

# **Record of Executive Decisions published 13/Jan/2012**



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13 January 2012

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To note the report.

**Reasons for decision:**

Consideration of the Settlement forms part of the budget preparation process of the Council.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Not applicable as report is for information only.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Provisional Revenue Support Grant Settlement for 2012/2013 - Report of Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:**

Malcolm Page

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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: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To: (i) Authorise participation in Mbombela Local Municipality's Economic Summit from 26 – 27 January 2012 and the consequential travel of the Deputy Leader to Mbombela, South Africa (ii) Note the progress made under the Commonwealth Local Government Forum Good Practice Scheme project

**Reasons for decision:**

The City Council has a long track record in successfully developing Sunderland's economy and has shared significant experience and expertise with Mbombela Local Municipality during the lifetime of the project, which has received positive feedback from the Commonwealth Local Government Forum. It is important that the City Council supports Mbombela Local Municipality at this key stage in implementing policies and practices developed in partnership during the project lifetime. This will play an important role in helping the municipality to engage its business community at this critical time and secure its support as they seek to facilitate the long-term economic development of the area.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

A decision could be taken not to take part in the Economic Summit. This would send a negative message about the City's participation in the Commonwealth Local Government Forum Good Practice Scheme, both to Mbombela Local Municipality as well as to the Commonwealth Local Government Forum.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Mbombela Local Municipality – Economic Summit - Report of the 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 Dispositions:**

None

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel to amend the Members' Allowances Scheme, as detailed in Appendix 2 and to backdate the amendments to the Members' Allowances Scheme to 1st April, 2011.

**Reasons for decision:**

The recommendations are supported by evidence, statutory guidance and analysis, as detailed in the report of the Independent Panel.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The recommendations have been arrived at following careful consideration by the Panel and are considered by them to represent the optimum approach. It is not therefore recommended that the Council adopt any alternative arrangements.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Review of Members' Allowances Scheme by the Independent Remuneration Panel - Joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:**

Elaine Waugh

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**Is this a key decision:** No

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:** No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Councillors Blackburn, Charlton, Gofton, Kelly, P. Smith, Speding, Trueman and T Wright declared personal interests as Members of the Council.

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

23/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To recommend to Council that :- The report for the calculation of the Tax Bases for the City Council and Hetton Town Council for 2012/2013 be approved. That pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, as amended by Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 the amount calculated by Sunderland City Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2012/2013, shall be £81,202, and for the area of Hetton Town Council shall be £4,130.

**Reasons for decision:**

To comply with statutory requirements.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

None

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Council Tax Base 2012/2013 - Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:**

Sonia Tognarelli

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**Is this a key decision:** Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:** No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Councillor Blackburn declared a personal interest as a Member of Hetton Town Council.

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To:- • Amend the current policy on Council Tax discounts for Long Term Empty Properties, by removing the discount of 50% and for Second Homes by reducing the discount from 50% to 10%, both with effect from 1st April 2012. • Note the Council's response to the consultation paper 'Technical Reforms of Council Tax' which deals primarily with proposed changes to discounts from April 2013.

**Reasons for decision:**

To benefit from the proposed changes (financial and regeneration) in 2012/13 from the changes that may become a statutory requirement from 2013/2014, the policy of which is also in keeping with most other local authorities in the area.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

None

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Review of Discretionary Council Tax Discount on Long Term Empty Properties and Second Homes - Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:**

Sonia Tognarelli

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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: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

23/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the provisional budget proposals, as a basis for the continuation of budget consultation, prior to the receipt of the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2012/2013.

**Reasons for decision:**

To enable constitutional requirements relating to the development of the Revenue Budget to be met.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There are no alternative options recommended for approval.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Revenue Budget 2012/2013 Proposals - Joint report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:**

Malcolm Page

**Extension:**

561 1003

**Email:**

malcolm.page@sunderland.gov.uk

**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 Blackburn - Tyne and Wear Integrated Transport Authority, South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership Joint Executive Committee Councillor T Wright - South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership Joint Executive Committee Councillor Speding - Substitute Member of South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership Joint Executive Committee

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To note the outcomes of the Annual Children's Services Assessment and the Annual Unannounced Inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment.

**Reasons for decision:**

The report is presented to inform Cabinet of the inspection outcomes and the actions for improvement noted within the judgement.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

This report is presented to Cabinet to provide an update on the outcomes from two recent inspections as noted above, and as such there are no viable alternative options.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Children's Services Inspection Outcomes (Ofsted Annual Assessment of Children's Services and Annual Unannounced Inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment Arrangements) - Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services

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Keith Moore

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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: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the contingency transfers proposed at Appendix A of the report and to approve the budget transfers referred to at paragraph 3.5 of the report.

**Reasons for decision:**

To respond to variations in expenditure and income which have arisen in 2011/2012 and enable effective budgetary control to be exercised.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

No alternative options are proposed.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Revenue Budget Third Review 2011/2012 - 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:**

The following Councillors declared personal interests as members of the bodies indicated:- Councillor Blackburn - South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership Joint Executive Committee  
Councillor T Wright - South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership Joint Executive Committee  
Councillor Speding - Substitute Member of South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership Joint Executive Committee  
Councillors Blackburn, Charlton, Kelly, P. Smith and Speding - GMB (in relation to Single Status)

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Jan/2011

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

To note the report of the 19 December 2011, and to approve the following staffing proposals; Office of The Chief Executive: North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) o Establish the post of Director (The Council's consultant Aquarius are assessing the grade and this will be reported to elected Members at the meeting)

**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:**

Reports of the meetings of the Personnel Committee, Part II held on 19 December 2011

**Contact Officer:**

Kate Cuthbert

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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: 13/Jan/2012**

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Management Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

23/Jan/2012

**Date of decision:**

11/Jan/2012

**Full description of decision:**

In relation to the 3rd Review of Capital Programme for 2011/12 to approve, & where necessary recommend to Council, the inclusion of additional schemes for 2011/2012 detailed at Appendix A & associated resourcing of the Capital Programme since the Second Review of the Capital Programme was reported to October Cabinet; In relation to the Capital Programme for 2012/13: - to agree to the allocation of resources as set out in paragraph 6, subject to any adjustment when final resource announcements are made; - to note that Cabinet Members with Portfolios for areas covered by the Children's Services, Adult Services, Housing, Highways & Other Services Blocks will consider proposals for new starts based on the resource allocations outlined in paragraph 6 in order to incorporate proposed new starts in the Capital Programme to be presented to Cabinet in February 2011; In relation to the Treasury Management Strategy for 2011/12 to note the progress in implementing the Treasury Management Strategy for 2011/12.

**Reasons for decision:**

To respond to variations in the Capital Programme which have arisen since the 2011/2012 second capital review to enable effective budgetary control to be exercised.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

No alternative options are proposed.

**Title and author(s) of written report:**

Capital Programme - Third Review 2011/2012, Provisional Resources 2012/2013 and Treasury Management Review 2011/2012 - Report of the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

**Contact Officer:**

Sonia Tognarelli

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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 Speding - Football Foundation (matching contribution from the Council) Councillor Blackburn - Tyne and Wear Integrated Transport Authority