

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 22nd June, 2010 at 5.00 p.m. at the Civic Offices, Telford

PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, 28th JUNE, 2010

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN THURSDAY, 1st JULY, 2010)

PRESENT: Councillors A. J. Eade (Leader and Chairman), S. Bentley, S.P. Burrell, E.J.Greenaway, M.B. Hosken, S.M. Kelly, A. Lawrence and J.M. Seymour

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

Councillor K.S.Sahota – for the Scrutiny Review: Helping Residents Access Benefits.

CB-11 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 8th June, 2009 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

CB-12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor E.J. Carter,

CB-13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

CB-14 SCRUTINY REVIEW – HELPING RESIDENTS ACCESS BENEFITS

Key Decision identified as **Scrutiny Leadership Board Reports** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2010.

Councillor K.S.Sahota, presented the report of the Review Group, which had undertaken the review of Helping Residents Access Benefits because Members were concerned that residents, especially those affected by loss of income or redundancy resulting from the recession, may not be aware of, or claiming, benefits that they were entitled to.

The review had two main objectives, namely to identify ways in which awareness of benefits available can be raised generally and through a more targeted way for particular groups of people; and to identify how current Council and partner agency processes for administration of benefits could be more co-ordinated and delivered in a more customer friendly way.

Members had been reassured that the Council and its partners were working very hard together to address the issue, particularly at a time of increased pressure on workloads and within limited budgets. The First Point initiative had been a success in helping to improve access, ease and speed of benefit services for local people.

There was a huge range of benefits and schemes available, and understandably, customers may not be fully aware of all. There was a need to educate front-line staff and keep them up to date with information and legislation relating to statutory benefits, and other non-statutory schemes so that they could advise customers.

Eight recommendations had been put forward, and they were set out in the report.

Councillor J. Seymour, Cabinet Member for Adult Care & Support, thanked the Scrutiny Review Group for their work, and presented the Cabinet's response to the Group's recommendations.

The report summarised the response to the recommendations made by the Scrutiny review into improving access to benefits. A number of benefits were administered by the council covering a number of service delivery areas in particular the Revenues and Benefits Services and those administered by adult social care with a smaller number in children's social care. As a result, a time limited project team, made up of those services heads who administer benefits would need to come together to ensure we apply the recommendations consistently. The Head of Customer Services & Leisure whose responsibility included the Revenues and Benefits Service would oversee implementation of the Scrutiny recommendations working closely with the Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Support,

All of the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Review were fully supported by Cabinet. Acknowledgement was made about the in-depth work that had been undertaken into the review of improving access to benefits which had taken 18 months to complete and which reflected the complexity and depth that the particular review had explored. Therefore the responses provided in Appendix 1 to the report were merely an initial response to the scrutiny recommendations. It was hoped that a further, more in-depth, response would be provided to Cabinet in October.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Commission are noted and the response set out in Appendix 1 is approved.**
- (b) That a further report be presented to Cabinet in October having allowed time for a small, time limited, implementation team to have considered the recommendations more fully and the options for implementation fully costed.**

Key Decision identified as **Performance Management, Value for Money and Best Value** in the Forward Plan published on 12 February 2010.

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focused Council, presented the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, which set out 2009/10 performance against the Council's corporate priorities as measured by local and statutory performance indicators and supported the identification of areas/issues to be considered for specific and targeted improvement activity.

For 2009/10 there were 398 indicators in the corporate performance framework made up of NIS, LAA and local indicators. The development of the Council's new Priority Plans had delivered a reduction in the total number of indicators in the corporate performance framework for 2010/11 to around 260 indicators - composed of 180 indicators in the new Priority Plans plus 87 NIS indicators which the Council was required to monitor. For 2010/11, 18 NIS indicators had been deleted – they were highlighted in Appendix 1 of the report.

As well the indicators in the Priority Plans, the Council was to corporately monitor and report progress against the actions within the Plans. A 2010/11 timetable for reporting against the framework was provided as Appendix 2 to the report.

In the current performance framework there were a number of indicators which relied upon the results of the 2009 Citizen Survey. A brief overview of the key findings of this survey were presented in Appendix 3 of the report.

Internal audit would be undertaking their annual assessment of performance data using a risk based approach. The internal audits are due to take place in mid June in preparation for external audit at the end of June. The indicators that will be audited by external audit have not yet been identified.

