

## **ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **AGENDA**

**Meeting to be held in the Boardroom at Sunderland College, City Centre Campus, Park Lane, Sunderland SR1 3NX on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 at 4.30 p.m.**

#### **Please note the venue for the meeting**

#### **Membership**

Cllrs Blackburn, Curran, M. Dixon, Foster, Galbraith, E. Gibson, Jackson, D. MacKnight (Chairman), Marshall, O'Brien, Taylor, Turner (Vice Chairman).

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	<b>Part B – Scrutiny Business</b>	
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	Report of the Head of Member Support and Community Partnerships (copy attached).	

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Report of the Head of Member Support and Community  
Partnerships (copy attached).

**Part C – CCFA/Members Item/Petitions**

No items.

E. WAUGH,  
Head of Law and Governance,  
Civic Centre,  
SUNDERLAND.

4<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

**At a meeting of the ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019 at 4.30 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor D. MacKnight in the Chair

Councillors Blackburn, Curran, M. Dixon, Foster, Galbraith, E. Gibson, Jackson, Marshall, Taylor and Turner

Also in attendance:-

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Sunderland City Council  
Mr Iain Fairlamb, Head of Planning and Regeneration, Sunderland City Council  
Ms Victoria French, Head of Events, Sunderland City Council  
Ms Nicky Rowland, Area Manager – Local Services, Sunderland City Council  
Mrs Christine Tilley, Governance Services Team Leader, Sunderland City Council  
Ms Julie Wearmouth, Housing Strategy Team Leader, Sunderland City Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

**Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies received.

**Minutes of the Last Ordinary Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

A copy of the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer advised as follows in relation to the additional items suggested for the work plan at the last meeting:-

- Update on the International Strategy including the recent Council visit to China – this would be submitted to the June meeting of the Committee;
- IAMP - this would be submitted to the April meeting of the Committee;
- Proposed Waste Energy Plant/Incinerator in Washington – this was a live planning application and therefore it was inappropriate for the Scrutiny Committee at this time, however a report would be submitted when possible.

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 (copy circulated), be confirmed and signed as a correct record and the above information be noted.

## **Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)**

There were no declarations of interest made.

## **Variation in the Order of Business**

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the order of business be changed so that the item on Major Events – Economic Impact was considered at this point on the agenda, as Ms French had another meeting to attend with other Members of the Council.

## **Major Events – Economic Impact**

The Head of Events submitted a report (copy circulated), to provide feedback on the 2018 Illuminations and Festival of Light.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Victoria French, Head of Events advised the Committee that the Sunderland Illuminations and Festival of Light had taken place from 18<sup>th</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 with displays, fireworks and music drawing in the region of 150,000 visitors to the seafront and Roker Park.

The event had received good media and social media coverage. Ms French briefed Members on the visitor profile and advised that 77% of visitors had rated the event as 8, 9 or 10 out of 10.

The presentation detailed the average expenditure for Sunderland residents and for non-resident visitors and what visitors had liked the most. Visitors were coming from Stockton, Teesside, Yorkshire, Scotland and the south of England. The Sunderland Illuminations and Festival of Light had contributed £8.5m to the city's economy.

Ms French advised that research had found the event was seen as value for money with 83% of visitors stating this. She confirmed however that the Festival of Light would be held in Mowbray Park the following year between 21 November and 21 December and they aimed to get more people to visit the city centre by moving the location.

Councillor Jackson enquired what impact there was on local businesses during the event period.

Ms French advised she would be able to pull out specific information on a ward basis for Councillors. She stated that they worked a lot with the residents in the area around parking arrangements and access, as they recognised that for some that the event meant inconvenience and so they tried to make sure things ran as smoothly as possible.

Councillor Marshall commented that it had been a fantastic event and it would be interesting to hear the feedback from businesses in the city centre next year. Ms French advised that they would gather this information.

In response to Councillors Turner and Marshall, Ms French advised that some national bus companies did tours and stays and that she was aware of the link between the Grand Hotel at Seaburn and National Holidays. Ms French added that they were looking to work with companies like this to promote events and attractions in Sunderland and promote the city as a tourist destination.

In response to Councillor Dixon, Ms French advised that the move would also provide the potential for revised prices and content in the run up to Christmas and that the theme would be 'Winter Wonderland'. There would also be some discounts through remodelling. There was however, a balance between upping the entrance fee and continuing to get the number of visitors through.

Councillor Curran commented on the success of the event which had been a culmination of many years work dealing with residents' concerns, adding that most came on board and that Mowbray Park would be an ideal venue for the event, where he was sure groups could work together in a similar way to make it a success.

