

Record of Executive Decisions published 15/Mar/2013



Elaine Waugh
Head of Law and Governance

Civic Centre
Sunderland

15 March 2013

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To note and approve the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committee and the proposed Action Plans for their implementation.

Reasons for decision:

The scrutiny policy review recommendations are intended to inform the future development of policy and practice by Cabinet.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The Scrutiny Committee and its Scrutiny Panels have gathered detailed evidence and arrived at conclusions and recommendations which are intended to improve services. There are no alternatives to be considered.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Scrutiny Committee - Policy Review Final Reports - Report of the Scrutiny Committee, Deputy Chief Executive and the Executive Director for Health Housing and Adult Services

Contact Officer:

Charlotte Burnham

Extension:

5611147

Email:

charlotte.burnham@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

13/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To recommend adoption by Council and publication by 31 March 2013.

Reasons for decision:

The provisions of the Localism Act 2011 came into force on 15th January 2012, bringing together the strands of increasing accountability, transparency and fairness in the setting of local pay. Section 38 of the Act requires English and Welsh local authorities to produce an annual pay policy statement, setting out councils' policies for the financial year in relation to the remuneration of their senior staff/chief officers, the remuneration of their lowest-paid employees, and the relationship between the pay of chief officers and that of other employees.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options recommended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Human Resources Committee - 21 February 2013 - Localism Act 2011 - Pay Policy Statement 2013-2014

Contact Officer:

Sue Stanhope

Extension:

561 1722

Email:

sue.stanhope@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To approve the grant of a rent concession as detailed in this report to the tenant of the former Thompson Park Nursery building, Thompson Road, Sunderland.

Reasons for decision:

The rent concession is required as part of the lease agreed with the tenant, and to ensure the sustainability of the service and its delivery. The rent concession is in accordance with the Rent Concession Policy adopted by Cabinet at its meeting on 8th October 2008.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

To not grant the concession would prevent the agreed letting and would cast doubt on the occupation of the building and the delivery of the service.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Rent concession in respect of the former Thompson Park Nursery building, Thompson Road, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Colin Clark

Extension:

561 1502

Email:

colin.clark@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To recommend to Council to: - a) Approve the attached Sunderland Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options (including the Sustainability Appraisal Report) for the purposes of public consultation and as a material consideration in assessing planning applications, pending its finalisation following public consultation. b) Authorise the Deputy Chief Executive to make any required amendments to the attached Sunderland Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options (including the Sustainability Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment Reports) as necessary prior to its publication for public consultation.

Reasons for decision:

The decision is required to enable the Core Strategy to proceed to its next stage (statutory consultation) in accordance with the Council's adopted Local Development Scheme.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

All local planning authorities are charged under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 with the preparation of a Local Development Framework (LDF), which must include a core strategy. They are also charged with preparing the LDF in accordance with the provisions of an approved Local Development Scheme. Consequently, no alternatives can be recommended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Sunderland City Council Local Development Framework: Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options - Report of the Deputy Executive

Contact Officer:

Lee Cranston

Extension:

561 1160

Email:

lee.cranston@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To approve: 1. The admissions policy and procedures; 2. The published admission numbers (PANS)

Reasons for decision:

Cabinet approval of the city's admission arrangements is required prior to submission to the Department for Education (DFE) and publication for parents making applications for primary and secondary school admission in the 2014 academic year.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Given the requirements described above there are no alternative recommendations to consider.

Title and author(s) of written report:

School Admissions Arrangements - September 2014 - Report of Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer:

Beverley Scanlon

Extension:

561 1965

Email:

beverley.scanlon@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To - a) Note the amendments made to the A19 Ultra Low Carbon Enterprise Zone: Draft Local Development Order (Turbine Park and Vehicle Test Centre site) in light of responses received during the public consultation and consultation with the Secretary of State; b) Approve the revised A19 Low Carbon Enterprise Zone: Local Development Order (Turbine Park and Vehicle Test Centre site).

