

**DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BEFORE
MONDAY 14 OCTOBER 2013**

CABINET
1 October 2013

PRESENT - Councillor Dixon (in the Chair); Councillors Copeland, Harker, C L B Hughes, D A Lyonette, McEwan, A J Scott and Wallis. (8)

INVITEES – Councillor Curry.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillor Cossins.

APOLOGIES – Councillor Mrs H Scott.

C53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were no declarations of interest reported at the meeting.

C54. REPRESENTATIONS – In respect of Minute C57 below, a Member in attendance at the meeting addressed Cabinet in respect of that item.

C55. MINUTES - Submitted - The Minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting of this Cabinet held on 3 September 2013.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes be confirmed.

REASON - They represent an accurate record of the meeting.

C56. MATTERS REFERRED TO CABINET - There were no matters referred back for reconsideration.

C57. ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY – REFUSE COLLECTION (WHEELED BINS) REVIEW GROUP - FINAL REPORT - The Cabinet Member with the Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Place and the Director of Resources (previously circulated) reporting the final findings and recommendations of the Refuse Collection (Wheeled Bins) Review Group, established by the Place Scrutiny Committee, to examine the introduction of wheeled bins in the Borough. The final report of the Review Group was appended to the submitted report.

The Vice-Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee addressed Cabinet in respect of the work undertaken by the Review Group during the review.

RESOLVED - (a) That the recommendations of the Place Scrutiny Committee, as detailed in the submitted report, be endorsed.

(b) That the idea of engaging educational establishments on waste management be investigated.

REASON - To conclude the work undertaken by the Place Scrutiny Committee Review Group into the introduction of wheeled bins within the Borough of Darlington.

C58. KEY DECISION - DARLINGTON GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY - The Cabinet Member with the Leisure and Local Environment Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Place (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the Darlington Green Infrastructure Strategy 2013/26 (also previously circulated).

RESOLVED - That the Darlington Green Infrastructure Strategy 2013/26, as appended to the submitted report, be approved.

REASON - (a) To reflect the recent changes in national and local green infrastructure policy.

(b) To co-ordinate the planning, design, management and maintenance of green infrastructure in the Borough.

(c) To provide a clear set of objectives and actions across a broad green infrastructure agenda for all green infrastructure partners to work with.

(d) To complete preparation of a key part of the Local Plan evidence base.

C59. TRANSFORMING REHABILITATION - A STRATEGY FOR REFORM - The Leader introduced the report of the Director of People (previously circulated) advising Members of multi-agency discussions about a potential response to the Government's proposals for privatising the majority of probation services in relation to adult offenders and requesting that consideration be given to continuing those discussions for a proposed local way forward, subject to further reports, as the detailed options become clearer.

RESOLVED - (a) That the action taken to date, as detailed in the submitted report, be endorsed.

(b) That the development of the proposed consortium bid, as detailed in the submitted report, be continued.

(c) That it be noted that a notional sum from existing Community Safety budget provision may be used to support the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) process.

(d) That further reports be submitted to future meetings of Cabinet as more detail becomes available.

REASON - To maximise the possibility of developing a locally owned response to the reform of the Probation Service.

C60. CITY DEAL - The Leader introduced the report of the Director of Place (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the principles contained

within the proposal for City Deal (also previously circulated) and to the granting of delegated authority to agree the final submission.

RESOLVED - (a) That the proposal in relation to City Deal, as detailed in appendix 2 of the submitted report, be approved.

(b) That the Director of Place, in consultation with the Leader and the Cabinet Member with Economy and Regeneration Portfolio, be authorised to agree the final submission.

REASON - (a) City Deal provides a means by which the Tees Valley can influence the investment decisions of Government as well as acting as a lever to help secure monies from other funding pots. Specifically for Darlington this has the potential to further our own economic regeneration goals in line with the Darlington Economic Strategy.

(b) Darlington has the potential to benefit from supply chain opportunities generated through the development of a super cluster.

C61. COMPLAINTS, COMPLIMENTS AND COMMENTS ANNUAL REPORTS 2012/13 - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Resources (previously circulated) providing Members with the Corporate, Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care Complaints, Compliments and Comments Annual Reports 2012/13 (all also previously circulated).

RESOLVED - (a) That the contents of the Corporate, Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care Complaints, Compliments and Comments Annual Reports 2012/13, as appended to the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That the work of the Complaints and Information Governance (CIG) Team in ensuring the Council handles complaints in an effective and efficient manner, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

REASONS - (a) To make Cabinet aware of the number and nature of the complaints received by the Council and the organisational learning that has taken place as a result.

(b) To ensure Cabinet is aware of the progress made in respect of how the Council handles complaints since the introduction of the CIG Team.

C62. PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINT REFORMS - THE NHS BODIES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS, CARE TRUSTS, PUBLIC HEALTH AND LOCAL HEALTHWATCH) REGULATIONS 2012 - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Resources (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the introduction of the Public Health Complaints, Compliments and Comments procedure (also previously circulated) from 1 November 2013.

RESOLVED - That the implementation of the Public Health Complaints, Compliments and Comments procedure, as appended to the submitted report, from 1 November 2013, be approved.

REASON - The introduction of the Public Health Complaints, Compliments and Comments procedure will ensure the Council is able to comply with the regulations.

C63. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2013/14 - QUARTER TWO - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Resources (previously circulated) providing an up to date forecast of the 2013/14 Revenue Budget Outturn as part of the Council's continuous financial management processes.

RESOLVED - (a) That the forecast revenue outturn for 2013/14 and actions being taken to manage the Council's finances, as detailed in the submitted report, be noted.

(b) That further regular reports be submitted to future meetings of Cabinet to monitor progress and take prompt action if necessary.

REASON - (a) To continue effective management of resources.

(b) To continue to deliver services through agreed levels.

C64. MEMBERSHIP CHANGES – RESOLVED - There were no membership changes reported at the meeting.

C65. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC - RESOLVED - That, pursuant to Sections 100A(4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the ensuing items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in exclusion paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act.

C66. SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS (EXCLUSION PARAGRAPH NO. 3) - The Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report and schedule of the Director of Resources (both previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the schedule of transactions and seeking approval of the terms negotiated.

RESOLVED - That the schedule, as appended to the submitted report, be approved and the transactions be completed on the terms and conditions detailed therein.

REASON - The terms negotiated require approval by Cabinet before binding itself contractually to a transaction.

C67. CEMETERY LODGE, 285 NORTH ROAD, DARLINGTON (EXCLUSION PARAGRAPH NO. 3) – With the prior approval of the Leader to the matter being treated as urgent to enable the purchase of the property at the earliest opportunity, the Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio introduced the report of the Director of Resources (previously circulated) requesting that consideration be given to the purchase of Cemetery Lodge and options for its alternative use.

RESOLVED – (a) That the purchase of Cemetery Lodge be agreed, and the Director of Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio be authorised to negotiate and agree terms in line with those as detailed in Paragraphs 17 and 18 of the submitted report.

(b) That the Director of Resources be authorised to consider the future options for the use of Cemetery Lodge, as detailed in paragraph 19 of the submitted report.

(c) That the required resources to enable the purchase of the property in line with (a) above, and as detailed in the submitted report, be approved.

REASON – To enable a sustainable solution to be found for this vulnerable property.

**DECISIONS DATED –
FRIDAY 4 OCTOBER 2013**