The Chairman commented that the event had been a huge success and that she felt moving it to Mowbray Park and having it nearer to Christmas when people would be doing their Christmas shopping, was an excellent idea and would boost footfall in the city centre.

Ms French advised that that this was the thinking behind the change as they knew people were travelling from outside Sunderland to the event and this would be a way of encouraging them to do some shopping, have something to eat and contribute to the economy while they were here.

Full consideration having been given to the report and presentation, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the contents of the report and presentation and the information brought out during the discussion be received and noted.

## **Housing Strategy for Sunderland 2017-2022 - Update**

The Executive Director of Economy and Place submitted a report (copy circulated), to provide an update on the key achievements over the past 12 months as identified in the Housing Strategy for Sunderland 2017-2022.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Iain Fairlamb, Head of Planning and Regeneration briefed the Committee on the report referring Members to the three chapters which recognise the Council's three greatest housing priorities:-

- maximising housing growth and increasing the choice of housing;
- making the best use of existing homes and improving our neighbourhoods; and
- supporting vulnerable people to access and maintain housing.

Mr Fairlamb highlighted some of the progress that had been made during 2018/2019 identified in tables 1-3 which included:-

- The Local Plan had been submitted before Christmas to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public;
- They were well on track to achieving the number of new homes set out in the strategy;
- The Council had published its Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA);
- The Council had been successful in a round 1 submission for the Housing Infrastructure Fund;
- The Council had started to prepare an empty properties strategy to identify how it will invest in empty homes across the city;
- The Council had progressed 1 enforced sale during the past year;
- The Council had prevented 381 households from becoming homeless over the past 12 months;
- A draft Homelessness Strategy has been produced and was out to consultation;
- Staffing resource had been reviewed and an additional 2 members of staff employed to effectively meet the duties set out in the Homeless Reduction Act.

In response to Councillor Foster's comments regarding the Developer Event held in January 2018 and whether this was a speculative event, Mr Fairlamb advised that the event had been a networking event to bring developers together along with council officials to discuss future housing development across the city and identify land surplus to needs. There were always different views about land and they sought to engage with Ward Councillors.

Councillor Foster stated that knowledge of the event at the time would have been useful.

Councillor Dixon queried the number of houses to be built and whether they would be built on brownfield sites.

In response Mr Fairlamb advised that they were looking to have similar levels of new houses built as the previous year and that there were not going to be as large a number on brownfield sites as greenfield sites. Some of the brownfield sites were traditional sites alongside the river and other brownfield sites were important for economic use.

Mr Fairlamb echoed Councillor Dixon's view of the importance of taking up the opportunity to work with the new Chief Executive of Gentoo as the company was a large stakeholder in the city.

Councillor Curran expressed his support for the number of building programmes in the city which would boost the number of people and the economy.

Councillor Jackson enquired how rigorous the Council was in identifying people who were homeless.

Mr Fairlamb advised that lots of resources had gone into this to keep the register and identify the numbers involved.

Ms Julie Wearmouth, Housing Strategy Team Leader added that they captured the detail and needs with a recording system they have to do this. Voluntary services were extremely important to upstream services, identifying where people will go to and putting advice and services in to capture those people.

In response to Councillors Jackson and Turner, Ms Wearmouth advised that she would be able to obtain the number of homeless people in the city and added that they were trying to bring empty properties back into use for those who needed them.

In response to Councillor Blackburn, Mr Fairlamb advised that Fulwell Quarry had been identified for a retirement village development consisting of over 100 independent living units.

Councillor Gibson commented on the importance of infrastructure when building the number of houses that were being built, the number of families moving in causing congestion problems on the roads etc. and the need for Doctors' surgeries, schools to be in place etc., adding that it was a shame that these services followed the development and that there were not in place as families moved in as this would solve a lot of problems.

Councillor Taylor enquired as to the number of homes approved on greenfield sites and on brownfield sites.

Mr Fairlamb advised he would provide this information.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report and the information brought out in the meeting be received and noted.

### **Environmental Enforcement – Update**

The Chief Operating Officer (Place) submitted a report (copy circulated), to update Members about the progress being made by the Environmental Enforcement Team since the implementation of the revised Environmental Policy in 2017.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms Nicky Rowland, Area Manager – Local Services provided the Committee with a presentation advising that there was now an operational team of 10 where previously there had been 3 officers to carry out environmental investigations and enforcement.

The presentation provided details of the investigation types, actions and investigations undertaken from April 2018 until December 2018.