Reasons for decision:

The implementation of a simplified planning regime at the A19 Low Carbon Enterprise Zone is required by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) as part of the package of measures set out under Enterprise Zone (EZ) status. A Local Development Order (LDO) is an established alternative form of administering the planning process and is considered the most appropriate means of simplifying planning procedures on all Enterprise Zone sites within the North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option is not to prepare an LDO for the Turbine Park and Vehicle Test Centre site. The consequences of this would be a failure to implement a simplified planning regime for the EZ sites and therefore a failure to provide the full package of measures geared towards stimulating growth within designated EZ areas; as set out by the DCLG. This would put the Sunderland EZ sites at a competitive disadvantage compared to other EZ sites within the North Eastern LEP area.

Title and author(s) of written report:

A19 Low Carbon Enterprise Zone: Local Development Order (Turbine Park and Vehicle Test Centre site) - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Colin Clark

Extension:

561 1502

Email:

colin.clark@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To; (i) agree to the closure of Crowtree Leisure Centre; (ii) agree to the appointment of contractors through the Scape National Framework to secure the demolition of the Crowtree Leisure Centre as set out in this report ; (iii) authorise the Deputy Chief Executive to explore options for the development of the site and if appropriate to market the site in accordance with the Council's Strategy for Surplus Assets and to report back to Cabinet on the results of the marketing exercise.

Reasons for decision:

To enable the site of the Crowtree Leisure Centre to be prepared as a development opportunity for retail and other suitable city centre uses.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option is to not proceed with the closure and demolition of the building. This would result in the site not being readily available for redevelopment purposes which would be to the detriment of the Council's stated aim of regenerating this part of the City Centre. A decision to not demolish will also result in the further deterioration of the fabric of the building. As a consequence significant capital investment would be required to make the building fit for purpose. This would not be in accordance with the Council's strategy for the delivery of leisure provision across the city, and would divert a finite resource for building maintenance away from other operational priorities which would be to the detriment of service provision in other areas. This option has been considered but is not recommended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

City Centre Development Opportunity; Closure and Demolition of Crowtree Leisure Centre - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Colin Clark

Extension:

561 1502

Email:

colin.clark@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To: - a) note and consider the process and consultation undertaken to shape and influence the commissioning of Short Breaks for disabled children b) agree that these services can be procured for a period of three years from September 2013; (with a break clause exercisable by the Council. This break clause needs to be inserted due to the right from September 2014 for families to request individual budgets) c) Agree to receive a further report in October 2013 on the outcomes of this process.

Reasons for decision:

Existing contracts had already been extended by 12 months to end of July 2013 on the understanding that there would be a full re-commissioning of contracts from July 2013. Following consultation they have now been further extended to the end of August 2013 so that there is not a change of provider during the school summer holidays. The new contracts will be based upon new specifications focusing on outcomes for children and young people. Extending existing contracts would not allow this important improvement to be made

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Extension of current contract not possible as it has already been extended.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Commissioning of Short Breaks for Disabled Children from September 2013 - Report of the Executive Director Children's Services

Contact Officer:

Keith Moore

Extension:

561 1355

Email:

keith.moore@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To: (i) Agree to consult on the review of current discretionary transport arrangements to schools in Sunderland; (ii) Note that a further report will be prepared for consideration by Cabinet at its meeting in June 2013 on the outcomes of public consultation on this matter.

Reasons for decision:

The rationale for the review of discretionary transport is to achieve the efficiencies set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Current arrangements for Oxclose Academy, Barnwell and St Michaels RC Primary have a significant cost and are not consistent with the practice for the vast majority of schools in Sunderland. The current denominational arrangements (with the exception of those children receiving free school meals or higher level working tax credits) are also discretionary and the Council is under no legal obligation to provide these.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Given the rationale described above it is suggested that there are no alternative options to consider.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Proposal to review discretionary Home to School Transport from September 2013 - Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer:

Keith Moore

Extension:

561 1355

Email:

keith.moore@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To recommend Council to :- 1. establish the Health and Wellbeing Board as a Council Committee; 2. approve the terms of reference of the Health and Wellbeing Board; 3. approve the Health and Wellbeing Board Procedure Rules and 4. authorise the Head of Law and Governance to amend the constitution to provide for the proposed delegations to the Director of Public Health, 5. Endorse the Health and Wellbeing Strategy as set out in the report

Reasons for decision:

The establishment of the Health and Wellbeing Board as a Council Committee and the agreement of a Health and Wellbeing Strategy are requirements of the Health and Social Care Act.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no alternative options to be considered as this is a statutory responsibility.

Title and author(s) of written report:

The Transition from Shadow to Full Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy - Report of the Executive Director of Health Housing and Adults Services

Contact Officer:

Neil Revely

Extension:

561 8947

Email:

neil.revely@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To approve a revised Contributions Policy for the Sunderland Telecare Service as set out in the report, to be implemented from 1st April 2013

Reasons for decision:

The introduction of a revised Contributions Policy for the Sunderland Telecare Service is required in order;

- To end the current inequity regarding who pays for the Telecare service, taking account of the vision for personalisation, the principles under which personal budgets and direct payments operate, and Councils Contributions Policy for Social care provided through Personalisation
- To ensure the Sunderland Telecare Service Contributions Policy is fair, transparent, sustainable and easy to understand
- Provide increased income to support ongoing sustainability and investment for the service, taking advantage of relevant legislative changes

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Not changing the current Telecare Charging Policy is not a viable option as the current policy is not compatible with changes in legislation, personalisation, personal budgets and direct payments and the new ways social care is being provided.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Sunderland Telecare Service Contributions Policy - Report of the Executive Director Health, Housing and Adult Services

Contact Officer:

Neil Revely

Extension:

561 8947

Email:

neil.revely@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To approve the procurement of a contractor to undertake alterations works to Leechmere Training Centre to adapt the building for use by Sunderland Community Equipment Service. In accordance with the Constitution, Cabinet approval is required in relation to procurements exceeding £250,000 in value.

Reasons for decision:

Sunderland Community Equipment Service currently operates from a privately leased warehouse on Carrmere Road, Leechmere Industrial Estate. The relocation of the Community Equipment Store onto the Council owned Leechmere site will place the store in closer proximity to the equipment refurbishment centre and enable a leaner flow of activity through the lifetime of the equipment cycle i.e. from purchase through to loan, collection, refurbishment and re-use. The alteration work to Leechmere Training Centre will also create efficiencies as the current lease arrangement will be terminated.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option is to remain on the current site but this would not improve the service, address the current health and safety issues or take advantage of the funding available from the PCT.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Sunderland Community Equipment Service (CES) Procurement of a contractor to carry out alterations to Leechmere Training Centre - Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services

Contact Officer:

Neil Revely

Extension:

561 8947

Email:

neil.revely@sunderland.gov.uk

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: 15/Mar/2013

Decision Taker: Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:
Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:

25/Mar/2013

Date of decision:

13/Mar/2013

Full description of decision:

To: 1) Agree to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in the Fire Station at Rainton Bridge Industrial Estate, Houghton le Spring, Sunderland to Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service for the price detailed in the report and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary. 2) Authorise the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary to agree terms on any outstanding repairs that are currently the Council's responsibility as Landlord pursuant to the current lease to TWFRS

Reasons for decision:

The disposal will facilitate the redevelopment of the premises in support of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service operational requirements, The proposed disposal will secure a capital receipt for the Council. The property is subject to a lease to TWFRS who are a secure tenant and the Council cannot remove them without a statutory ground (property required for own occupation, demolition and redevelopment etc.) In any event, the Property is not required now or anticipated to be in the future by the Council for operational purposes.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Retain the freehold interest. This option would preclude TWFRS from redeveloping the facility and require their relocation to an alternative site. This option has been considered and rejected.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Disposal of Rainton Bridge Fire Station, Houghton le Spring, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Colin Clark

Extension:

561 1502

Email:

colin.clark@sunderland.gov.uk

Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: Yes

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None