

**Record of  
Executive  
Decisions  
published  
16/Mar/2023**



Elaine Waugh  
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

City Hall  
Sunderland

16 March 2023

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Children, Education and Skills  
Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Proposed extension and variation of the service delivery contract with  
Together for Children Sunderland Limited – Report of the Chief Executive

**Full description of decision:**

To:

- (i) Approve the extension of the Contract with TfC for a further period of three years up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027;
- (ii) Approve the variation of the Contract to include the additional services as described in Section 5.1.2 of the report (“the Additional Services”).
- (iii) Approve a new service level agreement between the Council and TfC in connection with the management of those related services as described in Section 5.1.3 of the report (“the Related Services”);
- (iv) Authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Children, Learning and Skills and the Director of Finance, to take all necessary steps to implement (i) to (iii) above, including (without limitation) the finalisation, approval and execution of the relevant contract documents and the approval of any resulting changes as may be required to the Company’s Articles of Association; and
- (v) Authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Children, Learning and Skills, the Director of Finance and the Director of Smart Cities and Enabling Services, to determine, agree with TfC and implement a review of the corporate support services delivery arrangements for TfC.

**Reasons for decision:**

The current service delivery model with TfC has secured major continuous improvements and successes and the delivery of high quality children’s services within Sunderland as demonstrated by the recent “Outstanding” rating by Ofsted. The proposed extension and variation of the Contract to incorporate the Additional Services will further extend and strengthen this high quality and integrated delivery model for children’s services in the city.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

- (i) Not to extend the Contract for a further period of three years- In this case, the Contract would expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and the Council would need to instigate the formal exit process set out in the Contract to enable the formal transfer of the relevant services, functions and employees back to the Council in April 2024 and the winding-up of TfC. However, given the major service benefits and continuous improvements that have been secured through the current service delivery model, this option is not recommended.
- (ii) Not to vary the Contract to include the Additional Services- However, this would mean that the clear benefits of establishing a fully holistic and integrated children's services delivery model would not be secured. As a consequence, this option is not recommended.

**Contact Officer:** Jill Colbert

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<b>Is this a key decision:</b>	Yes
<b>Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:</b>	No
<b>Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:</b>	None

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Changing Places Fund – Report of the Director of Finance

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the award of £140,000 grant funding from the Changing Places Fund to SLM for the installation of CPTs Toilets in priority leisure venues on such terms as approved by the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary.

**Reasons for decision:**

Funding for delivery of the CPTs' programme has been secured through a competitive bidding programme. The Council was awarded £330,000 to support the costs of installation in 8 venues across the city. The Council is leading directly on the installation in four of these venues, and further venues have been identified by SLM in community leisure centres across the city. To enable SLM to proceed with the procurement of contractors to undertake the necessary works the Council is required to seek approval from Cabinet to transfer up to the estimated £140,000 of the grant available.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Alternative public venues across the city have been considered for support through the CPT programme, including other leisure and sporting venues, visitor attractions, retail and other premises. These other locations have been discounted either because of the inability to meet programme timescales (installations to be completed by March 2024) or they are unable to meet the minimum specifications required for CPTs.

**Contact Officer:** Paul Wilson

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**Is this a key decision:** Yes

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

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Councillor Johnston, and Councillor Chequer as his partner, made an open declaration as he was an employee of Everyone Active. They withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the report.

## **Record of Executive Decisions Published: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy – update – Report of the  
Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

To approve the update to the Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy appended to this report and authorise the Executive Director of City Development, in consultation with the Deputy Leader to make typographical and stylistic amendments to the Policy and such other amendments as may be required from time to time to reflect changes in legislation, case law or national guidance.

**Reasons for decision:**

It is essential that the Council reviews private housing to ensure that good management and housing standards are improved or maintained within the sector and that it acts effectively, using the powers available to regulate the sector. The Council's Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy ensures that decisions made in the exercise of these powers are consistent and transparent.

The update to the Policy includes statutory powers that have been introduced since the Policy was approved by Cabinet on 18 June 2019 and also takes into account the statutory Direction given to all councils by the Secretary of State for the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities in relation to damp and mould.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

It is essential for enforcement purposes that the Council has a Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy to detail how the Council's enforcement powers will be fairly and consistently applied. The Council could be criticised if the Policy is not updated to take account of the changes in legislation and the updated regulatory guidance. There are therefore no alternative options to consider in this respect.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

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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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Sunderland Heat Network – Update and delivery strategy – Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

To note progress with the project to date, and authorise the Executive Director of City Development (in consultation with the Deputy Leader) to:

- procure an experienced Heat Network Operator to progress development of the proposed heat network; and
- negotiate and agree the terms of a Joint Development Agreement that will govern the relationship between the Council and the appointed Heat Network Operator.

**Reasons for decision:**

The UK Heat Network market is continuing to evolve rapidly, and Sunderland is playing an important role in this emerging market as a pilot Heat Networking Zone area. The proposed new delivery strategy will allow an operator to become meaningfully involved in the development stage of this project and bring their expertise and commercial awareness to support the construction and operation of a Sunderland Heat Network.

This approach allows for faster progress towards delivery of a City Centre Heat Network and will help to meet the targets in the City Plan and Low Carbon Action Plan. It also allows the Council to explore alternative funding options for the construction of the Heat Network that a commercial operator may be able to facilitate.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Continue with the existing consultancy led design and public sector delivery model.

This option is rejected because it does not allow the Council to benefit from the additional expertise and commercial knowhow that an experienced heat network operator will bring as a partner to the project.