Of the 232 out of 398 indicators that had performance data and targets available, the Council had achieved 53% of targets (124 indicators). 57% of indicators improved performance (133 indicators) compared to 56% in 2008/09 and 30% indicators (69 indicators) deteriorated in performance.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the overview of the Council's 2009/10 performance be noted;**
- (b) **that areas/issues be identified for targeted improvement activity or which require further analysis of current performance.**

Key decision identified as **Budget Strategy / Service & Financial Planning** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2010.

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Finance, that was amended at the meeting, which set out to inform Members of the final outturn position for Revenue and Capital for 2009/10. The report would progress to Full Council to gain the required formal approvals

The gross revenue budget for 2009/10 was £386m – the net budget for reporting purposes just over £125m. The revenue outturn position was within budget with a final net underspend of £0.332m (-0.27% of net budget) which was a small improvement from the last monitoring report. Regular monitoring had been undertaken throughout the year and Management Teams had worked hard to maintain outturn within budget. There had been a number of service pressures experienced in 2009/10: the cost of providing care to Looked After Children and Specialist Education; Property Portfolio rental and Planning Fee income shortfalls due to the impact of the recession; winter maintenance costs associated with the adverse weather conditions experienced; and public inquiry costs. Benefits had arisen from treasury activities, the unused element of the budgeted contingency, council tax/housing subsidy and reduced landfill costs which had greatly assisted the overall position.

Within the overall position, provision had been made for the estimated cost of single status in 2009/10 (4% of the relevant pay bill); the one-off project costs associated with completing the single status project (to March 2012); and the 2009/10 one-off costs relating to the council re-structure.

There were delays to the commencement of some capital schemes but all main projects are now underway and rigorous progress monitoring arrangements in place. The amended report, tabled at the meeting due to recent uncontrollable reprogramming of some capital schemes, indicated that capital spend ended the year at £45.2m against an approved estimate of £79.8m which was in the main due to the re-phasing into 2010/11.

Council Tax collection (£57m), Business Rates (£64m) and sales ledger income (£50m) all ended the year with collection rates ahead of target which was pleasing given the economic climate.

RESOLVED – to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL

- (a) **that the Revenue outturn position and related virements in Appendix III of the report for 2009/10, subject to audit by the Council's external auditors, be approved**
- (b) **that the Capital outturn position and related supplementary estimates and slippage in Appendix IV of the report, and summarised in the report, be approved**

- (c) that performance against income targets, as explained within the report, be noted.

CB-17 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK AND LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 3

Key Decision identified as **Revision to Local Development Scheme and Local Transport Plan** in the Forward Plan published on 12th February 2010.

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area, presented the joint report of the Head of Planning & Transport and the Head of Environmental Services, which sought approval to the setting up of a Working Group to steer the development of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) and the Local Development Framework (LDF).

It was explained that The Local Transport Plan was the statutory document that set out the Council's transport policies. LTP2 would soon expire and the replacement, LTP3, must be approved ready for implementation from April 2011.

The Local Development Framework (LDF), and in particular the Core Strategy, was the Council's spatial plan. It was a key component supporting the Council's corporate strategies, acting as the spatial interpretation and delivery plan for the Community Strategy reflecting and supporting the priorities of the Council and our partners. A governance structure for the LDF shared with the development of the LTP would ensure that they are consistent and complementary.

The report explained that to achieve the LTP timetable it was important for the Council to confirm governance arrangements involving elected members and senior officers as soon as possible. The report set out the proposed governance arrangements. It was recommended that a proposed Working Group should meet to consider the results of the initial public and stakeholder consultation process which closed at the end of May.

The Core Strategy was the central element of the LDF. The current Core Strategy was adopted in 2007 covering the period up to 2016. The proposed governance structure would be able to oversee and guide a review.

Members welcomed the report.

RESOLVED-

- (a) that the consultation arrangements for LTP3 and the timescale for producing a plan for submission to the DfT in March 2011 be noted;

- (b) that the governance arrangements for the LDF and LTP as shown in the proposed governance structure contained within the report, be endorsed.
- (c) that a first meeting of the LDF/LTP3 Working Group to take place in July to consider the results of the consultation on LTP3.

CB-18 RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Key Decision identified as **Rights of Way Improvement Plan** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2010.

