance from the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) required that Local Authorities (LA's) increase where possible the diversity of school provision within their area. The DCSF had advised that since the Lord Silkin School would become a Trust from September 2009, that the expectation would be that the new primary school would form part of the Trust. Since the two existing schools had already indicated that they were willing to be partners of the Trust, and the new school would form an integral part of the new Learning Community, it was felt that that was the preferred available option

With the permission of the Chairman, Councillor Burrell took the opportunity to inform Members of the current proposals to enlarge upon the aims to remodel the Phoenix School in Dawley, and to now provide a complete rebuild of the school, as funding had now been identified for that purpose. A full report would be provided to the Cabinet in September 2009. The proposal was a key element of the educational transformation across the Borough.

Councillor V Tonks commended the announcement as a positive commitment for Dawley and its future.

The site of the new school was still being considered but it was hoped that works could commence in January 2011 with a completion in January 2013.

RESOLVED -

- (a) that the Corporate Director: Children and Young People be authorised to engage in formal consultation with key partners and stakeholders in respect of a proposal to merge and co-locate Stirchley Primary and Three Oaks Primary maintained schools**

into a new Trust primary school as part of the Lord Silkin Learning Community to open in January 2014.

- (b) that a further report on the outcomes of formal consultation to establish the new primary school as a Trust school be brought to a Cabinet meeting in the autumn 2009.**
- (c) that the Head of Asset & Property Management, in consultation with the Head of BSF Resources and Social Regeneration, be authorised to negotiate the terms of the transfer of Land and Buildings in the new Trust School proposal and the Head of Legal Services to execute all necessary agreements and documentation relating thereto.**

CB-45 SUPPORTING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

Non-Key Decision.

Councillor A.J.Eade, Leader & Cabinet Member for Chief Executive's Unit, presented the report of the Head of Policy; Performance & Partnerships that sought approval to implement a time limited programme of support for a small number of voluntary / community groups or organisations during the credit crunch. It was meant to enable those groups to continue to inform and support vulnerable community members affected by the economic downturn.

It was acknowledged that the Telford Town Centre based resource was useful, but that it was less likely to be accessed by some communities, because of the location, transport issues and residents with language difficulty.

The Borough had a number of community led/small voluntary sector organisations that are well placed to assist in providing information and support to vulnerable community members, even if this just displaying or distributing information, making appointments or directing people to further help and advice.

It was proposed that the issues be addressed by taking into account the following:

- It was recognised that unemployment and low paid employment within some communities within the Borough were already areas for concern. It was also recognised that people with disabilities and / or low skills levels were also more likely to be affected by the credit crunch.
- It was a reasonable to assume that people suffering greater levels deprivation at the start of the economic downturn were likely to be amongst those worst affected over time.
- Telford Race Equality and Diversity Partnership would be asked to undertake the implementation and monitoring of this initiative, and will

target a range of vulnerable community groups and organisations within the urban and rural areas to ensure that this initiative supports those communities most in need. Within that principle each community group or organisation that takes part in the scheme would be assessed on its own merit.

Funding to support vulnerable communities had been identified and the link with the proposals to create a One Stop Shop at Civic Offices would afford the opportunity to encourage vulnerable communities to focus on one point of contact with the Council.

RESOLVED – that the outline proposal set out in Section 5.1 of the report be approved.

CB-46 HEALTH & SAFETY ANNUAL REPORT

Non-Key Decision

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report of the Head of Human Resources that outlined the overall health and safety performance of the Council between April 2008 and March 2009.

The key findings of the report included a slight reduction in the number of accidents reported to employees and a reduction in the number of days lost due to accidents.

The Occupational Health Service was increasingly well used as was the employee counselling service. The uptake of health and safety training by managers remained encouragingly high.

