

**CABINET MEETING – 22 JUNE 2011**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I**

**Title of Report:**

MINUTES, PART I

**Author(s):**

Head of Law and Governance

**Purpose of Report:**

Presents the minutes of the last meeting held on 1 June 2011 Part I.

**Action Required:**

To confirm the minutes as a correct record.



**At a meeting of the CABINET held in the CIVIC CENTRE (COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 1) on Wednesday 1 June 2011 at 2.00 p.m.**

**Present:-**

Councillor P. Watson in the Chair

Councillors Allan, Blackburn, Charlton, Gofton, Kelly, P. Smith, Speding, Trueman and T. Wright

**Also present:-**

Councillors Oliver, Snowdon and Wood.

**Part I**

**Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 6 April 2011, Part I (copy circulated) were submitted.

(For copy report - see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**Receipt of Declarations of Interest**

The following Councillors declared personal interests in the reports below as Members of the bodies indicated:-

Item 7 - Guarantees relating to Pension Fund Admitted Bodies	Councillors Allan, Charlton, Gofton, Kelly, P. Smith, Trueman and T Wright	Local Government Pension Scheme
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## **Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

## **Report of the Meeting of the Personnel Committee, Part I**

The report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 26 May, 2011, Part I (copy circulated) was submitted and consideration was given thereto.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

### **2. RESOLVED that:-**

- (i) the report of the meeting held on 31 March 2011, Part I be noted, and
- (ii) the Annual Health and Safety Report be approved.

## **The Queen's 2012 Diamond Jubilee - Competition for Grant of Lord Mayoralty**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to request the Council to endorse Sunderland's application for the grant of Lord Mayoralty.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Trueman reminded Cabinet Members how the City's profile had been raised and highlighted the achievements and successes and the City's continued transformation since City Status was granted in 1992, as well as highlighting all Sunderland has to offer. He explained that through the competition authorised by HM The Queen, towns were invited to apply for City Status, and cities were invited to apply for granting of Lord Mayoralty to celebrate the Queen's 2012 Diamond Jubilee.

Councillor Trueman reported that applications had to be received by the Government's Cabinet Office by 27 May, hence Cabinet was requested to recommend to Council that retrospective approval be given to Sunderland's submission. He circulated a copy of the application for the information of Members and advised that the results of the competition would be announced in 2012.

Councillor Wright having requested details of the other authorities seeking the grant of Lord Mayoralty when it became available, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) it be recommended to Council that the detail of the competition entry be noted, and the actions of the Chief Executive endorsed in submitting the application by the deadline of 27 May 2011, and
- (ii) the details of the other authorities seeking the grant of Lord Mayoralty be circulated to Cabinet Members when it becomes available.

**City Centre Improvement Programme 2010/11 and 2011/12**

The Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to:-

- (a) provide Cabinet with an evaluation of the projects supported by the Council's provision of £1million capital expenditure during 2010/11 to deliver "quick wins" within the city Centre;
- (b) identify lessons learnt through this exercise; and
- (c) put forward proposals for expending the additional £1million capital provision for the City Centre for 2011/12.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Charlton reminded Cabinet Members that since 2009 the Council had made £1 million capital funding available for delivering projects that could provide outcomes quickly and that would clearly demonstrate its support for the City Centre and the businesses that operate within it during the difficult economic climate. He advised that the key aims were to increase footfall and dwell time within the City Centre in order to develop its vibrancy and to benefit local businesses and to increase business, visitor and public satisfaction with the City Centre.

Councillor Charlton highlighted the projects delivered included:-

- Festivals and Events
- Street Scene Improvements
- Marketing and Promotion
- Business Support and Engagement

Councillor Charlton advised that the report provided an outline evaluation of the previous year's programme which was generally considered to have been successful and well received. He added that building upon this success, the lessons learnt and consultations with businesses and partners, the Council had provided an additional capital allocation of £1 million for City Centre improvements during 2011/12. He drew attention to appendix 1 of the report which outlined the proposed focus of the programme for the year ahead.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

4. RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the evaluation of the 2010/2011 programme be accepted and noted,
- (ii) approval be given in principle to the outline proposal for 2011/2012 as set out in Appendix 1 and agree that the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Prosperous City Portfolio holder, be delegated to approve specific projects.

**Guarantees relating to Pension Fund Admitted Bodies**

The Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to request approval for the Council to act as a guarantor in relation to the North East Regional Employers Organisation (NEREO), Disability North, the Percy Hedley Foundation, and to reaffirm and amend the guarantor arrangement for Tyne & Wear Enterprise Trust (ENTRUST), together with all the authorities of Tyne and Wear.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Speding highlighted the report and advised that the situation of having no Guarantor was reflected in the assessment of risk and contribution rates set by the Pension Fund Actuary, and as a result of this, some of the contributions for the latest valuation were double what they had been. He explained that some admitted bodies had guarantorship agreements in place, and had a lower rate of contribution due to their higher level of covenant, and therefore the arrangement being proposed would put these organisations in the same position as those Admitted Bodies with a guarantor.

Councillor Speding having explained that the above organisations had advised that this was unaffordable, and as a result, the five District Councils were asked to act as Guarantor, and having explained the financial implications, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to execute, on behalf of the Council, Guarantees relating to North East Regional Employers Organisation (NEREO), Disability North, the Percy Hedley Foundation and Tyne & Wear Enterprise Trust (ENTRUST) in respect of their admitted body status in the Tyne and Wear Pension Fund.

## **Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor – New Bridge Acquisition of Land**

The Executive Director of City Services and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services submitted a joint report (copy circulated) to obtain approval for the acquisition of additional land for the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor new Wear bridge project (“the Scheme”) and the making of the Supplemental Compulsory Purchase Order for the Scheme.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Blackburn reminded Cabinet Members that at its meeting in April 2009 the Cabinet had approved the making of a compulsory purchase order for the land needed for the SSTC. He reported that part of a site at the corner of Pallion New Road and Pallion Subway was included in the compulsory purchase order and for the remainder of the site it was hoped that access to the highway could be provided by means of an agreement with an adjacent landowner but this had not proved to be possible. He explained that without an access to the highway the remainder of the site was of little value to the landowner and the Council must therefore buy it from him.

Cabinet Members were advised that the Council had to be certain that it would be able to obtain all of the land needed and certainty could only be guaranteed by successfully completing the compulsory purchase process therefore the purpose of this report was to obtain approval for the making of a supplemental compulsory purchase order for the remainder of the site.

Consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

### **6. RESOLVED that:-**

- (i) the making of a supplementary Compulsory Purchase Order (“the Supplementary CPO”) pursuant to Sections 239 and 240 of the Highways Act 1980 to be known as the Sunderland City Council (Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor – new Wear bridge) (Supplemental) Compulsory Purchase Order 2011 be approved in order to acquire the additional land on the south side of Pallion New Road as described in the Schedule attached to the report and identified as coloured pink on plan number 1 attached to the report (“the Supplementary CPO Land”);
- (ii) any of the following officers be authorised: the Chief Executive, Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services or the Head of Law and Governance to make minor amendments, modifications or deletions to the schedule of interests and the plan should this be necessary and to finalise and make the Supplementary CPO;
- iii) the Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Law and Governance be authorised to take all necessary action to achieve confirmation of the Supplementary CPO; and

- iv) subject to the confirmation of the Supplementary CPO, the Deputy Chief Executive and Head of Law and Governance be authorised to take all necessary action to implement the Supplementary CPO and to acquire title and/or possession of the Supplementary CPO Land.

### **Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006**

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

7. RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered to involve a likely disclosure of information relating to any individual, which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information), to consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the Authority and employees of the Authority and in respect of which a claim to professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).

(Signed) P. WATSON,  
Chairman.

### **Note:-**

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.