Ms Rowland highlighted that Millfield, Hendon, Pallion and Barnes wards had the highest incidences of dumping of waste from April 2018 until December 2018. Since the implementation of the revised Environmental Policy in April 2017 there had been 8985 environmental investigations which she explained could take up to 12 months to investigate and there had been 11 successful prosecutions. She pointed out that this was in comparison with 2014-2017 where there had been 4141 investigations and 0 successful prosecutions.

Councillor Jackson commented that the work undertaken was very impressive and enquired about dog fouling and the measures to reduce incidences.

Ms Rowland responded to say that they had not been targeting the offence and it had been a case of being in the right place, however this would be looked at in the next steps.

Councillor Curran commented that the team had done really well with the number of staff it had. He then enquired what the Authority's policy was in relation to Christmas trees left in the back lanes.

Ms Rowland advised that there was not a policy on Christmas trees and that they should be cut up and put in the brown bin. She added that it was unlawful to leave them in the back lane and that the Council would prosecute anyone doing so if found.

In response to Councillor Curran's further questions, Ms Rowland reported that in future illegal waste collected by the Council would be weighed to calculate the cost of fly-tipping to the authority. The staff did not work weekends but worked a 37 hour week. In 18 months' time they would be looking to target events in the city working in liaison with Victoria French's events team. Staff were not inoculated, however they were provided with the appropriate equipment and clothes and therefore were protected when collecting waste.

Councillor Taylor thanked Ms Rowland for her help and the work her team had undertaken in the Washington area. He enquired whether they worked with other local authorities to gather intelligence.

Councillor Taylor commented on the problems in his ward and others in Washington with trade waste. He advised that the Environment Agency had done some roadside checks recently to try to reduce the problem. It was a major concern with residents in Washington that people were dumping rubbish on the grass verges; landlords dumping waste ready for the next tenants etc. on Council land.

Ms Rowland commented that they needed to get better with working with other local authorities and she felt that the links would improve naturally. The issue at the moment was to get the staff all trained up to provide a robust enforcement team working in Sunderland first.

Ms Rowland advised that the Council used to do roadside checks with the Police which did work successfully, however due to austerity they had not been able to continue with them. They were however looking to meet with the Police to see how they could do some joint working in the future.

Ms Rowland commented that there were some professional fly tippers and they wanted to get the message out that this would not be accepted in Sunderland. With regards to landlords removing rubbish after a tenant had moved in/out, Ms Rowland advised that they tried to work with them to avoid the rubbish being dumped and having to clear it up afterwards and they had arrangements in place with Gentoo for example in this respect.

In response to Councillor Dixon, Ms Rowland advised that they had built up some intelligence with Durham and other local authorities as part of joint working. With regards to the amount of incidents in Millfield and his query whether there needed to be 2 officers working in that ward, Ms Rowland stated that there wouldn't be 1 officer per area in future and it could be all working together, if there was a particular issue. They were looking to take preventative action going forward rather than be reactive.

Councillor Blackburn stated that there was a case in Durham where a van which had been used to dump waste was to be scrapped and he enquired whether Sunderland was looking to do this.

Ms Rowland advised that the Council was about to use the new legal powers which came into force in April 2018 to seize vehicles used in waste trade or deposit offences. There were 8 vehicles at that time that they were looking at potentially seizing. One of the problems was that the vehicles were cloned and the registration on the vehicle was not correct. However they were working with the Police to identify the vehicles so they could be seized and scrapped. Ms Rowland added that there was a procedure to be followed whereby the owner had to prove legitimacy for the van and if they were unable to do this it was scrapped.

Councillor Galbraith commented on cases where people genuinely put rubbish out for household collection thinking that the Council would take it away, as it used to do so and then found themselves reported.

Ms Rowland advised that all of the offences were criminal matters and had to be proved without reasonable doubt and that they were duty bound to see them all the way through. Everyone involved had to be interviewed under caution.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that the contents of the report and presentation and the information brought out during the discussion be received and noted.

### **Annual Work Programme 2018-19**

The Head of Member Support and Community Partnerships submitted a report (copy circulated), setting out the current work programme of the Committee for the 2018-19 Municipal year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer advised that the visit to Vaux site would take place on 8<sup>th</sup> March and Members would be informed of the detailed arrangements around this in due course.

Mr Diamond also advised that an item on 'Apprenticeships' was scheduled for the March meeting of the Committee.

5. RESOLVED that the information contained in the work programme for 2018-19 together with the above be noted.

## **Notice of Key Decisions**

A report providing Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 (copy circulated), was submitted.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer reminded Members to contact him if they required further information on any of the items included in the notice.

6. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and closed the meeting.

(Signed) D. MACKNIGHT,  
Chairman.

**APPRENTICESHIPS UPDATE – MEETING WITH SUNDERLAND COLLEGE**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF MEMBER SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To meet with representatives from Sunderland College in order to discuss the operation of apprenticeships in the city

**2. Background**

- 2.1 In setting its work programme for the year, the Committee agreed to include an update on the operation of apprenticeships in the city.
- 2.2 To this end a meeting has been arranged with Ellen Thinnesen (Principal and Chief Executive) and Iain Nixon (Executive Director of Commercial Activity) from Sunderland College.
- 2.3 Sunderland College is the largest provider of apprenticeships in the city and one of the largest in the region, offering around 40 apprenticeship programmes.

**3 Current Position**

- 3.1 Apprenticeships have a long history in the UK. In the past they were associated with so called “traditional” trades such construction, engineering and shipbuilding – industries central to the local and regional economy. Ever evolving, today apprenticeships now reflect both traditional and newer emerging sectors in the economy including:-

- mechanical and engineering
- construction
- creative and cultural
- education
- health and care
- businesses services and digital
- tourism and retail
- transport and logistics

- 3.2 An apprenticeship can be defined as a real job with training. As employees, apprentices earn a wage and work alongside experienced staff to gain job-specific skills. Most of the training is ‘on the job’ within the workplace. Off the job, usually on a day-release basis, apprentices receive training to work towards a nationally recognised qualification, provided by a local college or by a specialist learning provider

- 3.3 There are two different types of apprenticeships: frameworks and standards. Apprenticeship frameworks are being progressively phased out and replaced by the newer apprenticeship standards. Standards are developed by groups that represent groups of employers and sector organisations.
- 3.4 Apprenticeships can take between one and four years to complete depending on the level of Apprenticeship, the apprentices' ability and the industry sector and are available in 1,500 occupations across more than 170 industries.
- 3.5 Over 900,000 funded apprentices participated on an apprenticeship in the 2016 to 2017 academic year, and the Government has set a target of 3 million new apprenticeship starts between 2015 and 2020.
- 3.6 Apprenticeships are available from the age of 16 onwards and the educational levels are:-

<b>Name</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Equivalent educational level</b>
Intermediate	2	5 GCSE
Advanced	3	2 A level passes
Higher	4,5,6 and 7	Foundation degree and above
Degree	6 and 7	Bachelor's or master's degree

- 3.7 Apprentices have the same legal entitlements as the rest of the workforce. Current minimum wage for apprentices is £3.70 an hour. This rate applies to apprentices under 19 and those aged 19 and over who are in their first year. Apprentices must be paid at least the minimum wage rate for their age if they are an apprentice aged 19 or over and have completed their first year.
- 3.8 The apprenticeship programme is delivered by National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) which was officially launched in April 2009. The NAS is responsible for the national delivery of targets and co-ordination of the funding for apprenticeship places. They are also responsible for increasing the number of apprenticeship opportunities and providing a dedicated, responsive service for both employers and learners. This includes simplifying the process of recruiting an apprentice through apprenticeship vacancies, an online system where employers can advertise their apprenticeship job vacancies and potential apprentices can apply.
- 3.9 The organisation and delivery of apprenticeships has changed considerably over recent years with a greater emphasis placed on the role employers in shaping courses. In 2016 the Institute for Apprenticeships was established with the aim of ensuring high-quality apprenticeship standards and to advise the government on funding for each standard.

- 3.10 In April 2017 the apprenticeship levy came into effect with all UK employers with a pay bill of over £3 million per year paying the levy. The levy is set at 0.5% of the value of the employer's pay bill, minus an apprenticeship levy allowance of £15,000 per financial year. The levy is paid into an apprenticeship service account, and funds in this account have to be spent on apprenticeship training and assessment.
- 3.11 Since the introduction of the funding changes in 2017 there has been a fall in the number of apprenticeship starts, leading to criticism of the levy. There has also been concern at the pace at which the apprenticeship standards have been developed.
- 3.12 For many, apprenticeships are considered the optimal way of training, developing and skilling people for the future, helping businesses to secure a supply of people with the skills and qualities they need and which are often not available on the external job market.

#### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 Given the rapidly changing environment within which apprenticeships operate, a meeting has been arranged with representatives from Sunderland College in order to discuss the operation of apprenticeship in the city.

#### **5. Recommendation**

- 5.1 The Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the information provided.