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area, presented the joint report of the Head of Planning & Transport and the Head of Environmental Services, which sought approval to the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP).

The Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) was a statutory document required by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000; guidance was published in 2002 to support local authorities in developing Improvement Plans. In Telford and Wrekin there were over 400 km of rights of way in the Borough and the Plan had been developed through extensive consultation with local user groups and town and parish councils.

The Plan gave the Council's assessment of:

- The extent to which local rights of way meet present and likely future needs of the public;
- The opportunities provided by local rights of way for exercise and other forms of open air recreation;
- The accessibility of local rights of way to blind or partially sighted persons or others with mobility problems.

The ROWIP should consist of an assessment outlined above and an action plan. The Plan effectively provided a statement of the action that the Council proposed to take for the management of rights of way, and for securing an improved rights of way network. The focus of the Plan would be to address any issues identified in the assessment outlined above and the Plan should be reviewed at least every ten years.

Prior to preparing the draft ROWIP, the Council carried out a consultation with all town and parish councils, user groups, ward members, the Local Access Forum (LAF), adjoining highway authorities, Natural England and other organisations with a stake in rights of way and access. Members of the public were also invited to feedback through a questionnaire published in the Council's "Insight" magazine. The LAF was a statutory group set up to advise the Council as to the improvement of public access to land for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the local area; the group is made up of representatives from relevant interest groups.

The feedback received from the consultation identified a number of areas that groups and individuals wanted to see addressed in the ROWIP, they included:

- Improved and extended access for horse riders, with particular emphasis on addressing the problem of the fragmented bridleway network
- Improved access for disabled and less-able users
- Better liaison with interest groups and improved partnership working to meet joint objectives
- Better maintenance on existing rights of way including signposting, surfaces and furniture; also regular cutting back of vegetation
- More publicity to promote the use of rights of way, particularly more advice and information for disabled users and horse riders.

The draft ROWIP was prepared using the feedback from the consultation along with an assessment of existing Council policies and a review of the current state of the network. Following preparation of the draft ROWIP, the document was subject to a further consultation similar to that carried out previously. The draft ROWIP was reviewed and edited following this second consultation, and it was attached to the report, as Appendix 1, for approval.

At the meeting, it was proposed that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment & Rural, for any minor changes to the Plan prior to publication. Members fully supported the Plan as a positive approach to maintain rights of way, particularly in the rural area of the Borough.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the process undertaken in developing and consulting on the Rights of Way Improvement Plan be noted;**
- (b) that the draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan be approved as the Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Telford & Wrekin**
- (c) that delegated authority be given to the Head of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment & Rural, for any minor changes to the Plan prior to publication.**

CB-19 ‘£££ for PROJECTS’ SCHEME

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Assistant Chief Executive, which updated Members on the progress of the ‘£££ for Projects’ Scheme and sought endorsement of the proposed actions for delivery

In the current financial year, the Council had allocated £150,000 for a participatory budgeting scheme called ‘£££ for Projects’. The scheme provided an opportunity for the Council to increase resident involvement, and

to empower residents to become more engaged within their local area. It could also improve value for money by making sure that the Council was spending money on the things that matter most at a local level.

Ward, Town and Parish Councillors, plus over 650 people, had given their opinion on the proposal of the Scheme and suggestions on how the money could be spent. There was a general view that local people should be actively and directly involved in deciding how money was allocated and that money should be spread 'fairly' across the area.

It was proposed that up to £4,500 would be allocated from the Scheme for delivery of projects and activities in each ward. Based on suggestions from local people and in conjunction with relevant Service Delivery Managers, we have developed a proposed list of projects/activities that could be delivered at a ward level. The list of voting options for projects/activities was tabled at the meeting

It was proposed that delegated authority be granted to Rachael Jones, Community Engagement, Equalities and Action Manager, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Efficient, Community Focussed Council and after having regard to the results of the public vote, to decide what projects and activities should be delivered from the Scheme, and how the budget is to be spent.

