

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



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

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To agree to the procurement of a Sunderland Integrated Substance Misuse Service following relevant revisions to the specifications which incorporate lessons learned and any relevant changes in legislation and guidance, as described in the report and authorise the Director of Public Health in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder to appoint the appropriate service provider once the tender evaluation process has been completed.

**Reasons for decision:**

To enable the continuation of services following the end of main contracts in July 2015 and incorporate lessons learned from the previous implementation to enable better outcomes for service users, families and carers.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

☐ Continue with current services. ☐ Continue with elements of current services, whilst re-commissioning one or more of the others.

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

Procurement of Sunderland Integrated Substance Misuse Service - Report of the Executive Director of People Services and Assistant Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Ben Seale

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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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

to approve the following in relation to the 2016-2017 academic year: 1. The admissions policy and procedures associated with the coordinated scheme of admissions. This includes a proposed change to the scheme as described in 5.5 – 5.7 of this report; 2. The criteria that will be applied for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools where oversubscription occurs; 3. The published admission numbers (PANs) 4. An increase in the PAN at Castletown Primary School in North Sunderland from 50 to 60 from September 2015

**Reasons for decision:**

Cabinet approval of the city's maintained school admission arrangements is required prior to submission to the Department for Education (DfE) and publication for parents making applications for primary and secondary school admissions for the September 2016 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 from September 2016 - 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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the development of a UK City of Culture bid for Sunderland.

**Reasons for decision:**

A bid for Sunderland to be UK City of Culture would have major economic, social and cultural benefits for the city. Even if the bid is not successful, the evidence from other candidate cities in the past is that the activity would help to drive forward key outcomes relevant to Sunderland's economic ambitions. The decision will support the development of a bid at the appropriate time (subject to the timetable confirmation from DCMS).

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Do Nothing – not to proceed with the development of a bid would represent an opportunity for the City missed. The activity involved in competitive bidding can itself generate many positive outcomes (e.g. Durham's bi-annual Lumiere Festival resulted from their failed bid, but attracted 175,000 visitors and an estimated £5.8m to local economy in 2013). Therefore, the alternative of not supporting a bid was rejected.

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

Development of a UK City of Culture 2021 Bid - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Vince Taylor

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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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To recommend the Council to approve the recommendations of the Remuneration Panel that:- (i) the report, including the Council's commitment to further improvement action to reinforce the overall successful implementation of Executive and Committee arrangements and ensure steps are taken to increase understanding of the roles and achievements, be noted, and (ii) no change be made to the current level of allowances paid to Members of the Council of the City of Sunderland for 2015 / 2016.

**Reasons for decision:**

Following the review of the Members' Allowances Scheme that took place during 2013 - 14, it was considered appropriate that the Allowances Scheme be further reviewed to reflect any changes in role, as the revised executive and committee arrangements that had been introduced by the Council, were further embedded.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The recommendations have been arrived at following careful consideration by the Panel. 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 - Report of the Chief Executive and the Head of Law and Governance

**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:**

None

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

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To agree to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in 50 Fawcett Street and 15-16 John Street and leasehold interest in upper floors of Cassaton House, Fawcett Street, Sunderland at a price which is the best reasonably obtainable and on terms to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

50 Fawcett Street, 15-16 John Street and Cassaton House are currently vacant and surplus to operational requirements. Their disposal will secure further investment in the City, obtain a significant capital receipt for the Council and the Council will be relieved of the on-going holding costs for the buildings.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The alternative option is: - Retain the properties. The properties are currently vacant and surplus to operational requirements. Being vacant they carry holding costs of rates, insurance and security. Retaining them would not secure further investment in the City or the capital receipt. This option has been considered and is not recommended.

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

Disposal of 50 Fawcett Street, 15-16 John Street and the Upper Floors of Cassaton House, Fawcett Street, Sunderland

**Contact Officer:**

Nick Wood

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561 2631

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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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To agree to the disposal by way of a ground lease of up to 0.55 ha of land at Crowtree Road, Sunderland to Pavilion Property Trustees Limited and Pavilion Trustees Limited (Pavilion) at a price which is the best consideration reasonably obtainable on terms to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

To secure further investment in the City, facilitate a commercial development which will enhance the Cities retail offer, provide employment opportunities and be of benefit to the Council by providing a satisfactory financial receipt and an increase in Business Rates. Disposing of the land to the adjacent owners enables a more comprehensive development to be undertaken with the existing retail outlets.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The alternative options are: - (i) Retain the land. This would not secure further investment in the City or the financial receipt, business rates and employment opportunities. In addition to this the Council would continue to incur the costs associated with holding the site. (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 and which will be supported by external valuation evidence. Both options have been considered and are not recommended.

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

Disposal of land at Crowtree Road, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Nick Wood

**Extension:**

561 2631

**Email:**

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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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

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

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

**Full description of decision:**

To: - Agree to the disposal by way of a ground lease of approximately 0.2 ha of land adjacent to Keel Square, Sunderland to a CHG company (Cairn Hotel Group) at a price which is the best consideration reasonably obtainable; - Agree to the acquisition by the Council of an option to acquire a head lease in the ground floor of the proposed completed development, on terms detailed in part II of this report, and otherwise as agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary; and - Authorise the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary to exercise the option.

**Reasons for decision:**

Site was acquired by the Council as a strategic acquisition for redevelopment. The disposal will secure early & further investment in the City & facilitate a development to assist with the regeneration of City Centre & provide employment opportunities. The development will result in the Council receiving additional business rates. Taking an option to acquire a head lease will enable control to be reover prominent commercial units in a strategically important position. It is considered appropriate to progress with the recommendation to enable appropriate development to occur and to retain control over the uses of the ground floor units in the development.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The alternative options are: - - Retain the land. This would not secure the early and further investment in the City or provide the additional business rates and employment opportunities. In addition to this the Council would continue to incur the costs associated with holding the site - 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 statutory duty to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable for disposals of land which is supported by external valuation evidence. - Dispose of the long leasehold interest but not acquire an option for a head lease in the completed development. This option would not give the Council the ability to control the uses fronting onto the new Keel Square. It would also eliminate the Council's ability to accelerate the development in the short to medium term. These options have therefore been considered and are not recommended

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

Disposal of Land and Acquisiton of a Head Lease on Lan adjacent to Keel Square, Sunderland - Report of Deputy Chief Executve

**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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the procurement of 6 gritting vehicles to replace existing ones in use to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of the winter gritting service as part of the planned equipment replacement programme.

**Reasons for decision:**

In accordance with the Constitution, Cabinet approval is required to the principle of letting a contract exceeding £250,000 in value.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

To delay the replacement of this equipment would reduce operational efficiency and increase maintenance costs.

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

Procurement of Replacement Gritting Vehicles - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Colin Curtis

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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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the forward plan of commissioning intentions for 2015/17 relating to Public Health contracts as detailed in Appendix A of the report. These are divided into 3 identified areas: ☐ Procurement processes and award of contracts ☐ Extensions to existing contracts to enable service review to be undertaken and forward plans to be established ☐ For information only ☐ updates on Public Health work streams To authorise the Executive Director of People Services to undertake the necessary procurement processes, award contracts and extend contracts as required.

**Reasons for decision:**

Services commissioned via the Public Health budget help enable the Council to deliver against the Public Health Outcomes Framework, including a number of mandatory service areas. The commissioning intentions document provides an overview of all contracting arrangements that support these outcomes.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

☐ Do not extend recommended contracts ☐ Do not re-procure recommended contract ☐ Continue with contracted service arrangements as currently configured

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

Public Health Commissioning Intentions ☐ 2015/16 - Report of the Executive Director of People Services and Assistant 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/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

11/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To recommend to Council to adopt the draft Pay Policy Statement 2015-2016, for publication by 31 March 2015

**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. The Local Government Transparency Code which came into force on 31st October 2014 under section 2 of the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980, also requires local authorities to publish certain data sets, including senior pay.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

There are no alternative options recommended.

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

Human Resources Committee - 26 February 2015 - Pay Policy Statement - Report of the 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:** No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

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

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To agree to the acquisition of Gillbridge Police Station, Sunderland for the price indicated in the and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

The proposed acquisition will secure an interest in a property that is located in a strategically important position for the future regeneration of the City Centre.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The alternative option is to not acquire the property. This would result in losing the ability to control a property that is located in a strategically important position for the future development of the City Centre. This option has been considered and is not recommended.

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

Acquisition of Gillbridge Police Station, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Michael Whitaker

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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: 12/Mar/2015

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To: (1) Agree to the disposal by way of a ground lease of approximately 0.2 ha (0.5 ac.) of land adjacent to Keel Square, Sunderland to a CHG company (Cairn Hotel Group) at a price which is the best consideration reasonably obtainable; (2) Agree to the acquisition by the Council of an option to acquire a head lease in the ground floor of the proposed completed development for the term and rental detailed in report and otherwise as agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary; and (3) Authorise the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary to exercise the option.

**Reasons for decision:**

The site was acquired by the Council as a strategic acquisition for redevelopment. The disposal will secure early and further investment in the City and facilitate a development which will assist with the regeneration of the City Centre and provide employment opportunities. In addition the development will result in the Council receiving additional business rates. Taking an option to acquire a head lease will enable the Council to retain control over prominent commercial units in a strategically important position. It is considered appropriate to progress with the recommendation to enable appropriate development to occur and to retain control over the uses of the ground floor units in the development.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

The alternative options are: - Retain the land. This would not secure the early and further investment in the City or provide the additional business rates and employment opportunities. In addition to this the Council would continue to incur the costs associated with holding the site - 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 statutory duty to obtain the best consideration reasonably obtainable for disposals of land which is supported by external valuation evidence. - Dispose of the long leasehold interest but not acquire an option for a head lease in the completed development. This option would not give the Council the ability to control the uses fronting onto the new Keel Square. It would also eliminate the Council's ability to accelerate the development in the short to medium term. These options have therefore been considered and are not recommended

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

Disposal of land and acquisition of a head lease on land adjacent to Keel Square, 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:** Yes

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

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

**Decision Taker:** Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

20/Mar/2015

**Date of decision:**

11/Mar/2015

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the acquisition of land and other assets from the HCA on the terms and conditions detailed in the report and on further terms and conditions to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

To enable the Council to be in a position to ensure that well used riverside sites are maintained to a high standard.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

1. Decline full transfer ☐ this will avoid the risks associated with the land, but the Council will not gain control of maintaining standards on well used riverside sites and is likely to result in a lower level of maintenance in future years. 2. Decline partial transfer ☐ sites/areas of major risk ☐ this will avoid the risks associated with the ongoing maintenance of major structures/areas associated with the transfer but sufficient funding to maintain these structures over a long period will mitigate the risk in taking on responsibility for these assets. HCA has also indicated that the transfer must be as a complete package.

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

Sunderland Riverside at Stadium Park: Proposed land transfer from the Homes and Community Agency (HCA) - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:**

Nick Wood

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nick.wood@sunderland.gov.uk

**Is this a key decision:** Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:** Yes

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

None