The Chief Executive's health and safety group had proposed that the key actions for 2009/10 be further promotion of employee health and wellbeing and embedding the health and safety strategy across the Council, particularly, closer monitoring of health and safety audits.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the Annual Report on Health & Safety 2008/09 be noted.**
- (b) that the following key actions for 2009-10 be endorsed :**
 - Further promotion of employee health and wellbeing.**
 - Embedding the health and safety strategy across the Council particularly closer monitoring of health and safety audits.**

CB-47 CREATION OF A ONE STOP SHOP

Non-Key Decision

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report of the Head of Customer Services & Business Transformation regarding the request the Cabinet to endorse the creation of a One Stop Shop at Civic Offices.

The report detailed the benefits of a One Stop Shop, the services that would be provided from the One Stop Shop in the first instance and the associated costs. The development of a one stop shop was in line with the customer services strategy approved by Cabinet in 2007.

A One Stop Shop located on the ground floor of Civic Offices would enable the Council, in conjunction with its partners, to build on the success of First Point at Telford (the Credit Crunch Advice Centre based in the Telford Library) and provide enhanced access to a much wider number of council and partner services on a permanent basis.

The services that would be provided on the day of opening were detailed in an appendix to the report. Additional council and partner services could be added over an agreed period of time, subject to funding being available where required.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the creation of a One Stop Shop facility at Civic Offices be endorsed.**
- (b) that the basic ‘one stop shop’ service currently provided at First Point at Telford (our temporary credit crunch advice centre at Telford library) be migrated into the permanent one stop shop at Civic Offices before the go live date, anticipated to be before the end of January 2010.**
- (c) that the affordability of continuing to fund a CAB presence within the First Point facility beyond March 2010 be considered as part of the budget strategy for 2010/11 and as part of a wider review of the services we currently commission from CAB.**
- (d) that the additional costs of continuing to fund the Housing Advice Team post March 2010 be considered as part of the budget strategy for 2010/11 to ascertain whether the service is affordable on a continuing basis in the new one stop shop.**

CB-48 RESPONSE TO THE NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.Bentley, Cabinet Member for Environment, presented the report of the Head of Mobility & Development Services that outlined the Council's response to the Government consultation on 'A Safer Way' the next national road safety strategy.

The current national road safety strategy ran from 2000 to the end of 2010. Nationally and locally we have made good progress in reducing road casualties over the last decade. Locally, the Council was on course to exceed 40 per cent target reduction in people killed and seriously injured and the 50 per cent reduction in children killed and seriously injured by 2010.

The proposed new national road safety strategy included the first national vision for road safety. The consultation sought views on the vision as well as proposals linking to driver behaviour, vehicle safety, roads and local authorities, a new performance framework and proposed new targets.

The Department of Transport had identified that the Council's current (2000) strategy had improved road safety significantly, reducing the number of deaths and serious injuries by 37% over the last decade. However, 8 deaths a day was still intolerable and it was the aim to make the Borough's roads safer still. The targets were to reduce both deaths and serious injuries by 33% by 2020.

The proposed detailed consultation response was contained in an appendix to the report.

RESOLVED – that the consultation response, contained in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

CB-49 PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN ENGLAND: THE LAMING REPORT AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE.

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.P.Burrell, Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, presented the report of the Corporate Director: Children & Young People regarding the content of the Laming report which was commissioned following the death of 'Baby P' in Haringey; the Government's response to Lord Laming's recommendations; and the implications for service delivery in Telford and Wrekin.

Lord Laming's report indicated that the national direction of travel in terms of legislation, guidance and practice for safeguarding children and protecting their welfare was sound but more needed to be done to make sure services were provided consistently and effectively for all children in need of help and

protection. That was a view which was endorsed by the whole sector. The Government's response recognised that and had accepted all of his 58 recommendations. It had undertaken to ensure that 'best practice was universally applied in every area of the country'. Agencies in Telford & Wrekin were already engaged in further development of services

Lord Laming made it clear that nationally there continued to be widespread support from children's professionals for the Every Child Matters reforms as a whole and although he expressed general approval of the current legal framework and guidance for protecting children and promoting their welfare he made it clear there that; "the need to protect children from significant harm and neglect was ever more challenging. There now needed to be a step change in the arrangements to protect children from harm - one of the main challenges was to ensure leaders of local services effectively translated policy, legislation and guidance into day-to-day practice on the frontline of every service". That was an imperative for all services working with children.