There is also a risk that the consultants' detailed design solution may not be entirely acceptable to an experienced commercial operator, which could lead to significant delays and additional costs at the construction stage of the project.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:** peter.mcintyre@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**  
Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**  
16 March 2023

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

Highway Maintenance (Including Bridges) and Integrated Transport Capital Programme 2023-2024 – Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

To:

- a) approve the schemes to be delivered that are funded from the 2023-2024 Highway Maintenance Capital Programme allocation as set out in Appendix 1;
- b) approve the schemes to be delivered that are funded from the 2023-2024 Bridge Maintenance Capital Programme allocation as set out in Appendix 3;
- c) approve the schemes to be delivered that are funded from the 2023-2024 Integrated Transport Capital Programme allocation as set out in Appendix 5;
- d) approve amendments to the schemes to be delivered that are funded from 2022-2023 Highway Maintenance Capital Programme allocation as set out in Appendix 2;
- e) approve amendments to the schemes to be delivered that are funded from 2022-2023 Bridge Maintenance Capital Programme allocation as set out in Appendix 4;
- f) approve amendments to the schemes to be delivered that are funded from 2022-2023 Integrated Transport Capital Programme allocation as set out in Appendix 6

**Reasons for decision:**

To establish the planned Highway Maintenance (including Bridges) and Integrated Transport Capital Programme for 2023-2024 which will enable the necessary design, procurement and construction works on the schemes contained therein to commence.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

No alternatives are proposed as these programmes are considered to be the appropriate option for the Council, as the local highway authority, determined following a detailed review, including through consultations with Local Area Neighbourhood and Community Boards.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:** peter.mcintyre@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Homelessness Reduction and Sleeping Rough Strategy 2023 – 2028 –  
Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

**Full description of decision:**

To:-

1. Approve the adoption of the Homelessness Reduction and Sleeping Rough Strategy 2023 - 2028; and
2. Authorise the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder of Dynamic City to review this Strategy annually and make any minor amendments as deemed required.

**Reasons for decision:**

All local authorities must carry out a review of homelessness in their area and publish a homelessness strategy at least every five years under duties set out within the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

**Not to have a Homelessness Reduction and Sleeping Rough Strategy**

This has been considered and rejected as it is a requirement of the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 for all local authorities to carry out a review of homelessness in their area and publish a homelessness strategy at least every five years.

**Contact Officer:** Graham Scanlon

**Email:** [graham.scanlon@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:graham.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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**  
Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**  
Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**  
24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**  
16 March 2023

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

Variations to Public Health contract prices arising from the Agenda for Change pay deal – Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

### **Full description of decision:**

To authorise the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities, in consultation with the Director of Finance and the Portfolio Holder for Health and Social Care, to undertake the necessary steps to vary the relevant Public Health contracts with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to cover increased staffing costs arising from the national pay settlement for staff who are subject to NHS Agenda for Change Terms and Conditions.

### **Reasons for decision:**

The 2022/2023 Public Health Grant allocation for Sunderland has been subject to an increase for the purpose of covering increased staff salary costs resulting from the Agenda for Change pay deal for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

There are also future responsibilities for funding in full the pay awards made for the periods 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, for any ongoing contracts.

Increasing Public Health contract prices for those contracts which include staff who are subject to NHS Agenda for Change Terms and Conditions is consistent with the conditions of the Public Health Grant. It will also help ensure the stability and sustainability of those Public Health contracts in Sunderland.

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

Do nothing – do not vary the contracts and uplift prices. This is not a viable option as the 2022/2023 Public Health Grant has been increased for the specified purpose of covering costs associated with increases to salaries of staff subject to NHS Agenda for Change Terms and Conditions and the Council as commissioner has responsibility for ensuring any recurrent responsibilities for funding increases to salaries of staff subject to NHS Agenda for Change Terms and Conditions are met, in accordance with national guidance issued.

**Contact Officer:** Gerry 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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Acquisition and conversion of the former Halfway House Public House,  
Southwick – Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and  
Communities

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Graham Scanlon

**Email:** [graham.scanlon@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:graham.scanlon@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

The procurement of a contractor for the development at James William Street,  
Hendon – Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and  
Communities

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Graham Scanlon

**Email:** [graham.scanlon@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:graham.scanlon@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

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Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Acquire St Cuthbert's Methodist Church and associated land to enable the build of 6 specialist supported bungalows – Report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Graham Scanlon

**Email:** [graham.scanlon@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:graham.scanlon@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

New Wear Footbridge and Riverside Sunderland Infrastructure – Scheme Update and Appointment of Main Works Contractor - Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:** [peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Acquisition of a Property on John Street, Sunnyside, Sunderland – Report of the Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:**

[peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Realignment of property interests at Keel Square – Report of the Executive  
Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:**

[peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Disposal of Land at Farringdon Row, Riverside Sunderland – Report of the  
Executive Director of City Development

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:**

[peter.mcintyre@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:peter.mcintyre@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: 16/Mar/2023**

**Decision Taker:**

Cabinet

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Economic Prosperity Scrutiny  
Committee

**Date decision in force:**

24 March 2023

**Date of decision:**

16 March 2023

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

Siglion Business Plan 2023 – Report of the Executive Director of City  
Development

**Full description of decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Reasons for decision:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

As set out in the Cabinet report.

**Contact Officer:** Peter McIntyre

**Email:**

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**Is this a key decision:**

Yes

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

Yes

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

Councillor G. Miller and Councillor Rowntree, together with Patrick Melia, Chief Executive made open declarations as members of the board of Siglion Developments LLP and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the report.