

# **Record of Executive Decisions published 12/Feb/2015**



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## Record of Executive Decisions Published: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the Draft Statement of Community Involvement as a statement of how the Council will engage the local community and stakeholders in the planning process, as required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

**Reasons for decision:**

To meet statutory requirements by providing a formal statement of how the Council will involve the community in the preparation of the Local Plan and the consideration of planning applications.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

This is a statutory document therefore there is no alternative option. Failure to produce the document may result in challenges against planning decisions or may jeopardise the adoption of the Local Plan.

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

Statement of Community Involvement - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Gary Clasper

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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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To agree to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in approximately 1.9 acres of land east of Ryhope Road, Sunderland to Lidl UK GmbH at a price which is the best consideration reasonably obtainable and on terms to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive, Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

To secure further investment in the city and facilitate a commercial development on a currently vacant site and which will be of benefit to the Council by providing a satisfactory capital receipt and securing an increase in Business Rates.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

(i) Retain the land. The land was acquired to facilitate the development of the Southern Radial Route. Following the completion of this scheme the land is no longer required for Council use. The Council will continue to incur holding costs of the vacant site if it is retained. (ii) Advertise the site on the open market. The Council has received an offer for the site without the costs and delay of marketing the opportunity. The offer complies with the Council's statutory duty to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable for disposals of land which is supported by external valuation evidence. The proposed development is appropriate, in principle, in planning terms. Both options have been considered and are not recommended.

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

Disposal of land east of Ryhope Road, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Nick Wood

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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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To: - i) Approve the questions outlined in Appendix 1 as a basis for public consultation, and ii) Delegate authority to the Deputy Chief Executive to approve the design and overall content of the Issues and Options consultation leaflet

**Reasons for decision:**

The decision is required to allow public consultation to proceed on the initial stage in the planning process needed to secure the development of IAMP.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The Issues and Options consultation is an important stage in the planning process required to bring the development of IAMP forward. The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) has advised that it will help inform residents and businesses at an early stage and would also reduce the risk of legal challenge to the plan-making process at a later date. The alternative of not publishing an Issues and Option consultation was therefore rejected.

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

Area Action Plan for the International Advanced Manufacturing Park: Consultation on Issues and Options - 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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To recommend to Council approval of: - the proposed Capital Programme for 2015/2016  
- the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2015/2016 (including specifically the Annual Borrowing and Investment Strategies) - the Prudential Indicators for 2015/2016 to 2017/2018 - the Minimum Revenue Provision Statement for 2015/2016.

**Reasons for decision:**

To comply with statutory requirements.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

No alternatives are submitted for Cabinet consideration.

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

Capital Programme 2015/2016 and Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2015/2016, including Prudential Indicators for 2015/2016 to 2017/2018 - Joint report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance

**Contact Officer:**

Sonia Tognarelli

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561 1851

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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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the commencement of a consultation process with regard to a draft guidance document relating to the licensing of hackney carriage and private hire vehicle drivers.

**Reasons for decision:**

To assist the Regulatory Committee when making decisions relating to the licensing of hackney carriage and private hire vehicle drivers.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There were no alternative options.

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

Guidance Document relating to the Licensing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Drivers - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Tom Terrett

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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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To:

- recommend to Council the proposed Revenue Budget for 2015/2016 set out at Appendix K;
- note the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 to 2019/2020 as set out in Appendix H
- recommend to Council the proposed Council Tax for 2015/2016 at Appendix G (please see separate decision record);
- note the views, if any, expressed by the North East Chamber of Commerce and Trade Unions.

**Reasons for decision:**

To comply with statutory requirements.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There are no alternative options recommended for approval as the budget has been developed on the basis of an agreed framework with consultation carried out throughout the process.

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

Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2015/2016 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 to 2019/2020 - Joint report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance

**Contact Officer:**

Sonia Tognarelli

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561 1851

**Email:**

sonia.tognarelli@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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

This item was deferred from the agenda. The item will now be considered at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Cabinet on 26 February 2015.

**Reasons for decision:**

To ensure compliance with statutory notice of key decisions.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There were no alternative options.

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

Disposal of land at Philadelphia, Houghton le Spring, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Nick Wood

**Extension:**

561 2631

**Email:**

nick.wood@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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To note the overall positive position in relation to the Collection Fund for 2014/2015, and the surplus of £500,000 which will be taken into account when setting the Council Tax level for the Council for 2015/2016.

**Reasons for decision:**

Estimating the Collection Fund balance available at the end of 2014/2015 for use in setting the Council Tax for 2015/2016 is a legal requirement, which the Council must fulfil, based on information available to it as at 15th January, each year. The Council also has an obligation to notify its major precepting authorities of the estimated surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund within 7 working days of when this calculation has been made.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Not applicable as the report is for information only.

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

Collection Fund 2014/2015 - Report of the Director of Finance

**Contact Officer:**

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**Email:**

sonia.tognarelli@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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To:

- a) note the feedback received during the consultation, including representatives/ representative groups of, voluntary organisations and community groups.
- b) approve the Local Welfare Provision Schemes of Crisis Support and Community Care Support for 2015/16, as set out in Paragraph 7.5 and Appendix A of the report.
- c) authorise publication of the Schemes on the Council's website and in any additional manner determined by the Director of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Secretary.
- d) authorise the Director of Finance to administer the scheme and determine applications.

**Reasons for decision:**

The council must have the revised Local Welfare Provision Schemes approved by 31 March 2015, to ensure the Local Welfare Provision Schemes for 2015/16 are in place by 1 April 2015.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The alternative options would be to : To continue the Current Local Welfare Provision Schemes in their present format, without the proposed amendments set out in Paragraph 7.5 of this report. However, this would not reflect the revised and enhanced support required, that has been identified as part of the review of the Local Welfare Provision Schemes and the consultation feedback. To cease the current Local Welfare Provision Schemes from 1 April 2015, however, this would not provide the appropriate level of support required, that has been identified, as part of the review of the Local Welfare Provision Schemes and the consultation feedback

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

Local Welfare Provision Schemes □ Crisis Support and Community Care Support - Report of the Director of Finance

**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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

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Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To note the contents of the report and the substantial progress made to date in respect of the procurement process leading to a recommendation for the appointment of a preferred bidder in the separate Part II report and the next steps in order to establish the JV.

**Reasons for decision:**

The procurement process for the JV partner, the appointment of a preferred bidder and the subsequent establishment of the JV will enable the Council to retain an on-going interest in the facilities, through its involvement with the JV company facilitate continued investment in the leisure facilities, significantly increase the levels of participation in physical activity thereby contributing to the wellbeing of the City and deliver financial savings to the Council.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The Council could decide not to continue the procurement process and not to appoint a preferred bidder. However the abandonment of the procurement process would not deliver the benefits for Sunderland and the Council as detailed in the report.

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

Appointment of a Joint Venture partner to operate the Council's leisure facilities across the City - Report of the Executive Director of People 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: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To: -

- i) approve the appointment of the Preferred Bidder for the JV detailed in the report on the basis of the tender evaluation set out in the report;
- ii) authorise the Executive Director of People Services to take all necessary action in consultation with the Leader, Portfolio Holder and Director of Finance to confirm the commitments contained in the successful tender, where required, and to thereafter proceed to legal and financial completion with the successful contractor in order to establish the JV substantially on the terms set out in the report;
- iii) authorise the Chief Executive and/or the Head of Law and Governance to execute all legal documents that are necessary to give effect to this transaction; and
- iv) recommend to Council the appointment of the Executive Director of People Services, the Portfolio Holder for Public Health, Wellness and Culture and Executive Director of Enterprise Development to the Board of the JV.

### **Reasons for decision:**

The detailed and robust evaluation process for the JV partner procurement has demonstrated that the preferred bidder has submitted the most economically advantageous bid for this opportunity. The proposed appointment of the Preferred Bidder and the subsequent establishment of the JV will: enable the Council to retain an on-going interest in the facilities, through its involvement with the JV; facilitate continued investment in the leisure facilities; significantly increase the levels of participation in physical activity thereby contributing to the wellbeing of the City; and deliver financial savings to the Council.

### **Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The Council could decide not to appoint the Preferred Bidder and/or abandon the procurement process. However the detailed evaluation process has clearly demonstrated that the preferred bidder has submitted the most economically advantageous bid for the JV. In addition, the abandonment of the procurement process would not deliver the benefits for Sunderland and the Council as detailed in the report. The alternative options to the procurement and establishment of the JV were considered and rejected in the previous Cabinet report in October 2013.

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

Appointment of a Joint Venture partner to operate the Council's leisure facilities across the City - Report of the Executive Director of People 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:** Yes

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

## Record of Executive Decisions Published: 12/Feb/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
20/Feb/2015

**Date of decision:**  
11/Feb/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To recommend to Council the Council Tax levels for 2015/2016 and associated matters in accordance with the amended statutory requirements. The recommendations are:

- a) To note the Council Tax base applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council.
- b) To recommend the estimated amount of the Council's aggregate gross revenue expenditure.
- c) To recommend the estimated amount of the Council's aggregate gross revenue income.
- d) To recommend the estimated amount of the Council's Council Tax Requirement.
- e) To note the precept notified by Hetton Town Council.
- f) To note the Council Tax bands applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council based on the above financial information.
- g) To note the position in respect of the precept of the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority.
- h) To note the provisional precept of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria.
- i) To recommend the draft total Council Tax levels for 2015/2016 applicable to the Council and to the Parish of Hetton Town Council including all relevant precepts.
- j) To note that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2015/2016 is not excessive in accordance with Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
- k) To recommend that the Council Tax Leaflet be made available via the Council's website rather than enclosed with Council Tax bills which reflects a relaxation of the rules and that, to meet timescales for publication, responsibility for finalising the document be delegated to the Director of Finance in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Secretary

**Reasons for decision:**

To comply with all legal requirements including changes to the Local Government Act 1992 made by the Localism Act 2011, in order to determine the Council Tax Requirement and the applicable basic Council Tax for 2015/2016 and changes to the Council Tax and Non Domestic Rates (Demand Notices) (Amendment) Regulations 2012.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There are no alternative options recommended for approval.

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

Revenue Budget and Proposed Council Tax for 2015/2016 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2015/2016 and 2019/2020 - Appendix G - Report of the Director of Finance

**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