

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
09/Dec/2011**



Elaine Waugh
Head of Law and Governance

Civic Centre
Sunderland

9 December 2011

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

19/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To release the capital contingencies that are set aside for 2011/12 and 2012/13 to support building improvement and demolition works that are required for the delivery of the Smarter Working Project.

Reasons for decision:

To ensure that building improvement and refurbishment works can be undertaken in order to deliver efficiencies through the Smarter Working Project.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

To not release the capital contingency. This would not enable the necessary building works to be undertaken and consequential efficiencies to be delivered. This option has therefore been considered but rejected.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Smarter Working Project - Capital Works - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

07/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To note the contents of this report and refer it to Council for their consideration.

Reasons for decision:

To enable Cabinet to consider and comment on the contents of the independent report together with any actions the Council is undertaking in response to it.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

No alternative options are considered appropriate.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Audit Commission Annual Audit Letter 2010/2011 - Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Prosperity and Economic Development Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

19/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To reaffirm authorisation of Cabinet at its meeting on 16 February 2011 to acquire & dispose of any land or interests required in order to enable proposed development of Sunderland Retail Park to proceed in order to permit acquisition of Tesco Stores Ltd's freehold interest to SRP by Council under section 227 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 for planning purposes in order that section 237 of the 1990 Act may be relied upon. Consider & agree, as part of the reaffirmation, that powers to override interests & rights under section 237 of the 1990 Act may be utilised in respect of SRP to allow the implementation of Scheme proposals to proceed as soon as reasonably possible in the public interest. Authorise Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director of Commercial & Corporate Services & Head of Law & Governance to take all necessary action in order to implement (1) & (2) above.

Reasons for decision:

Secretary of State has confirmed CPO. Approx 3-4 months till CPO procedures let vesting of Plot 2 Land to occur. Scheme could be progressed in advance of implementation of CPO by relying on Council's power under s237 of Act to override interests & rights enjoyed by Plot 2 Land tenants, Blockbuster & Farmfoods. Tesco wishes to start Scheme asap in Jan 2012 & has given notice to Council that it needs Council to acquire freehold to SRP in order that Council's power under s237 of Act may be relied upon. Rights enjoyed by tenants of Plot 2 land unit are capable of being overridden under s237 of Act & there is a compelling reason in public interest to override rights in accordance with planning permission in view of economic, social & environmental benefits of Scheme. Without this, implementation of Scheme & public benefits that will flow will be delayed. As a consequence, it is appropriate to use s237 power so that Scheme can be progressed as quickly as possible in advance of reliance on CPO.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Alternative option - await completion of CPO procedures for notification & vesting & allowing statutory time for challenge to expire, & then acquire Blockbuster's & Farmfoods' interests in Plot 2 Land in order to carry out works to, & in vicinity of, Plot 2 Land to enable implementation of Scheme. Tesco's preference is to rely upon power contained within s237 of Act in order that it may start work to implement Scheme in January 2012 & deliver public benefits that will follow. It is considered that use of power under s237 of Act is appropriate in this case. The failure to rely upon power under s237 of Act would only serve to delay comprehensive Scheme. That public interest in delivery of Scheme has been supported by Secretary of State. Indeed, at para. 36 of her decision, the Inspector referred to the need to avoid delay & while that was a reference to using powers under s237 of Act alone, a parallel point can be made for advancing Scheme as quickly as possible now that confirmation has been given.

Title and author(s) of written report:

ACQUISITION OF LAND AT SUNDERLAND RETAIL PARK, NEWCASTLE ROAD FOR PLANNING PURPOSES - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

07/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To delegate to the Deputy Chief Executive the award of grant from the Townscape Heritage Initiative Budget to assist in the delivery of a restoration project at 49 and 50 High Street East to enable the building to be returned to full and beneficial use as ground floor retail with two apartments above.

Reasons for decision:

The contribution of the proposed grant towards the overall cost of the renovation of the building will assist in advancing the Council's objectives of securing the regeneration of the Old Sunderland THI area through the refurbishment of a vacant and derelict historic building currently at risk. An award of THI grant will assist in bringing back into beneficial use an important heritage asset of the East End.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Not to offer a grant. Without the offer of the grant, there is a risk that the scheme will not be carried out and works that will contribute to the regeneration of Old Sunderland will not proceed and the building will continue to deteriorate.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Old Sunderland Townscape Heritage Initiative: Award of Grant to Assist Works to Restore 49 & 50 High Street East, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

07/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To approve Parking Services Annual Report 2010 - 2011 and for it to be submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in accordance with the DfT's operational guidance.

Reasons for decision:

A Parking Services Annual Report is required to be published in accordance with Section 4 of the Operational Guidance to Local Authorities: Parking Policy and Enforcement, Traffic Management Act 2004.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The report is required in order for the Council to fulfil its responsibilities under the Civil Parking Enforcement regulations in accordance with the Traffic Management Act 2004. Publishing the report demonstrates that the Council is operating a civil parking enforcement scheme satisfactorily and transparently and will aid the public's understanding of and confidence in the Council's approach to parking enforcement.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Parking Services Annual Report 2010 - 2011 - Report of the Executive Director of City Services

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

Councillor Blackburn declared a personal interest as a member of the Traffic Penalty Tribunal Joint Committee.

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Environmental and Planning Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

19/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To approve the procurement of up to 20 specialist grass cutting and horticultural machines to replace the equivalent number for use in the Council's grounds maintenance services as part of the planned replacement programme. The number of items which were due for replacement was 41 but after review this number was reduced due to either lease extensions or the items no longer being required.

