

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
06/Jun/2012**



Elaine Waugh
Head of Law and Governance

Civic Centre
Sunderland

6 June 2012

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 06/Jun/2012

Decision Taker: Cabinet
Appropriate Scrutiny Committee: Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:
06/Jun/2012

Date of decision:
06/Jun/2012

Full description of decision:

To: - (i) note the report of the meeting held on 26 April 2012 Part I and (ii) approve the new grievance procedure, proposed by the Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development, in principle subject to further consultation regarding member involvement.

Reasons for decision:

To meet the requirements of the ACAS Code of Practice and streamlines the process. To fit with the Council's values, by retaining the appropriate levels of decision making at a senior level within the Organisation, to ensure fair and positive employee relations are maintained. The revised ACAS code has removed the requirement to have a procedure for dealing with grievances from ex-employees. The Council's revised procedure does not, therefore, include a process for this. It is proposed that a representative from HR&OD, alongside the relevant Head of Service will consider how the Council will respond to any grievance received in these circumstances on a case by case basis

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Alternative options were considered. One option would be to retain the current procedure; however, this option would not address the current problems being experienced. Other amendments to the current process were considered but it was decided that these would not deliver the improvements required. In addition the procedure proposed meets the requirements of the ACAS Code of Practice.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Report of the Personnel Committee held on 26 April 2012 Part I

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: 06/Jun/2012

Decision Taker: Cabinet
Appropriate Scrutiny Committee: Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:
14/Jun/2012

Date of decision:
06/Jun/2012

Full description of decision:

To recommend to Council to: - (i) endorse the contents of and approve the Corporate Plan 2012/13 - 2014/15 and (ii) delegate the final approval to the Leader and Chief Executive and authorised the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to make any minor or final amendments to the Plan, and (ii) authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to approve a summary version of the Corporate Plan and to make any minor or final amendments to the summary.

Reasons for decision:

Production of the Corporate Plan is required under the council's Constitution, as an Article 4 Plan. The Corporate Plan is considered to be the optimum statement of the council's strategic direction and objectives.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Option 1. Do Nothing: This option was not considered appropriate as the Council would not have a strategic plan that captured and expressed in simple terms the Council's direction and intentions for the years 2012/2013 - 2014/2015. Option 2. Produce a CIP: This option was not considered appropriate as the CIP is considered no longer suitable for the Council as a means of articulating and communicating the Council's strategic direction in the context of the Sunderland Way of Working.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Corporate Plan 2012/13 - 2014/15 - 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: 06/Jun/2012

Decision Taker: Cabinet
Appropriate Scrutiny Committee: Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:
06/Jun/2012

Date of decision:
06/Jun/2012

Full description of decision:

To recommend to Council: - (a) To amend the Constitution as set out in this report in order to - reflect changes to support arrangements for Cabinet, and the number of Scrutiny Committees and to take account of provisions relating to Overview and Scrutiny introduced by the Localism Act 2011. - provide for a Human Resources Committee comprised of 12 members, to exercise functions in relation to appointments as provided for by the Employment Procedure Rules and non-executive functions relating to human resources and pensions that are not otherwise delegated. (b) To appoint members to the Human Resources Committee, and; (c) To authorise the Head of Law and Governance to make such other consequential changes that are required to the Constitution to ensure consistency with the approval of the matters set out in (a) and (b) above.

Reasons for decision:

To make necessary adjustments to the Council's Executive and Committee structures and decision-making arrangements to reflect requirements of the Localism Act 2011 now brought into force, and to reflect Council's decision to make changes to Executive and Committee arrangements, and to amend the constitution accordingly.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

There are no relevant alternative options, as consequential changes are necessary to reflect requirements of the Localism Act, and Council's decision to make changes to Executive and Committee arrangements.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Review of Committee Arrangements – Consequential Changes - Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services

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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: 06/Jun/2012

Decision Taker: Cabinet
Appropriate Scrutiny Committee: Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force:
06/Jun/2012

Date of decision:
06/Jun/2012

Full description of decision:

To: i) note the report of the meeting of Personnel Committee, Part II held on 26 April 2012, and ii) approve the following staffing proposals. (a) Health, Housing and Adult Services – Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Practitioner Post. • To create a post of Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Practitioner, POG. (b) Office of the Chief Executive – North Eastern Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) • To establish the post of Enterprise Zone/Investment Manager • To establish the post of Economic Strategy Manager

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:

Report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee, Part II held on 26 April 2012

Contact Officer:

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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: 06/Jun/2012

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Committee - Scrutiny Lead Member for Skills,
Economy & Regeneration

Date decision in force:

14/Jun/2012

Date of decision:

06/Jun/2012

Full description of decision:

To approve a grant as detailed in the report to the company against costs of the company's investment in plant and equipment and the creation of 115 new jobs.

Reasons for decision:

This investment will secure the first new manufacturing facility in the UK from this major manufacturer. The project will back into use a factory premises built in the 1980's which has been empty for some time and create 115 new jobs.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Not to support the company could have meant that they would have continued to manufacture on the continent and import components into the UK. The significant investment would not have been made and the potential for new jobs would have been lost.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Request for Financial Assistance - Joint report Deputy Chief Executive and
Executive Director of Commercial & Corporate Services

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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: 06/Jun/2012

Decision Taker:

Cabinet

Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:

Scrutiny Committee - Lead Member for Skill, Economy and Regeneration

Date decision in force:

14/Jun/2012

Date of decision:

06/Jun/2012

Full description of decision:

To agree to the acquisition of the freehold interest in land shown at High Street West, Sunderland and the building known as Liverpool House at the costs detailed in the report and otherwise on terms to be agreed by the Deputy Chief Executive.

Reasons for decision:

The private sector developments originally proposed for these sites are not viable in the current economic climate and there is no prospect of any development coming forward in the foreseeable future. A planning application for a mixed use development was approved for Liverpool House in 2008 and development has yet to begin on the site. These sites are of strategic importance to the future regeneration aspirations for Sunnyside outlined in The Sunnyside Planning and Design Framework and the current appearance of both properties detracts significantly from efforts aimed at attracting new investment into the area. Their acquisition greatly enhances the ability of the Council to deliver the development of the wider area and will provide the Council with control over the future use and development of this important site.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

The alternative option is to not acquire these sites. This would result in the possibility of a prolonged period of stalled construction or the land being developed for uses which are not in accordance with The Sunnyside Planning and Design Framework. A failure to acquire would mean continued poor visual amenity on a major gateway into the City.

Title and author(s) of written report:

Acquisition of land at High Street West, Sunnyside, Sunderland and the building known as Liverpool House, High Street West, Sunderland - Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

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Is this a key decision: Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information: Yes

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None