It was suggested that the budget pressures referred to in the report be discussed at the Value for Money Scrutiny Group. The Cabinet Member welcomed the suggestion.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the contents of the report be noted.**
- (b) that a further report be presented once the revised guidance was published to appraise Members of any further local implications.**

CB-50 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES – SEVERN TRENT REGIONAL FLOOD DEFENCE COMMITTEE

Non-Key Decision

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report of the Interim Corporate Director: Resources regarding the proposed arrangements for shared representation on the Severn-Trent Regional Flood Defence Committee

The Severn Trent Regional Flood Defence Committee (STRFDC) was a statutory executive Committee of the Environment Agency. Its main role was to support the Agency's Flood Risk Management programme in the Midlands Region. The Committee included 11 local authority appointees from across the region.

Telford & Wrekin Council shared a seat on the STRFDC with Shropshire Council and Worcestershire Council. Provision was also made for a Deputy member to be appointed. Over the last three years, the seat had been taken by a Worcestershire Member, with the Deputy being from Shropshire County Council. A new four year term of office started on 1 June 2009, and the

Environment Agency had requested the appointment of a Member for the shared seat.

The appointment process had been delayed because of recent elections to new Councils in both Shropshire and Worcestershire. However, discussions had taken place with officers at those authorities, and it had been suggested that the four year term of office be split into two 2 year terms. That would allow more frequent rotation of the seat on the STRFDC between the three Authorities. The Environment Agency had no objection to such an arrangement. Using the principle that the Authority with the Deputy Member should subsequently have the full representation, the following arrangement was proposed for the next 4 years:

	<u>Lead Member</u>	<u>Deputy Member</u>
2009 to 2011	Shropshire	Telford & Wrekin
2011 to 2013	Telford & Wrekin	Worcestershire

Shropshire and Worcestershire Councils have both signified their agreement to that arrangement.

Therefore it was for the Council to appoint a Deputy Member to the STRFDC for the period up to May 2011. The Deputy Member was expected to substitute at meetings of the Committee if the lead Member was unable to attend, and to attend workshops/training events.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the joint arrangements for representation on the Regional Flood Defence Committee, as outlined above, be endorsed.**
- (b) **that the Cabinet Member: Environment be appointed as Deputy Member to the Regional Flood Defence Committee until May 2011.**

**CB-51 FINANCIAL MONITORING & VALUE FOR MONEY
EFFICIENCIES**

Key decision identified as **Budget Strategy / Service & Financial Planning Process** in the Forward Plan published on 16 June 2009.

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report of the Head of Finance & Audit that provided Members with an update on progress in achieving and reporting value for money (VFM) efficiency gains for 2008/09, and the latest financial monitoring for 2009/10.

The Government had placed a target on all public services to achieve at least 3% net cash-releasing VFM gains in 2008/09 and 2009/10, rising to 4% in 2010/11. The Council had identified a total of £4.661m (3.05%) efficiencies for 2008/09 which would be reported to CLG on the 24th July. Work would

now begin on collecting information for the 2009/10 estimate, which must be submitted in October 2009 and would appear on 2010/11 Council Tax bills. Of the efficiencies measured by the government's indicator only some represented real cash savings which could be used in the actual budget strategy, and similarly many of the real savings in our strategy were not eligible for counting against that measure.

In terms of monitoring performance against the Council's 2009/10 budget, overall revenue spend was currently projecting to be within budget, after taking into account the £1.596m uncommitted budget contingency and service action plans aimed at delivering a further £400k savings against current projections. Key pressures were Looked After Children and Specialist Education costs which continue to rise, together with the impact of the recession on income targets.

As inflation continued to fall, a review of the assumptions built into the base budget would take place, that could result in a saving.

Services were reviewing options to deal with the overspends. Those included identifying potential underspends across other services; considering any 2010/11 savings proposals that could be implemented during 2009/10; reviewing the potential for flexible use of grant funding allocations; and refining treasury projections, following closedown.

The 2009/10 approved capital programme was £61.5m; to date 3.8% spend had taken place, which was normal at the current early stage in the year.

