

**DECISIONS SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED
BEFORE MONDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 2010**

CABINET
12th January, 2010

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

INVITEES – Councillors Barker and Mrs. H. Scott. (2)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE – Councillors Coultas, Francis, Galletley, Johnson, Lewis, Long, Richmond and Walker. (8)

APOLOGIES – Councillors McEwan, I. Haszeldine and Swainston and Mr. A. MacConachie. (4)

C127. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – No declarations of interest were reported at the meeting.

C128. REPRESENTATIONS – In respect of Minute C129 below, representations were made, by union representatives, in attendance at the meeting.

C129. KEY DECISIONS – (1) Draft Medium Term Corporate Plan Incorporating the Medium Term Financial Plan 2010/14 – The Leader introduced the report of the Corporate Management Team (previously circulated) presenting the Council’s combined draft Medium Term Corporate Plan incorporating the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2010/14 (also previously circulated), as a basis for consultation.

Union representatives in attendance at the meeting, addressed Cabinet in respect of a number of proposals contained within the MTFP including the proposed zero percent increase in Council Tax; services reviews that were currently on-going; proposed changes to car allowances and terms and conditions of service; proposed redundancies; and the effect of these proposals on staff morale and front line services.

The Leader responded to the issues raised thereon and stated that the Plan was only be approved as a basis for consultation, at this stage.

RESOLVED – (a) That the draft Corporate Plan, incorporating the Medium Term Financial Plan 2010/11 to 2013/14 and 2010/11 budget, as appended to the submitted report, be agreed for consultation.

(b) That following consultation a further report be presented to a special meeting of Cabinet scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 16th February, 2010, to enable Cabinet to finalise its plans that it will propose to a special meeting of Council scheduled to be held on Thursday, 25th February, 2010.

REASONS – (a) To approve draft plans for consultation.

(b) To meet the statutory timetable for setting the 2010/11 budget.

(2) (URGENT ITEM) Land for Replacement Playing Fields – With the prior approval to the matter being treated as urgent, to allow negotiations to be completed to enable the University development to proceed on schedule, the Leader introduced the report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration) and Director of Corporate Services (previously circulated) seeking approval to the Council carrying out the capital works required for the replacement of two playing fields for the relocation of Darlington College’s playing pitches; delegate authority to the Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio, to enter into an agreement with Darlington Rugby Club for the maintenance and management of the pitches and use by the College of their facilities; and to release funding, received from Darlington College through a Section 106 agreement associated with the development of the Teesside University, in order to progress the works.

RESOLVED – (a) That the previous decision of Cabinet, made in October 2009 to make available Council owned land at Blackwell Meadows for the development of new playing pitches/fields and any necessary facilities, be re-affirmed.

(b) That a reserve entitled ‘Darlington College Fields Management Reserve’ be established to hold the funds for the management and maintenance of the pitches for 15 years.

(c) That the Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with the Efficiency and Resources Portfolio, be authorised to:-

- (i) conclude negotiations with Darlington Rugby Club and complete all necessary documentation for the maintenance and management of the replacement playing pitches and for the use of the rugby club facilities, in line with terms detailed in Appendix 1 to the submitted report;
- (ii) progress negotiations, serve appropriate notices, agree and pay compensation and complete all necessary documentation; and
- (iii) complete negotiations with relevant parties to agree the relocation of the Darlington College playing fields and procure their delivery.

REASONS – The securing of the University development is an important step in achieving wider educational skills, prosperity and market positioning for Darlington, in line with the two priorities, and Prosperous and Aspiring themes, in One Darlington: Perfectly Placed.

**DECISIONS DATED -
FRIDAY, 15TH JANUARY, 2010**