

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 28th September, 2010 at 5.00 p.m. at the Civic Offices, Telford

PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, 4th OCTOBER, 2010

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: THURSDAY, 7th OCTOBER, 2010)

PRESENT: Councillors S. Bentley, S.P. Burrell, E. Carter, E.J. Greenaway, M.B. Hosken, S.M. Kelly, and A.Lawrence

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors G.M. Green and V. Tonks (Opposition Group Leaders) and Councillor C.F.Smith (for Cllr R.K. Austin).

CB- 62 ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

In the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, it was

RESOLVED – that Councillor S Bentley be elected Chairman for the meeting.

Councillor Bentley took the Chair.

CB-63 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 14th September, 2010 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

CB-64 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors A. J. Eade and J.M. Seymour, and Councillor R.K.Austin

CB-65 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

CB-66 TELFORD TOWN PARK - BOUNDARY

Key Decision identified as **Telford Town Park Designation and Boundary** in the Forward Plan published on 16th August 2010.

Councillor A Lawrence, Cabinet Member for Environment & Rural Area, presented the report of the Head of Planning & Sustainability, which sought approval to update the boundary of the Telford Town Park.

Members were reminded that the last review of the town park boundary was undertaken in 2006 when the Telford Town Park Strategic Framework for the

park was adopted. An extension was secured to the southern boundary as part of that process.

The Town Park was a core element of the Council's vision to support the development of the town centre and create an attractive green area for the town that was to be highly accessible from the Southwater development and the shopping centre.

At the present time development proposals for the Southwater area were being proposed as part of the expansion and regeneration of the Telford Town Centre. Improvements to the Telford International Centre were already on site. The importance and value of the Town Park was recognised in the proposals for Southwater. It was therefore opportune to review the boundary of the Town Park where it adjoins the Southwater development area to ensure the park continued to fulfil its vital role providing green space at the heart of Telford.

During the ensuing discussion, there were various expressions of support for the proposed boundary extension to the park to protect particularly the Arena from potential development. Previously considered potential leisure development could now be accommodated within the planned Southwater Development at the Town Centre.

RESOLVED – that an extended boundary for the Town Park, including the Arena and an area of allotments as indicated on the map at Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

CB-67 **COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE HEALTH REFORM WHITE PAPER "EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE: LIBERATING THE NHS"**

Non-Key Decision

The Head of Adult Social Care (Commissioning) presented a report which outlined the key proposals of the Government White Paper "Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS" and sought Members' views on the key questions from the consultation in order to prepare a response. The report focused on the consultation proposals and further reports would be prepared on the issues and implications which the Council would need to address as the actual reforms were confirmed.

The Government published the White Paper in July 2010 and subsequently produced four more detailed consultation documents with a required response date of 11 October. The documents not only presented a major restructuring of the NHS but also contained significant implications for local authorities, in particular the transfer of responsibility for health improvement and the introduction of the lead coordination role for health and social care. The document of primary relevance to the Council was 'Local Democratic Legitimacy in Health'. A further key document on detailing the transfer of public health duties would not be published until the autumn to allow for

further work to be done determining the extent and scope of what would be transferred. There were 100 questions within the consultation documents. The key questions on which a member view was sought were listed in appendix 1.

Councillor V.A. Fletcher, Chairman of the Active Lifestyles, Leisure & Culture Scrutiny Committee was invited to address the meeting, and commented upon the Committee's response to the White Paper. Accountability and transparency were viewed as paramount, together with the need for robust monitoring and effective resources.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the key proposals contained within the White Paper be noted;**
- (b) that responses to the key consultation questions highlighted within Appendix 1 of the report, be approved as the Council's formal response to the consultation;**
- (c) that delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director responsible for Adult Care and Support, in consultation with the lead Cabinet Member and Chair of the Health Overview Scrutiny Committee, to prepare and submit the Council's detailed response to the consultation.**

CB-68 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTING LINE

Non-Key Decision

Councillor M.B.Hosken, Cabinet Member for Community Protection and Cohesion, presented the joint report of the Head of Community Protection and Cohesion and the Head of Customer & Leisure Services, which informed Cabinet of the launch of an Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Reporting Line and Joint ASB Unit in partnership between Telford & Wrekin Council, West Mercia Police and The Wrekin Housing Trust.