Members wholeheartedly supported the initiative.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the proposed delivery of the '£££ for Projects' Scheme, which includes a borough wide vote, the list of proposed themes for projects/activities and the establishment of a '£££ for Projects' Panel, be approved.**
- (b) that Cabinet exercise its power under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 in respect of the Scheme and the projects and activities to be delivered out of it after having regard to the Council's Sustainable Community Strategy.**
- (c) that delegated authority be granted to the Community Engagement, Equalities and Action Manager, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Efficient, Community Focussed Council and after having regard to the results of the public vote, to decide what projects and activities should be delivered from the Scheme, and how the budget is to be spent.**

**CB-20 LAWLEY VILLAGE GREEN AND LAWLEY PLAYING FIELDS
– VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION AS VILLAGE GREENS**

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Property & Design, which sought approval to voluntarily register the land identified in the report as a village green.

A number of village green applications had been made in recent years by Lawley & Overdale Parish Council to have the land, which was the subject of the report, registered as a village green.

The local community had for a number of years had access to the land and as it had been perceived by residents as a community facility, the proposed action would confirm continued use by local people for recreational purposes by volunteering to register the land. There was a small area of land within each parcel (shown hatched blue on the plans) which it was not possible to register due to the fact that, with regard to Lawley Playing Fields, there was a proposal, which had been given planning consent, to install improved play facilities (including some fencing) which is inconsistent with village green use. In addition there was an area on the land known as Lawley Village Green which could not be registered as the Developers of the Lawley Estate had a contractual and legal right to install an attenuation tank on the land to secure adequate drainage.

RESOLVED – that delegated authority be given to the Head of Property & Design to make an application for voluntary registration of the land shown outlined in red (excluding the land hatched blue) on the plans attached at Appendix A to the report as village greens.

**CB-21 BTI SPORTS 7 LEARNING COMMUNITIES: TELFORD
COMMUNITY INDOOR TENNIS CENTRE OPERATOR**

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Leisure & Customer Services, which updated Members as to progress on the Telford Community Indoor Tennis Centre and sought approval on the proposed plans to engage with an independent coaching operator to deliver a borough-wide coaching programme.

Members were reminded that the Council had previously approved the inclusion of Telford's only indoor tennis centre at Oakengates Leisure Centre as part of the borough-wide Borough Towns Initiative Sports & Learning Communities (BTISLC) programme. The centre's construction programme continued on schedule and plans to ensure the successful management and operations of the centre were being progressed. That included the proposal to engage with an independent experienced tennis operator to deliver the

centre's coaching and competition programme, as well as an extensive community outreach programme from a number of park, leisure centre and school sites across the Borough.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the progress on the Telford Community Indoor Tennis Centre part of the BTI: Sports & Learning Community Programme (BTISLC); be acknowledged;**
- (b) **that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Leisure & Customer Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Active Lifestyles, to undertake a tender process and subsequently to enter into a contract with a tennis coaching operator to provide the coaching programme for the indoor centre as well as an extensive community outreach programme across the Borough.**
- (c) **that the requirement for five suppliers to be invited to tender as outlined in paragraph 5.1.5. of the report be waived.**

CB-22 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2010/11

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Governance, which requested Cabinet to appoint representatives to Outside Bodies for the municipal year 2010/11.

Attached to the report was an Annex, amended at the meeting, showing the nominations for the various appointments, and Cabinet was asked to decide on those appointments for where there was more than one nomination.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the nominations to represent the Council on Outside Bodies, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved**
- (b) **that the vacancies to represent the Council on Outside Bodies, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be approved as follows:**
 - (i) **all the Conservative nominations for those Outside Bodies listed in Appendix 2**
 - (ii) **Councillor K.S.Sahota to represent the Council on the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**
 - (iii) **Councillor L.Lomax to represent the Council on Ironbridge & Telford Tourism**

- (iv) **Councillor J.C.Minor to represent the Council on the Shropshire Playing Fields Association.**
- (v) **Councillor G.Green to represent the Council on the Telford & Wrekin Citizens Advice Bureau Management Board**
- (c) **that the Cabinet Member: Children & Young People (Cllr. Stephen Burrell) be appointed as the Council's representative on The Pegasus Co-operative Learning Trust and the second Cabinet Member: Children & Young People (Cllr Jayne Greenaway) be appointed as the nominated deputy;**
- (d) **That the Cabinet Member: Housing, Regeneration & Prosperity be appointed as the Council's Heritage Champion (English Heritage).**

CB-23 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 paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CB-24 SUTTON HILL LOCAL CENTRE – ARRANGEMENTS FOR TENDER AWARD

Key Decision identified as **Sutton Hill Regeneration** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2010.