Reasons for decision:

In accordance with the Constitution, Cabinet approval is required to the principle of letting a contract exceeding £250,000 in value.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

No alternative options are offered for consideration

Title and author(s) of written report:

Procurement Of Specialist Grass Cutting And Horticultural Equipment - Report of the Executive Director of City Services

Contact Officer:

Les Clark

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

19/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To approve: i) The invitation of suppliers to tender for the provision of riser recliner and bespoke chairs ii) Awarding the contract to the supplier who provides the most economically advantageous tender

Reasons for decision:

The introduction of a contract for the provision of riser recliner and bespoke chairs means that a standard specification will be developed. The specification along with the contract will enable CES to improve timescales, reduce costs and in time develop a portfolio of recycled chairs.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options for consideration.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Community Equipment Service (CES) - Tender for provision of riser recliner and bespoke chairs - Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

07/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

- i) To note the report of the 24 November 2011, and
- ii) approve the following staffing proposals.

(i) Office of The Chief Executive: Workforce Development

- Re-designate the post of Workforce Development Manager (formerly Health Housing and Adult Services) Scale POH/I to Workforce Development Manager (Strategy and Planning), Scale POH/I
- Re-designate and re-grade the post of Training Manager (formerly Corporate Personnel) Grade POG/H to Workforce Development Manager (Leadership and Management), Grade POH/I
- Re-designate and re-grade the post of Training and Development Consultant (formerly Corporate Personnel), Grade POF to Workforce Development Manager (Design and Delivery), Grade POG
- Re-designate the post of Workforce Development Co-ordinator, (formerly Children's Services) Grade POG to Workforce Development Manager (Social Work and Social Care), Grade POG

(ii) Office of The Chief Executive: ICT Unit

Technical Project Team

- Re-designate the post of Project Manager Team Leader, graded POH/I to ICT Release and Test Manager, graded POH/I.
- Re-designate the five posts of Relationship Manager post, graded POJ to Technology Innovation and Relationship Managers, graded POJ.
- Re-designate the post of Quality and Process Manager, graded POJ to ICT Standards and Technical Project Office Manager graded POJ.
- Re-designate the post of FMS Business Process Manager, graded POG/H to ICT Project Manager, graded POG/H.
- Re-designate the post of HCM Business Process Manager, graded POG/H to ICT Project Manager, graded POG/H.
- Re-designate the posts of Project Manager, graded POG/H to ICT Project Manager, graded POG/H.
- Delete the post of Business Systems Manager, graded POG

Build and Operate Team

- Re-designate the post of Network Operations Manager, graded POJ to Network Systems Architect graded POJ.
- Delete the post of ICT Security Manager graded POG/H.

Edit Team

- Delete the vacant post of Business Support Team Leader, graded POI.

Infrastructure Team

- Establish the post of Infrastructure Services Manager graded POG.

Business Services Team

- Re-designate the post of Revenue Systems Team Leader graded POF/G to Business Services Manager , graded POF/G

SAP Services

- Re-designate the post of Technical Specialist :SAP Basis, graded POG/H to SAP Services Manager ,graded POG/H.
- Delete the vacant post of SAP Technical Data Manager, graded POK.
- Delete the vacant post of CCC Manager, graded POL.

(iii) Office of The Chief Executive: Design & Print

- To delete the post of Communications Manager – Design and Print POH as part of the wider de-commissioning of the Council’s Communications Design and Print service.

Reasons for decision:

To reflect additional duties and responsibilities being undertaken by the postholders and to provide an appropriate response to the development of services.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The proposals are an appropriate response to meet the requirements of the services and the proposed grades are commensurate with the duties and responsibilities of the posts.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee Part II held on 24 November 2011

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: Yes

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

07/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To delegate the Deputy Chief Executive the award of grant detailed in the report from the Townscape Heritage Initiative Budget to assist in the delivery of a restoration project at 49 and 50 High Street East to enable the building to be returned to full and beneficial use as ground floor retail with two apartments above.

Reasons for decision:

The contribution of the proposed grant towards the overall cost of the renovation of the building will assist in advancing the Council's objectives of securing the regeneration of the Old Sunderland THI area through the refurbishment of a vacant and derelict historic building currently at risk. An award of THI grant will assist in bringing back into beneficial use an important heritage asset of the East End.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Not to offer a grant. Without the offer of the grant, there is a risk that the scheme will not be carried out and works that will contribute to the regeneration of Old Sunderland will not proceed and the building will continue to deteriorate.

Title and author(s) of written report:

OLD SUNDERLAND TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE: AWARD OF GRANT TO ASSIST WORKS - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 09/Dec/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

07/Dec/2011

Date of decision:

07/Dec/2011

Full description of decision:

To agree to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest at Hind Street, Sunderland, to developer detailed in the report on terms detailed in the report and otherwise to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive.

Reasons for decision:

To enable the comprehensive development of a prominent gateway city centre site and to secure further investment in the city.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative options are; (i) to decline the application whereupon the proposed development may not proceed. (ii) to release the site on the open market which may lead to the proposed development not proceeding. Both of these options have been considered and are not recommended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Disposal of Council Property, Hind Street, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: Yes

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

Councillor Gofton declared a personal and prejudicial interest as a member of the Board of Governors of the University of Sunderland and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the report.