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Scrutiny Officer  
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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ECONOMY AND PLACE****SUNDERLAND HERITAGE ACTION ZONE PARTNERSHIP GRANT SCHEME****1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on a forthcoming Cabinet report to request approval for the delivery of the Heritage Action Zone Partnership Grant Scheme, and to delegate authority to make all grant offers to third parties to help further the City Council and Historic England funded scheme.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 Sunderland's Historic High Streets Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) was established in 2017 following a successful bid from the Council to Historic England. It aims to address the heritage needs of the City Centre's and Old Town's declining historic High Streets and their environs, more specifically addressing Heritage at Risk across the zone and providing the catalyst to stimulate the area's wider economic growth.
- 2.2 The HAZ includes 2 entire conservation areas, the adjoining Old Sunderland and Old Sunderland Riverside Conservation Areas, and part of the adjacent Sunnyside Conservation Area, all of which are on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register. It is focused along the Historic High Street and Fawcett Street where economic decline is most evident and there is the greatest concentration of heritage assets at risk or in poor condition in the central area of the City, but where there is also commitment to build upon previous and existing heritage-led regeneration initiatives and successes in a more collaborative resource-focused approach to the area's historic environment.
- 2.3 The HAZ is a cross-sector partnership comprising Sunderland City Council, Historic England, Sunderland Culture Ltd, Tyne and Wear Building Preservation Trust, The Churches Conservation Trust, and Sunderland Heritage Forum. A HAZ Delivery Plan has been produced and collectively agreed by the partnership and sets out a five year programme (2017-2022) of linked projects and activities through which the aims of the HAZ will be achieved. Projects include a series of building repair and conservation projects and project development work to prioritise and define these building projects, research projects and engagement and promotion.
- 2.4 The Partnership Grant Scheme is a vehicle for delivering key elements of the HAZ Delivery Programme and ensuring its aims and outputs are achieved. The Scheme is focused on that part of the HAZ within the City Centre, High Street West and Fawcett Street, and has been designed to primarily deliver two of the key repair and restoration projects identified in the HAZ Delivery

Plan. These two projects take in the two landmark city blocks of Mackie's Corner and 170-175 High Street West. Both groups have been largely vacant and deteriorating for many years and are considered to be at-risk, but both are strategically positioned, have landmark qualities and offer huge regenerative potential. Their repair and restoration is therefore critical to the overall success of the HAZ. The Scheme also includes a traditional shop front reinstatement scheme for Fawcett Street and High Street West, targeted primarily at the Elephant Tea Rooms due to its landmark position and architectural quality, and potentially other listed buildings in the streets subject to sufficient funds being available in the overall scheme budget. A Plan showing the scheme boundary and target properties is provided in Appendix A.

- 2.5 The Partnership Scheme comprises funding from the Council and Historic England to make grants available to property owners / tenants for structural and external repair and improvement works to historic buildings, including roof and stonework repairs and the reinstatement of architectural details and features such as shop fronts and windows.
- 2.6 The Partnership Scheme would deliver substantial benefits to the environment and economy of this part of the City Centre. It would bring in investment to support local businesses who own or trade from important historic buildings and regenerate landmark City Blocks and buildings within the City Centre Investment Corridor and at key strategic locations in the HAZ and wider City Centre. It will be key to stimulating the revival of Fawcett Street and the eastern stretch of High Street West and wider Sunnyside area.

### **3. Current Position**

- 3.1 The Council has applied for £390,000 from Historic England. The £890,000 project was proposed as a capital new start as part of the Capital Programme Planning Report to Cabinet 21 November 2018, including Council match funding of £500,000. The project was subsequently approved by Council as part of the Capital Programme 2019/20 to 2022/23 report on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Of the Council match funding £460,000 will be allocated to the grant fund to give an overall Partnership Grant Scheme budget of £850,000. The remaining £40,000 will be retained for associated project support costs to run the scheme, including professional fees and additional survey work.
- 3.2 The grant application to Historic England was accompanied by a Delivery Plan for the Scheme that explains how and when the grant funding is expected to be spent over the 5 years of the scheme, including grant allocations and delivery timescales for the priority projects, as well as setting out the aims of the scheme, its outputs and how it will be managed, monitored and evaluated. Grants will be offered at a rate of 75%, thus leveraging in a minimum of £284,000 private sector funding, with estimated grant awards ranging from £20,000 to £350,000, with the majority of projects expected to receive grant offers of over £50,000. It is envisaged that 4 projects comprising 9 properties in total will be able to be grant funded within the scheme budget.