Councillor A Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area, presented the report of the Head of Regeneration & Housing which sought Cabinet approval to delegate authority to award the contract for the regeneration of Sutton Hill local centre.

The Housing & Regeneration Partnership Board had identified the South Telford former New Town estates as its top priority for housing-led regeneration, and was supporting the development of a project for the regeneration of Sutton Hill local centre.

Local residents had been consulted on proposals for the local centre and a planning application had been submitted. The report before Cabinet sought authority to the proposed procurement of the works, which would comprise infrastructure work and new retail units with flats above.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the progress made to date with the redevelopment proposals for Sutton Hill local centre be noted.**
- (b) **that delegated authority be granted to the Corporate Director for the Housing, Regeneration and Prosperity Priority Plan following**

consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration and Prosperity to;

(i) enter into all necessary legal documentation to award the tender for the regeneration of Sutton Hill local centre,

(ii) that the amendments to the scheme, if necessary, to bring the programme back in line with available funding, be approved.

CB-25 BROADBAND IMPROVEMENT PILOT

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of ICT & Procurement, which provided details of the work underway in ICT & Procurement to address rural broadband issues across the Borough and informed Members of the work undertaken in the region to support the development of next generation access broadband across the region.

Approval was also sought for the piloting of wireless and WiMax technologies in the Kynnersley Moor area of the Ercall Magna Ward for the corporate network and private broadband access for business' and residents.

Access to affordable next generation broadband could have far reaching effects for both individuals and business. Indeed broadband availability was seen in many quarters as a means of developing new business and should not be seen as a technology issue. Rather it was about ensuring access to the Internet in order to promote social inclusion and promote economic regeneration.

Members were fully supportive of the proposals that would provide enhanced broadband service to the residents of the Kynnersley and Preston Moors area.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the efforts undertaken to address the availability of broadband both across the Borough and in the wider region to support the development of next generation access broadband across the Borough be noted;**
- (b) that Cabinet exercise the Council's powers under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 after having regard to the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Secretary of State's Guidance on the use of those powers; to approve the implementation of a pilot of wireless and WiMax technologies in the Kynnersley Moor and Preston Moor areas of the Borough funded from existing ICT reserves and external match funding from Networks by Wireless.**

- (c) **that an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules be authorised and the requirement for four tenders in respect of the pilot project be waived.**

CB-26 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE AREAS, EAST OF HADLEY PARK ROAD, LEEGOMERY

Key Decision identified as **Public Open Space Areas, East of Hadley Park Road, Leegomery, Telford** in the Forward Plan published on 14th May 2010.

Councillor A, Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area, presented the joint report of the Head of Property & Design and the Head of Environmental Services, which considered the options for the Council in relation to the future maintenance of the Public Open Spaces, (POS) East of Hadley Park Road, Leegomery

The developers and the owners of the POS, had gone into administration leaving a significant area of POS with no one responsible for the maintenance. The appointed administrators for the Owners, had requested the transfer of the freehold title and all future maintenance responsibility to the Council. They have offered to make a financial monetary contribution towards the costs of ongoing maintenance.

Residents had expressed concern over the lack of ongoing maintenance of the areas of POS. The Council had assisted residents by carrying out two cuts of the land, after obtaining permission of the Owners, without prejudice, to future discussions.

There were a number of options available to the Council: and they were explained within the report.

With regard to the future maintenance of the site in order to ensure affordability and sustainability a number of options would need to be explored including: Parish Council involvement, Resident involvement e.g., Community Trust, Reviewing design and functions of the POS to minimise maintenance costs, and Future land use.

Members, including Opposition Group Leaders (particularly the Labour Party Leader), welcomed the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the transfer of the freehold of the land to the Council on terms to be agreed by the Head of Property and Design, be approved**
- (b) **that approval be given to maintaining the land as per the attached specification (Appendix 3 of the report) for a period of 12 months, pending further exploration of maintenance options.**
- (c) **that the Head of Governance be authorised to agree and execute all necessary documentation.**

CB-27 OPERATIONAL PROPERTY DISPOSAL

Non-Key Decision

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Property & Design which provides information on an initial phase of Operational Property efficiency.

