

CABINET

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

28 August 2007

The meeting commenced at 9.00 am at the Avondale Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond) - In the Chair

Councillors: Pam Hargreaves (Deputy Mayor)

Gerard Hall (Adult and Public Health Services Portfolio Holder)

Cath Hill (Children's Services Portfolio Holder)

Robbie Payne (Finance & Efficiency Portfolio Holder)

Victor Tumilty (Culture, Leisure and Tourism Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Paul Walker, Chief Executive
Adrienne Simcock, Director of Children's Services
Dave Stubbs, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Peter Scott, Director of Regeneration and Planning Services
Mike Ward, Chief Financial Officer
Tony Brown, Chief Solicitor
John Mennear, Assistant Director of Children's Services
Peter Turner, Principal Strategy Development Officer
Steve Hilton, Assistant Public Relations Officer
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Also present:

Councillor Jonathan Brash

64. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Peter Jackson, Neighbourhoods and Communities Portfolio Holder.

65. Declarations of interest by members

None.

66. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 6 August 2007

Confirmed.

67. Eldon Grove Sports Centre *(Director of Neighbourhood Services and Director of Adult and Community Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To advise Cabinet on the progress that had been made in negotiations with Eldon Grove Tennis Club.

Issue(s) for consideration by Cabinet

The Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holder presented the report which outlined the discussions that had taken place with the Tennis Club with regard to the proposed demolition of the sports centre and development of the land as a Tennis Academy. Details of the proposed lease terms that had been proposed and agreed by the Tennis Club together with the proposed change to the area to be leased to accommodate a change in the car parking arrangements serving Eldon Grove Primary School were included in the confidential section of the report.

A Cabinet Member welcomed the benefits that the Tennis Academy would bring to the town and highlighted the effective partnership working and outcomes achieved by the Tennis Club Working Party

Decision

- (i) That the demolition and future development be carried out using the suggested approach.
- (ii) That the terms for the granting of a lease to Eldon Grove Tennis Club, be approved.
- (iii) That the proposed change in the area to be leased to accommodate a new car park at Eldon Grove Primary School, be approved.

**68. Transport Assessment and Travel Plans
Supplementary Planning Document** *(Director of Regeneration and Planning Services)*

Type of decision

Non-key

Purpose of report

To seek approval for public consultation of the draft Transport Assessment and Travel Plans Supplementary Planning Document being prepared as part of the Hartlepool Local Development Framework (LDF).

Issue(s) for consideration by Cabinet

The Director of Regeneration and Planning Services reported that a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which would become part of the Local Development Framework, had been prepared to provide guidance on how the Borough Council would implement the Hartlepool Local Plan policies relating to Transport Assessments and Travel Plans. The Local Plan included a range of objectives to support sustainable development. An important element in securing sustainable development was the encouragement given to a choice of transport options which were safe, efficient, clean and fair. These objectives were translated into specific policies to minimise the need to travel and to improve accessibility by providing real alternatives to the private car.

Members were referred to the proposed draft Supplementary Planning Document as set out in Appendix 2. A Member commented on the need to work in conjunction with schools in relation to travel plans to which the Director of Neighbourhood Services advised that travel plans for all schools were well advanced. A Member referred to a recent scrutiny inquiry undertaken by Darlington Borough Council in relation to the availability of public transport and its relevance to car use and the opportunities to develop partnerships was also highlighted.

Decision

That the draft Transport Assessment and Travel Plans Supplementary Planning Document for public consultation, be approved.

69. Quarter 1 – Corporate Plan and Revenue Financial Management Report 2007/2008 *(Corporate Management Team)*

Type of decision

None –for information only

Purpose of report

The report set out the progress made towards achieving the Corporate Plan actions in order to provide timely information and allow any necessary decisions to be taken and provided details of progress against the Council's overall revenue budget for 2007/2008.

Issue(s) for consideration by Cabinet

The Performance and Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holders updated Cabinet on progress of the Corporate Plan and revenue budget. The report provided an overview of Council performance with separate sections providing more detailed information for each Portfolio to consider. Performance towards delivering the actions included in the Corporate Plan were progressing well, with over 97% of actions either having been completed or on target to be completed by the agreed date. Over 90% of all key performance indicators that could be assessed had been assessed as either having achieved the target or being expected to achieve the target by the year end.

The Revenue Budget Monitoring report covered the following areas:-

- Progress against departmental and corporate budgets and high risk budget areas;
- Progress against saving/increased income targets identified in the 2007/2008 budget strategy;
- Progress against departmental salary turnover targets;
- Key balance sheet information.

The report identified that it was apparent from the initial budget monitoring exercise that adverse variances may occur in the areas of Neighbourhood Services and the Children and Families budget. Both budgets were currently being examined to determine a strategy for dealing with any variances and these details would be reported to a future meeting.

Decision

That the current position with regard to performance and revenue monitoring, be noted.

70. Revenue Outturn Report 2006/07 *(Chief Financial Officer)*

Type of decision

None – for information only

Purpose of report

The report set out details of the Council's overall Revenue Outturn for 2006/2007.

Issue(s) for consideration by Cabinet

The Finance and Efficiency Portfolio Holder reported that Council approved a provisional General Fund Outturn Strategy for 2006/2007 on 5 February 2007. A final 2006/2007 Outturn Strategy was approved by Cabinet on 11 June 2007. These reports were reflected in the 2006/2007 Statement of Accounts which was approved by the General Purposes Committee on 29

June 2007. Previous monitoring reports integrated both performance information and budget monitoring information. A report on performance against performance indicators for 2006/2007 was presented to Cabinet on 6 August 2007. Owing to statutory deadlines for closure of the Council's accounts the outturn information was not available for this report. This report would be referred to Scrutiny co-ordinating Committee on 14 September 2007. This arrangement would ensure that Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee were provided with details of the final outturn as soon as practical.

Submitted as detailed appendices to the report were details of high risk budget areas by department, departmental expenditure, corporate costs, potential savings and reductions in service levels by department, revenue outturns by Portfolio, school balances and community facility balances.

Decision

That the report, be noted.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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