- 3.3 The Application and Delivery Plan was approved by Historic England at their February 4<sup>th</sup> Team Meeting. It is expected a grant offer letter will be issued to the Council in March 2019. The Partnership Grant Scheme will then run from April 2019 until April 2024.

### **Third Party Grant Applications**

- 3.4 Part 4 FPR16 of the Council Constitution states that,

*16.6 The approval of Cabinet must be sought before Chief Officer's provide assistance to any third party by way of loan, grant or guarantee of over £50,000 to any one body in any one financial year.*

- 3.5 The majority of the target projects in the Partnership Grant Scheme, including all priority projects, would typically require formal Cabinet approval before a grant offer can be issued. This coupled with the need to receive Historic England approval for any grant over £20,000 means that a grant applicant could wait 3-4 months for a funding decision. Delegating approval to award grants would streamline the application process and reduce the risk of projects not being delivered in line with the Delivery Plan work programme timetable and year by year funding profile.

## **4. Consultation**

- 4.1 The Council's Conservation Team has worked closely with Historic England and the owners of the key projects (Mackie's Corner and 170-175 High Street West) in developing the Partnership Scheme. This has included detailed discussions on the scope of works which would be eligible for grant, and supporting on-going project development work in preparation for the grant scheme to enable grant applications to be submitted as soon as the scheme commences.
- 4.2 Consultation has taken place with the HAZ Partnership Team, including Sunderland Heritage Forum, Sunderland Culture, as well as the Tyne and Wear Building Preservation Trust (owner of 170-175 High Street West).
- 4.3 The Deputy Leader of the Council, Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration, Cabinet Member for Communities and Culture, and Ward Councillors, have been briefed on the Partnership Scheme and wider HAZ.
- 4.4 Further consultation with property owners, business operators and users within the scheme area will be undertaken at the beginning and end of the Partnership Grant Scheme through a customer perception questionnaire as part of the monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.

## **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1 The Partnership Grant Scheme provides the means for delivering key elements of the HAZ Delivery Programme. It will provide substantial regeneration benefits to the environment and economy of this part of the City

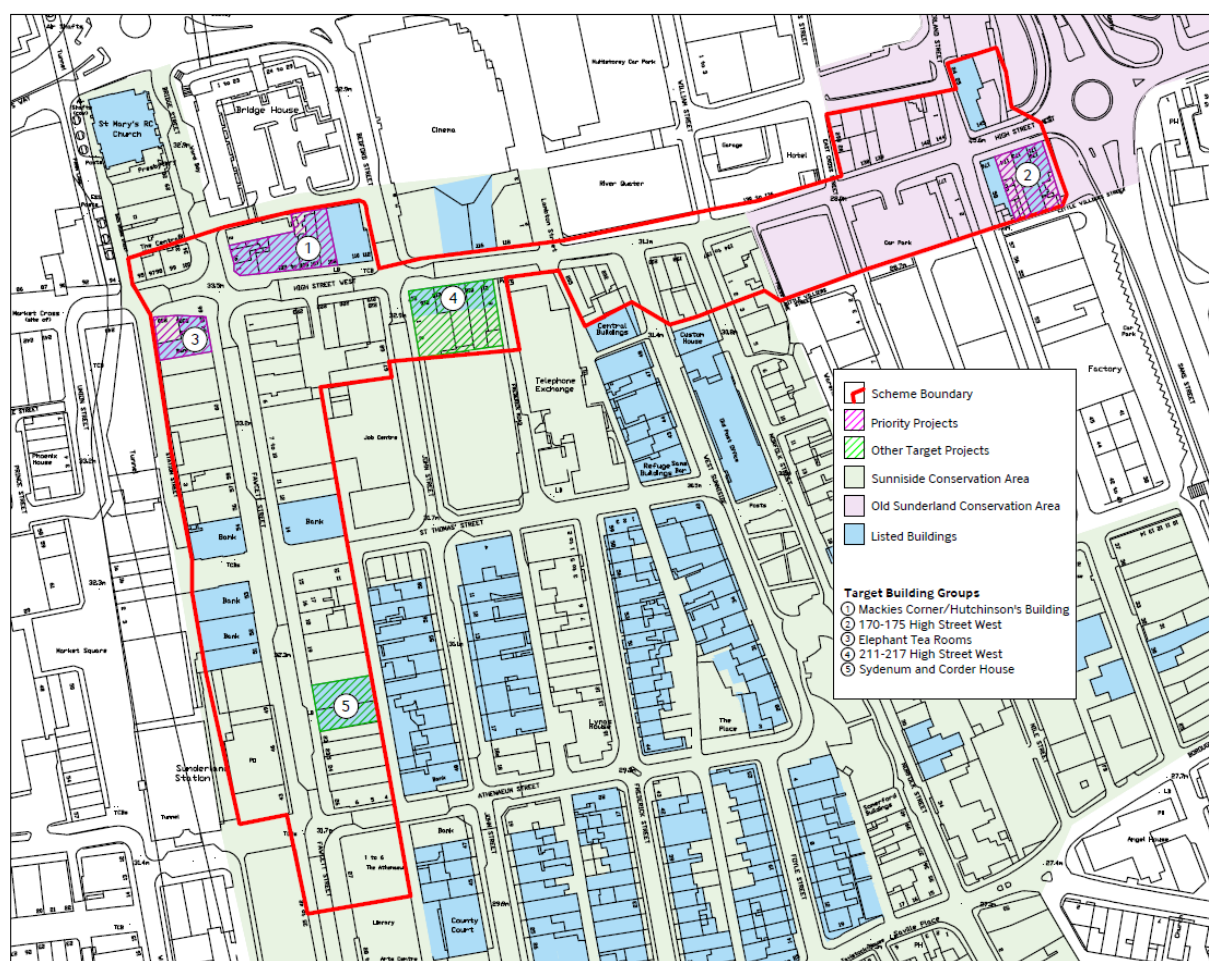
Centre, and is key to stimulating the revival of Fawcett Street and the eastern stretch of High Street West and wider Sunnyside area.