The Council had a wide range of operational buildings across the Borough. Some properties were purpose built such as leisure centres, schools etc, some were offices from which a range of services were based. In order to identify efficiencies and improve the management of accommodation an initial property review had been carried out which identified several buildings, identified in the report, which were deemed surplus to requirements. The proposal outlined within the report, would deliver revenue savings and improve efficiency in the way the Council uses property.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that delegated authority be given to the Head of Property & Design to dispose of freehold interests in Operational properties as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.**
- (b) That rationalisation of office accommodation to re locate services and staff into various existing properties as identified in appendix 1 of the report, be approved.**
- (c) that the Head of Governance be authorised to execute all legal documentation to dispose of freehold interests as detailed in the report.**

CB-28 TELFORD TOWN CENTRE – CIVIC OFFICES

Non-Key Decision

The Head of Property & Design presented a report that sought agreement to the location for the replacement Civic Offices within Southwater and the appropriate procurement route.

The Cabinet report of 12 January 2010 identified a need for a new Civic Offices following the anticipated disposal of the existing Civic Offices site to ASDA. In March 2010, the Southwater development had received a decision to grant planning consent, which included for up to 10,000sqm of Civic Office accommodation.

The report before Cabinet provided detail on how the new Civic Offices was to be delivered in terms of its location and procurement strategy.

A further report would be brought back to Cabinet over the next few months seeking approval for the exact size and configuration of the new civic offices. Currently, the design process was being used to optimise the use and

allocation of space and in that way it was hoped that efficiencies could be realised when compared with the January Report. Details would be brought forward in due course.

Members supported the report and commented upon the first class location for the new offices within the Southwater development. Councillor R.K.Austin, Labour Party Leader, commented upon the need for suitable access for Disabled Users, and the Head of Property & Design gave assurances that such matters would be covered in the design & build process of the development..

RESOLVED –

- (a) **that the location of Civic Offices adjacent to the new proposed Southwater Lake (Site B, Appendix 1 of the report) be approved.**
- (b) **that the procurement of a replacement Civic Offices building through a ‘Design & Build’ process as identified in 5.2 and Appendix 2 of the report, be approved**

CB-29 FUTURE PROVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Key Decision not in the Forward Plan (taken with the consent of the Chairman of the Interim Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with paragraph 2.7 of the Cabinet Decision Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4, Section 4 of the Constitution).

Councillor A Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area, presented the report of the Head of Planning & Transport that sought approval to make changes to the provision of waste management infrastructure in the Borough including:- the construction of a new Community Recycling Centre (CRC) co-located with a Waste Bulking Station (WBS) in the Hortonwood area to serve the north of the Borough; retention of the existing CRC at Halesfield to serve the south of the Borough; the closure of Granville and Ketley and Newport CRCs; and developing a facility in Newport in a new location focusing on provision of recycling facilities.

The measures to revise the provision of waste management infrastructure were proposed because there was a need to increase recycling rates at the Community Recycling Centres (CRCs). In addition, there were also concerns that the Newport and Ketley CRCs were operating beyond their capacity causing potential operational and health and safety issues.

The Council had to continue to reduce the amount of Biodegradable Municipal Waste (BMW) being disposed of to landfill in order to minimise the impact of Landfill Allowance penalties via the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS). A WBS would provide a reception point for some residual waste collections that would have to be diverted from landfill into alternative waste treatment in order to meet landfill allowance targets.

The options available with regard to the provision of a WBS were detailed within the report before Members.

Members commented that the proposals were an exciting opportunity to enhance the recycling initiative in the Borough and would improve the quality of service to residents

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the termination of the Granville CRC contract with SITA UK Ltd be approved and the Head of Planning and Transport be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet member for the Environment and Rural Area, to implement the decision.
- (b) that the replacement of the Newport CRC in a new location, as an enhanced recycling centre including acquisitions and disposals of relevant land, be approved;
- (c) That officers be requested to identify and acquire a preferred site for the construction of a Waste Bulking Station (WBS) and a co-located super CRC in the Hortonwood area
- (d) that officers bring back reports detailing designs and costings for each of the sites for approval before financial commitments were made to ensure a properly costed business model was in place and budgeted.

The meeting ended at 6.01 p.m.

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

**Jonathan Eatough
Head of Governance
Date: 28th June 2010**

Signed:

Date: