

Cabinet

8 February 2016

Present: N Redfearn (Elected Mayor) (in the Chair)
Councillors CA Burdis, EN Darke, R Glendon, IR Grayson,
JLL Harrison, CB Pickard, LA Spillard, JJ Stirling and
A Waggott-Fairley.

In Attendance: A Armstrong (Young Mayor)
M Almond (Voluntary and Community Sector)
R Layton (North Tyneside JTUC)
D Bavaird (Business Sector Representative)

CAB124/02/16 Apologies

Apologies were received from A Caldwell (Age UK North Tyneside), M Cushlow (North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group) and S Stavers (Northumbria Police)

CAB125/02/16 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

CAB126/02/16 Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the meetings held on 14 January and 27 January 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

CAB127/02/16 Report of the Young Mayor

The Young Mayor reported on the following activities in which she and/or Young Cabinet Members had been involved:

- In relation to the election of Young Mayor and Member of UK Youth Parliament, the preliminary online voting had ended and the top four candidates for each election had been decided. The second part of the election would take place from 22 to 24 February 2016. The result would be announced on 26 February 2016.
- The anti-bullying work (one of the Young Mayor's pledges) was progressing well. Schools from around the Borough had shown interest in the North Tyneside Anti-Bullying Standards pilot. Funding received from the Police and Crime Commissioner had helped pay for the project. A DVD was being developed at Marden CLC from the scripts created at Takeover Day. Resources had been developed to support schools and an awards ceremony was being held on 10 March 2016 to celebrate the achievements of the schools involved. The Young Mayor hoped that it would become an annual event and be part of her legacy.
- The Member of UK Youth Parliament had met with Alan Campbell M.P. to gather support for the Don't Hate Educate campaign. This was the latest national campaign which had recently been launched. Show Racism the Red Card staff would be working closely with youth councillors on the initiative.
- Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration event. The theme had been 'Don't Stand by'.

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- Youth Councillors had met with Street Pastors again to decide on the design for the new In Case of Emergency (ICE) posters. The aim of this initiative was to promote the idea of everyone having a number in their mobile phones In Case of Emergencies.
- The 'Youth Box' had been completed and delivered to Denbigh Primary School where it was being piloted at the breakfast clubs. O2 Thinkbig funding had paid for resources to be used by young people. It was hoped the varied resources would help make the after school sessions more interesting and fun. The Youth Box would be evaluated by the young people before it was made available to other after school clubs and youth groups.

This was the Young Mayor's last update to Cabinet, as her year of office was coming to an end. She would be continuing as a North Tyneside Youth Councillor and possibly a Young Cabinet Member.

She thanked everybody for their support throughout the year.

In thanking the Young Mayor for her report, the Elected Mayor suggested that the Member of UK Youth Parliament should also arrange a meeting with Mary Glindon MP to seek her support for the Don't Hate Educate campaign.

The Elected Mayor conveyed her sincere thanks to the Young Mayor for the excellent work she had undertaken throughout her term of office and her many achievements. Cabinet Members associated themselves with those sentiments and wished the Young Mayor every success for the future.

CAB128/02/16 North East Combined Authority – Proposed Devolution Agreement and Elected Regional Mayor (All Wards)

The Elected Mayor informed Cabinet that the report had been withdrawn from the agenda for this meeting until such time that further negotiations had taken place on the proposals contained in the report.

CAB129/02/16 Business Factory European Regional Development Fund Application (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which sought approval to accept grant funding totalling £0.900m once it had been approved by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The grant was to increase the number of new business start-ups in the Borough and support existing businesses to grow.

The Business and Economic Development service within the Authority had delivered the comprehensive Enterprise Programme using European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) for over five years. Over the same period, the self employment rate in the borough of North Tyneside had risen from 4.7% in June 2010 to 8.3% in June 2015.

In November 2015 the project had been recognised by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and awarded an Enterprising Britain Award by the Minister for Small Business, Industry and Enterprise, as the best service in the country at promoting entrepreneurial spirit.

In April 2015, the Department of Communities and Local Government had invited applications for new and extension projects to deliver projects under ERDF European Growth Programme 2014 – 2020, Priority Axis 3, Enhancing the Competitiveness of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises.

On 12 November 2015, the Authority had submitted a full business case to extend the current project for a further 3 years and to receive further ERDF funding of £0.900m. It was proposed that this would assist 400 residents to become 'enterprise ready' and support 300 existing enterprises. Over the three year period the funding would be used alongside the Authority's existing enterprise budget of £0.300m per annum, to deliver a £1.800m project which would commence on 1 April 2016 and continue until 31 March 2019.

A decision from DCLG on the Authority's application for the funding was expected on or around 31 March 2016, although authorisation may come through earlier.

The ERDF funding would be used alongside the funding provided by the Authority to provide both pre-start up support to individuals with a business idea and an interest in setting up a business, and post-start up support which would be delivered to existing small and medium sized enterprises.

The report provided details of the procurement process, how the funding would be utilised, priority target groups and key delivery initiatives. The key delivery initiatives were the Business Factory, new product development and intellectual property support, encourage and develop social enterprise activity and innovate, consult and expand.

The project extension would be openly procured to identify a partner to deliver the Business Factory, specialist consultancy support (this would be a number of different organisations delivering across a number of topical areas such as social media, marketing and sales), new product development and social enterprise initiatives within the project. This had worked successfully with the existing project which had been delivered through a performance-related contract. There would be significant interest in the tender which would enable the Authority to achieve financial efficiencies and value for money over the lifetime of the project.

Mr Bavaird welcomed the report and the support provided by the Authority to the Business Factory and small and medium sized enterprises.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report, or alternatively to disagree with the proposals.

Resolved that (1) the Head of Finance be authorised to accept the offer of the grant of £0.900m funding from the European Regional Development Fund (subject to formal approval by the Department of Communities and Local Government); and (2) the Head of Business and Economic Development be authorised, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor and Head of Law and Governance, to deliver the extended business start-up programme in accordance with the report.

(Reason for decision – Accepting the ERDF grant offer (if approved) will provide the resources needed to deliver a comprehensive business start-up programme. Significant progress has been made since the commencement of the project in 2009 to close the gaps in business start ups between the borough of North Tyneside and the national average, but there is still some way to go.

The North East traditionally falls behind the rest of the UK in business creation rates and the project has already proven its value in closing the gap and creating record breaking numbers of new businesses and job opportunities, achieving national recognition from the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) Enterprising Britain competition.)

CAB130/02/16 Determination of School Admission Arrangements 2017 (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report detailing the proposed admission arrangements for all Community Schools in North Tyneside for the 2017/2018 academic year including the co-ordinated admissions schemes.

All local authorities were required to formulate and consult on a scheme for each academic year for co-ordinating admission arrangements for all maintained schools within their area. This requirement included maintained boarding schools, but excluded maintained special schools and maintained nursery schools. Co-ordinated schemes were intended to simplify the admission process for parents whilst reducing the likelihood of any child being left without a school place.

Co-ordination established a mechanism that ensured that, as far as was practical, every child living in a local authority area who had applied in the normal admissions round received one, and only one, offer of a school place on the same day. While it was for each local authority to decide the scheme that best suited its residents and its schools, authorities had to:

- a. comply with law and regulations, including all the process requirements (for example, the common application form allowing at least 3 preferences, information sharing with other local authorities, sending out not more than one offer to all seeking places at its maintained schools or academies on the same day); and
- b. not disadvantage applications to their schools from families resident in other local authorities.

The Scheme applied to applications received from September 2016 for entry into maintained schools in September 2017. The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 required the local authority to exchange specified information on applications with neighbouring authorities.

The purpose of the Scheme was to co-ordinate admissions into all mainstream maintained first and primary, middle and high schools in North Tyneside. The Regulations also placed a duty on all local authorities to make arrangements within their Scheme for cross-Authority border co-ordination of admissions.

All schools had to have an admission number for each 'relevant age group'. This was defined in law as 'an age group in which pupils were or would normally be admitted' to the school in question. Admission Authorities of maintained schools had to set admission numbers with regard to the capacity assessment for the school under the Regulations.

Pupils would be able to go to their preferred school unless there were more applications to that school than there were places available. If there were more applications than places available at a school, oversubscription criteria would be used to allocate places after any children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan had been provided for where the Statement or the Education, Health and Care Plan named a specific school.

Where a secondary school operated a sixth form and admitted pupils from other schools at age 16, for instance, an admission number would be required for Year 12 as well as for the main year or years.

Admission numbers must refer to pupils being admitted to the school for the first time and not transferring from earlier age groups. The entry requirements for 6th form were largely dependent on the course of study that a student wished to access. Details of specific

requirements and courses available may be obtained for individual schools. All schools published information about their post 16 provision.

The only formal consultation that had been undertaken by the Local Authority for community schools for the 2017/18 academic year was in respect of the proposed changes to Backworth Park Primary School which was increasing the published admission number from 30 to 45 to align with the relocation and expansion of the school on a new site.

The North Tyneside Learning Trust currently comprised of 44 schools, and the governing bodies of those schools were responsible for determining their arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2012. The only formal consultation that had been undertaken by the Local Authority on behalf of the respective governing bodies for the 2017/18 academic year was in respect of proposed changes to the published admission numbers for three primary schools and one high school.

Five of the schools in the Learning Trust were Special Schools and these arrangements did not apply to them.

In addition, the governing body of Preston Grange Primary School had determined to establish a 26 place part time place nursery class within the school with effect from September 2016. As this was a non-statutory provision, no formal consultation was required, but the provision would be noted in future admission arrangements.

The governing bodies of voluntary aided schools were responsible for consultation and determining their own admission arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2014. No formal consultation had been undertaken by the respective governing bodies for the 2017/18 academic year as there were no changes to the previously published arrangements.

The governing bodies of the three academies were responsible for consultation and determining their own admission arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2014.

The proposed admission arrangements and limits for community schools were appended to the report.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report, or alternatively to disagree with the proposals and request officers undertake further work on the proposed admission arrangements.

Resolved that (1) the 2017 proposed admission arrangements and limits for Community Schools, as outlined in Appendices 1 to 5 to the report, be approved, subject to the appropriate publication of statutory notices;
(2) the Head of Commissioning and Investment be authorised to proceed in administering admission arrangements for the 2017/2018 academic year, subject to the publication of statutory notices and compliance with obligations required by the Secretary of State in accordance with the timescales set; and
(3) the Head of Commissioning and Investment be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, to formally seek approval, as necessary, from the Schools Adjudicator in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2012 for any necessary variations to the determined arrangements for the 2017/18 academic year should these arise.

(Reason for decision – to secure compliance with statutory requirements as detailed in the report.)

CAB131/02/16 Social Value Policy for North Tyneside (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report requesting approval of a policy for Social Value, aimed at considering economic, social and environmental well-being in connection with public services contracts (social value) in all procurement activity. The aim was to ensure that added benefits could be developed and secured from all funding spent by the Authority.

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 required commissioners to consider securing economic, social or environmental benefits (Social Value) when procuring services (including goods and works contracts procured in combination with services where the value of the goods was less than the services, and where the works were incidental to the services) to which the Public Contract Regulations 2015 applied (or the Public Contract Regulations 2006 would have applied if they had not been revoked).

Building on work started by the North Tyneside Community and Voluntary Sector and the Authority in 2013 a consortium of the North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), North Tyneside Age UK and the Authority had secured external funding to support the development of Social Value in North Tyneside. The result of this work was the Policy (appended to the report), which had been co-produced and developed by a wide stakeholder group including members of the Community and Voluntary Sector; Social Enterprise; the Authority; the CCG; and Public Health England.

The Policy set out an approach for Social Value for the Authority. It contained an agreed definition of what Social Value meant for the Authority and presented a number of agreed Social Value priorities and how they could be measured. It was recognised that the use of these measures would vary, dependent upon the procurement, however the priorities provided a framework for commissioners/procurement officers from across the Authority to draw on, and to ensure that maximum value would be derived from all funded activity.

The North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Board was the initial catalyst for this project and they were now asking the Authority, alongside other Board members, to continue to champion Social Value by agreeing to take forward the Policy and commit to include Social Value consideration in all procurements, or state clearly why it was not relevant.

The Policy set out a list of social priorities and ways of measuring these. This took account of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Our North Tyneside Plan.

As part of any procurement exercise the priority areas would be reviewed and the most appropriate priority(ies) selected.

Over recent months the Authority had proactively used a number of procurements to test out and refine its Social Value Policy and approach, including the Advice and Information contract, provision of an Integrated Sexual Health Service and the provision of a Domestic Abuse Service.

Thanks were conveyed to the Trades Unions and Community and Voluntary Sector colleagues, who had supported the Policy.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 - approve the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report.

Option 2 – support the implementation of a Social Value Policy but ask for further work to take place.

Option 3 - not support the implementation of a Social Value Policy for the Authority.

Resolved that (1) in the procurement of all goods and services by the Authority, consideration be given to securing Social Value, in accordance with the Social Value Policy, set out in Appendix 1 to the report;
(2) the Head of Corporate Strategy be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Finance and Resources and Health and Wellbeing, to raise awareness of the benefit of Social Value across the Authority, its partners and with providers/potential providers; and
(3) the Head of Corporate Strategy be requested, in consultation with the Cabinet Members for Finance and Resources and Health and Wellbeing, to monitor progress of the adoption of the Policy and to receive updates on the added benefits gained for residents as a result of including Social Value priorities in all procurement.

(Reason for decision - The Social Value Act gives the Authority an opportunity to embed the added value that can be achieved by building in consideration of Social Value when goods and services are purchased by the Authority. By adopting this across all procurement procedures undertaken the Authority will be taking a lead both regionally and nationally to maximise benefits of spending power for residents of North Tyneside.)

CAB132/02/16 Cabinet Response to Child Sexual Exploitation Sub-Group Recommendations (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which set out proposed responses to the recommendations of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee in relation to a study undertaken by a Sub-Group of the Children, Education and Skills Sub-Committee into the Authority's arrangements to protect young people in the Borough from child sexual exploitation. The report had been considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 14 December 2015 (Minute CAB98/12/15 refers)

In response to the number of national high profile cases and reviews in relation to child sexual exploitation in recent years, a Sub-Group of the Sub-Committee had undertaken an in-depth study on the Authority's role and practice on issues relating to child sexual exploitation in North Tyneside.

As a result of the study, the Sub-Committee had identified eleven recommendations. The proposed responses were detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Sub Group and officers were thanked for the report.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 - accept the recommendation detailed in paragraph 1.2 of the report;
Option 2 - not accept the recommendation detailed in paragraph 1.2 of the report.
Option 3 - accept, reject or amend any of the proposed responses detailed in the report on an individual basis.

Resolved that the proposed responses to the recommendations from the Children Education and Skills Sub-Committee Sub Group, in relation to its study into Child Sexual Exploitation, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

(Reason for decision – it will support the effective delivery of measures to support victims of child sexual exploitation in North Tyneside.)

CAB133/02/16 Dates and Times of Next Meetings

6.00pm on Monday 14 March 2016 (Ordinary Meeting)

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In addition, an Extraordinary meeting will be convened (date to be confirmed) to consider the report referred to in Minute CAB128/02/16 above.

Minutes published on 11 February 2016.

The decisions contained within these Minutes may be implemented (unless called in by 3 Non-Executive Members for consideration by the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee) immediately following the expiry of the call-in period; i.e. 5.00pm on 18 February 2016.