- 5.2 Delegating authority to the Executive Director of Economy and Place to make all third party grant offers will simplify the application process, reduce waiting time for funding decisions, and support the prompt commencement on site of grant funded projects in line with the scheme Delivery Plan. The application documents would still be scrutinised by the Project Team in line with the Delivery Plan and a delegated decision report prepared to evidence the funding decision made. Grant applications would further be referred to Historic England for approval before a grant award is made, adding an additional level of scrutiny.

## 6. Recommendation

- 6.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and comment.

### Appendix A: Map of Partnership Grant Scheme area and target projects



**ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2018-19**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF MEMBER SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY  
PARTNERSHIPS**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The report sets out the current work programme of the Committee for the 2018-19 municipal year.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The work programme is designed to set out the key issues to be addressed by the Committee during the year and provide it with a timetable of work. The Committee itself is responsible for setting its own work programme, subject to the coordinating role of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.
- 2.2 The work programme is intended to be a working document which Committee can develop throughout the year, allowing it to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.
- 2.3 In order to ensure that the Committee is able to undertake all of its business and respond to emerging issues, there will be scope for additional meetings or visits not detailed in the work programme.
- 2.4 In delivering its work programme the Committee will support the Council in achieving its corporate outcomes

**3. Current position**

- 3.1 The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

**4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The work programme is intended to be a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2018-19.

**5 Recommendation**

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme.

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**Contact Officer:** Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer (Tel 0191 561 1396)  
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**ECONOMIC PROSPERITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2018-19**

<b>REASON FOR INCLUSION</b>	<b>12 JUNE 18</b>	<b>17 JULY 18</b>	<b>11 SEPT 18</b>	<b>9 OCTOBER 18 CANCELLED</b>	<b>6 NOV 18</b>	<b>4 DEC 18</b>	<b>15 JAN 19</b>	<b>12 FEB 19</b>	<b>12 MARCH 19</b>	<b>9 APRIL 19</b>
<b>Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses</b>	Core Strategy (Louise Moody)  Bishopwearmouth Conservation (Judith Miller)		Bishopwearmouth Conservation Area (Judith Miller)		Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Principles (Richard Reading)					
<b>Scrutiny Business</b>	Remit and Work Programme of Committee  Northern Spire Bridge (Mark Jackson)	Environmental Services - Update (Mark Speed)  Business Improvement District (Sharon Appleby BID)	Licensing Act 2003 – Cumulative Impact Assessment (Richard Reading)  Waste Management– Visit (Jim Diamond/Colin Curtis)		Local Plan Update (Louise Sloan)  Business Centres (Catherine Auld)  Waste Management (Jim Diamond /Colin Curtis)	Siglion – Update (John Seager Chief Executive)  Major Events Outcomes (Victoria French)	Chamber of Commerce – Update (Jonathan Walker)  Business Improvement District (Sharon Appleby BID)	Environmental Enforcement (Nicky Rowland)  Major Events Outcomes – Illuminations (Victoria French)  Housing Strategy - Update (Louise Sloan)	Apprenticeships (Ellen Thinnesen/ Iain Nixon)  Sunderland Heritage Action Zone Partnership Grant Scheme (Mark Taylor)	Annual Report (Jim Diamond)  Sunderland Cultural Strategy (Rebecca Ball)  IAMP/SSTC – Update and Economic Impact (Les Clark/Mark Jackson)  Public Space Protection Orders (Stuart Douglass/Michelle Coates)
<b>Performance / Service Improvement</b>										
<b>Consultation Information and Awareness Raising</b>	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19	Notice of Key Decisions  Work Programme 18-19

International Strategy (Catherine Auld)  
Libraries Update (Victoria French)  
Northumbria Road Safety Partnership (Paul Lewins)  
Stadium Village Master Plan (Dan Hattle)  
Holmeside Masterplan (Dan Hattle)

**NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF MEMBER SUPPORT AND  
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

**3. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

**4. RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

**5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Cabinet Agenda

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Contact Officer : Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer  
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The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions (including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
190103/322	To approve the proposed acquisition of land and buildings at Pallion Industrial Estate, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190114/325	To procure a contractor to undertake works at Jacky Whites Market.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 13 February to 31 March 2019.	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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181206/318	To approve the business case to develop a new Civic Centre and Public Sector Hub on the Vaux Site.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190103/323	To approve the Together for Children Business Plan for 2019 and the future governance arrangements	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3, of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report Business Plan	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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181024/312	To approve the Final Business Case in relation to the development of a Regional Adoption Agency and agree next steps leading up to the establishment of the Regional Adoption Agency	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190107/324	To approve the proposed disposal of land at Clinton Place, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190117/326	To approve the proposed acquisition of land at the Sheepfolds, Sunderland	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190118/327	To approve the proposed disposal of Tudor Grove Centre.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190123/328	To approve the proposed disposal of land and acquisition of leasehold interests at Keel Square, Sunderland	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019.	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190124/329	To seek approval for the proposed maintained school admission arrangements for the academic year September 2020-2021 and to describe proposed amendments to published admission numbers (PANs) for the academic year 2019-2020, where it is necessary to provide additional places.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190124/330	To seek Cabinet approval to authorize the Executive Director of People Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to procure contracts for the schools capital programme works identified.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190124/331	Proposed Memorandum of Understanding with Thirteen Housing Group Ltd and the approval of admission#the joint delivery of a number of initial housing projects.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report MOU	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190128/332	To approve delivery of the Heritage Action Zone Partnership Grant Scheme, and delegated authority to make all third party grant offers as part of the City Council and Historic England funded scheme.	Cabinet	Yes	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report and supporting appendices	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190130/333	To agree future arrangements regarding a range of contracts between Public Health and City Hospitals Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190201/334	To consider the acquisition of the Norfolk Hotel, 34 Norfolk Street, Sunderland.	Cabinet	N	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190201/335	To consider the sale of Land at Hetton Downs.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190211/336	To consider the purchase of 64 Fawcett Street, Sunderland	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190211337	To seek approval to the planned Highway Maintenance (including Bridges) and Integrated Transport Programme for 2019-2020 and approve amendments (additions/deferrals) to the 2018-2019 Programme.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190212/338	To consider the acquisition of property interests at 240 High St West, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190215/339	Approval of City Council support to the BID for its second term (running from April 2019 for 5 years)	Cabinet	Y	During the period 27 March to 30 April 2019.	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190218/340	To consider a lease of land at Crowtree Road, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190218/341	To consider the sale of leasehold Interest in the Ground Floor of 28-29 Fawcett Street and 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> floor and roofspace of 30 – 32 Fawcett Street.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

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190220/342	To seek approval to procure works related to the delivery of a new Special Free School at the former Bishop Harland CE VA Primary School site	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	Y	This report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
190221/343	To approve flood alleviation schemes.	Cabinet	Y	27 March 2019	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>
170927/212	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	During the period 1 September to 30 November 2019.	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services Civic Centre PO BOX 100 Sunderland SR2 7DN  <a href="mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk">committees@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

**Note;** Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team PO Box 100, Civic Centre, Sunderland, or by email to [committees@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:committees@sunderland.gov.uk)

Who will decide;

Cabinet; Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Michael Mordey – Deputy Leader; Councillor Paul Stewart – Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Geoffrey Walker – Health and Social Care; Councillor John Kelly – Communities and Culture; Councillor Amy Wilson – Environment and Transport; Councillor Stuart Porthouse – Housing and Regeneration

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,  
Head of Law and Governance

26 February 2019