

# ***Report of the Cabinet***



## **The CABINET reports and recommends as follows:-**

### **1. Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2014/2015**

That they have given consideration to a report of the Deputy Chief Executive (copy attached) on the Feed and Food Controls Service Plan for 2014/2015 to be used by the Public Protection and Regulatory Services section of the Street Scene service, the comments of the Scrutiny Committee and to seek approval of the Plan.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for advice and consideration. The Committee was satisfied with the Feed and Food Controls Service Plan 2014/2015 and supported the Cabinet recommendation to submit the Service Plan to Council for approval.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to approve the Feed and Food Controls Service Plan for 2014/2015.

### **2. Capital Programme Second Review 2014/2015 (including Treasury Management)**

That they have given consideration to a report of the Head of Financial Resources on the Capital Programme Second Review 2014/2015 including Treasury Management which set out:-

- reprofiling of projects since the First Capital Review for 2014/2015 was approved in June 2014;
- the inclusion of additional schemes and revisions to costs and resourcing for 2014/2015 since the First Capital Review was reported;
- the inclusion of additional schemes and revisions to costs and resourcing beyond 2014/2015 since the First Capital Review was reported;
- the progress in implementing the Treasury Management Strategy for 2014/2015.

In accordance with the Council's Financial Procedure Rules, Cabinet may authorise variations to the Capital Programme provided such variations are within available resources and consistent with Council policy.

The attached Appendix A sets out the relevant extracts from the Cabinet Report which outline the additional schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000 in 2014/2015 and future years.

They referred the relevant extracts to the Scrutiny Committee to note the proposed variation to the Capital Programme for 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 to include additional schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000. The Scrutiny Committee noted the report, being satisfied with the proposed variation to the Capital Programme.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to note the proposed variation to the Capital Programme for 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 to include additional schemes with an estimated cost in excess of £250,000.

### **3. Revenue Budget Second review 2014/2015**

That they have given consideration to a report of the Head of Financial Resources on the overall Revenue position following the second review for 2014/2015 including proposed contingency transfers for the second quarter of 2014/2015.

In accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework certain transfers require Council approval. The following extract refers to those transfer of funds:

“Savings on capital financing charges as a result of slippage on the capital programme and income from interest on investments are anticipated to result in planned savings of approximately £4.0m at year end. It is proposed that these amounts and any further underspendings arising from unspent contingencies at the end of 2014/2015 are earmarked to support the overall 2014/2015 position and transitional costs arising from the 2015/2016 budget setting process.”

They also referred the above extract of the budget transfers to the Scrutiny Committee, for advice and consideration. The Scrutiny Committee supported the transfer of funds to support the overall 2014/2015 position together with the transitional costs arising from the 2014/2015 budget setting process and supported the Cabinet recommendation that the transfer be submitted to Council for approval.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to approve the contingency transfers as set in the above extract.

### **4. Budget Planning Framework 2015/2016 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 – 2017/2018**

That they have given consideration to a joint report of the Chief Executive and the Head of Financial Resources (copy attached) outlining the key factors influencing the development of the Council's financial plans into the medium term and sets out the budget planning framework for the Council for 2015/2016 and the headlines and context for the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 to 2017/2018.

They also referred the report to the Scrutiny Committee for its comments in the context of the approved consultation arrangements for the Council's budget. The Scrutiny Committee was satisfied with the information provided and supported the Cabinet recommendation that the proposed Budget Planning Framework and Medium Term Financial Strategy are submitted to Council for approval.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommends the Council to:-

- (i) approve the proposed Budget Planning Framework summarised at Section 11 of the report which will guide the preparation of the Revenue Budget for 2015/2016;
- (ii) note that the full Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 to 2017/2018 will be presented to Cabinet in February

## **5. Annual Audit Letter 2013/2014**

That they submit for consideration by Council a report of the Head of Financial Resources (copy attached) on the Annual Audit Letter from the external Auditors Mazars, covering the year 2013/2014 together with a copy of the Audit Letter which summarises findings from the audit of the Council's financial statements and the results of the external auditor's work undertaken as part of the assessment of the Council's arrangements for securing value for money in its use of resources.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends the Council to note the contents of the report.

## **6. Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations**

That they have given consideration to a report of the Chief Executive (copy attached) on the draft proposals for the statutory review of polling districts and polling places.

The Cabinet recommends the Council:-

- (i) to note the submissions made to the Council in respect of the review of polling districts and polling places for Sunderland City Council,
- (ii) to note the final proposals in respect of the review,
- (iii) to adopt parliamentary polling districts and parliamentary polling places as set out in Appendix 3,
- (iv) to adopt the scheme contained in Appendix 3 in relation to local government elections,

- (v) that the Electoral Registration Officer be requested to make the necessary amendments to polling districts for the register of electors published on 1 December 2014,
- (vi) that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to make, where necessary, alterations to the designation of any polling place prior to the next full review in consultation with ward councillors and portfolio member, and
- (vii) that the Electoral Registration Officer create fixed boundaries within local government wards for each polling district.