Income collection was suffering from the impacts of the recession. Despite targets being adjusted to take into account the economic conditions NNDR figures were behind target, while Council tax collection and sales ledger were within target.

In terms of monitoring payments to suppliers, the target for 2009/10 was to pay 95% of invoices within 20 days; performance was currently below that at 93% for the year to date. Portfolios were reviewing processes to ensure prompt payment was achieved.

Councillor Green stated that the District Auditor's letter had commented upon the value of the contribution from the Council's Value for Money Scrutiny Group. It was hoped that meetings of the Group could be coordinated with the monitoring and budget processes to maximum effect.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that Cabinet note the Council had achieved its 3% efficiency target for 2008/09 which would be reported to DCLG on the 24th July and that work will now commence on the 2009/10 target .**
- (b) that the information in Appendix IV of the report, which would form the basis of the submission to DCLG, be approved. Work**

would continue to refine the detail to ensure that the performance measures were complete and the Council reports all of the efficiencies achieved.

- (c) that the overall 2009/10 financial position which is currently projected to be within budget by year end but also the significant budget pressures already being experienced which require management action to ensure Portfolios spend within the cash limits set be noted.
- (d) that the declining performance against some income targets be noted
- (e) that the slight underperformance against the target for paying supplier invoices, and the action being taken to address that, be noted.
- (f) that approval be given for the revenue virements detailed in paragraph 6.4 of the report and the new capital allocations, capital virements, and re-phasing detailed in Appendix III, that would go forward to Full Council for formal approval.

CB- 52 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 & 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

CB-53 TRANSPORT SERVICES REVIEW

Key Decision identified as **Transport Service Review** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2009.

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report of the Head of Customer Services & Business Transformation that detailed the findings and recommendations contained within the recent Transport Review undertaken by Northgate Kendric Ash, the company supporting the Council on the completion of a service review programme. Options for moving into the implementation stages and the costs of doing so were outlined in the report along with the available cashable savings post implementation.

A review of the operational transport arrangements of the Council was undertaken between March and April 2009. A number of recommendations are made around: Reorganisation, Improving efficiency and value for money, Streamlining the process, and Delivering existing services in a more efficient way.

The report before Members summarised the required changes and the financial improvements available as a result, including the costs of implementation. An executive summary of the key findings, together with a copy of the full findings, was appended to the report.

It was important to gain a mandate from Members to move towards the implementation of the recommendations at the very early stage of the process. Most of the proposed changes would be implemented over a period of 1.5 years however some of the cashable savings would not be fully realised until 2011.

A commercial proposal from Northgate Kendric Ash had been received to support with the implementation of the transport review based on a set of fixed fees and a risk and reward model, and was also appended to the report.

A letter from the Trade Union "Unison" was tabled for Member's information.

Members supported that proposals outlined within the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the findings and recommendations contained within the transport review. (contained in Appendix A – Executive Summary and Appendix B – full report findings, of the report) be endorsed.**
- (b) that the Steering Board convened to oversee phase 1 of the review be granted delegated authority to oversee the implementation stages of recommendations which do not have significant policy implications. Cabinet would be kept fully informed during the implementation process of significant issues as they arise and be requested to take further decisions during the implementation phases, particularly on recommendations outlined in 5.1,5.3, 5.4, 5.5 and 5.7 of the report.**
- (c) that moving forward into the implementation phases with Northgate Kendric Ash based on an agreed risk and reward model, including approval of the consultancy costs which form part of that model as outlined in Appendix C, be approved**
- (d) that paragraphs 5.0 – 5.7 of the report, which outlined the high level recommendations, some of which proposed an alternative way to the delivery of transport policy, and those recommendations which had a perceived higher profile and therefore required closer consideration by Members, together with to the opportunities and risk section of the report in paragraph 11.1 of the report, be noted.**

Key Decision identified as **Woodside Regeneration** in the Forward Plan published on 16th June 2009.

Councillor E.J.Carter, Cabinet Member for Regeneration presented the report of the Corporate Director: Environment & Regeneration that updated the Cabinet on the progress with the regeneration of Woodside and sought the approval for the approach to regenerate the local centre.

It was stated that, following earlier property acquisitions and selective demolitions, the opportunity now existed to complete the redevelopment of Woodside local centre. Redevelopment would create an economically viable centre with good quality residential and commercial development, enhanced public realm, a new community park and a new through route that would bring improved physical links with adjacent communities.

The redevelopment would complement the adjacent recently completed Park Lane Centre and would enable Woodside to capitalise on opportunities offered by the extensive development of new housing on adjacent sites.

Members welcomed the proposals that would help to regenerate the Woodside area.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that proposals for the redevelopment of Woodside local centre and the measures to be undertaken to implement the redevelopment scheme be approved.**
- (b) **that the issuing of tenders to undertake the demolition of the Dolphin PH and the commencement of the infrastructure works in Woodside local centre as set out in section 5.3.5 of the report, be approved.**
- (c) **that the marketing of the site for retail development in Woodside local centre as set out in section 5.3.7 of the report, and the granting of delegated authority to the Head of Asset & Property Management, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, to dispose of the site and the granting of delegated authority to the Head of Legal Services to take any required procedural steps and execute necessary legal agreements to facilitate the disposal, be approved.**
- (d) **that Discussions with Wrekin Housing Trust as a potential RSL partner for the Wildwood re-development scheme, as set out in section 5.4.7 of the report be approved, and that a further report on the appointment of the RSL partner for the scheme, be made to a future meeting.**

CB-55 TELFORD TOWN CENTRE

Key Decision identified as **Telford Town Centre** in the Forward Plan published on 16th April 2009.

Councillor E.J.Carter, Cabinet Member for Regeneration presented the report of the Corporate Director: Environment & Regeneration that sought authority to dispose of land within the Town Centre to facilitate Telford Town Centre regeneration and delegation to appropriate land to a planning purpose, if necessary to enable subsequent land assembly.

Members were reminded that the regeneration of Telford Town Centre was a key priority for T&WC, partners and the region. The regeneration would underpin and support growth, stimulate and attract investment in the Borough and create a Town Centre responding to the needs of the community. The report before the Cabinet sought approval to appropriate land to a planning purpose, if necessary, to enable subsequent land assembly and to dispose of land to Southwater Events Group (SWEG) or an associated group company.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that delegated authority be given to the Head of Asset & Property Management to dispose of land within the Town Centre to facilitate the regeneration of the Town Centre, as detailed in the report, and to negotiate and enter into an agreement to lease as detailed in the report**
- (b) that delegated authority be given to the Head of Asset & Property Management to carry out steps to facilitate land assembly and deal with any title issues that arise as detailed in the report**
- (c) That delegated authority be given to the Head of Legal Services to execute all necessary documentation to give effect to the recommendations contained in the report**

Having previously declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in the next item of business, Councillors E.J.Carter and A.J.Eade left the room prior to its consideration.

Councillor J.M.Seymour took the Chair for the next item of business.

Note: A quorum for the meeting was maintained as 4 Members were still present.

CB-56 FUTURE DELIVERY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Non-Key Decision.

Councillor A Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Resources, presented the report of the Head of Economic Development that stated that on 23rd July 2009, the Board of Transforming Telford would be informed of proposals for revised delivery arrangements for economic development, marketing/business tourism, and regeneration services. Those proposals would be presented on behalf of all three founding partners of Transforming Telford: Telford and Wrekin Council; the Homes and Communities Agency; and Advantage West Midlands. The purpose of the report before Cabinet was to seek support in principle for revised delivery arrangements. A further report on the legal and financial implications of those proposals would be presented to Cabinet for final decision in due course.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that support, in principle, be given to the proposals for revised delivery arrangements for economic development and regeneration services as set out in the report,**
- (b) that delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director: Environment & Regeneration to undertake an analysis of arrangements including legal and financial issues.**

The meeting ended at 6.21 p.m.

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

**Jonathan Eatough
Head of Legal Services
Date: 27th July 2009**

Signed:

Date: