

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
06/Apr/2011**



Elaine Waugh
Head of Law and Governance

Civic Centre
Sunderland

6 April 2011

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 06/Apr/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

06/Apr/2011

Date of decision:

06/Apr/2011

Full description of decision:

To:

- Note the contents and receive a presentation from the Audit Commission regarding the Annual Audit Letter;
- Refer the report to Council for its consideration.

Reasons for decision:

To ensure that the Council acknowledges the very positive Annual Audit Letter for 2009/10 and the progress made, and takes appropriate action in relation to those areas requiring further development, as described within the Audit Commission's Annual Audit Letter.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Consideration of the Annual Audit Letter by Members and its publication are statutory requirements and therefore no alternative options are proposed.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Audit Commission Annual Audit Letter 2009/10 - March 2011 - Report of the Chief Executive and Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate 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:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 06/Apr/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

06/Apr/2011

Date of decision:

06/Apr/2011

Full description of decision:

To recommend to Council to note and endorse:

- (i) the amendment of paragraph 4.1(a) to (c) of the delegations to the Head of Law and Governance as set out in Part 3 of the Constitution to read as follows: -
'4.1 (a) To institute, defend or participate in all proceedings, including appeals, in any Court or Tribunal. Where proceedings are instituted on behalf of the Council in the Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court, a report on the institution of such proceedings pursuant to this paragraph shall be submitted to Cabinet for information.' And
- (ii) the re-lettering of the remaining sub-paragraphs of 4.1 accordingly.

Reasons for decision:

To ensure that the delegations to the Head of Law and Governance are up to date.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options to consider.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Update to the Constitution - Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate 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:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 06/Apr/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:
14/Apr/2011

Date of decision:
06/Apr/2011

Full description of decision:
To approve and adopt the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit).

Reasons for decision:

The Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) will support the development of an efficient and effective portfolio of Council assets which are utilised by the VCS organisations, establish a consistent approach to occupancy and consider all requests for community assets that seek to support community related activity in Council assets.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options proposed.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of City Services

Contact Officer:

Julie Gray

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

The following Councillors declared personal interests as members of the bodies indicated: - Councillor F. Anderson - Member of Centre for Voluntary Services (CVS) as host for Sunderland Community Network Councillor Speding - Member of Shiney Row CA (All CAs part of the consultation process).

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Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

06/Apr/2011

Date of decision:

06/Apr/2011

Full description of decision:

To:

- i) note the report of the 31 March 2011, and
- ii) approve the following staffing proposals.

Office of the Chief Executive;

Corporate Procurement

- To delete vacant post of Senior Category Manager (Social Care), POJ.
- To re-grade and re-designate E-Business and Information Manager, POF/G to E-Business and Information Officer, POF.
- To re-grade and re-designate post of Senior Procurement Officer, Grade POE to Category Manager, POE/G.

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 31 March 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: 06/Apr/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

06/Apr/2011

Date of decision:

06/Apr/2011

Full description of decision:

To note the report.

Reasons for decision:

To notify members, in accordance with the requirements of the Delegation Scheme set out in Part 3 of the Constitution, of the lodging of the appeal in the Court of Appeal.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Equal Pay Claims - Report of the Chief Executive, Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services and Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development

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:

The following Councillors declared personal interests as members of the bodies indicated: - Councillors Anderson, Blackburn, Charlton, Speding, P. Watson - Members of GMB

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 06/Apr/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

14/Apr/2011

Date of decision:

06/Apr/2011

Full description of decision:

To:

- Approve the use of NDC grant funds detailed in the report in the financial year ended 31st March 2011 to fund expenditure by the Council which would otherwise be funded from the Council's Area Based Grant allocation.
- Agree to the Council making an equivalent contribution as detailed in the report to the Back on the Map succession strategy on terms to be agreed by the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services.

Reasons for decision:

In order to maximise the funding available to Sunderland, and in particular the Back on the Map area, it is necessary to agree to the revised funding arrangements outlined above in respect of expenditure which would otherwise be funded through the Council's Area Based Grant allocation. Should the arrangement not be approved the City will potentially lose the grant funding.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The only alternative option would be not to support the proposals contained within this report. This could potentially result in a loss of resource to the City of Sunderland. This alternative is not considered appropriate and is, therefore, not recommended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

New Deal For Communities - Funding Arrangements - Report of the Executive Director of Commercial & Corporate Services

Contact Officer:

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: Yes

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 06/Apr/2011

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Management Scrutiny Committee

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Full description of decision:

Cabinet having indicated that it was minded to support the proposal set out in the report, agreed to delegate to the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the decision on the proposal to grant a lease of premises within the Athenaeum Buildings to a Community Interest Company as set out in the report.

Reasons for decision:

The proposal will result in a vacant city centre property being brought back into beneficial use and will secure further investment in the city.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative options are: -

- (i) Not to proceed with the proposal to grant a Community Interest Company a lease of the premises. This option would result in the premises remaining vacant and the proposed refurbishment not proceeding.
- (ii) To progress a freehold disposal or a rack rent arrangement. However these are not practical alternatives for the prospective tenant or the remaining lettings in the building. These options have been considered and are not recommended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Disposal of Premises within the Athenaeum Buildings, Fawcett Street, Sunderland
- Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

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Is this a key decision: No

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: Yes

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None