Anti-social behaviour continued to be a high priority and concern for local residents – it was a key priority within the Community Protection and Cohesion Priority Plan and also for the Safer Communities Partnership

It was considered that the Council could improve the prevention of ASB and response to incidents through better reporting arrangements and improved coordination across responding agencies

To that aim, the ASB hotline provided a single point of contact for all ASB issues, and was a jointly developed project that was promoted as a safer communities initiative.

The Council's customer relationship management (CRM) system would record incoming calls, identify which agency should provide a response, and monitor

progress – ensuring all contacts were dealt with, and customers informed when they were complete.

Members welcomed the report, and thanked officers for their work on the scheme.

RESOLVED – that the launch of the ASB Reporting Line and its promotion awareness within communities, be endorsed.

CB-69 PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS IN TELFORD

Non-Key decision

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area, presented the report of the Head of Environmental Services, which updated members of the work the Council had undertaken to improve the quality of the appearance of streets and open spaces in Telford.

The Council had been proactive in seeking to reduce street clutter (items such as signs, posts and street furniture considered to be surplus to requirements on the highway and in areas of open space) in the borough over the last two years. Work to remove unnecessary signs and other equipment had also been included as part of the Council's Borough Towns Initiative (BTI) programme across the Borough. In addition, work in introducing the rapid response team had enabled the Council to ensure greater ability to remove unnecessary signs and posts across the Borough.

The report before the Cabinet also outlined the work of a working group, the Public Realm Group, on improving the public realm in the Borough and changes in national design guidance that impacted upon the public realm. Recognising the increasing focus on 'de-cluttering' the report also sought approval to the delegation of powers to formalise the process for attaching street-lights on buildings, which would increasingly be used as part of BTI projects where possible.

Members supported the measures to de-clutter the street realm with a co-ordinated approach. However the Council would also be mindful of the needs of those persons with disabilities, who benefited from the presence of street information within the community.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the work already undertaken in removing street clutter from roads and open spaces in Telford and Wrekin be noted;**
- (b) that the emerging national guidance on streetscape and public realm improvements be noted;**
- (c) that the establishment of a Public Realm Group, to oversee the public realm and streetscape related work in Telford and Wrekin, be noted;**

- (d) that delegated powers relating to the installation of street-lights on buildings, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report, be approved.

CB-70 STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER – SEPTEMBER 2010

Non-Key decision

Councillor S.Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focused Council, presented the report of the Chief Executive, Lead Officer for Governance, which sought approval of the updated Strategic Risk Register.

The Strategic Risk Register was last updated in September 2009 but was not presented to Members due to the Council's reorganisations. Risks had continued to be managed by Heads of Service and Service Delivery Managers.

The Strategic risks were drawn from the Priority Plan Risk Registers including proposed Central Government changes and key activities. They had been designed to be clear on the risk and to reflect their strategic nature. They had been combined where there were similar themes in several/all plans i.e. regeneration, retention of an appropriate motivated workforce. They had been assessed under the Council's risk management methodology and were listed in priority order at Appendix A of the report.

RESOLVED – that the updated Strategic Risk Register as shown at Appendix A of the report, which contributed to good governance and the management of risks, be approved.

CB-71 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it 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-72 ENGINEERING & TECHNICAL SERVICES CONTRACT

Key Decision identified as **Engineering Professional Services Contract** in the Forward Plan published on 16th August 2010.

Councillor A. Lawrence, Cabinet Member: Environment & Rural Area presented the joint report of the Head of Environmental Services and the Head of Property & Design which sought to update members on the work to develop and procure a new engineering and professional services contract and also outlined the proposed interim arrangements whilst a new contract was being procured.

Whilst a new contract was being procured a series of interim arrangements were proposed to ensure service continuity which were detailed in the main body of the report.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that approval be given to commence the start of the formal procurement of a new Engineering and Technical Services contract to support the Council in the delivery of its priorities;**
- (b) that the interim arrangements for the provision of technical services to ensure continuation of service delivery as set out in the report, be approved**

The meeting ended at 5.33 p.m.

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

**Jonathan Eatough
Head of Governance
Date: 4th October 2010**

Signed:

Date: