

# Cabinet

**14 March 2016**

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

**In Attendance:** K Archer (Young Mayor)  
R Layton (North Tyneside JTUC)

## **CAB138/03/16 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor L Spillard, M Almond (Voluntary and Community Sector) and J Hayburn (North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group).

## **CAB139/03/16 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

## **CAB140/03/16 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the meetings held on 8 February and 2 March 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

## **CAB141/03/16 Report of the Young Mayor**

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

- A combined total of over 13,000 votes had been cast for Young Mayor and Member of UK Youth Parliament.
- Attendance at the UN Gift Box at City Library. This was a project that had been brought to Newcastle by the Soroptimists. They had raised the issue of people trafficking, which was often a hidden crime in society. The installation had been situated within the library in Newcastle.
- Attendance at the Children and Young People's Conference at Langdale Centre where 80 young people from all over the borough had taken part in workshops covering Mental Health, Anti -Bullying, Curriculum for Life and Healthy Relationships. The Young Mayor would ensure that the young people's ideas were taken forward and he would be working with the Participation Team to do this.
- Launch of the Anti Bullying Standards. The DVD and lesson plans had been complete and were now on the website, and the posters would be sent out to schools over the next few weeks.
- Attendance at the Mayor's Listening Event and family fun day at Quadrant.
- Attendance at auditions for The Event. Further auditions would be held at the Y Studio in April and the best of these performers would be selected to take part in the final at Segedunum on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Young Mayor was looking forward to his year ahead with plans to make support for students studying in exams a priority. He would continue with the anti- bullying work, with a focus on targeted community groups. He would also be working on introducing a Curriculum for all students which prepared young people for life.

The young cabinet would soon be confirmed. A good number of applications from youth councillors had been received, and the young cabinet would support the Young Mayor in delivering his pledges over the coming year. The Young Mayor announced that Bethany Amer was the Deputy Young Mayor.

The Elected Mayor thanked the Young Mayor for the report and wished him well in his term of office.

### **CAB142/03/16 2015/16 Financial Management Report to 31 January 2016 (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report detailing the budget monitoring position as at 31 January 2016, including forecast outturn positions for 2015/16 for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), School finances and the Investment Plan, including a summary of projects to be delivered during 2015/16.

As at 31 January 2016, the forecast year-end position for the General Fund Revenue Account was an under spend of £0.322m. This reflected an improvement of £0.872m since the position reported for November 2015.

The HRA was forecast to have year-end balances at 31 March 2016 of £3.829m, which was £1.158m higher than budget. The higher than forecast balances were as a result of higher opening balances due to the impact of previous years' financial performance (£0.422m). The forecast in-year was an estimated under spend of £0.736m.

The report included an update in respect of work in progress with regard to school funding. The majority of schools were performing in line with or better than their budget plans and those schools with approved deficits were reporting a slightly improved position.,

The Investment Plan for 2015-2019, adjusted for reprogramming and variations, was £250.409m. Variations of £0.713m and reprogramming of £1.150m in 2015/16 were proposed in the report. The report also set out delivery progress to date and planned delivery for the remainder of 2015/16.

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 budget monitoring position as at 31 January 2016 be noted; (2) the receipt of new revenue grants be approved; (3) the level of spend on the Investment Plan as at 31 January 2016 be noted; and (4) variations of £0.713m and reprogramming of £1.150m to the 2015/16 Investment Plan be approved.

(Reason for decision – It is important that Cabinet continues to monitor performance against the budget, especially given the current level of financial pressures faced by the public sector).

### **CAB143/03/16 Review of Childcare (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report on the latest phase of the Authority's Childcare Review and the associated public consultation exercise. The Extraordinary meeting of the Council on 4 February 2016 had referred a public petition opposing the Childcare Review to Cabinet for its consideration. The report made a series of recommendations for Cabinet's consideration based on the outcomes of the Childcare Review and the subsequent consultation.

The Authority had reviewed its childcare provision to make sure all children got the best possible start to life and that the Authority's resources were focussed on the children in greatest need. The Authority had to save almost £56m during the next three years, following Government cuts in funding announced in November 2015. The six council-owned childcare settings currently operated at a net cost to the Authority of £1.127m a year. This created the inequitable position where North Tyneside's tax payers were subsidising the childcare of families, some of whom did not live within the Borough. This was no longer sustainable in the current financial climate and the Authority's policy was to focus its reduced resources on the most vulnerable children and families, where it would have the greatest impact.

Nationally many authorities did not directly deliver childcare but ensured there were sufficient childcare places delivered by private, voluntary and independent childcare providers. However, the Authority recognised that childcare was an important and sensitive issue for families and communities, therefore a public consultation exercise had been implemented between 8 December 2015 and 22 January 2016.

The Childcare Review proposals had been included in draft budget proposals that had been agreed by Full Council on 18 February 2016.

The first phase of the Childcare Review had resulted in the successful transfer of Wideopen childcare to Greenfields Primary School and Killingworth childcare to Bailey Green Primary School. The proposals for the next phase of the Childcare Review had been amended following the consultation process and were now that:

- The management of childcare at Battle Hill would move to Battle Hill Primary School, subject to the agreement of the school's Governing Body.
- The management of Denbigh childcare would move to Denbigh Community Primary School, subject to the agreement of the school's Governing Body.
- In Wallsend and Shiremoor the childcare in Authority nursery settings would close. Parents and carers would be supported to find alternative childcare to suit their needs.
- Childcare provision in the North Shields area would be reviewed over the next year to ensure that there was adequate alternative provision before any decision was made regarding the future of childcare at Riverside and Oaktrees.

Analysis showed that North Tyneside's strong and growing network of school nurseries, daycare nurseries, childminders, out of school clubs and playgroups would ensure the Authority continued to meet its duty to ensure there were sufficient childcare places available now and in the future.

Further details of the public consultation exercise were set out in the report. The report addressed the main messages from the consultation including sufficiency of childcare places; quality of care; staffing quality/cost; affordability; impact on children; vulnerable families; focus on working families; making alternative savings to protect childcare; financial sustainability; and out of school provision.

The report also gave further details of the petition opposing the proposed changes to the Authority's childcare arrangements that had been presented to Council on 4 February 2016.

## Cabinet

Support would be made available to all families affected by the proposals, in order to minimise disruption to children and families, this would include web based information and a dedicated phone line. Additional support from a specialist team would be provided to vulnerable families.

The Authority had a duty to ensure there were sufficient childcare places for working families and to meet statutory entitlements. As a result of effective partnership working between the Authority and childcare providers, the Borough had developed a vibrant, diverse and high quality childcare offer. There were sufficient places and a sustainable mix of childcare, which meant families could select from a variety of childcare options.

The Authority's success in growing and diversifying the Borough's childcare sector, combined with the acute financial pressures facing local government, meant that the Authority should implement a phased withdrawal from direct childcare provision, where sufficient alternative provision existed.

The following decision options were available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1 - agree to implement the Childcare Review recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report.

Option 2 - not approve the recommended model and ask Officers to undertake further work.

**Resolved** that (1) the findings of the consultation process, including the public petition, in relation to the Childcare Review proposals be noted;  
(2) approval be given to the implementation of the Childcare Review proposals set out in section 1.5.10 of the report;  
(3) the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding be authorised to inform the relevant parties of Cabinet's decision in respect of the Childcare Review;  
(4) the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Law and Governance and the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, to take all necessary steps to implement the Childcare Review proposals as agreed;  
(5) the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding be authorised to develop alternative arrangements if the proposed transfer of the Authority's childcare provision to schools, as set out in the report, can not be achieved;  
(6) the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding be authorised to review childcare provision in the North Shields area to ensure there is sufficient childcare before any decision is made regarding the future of childcare at Riverside and Oaktrees; and  
(7) the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding report to a future Cabinet meeting detailing the outcome of the above discussions, the sufficiency of childcare in the North Shields area and the options available to the Authority at that time in relation to the Riverside and Oaktrees nurseries.

(Reason for decision – all children will have access to high quality childcare as part of the Authority's commitment to ensuring they are ready for school; the Authority's resources will be focussed on the most vulnerable children; maximum value for money will be achieved for taxpayers; and the Authority will continue to meet its sufficiency duty).

## **CAB144/03/16 Integrated Service for Children and Young People Aged 0-19 Years (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval for the creation of an integrated prevention and early intervention service for children and young people aged 0-19 years and their families. The proposals had been informed by a comprehensive review of prevention and early intervention in the Borough. It was anticipated that an integrated team would improve health and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people and their families, prevent family breakdown and reduce the number of children becoming looked after, by enabling children to live safely at home. Integrating prevention and early intervention provision represented the most efficient and effective use of available resources.

Local authorities were increasingly dealing with complex and enduring challenges, such as intergenerational deprivation, domestic abuse, drug and alcohol misuse, child sexual exploitation and mental health issues. Local authorities were also facing the challenge of balancing unprecedented reductions in Government funding, with the need to keep children and young people safe and improve their life chances.

There was an established body of evidence-based policy that demonstrated that preventative and early intervention services were more efficient and effective than remedial provision in transforming the life chances of vulnerable children and young people.

The report provided details of the review of preventative and early intervention services that had been undertaken in North Tyneside. The review had been undertaken to:

- Improve outcomes for children and young people and reduce demand for more specialist services at a later date;
- Address partner agencies' feedback on the current arrangements;
- Develop a new delivery model in keeping with the Authority's 'Creating a Brighter Future' programme and Target Operating Model;
- Maintain outcomes while managing significant reduction in budgets; and
- Inform the forthcoming refresh of the Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy in 2016.

The review had examined the current service offer and staffing arrangements and had also been informed by an independent review of those children recently entering into care and the history of involvement with their families. The external review had concluded that effective prevention and early intervention had an important role in preventing family breakdown and reducing the number of children becoming looked after within North Tyneside.

The review had identified a number of issues for preventative and early intervention provision in the Borough, which were outlined in the report, and had concluded that a fundamental redesign of preventative and early intervention services was required to transform outcomes for vulnerable children and families.

In response to the review findings, it was proposed to create an integrated prevention and early intervention service for children and young people aged 0-19 years. The service would comprise of four locality based teams (Coast team; Central Team; North West Team; and South West Team), delivering universal and targeted services to children, young people and their families, with a strong focus on prevention and early intervention.

The integrated 0-19 service would bring together a range of existing practitioners into a simpler, integrated service with a clear aim of preventing family breakdown. Integrated management arrangements would ensure a coherent approach to supporting children, young people and their families.

The universal offer would comprise information, advice and guidance for children and young people, universal midwifery, the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme, the mandated universal children's centre offer and the 5-19 Healthy Child Programme. The staff delivering the universal offer would help to identify families with additional needs at an early stage.

Specialist services would be drawn in when families needed them, through the specialist knowledge of team members, where available or by linking with specific teams.

Targeted provision would be based on North Tyneside's successful Family Partner model. 0-19 staff would provide the key contact point for vulnerable families and would be responsible for preventing needs from escalating and achieving positive outcomes. Workers would have a mixed caseload of ages and families with additional needs, including those with multiple and increasingly complex needs. They would develop a plan in partnership with the family, commission suitable interventions and hold other agencies accountable for delivery against that plan.

The report gave details of the principles of the integrated teams, workforce development and practice principles for staff in the integrated service, outlined the development of a strengthened performance framework for the service and set out the benefits of the proposed model.

The following decision options were available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1 - agree to develop the integrated prevention and early intervention service for children and young people aged 0-19 years.

Option 2 - do not approve the recommended model and ask Officers to undertake further work.

**Resolved** that (1) the proposals for a fundamental redesign of prevention and early intervention provision in the Borough, in order to create an integrated service for children and young people aged 0-19 years and their families, based on the objectives and principles set out in the report, be approved; and  
(2) the transition of the integrated service for children and young people aged 0-19 years and their families from the service design phase to the implementation phase from April 2016 be approved.

(Reason for decision – An integrated service for children and young people aged 0-19 will build upon the success of our Family Partner Model, to deliver sustainable improvements in outcomes for vulnerable families. This will reduce family breakdown, decrease the number of children becoming looked after and help to manage demand for high cost specialist services. The proposals will ensure the Authority's resources are used in the most efficient and effective way. The redesigned service will also have a critical role in delivering the Ready for School, Work and Life agenda and the Cared for Safeguarded and Healthy priorities.)

## **CAB145/03/16 Re-tendering Exercise – Homelessness Prevention Services and Supporting Socially Excluded Customers to move towards Independent Living (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to undertake a competitive procurement exercise for two new supported accommodation services. The services would include a mix of supported housing and community based support, which would seek to prevent homelessness for vulnerable and socially excluded individuals within the borough.

The new services were proposed following a review of the Authority's existing provision, and would replace the Authority's existing contractual relationships with a range of providers. The proposed service model replaced a 'one size fits all' model with a more flexible service which could provide targeted support to those who needed it the most, at the most critical times in their lives.

The introduction of a new 'tiered' service, based on an individual's levels of support needs would ensure that the proposed service model reflected the core principles of the Authority's Target Operating Model. The proposed model created clear pathways towards an individual achieving independence and allowed them to reduce their support needs. This would reduce an individual's requirements for gateway services and would encourage individuals to access more 'universal services'.

It was proposed that the contract start date would be September 2016. Contracts would be procured through an open and transparent process, in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 and would be conducted through the NEPO portal.

The contracts for the current service provision had expired on 31 March 2015 and had not been formally extended, although work had been ongoing since that time with all supported housing providers to secure efficiencies, and the services had continued to be delivered. It was proposed that these contracts were regularised to extend them from 1 April 2015 until 31 August 2016, to bring them to the date the proposed new services would commence. The value of the proposed extension covering that 17 month period was anticipated to be around £1.3m. In order to comply with Contract Standing Orders (CSOs) in relation to the extension of the existing services, approval was being sought to waive CSOs in respect of the necessary extension. Once approved, formal letters of variation to the existing contracts would be entered into between the Authority and the respective providers to regularise the contractual arrangement.

The following decision options were available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1 - agree the recommendations set out at section 1.2 of the report.

Option 2 - not agree the recommendations set out at section 1.2 of the report.

**Resolved** that the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Law and Governance and the Head of Finance, to undertake a competitive procurement exercise to procure a provider(s) to deliver the proposed new service, as outlined in section 1.5.3 of the report.

(Reason for decision - Current contracts have expired and in order to comply with procurement regulations, the Authority must undertake a competitive procurement exercise and put the new service in place. The adoption of an overall project cost ensures the proposed new service provides a stable platform to develop new services. The new service model will replace an outdated and inappropriate service model and will provide a

flexible service which provides the right level of support to those who need it the most. The adoption of a collaborative approach to service provision is likely to produce more seamless services to vulnerable individuals who often have very chaotic lives).

### **CAB146/03/16 Older People's Day Services (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to undertake a competitive procurement exercise to establish a new framework contract for the provision of Day Services for Older People. The Framework would support older and other vulnerable individuals to live independently in their own homes.

Despite their popularity amongst older people, day services were often seen as an outdated model of service provision that did not reflect what would be wanted by today's older people. There was, however, substantial national and local evidence that many older people in receipt of personal budgets continued to choose to use day services and also satisfaction rates of those who used them were extremely high.

The current contract expired on 30 June 2016 and therefore, to ensure compliance with the Authority's procurement rules and its duties under the Care Act 2014 in respect of Market Shaping, it was necessary to put a new Framework in place.

It was anticipated that the procurement exercise would begin in March 2016, with a view to the contract commencing in July 2016.

The Framework would comprise of three lots - Lot 1 General Day Service and Lots 2 and 3 - Services to be provided from Rowan Croft and Linskill Park Extra Care Schemes.

Existing customers would be able to remain with their current day service provider if that provider passed the quality threshold set by the Authority. Where an existing provider was not successful and people wished to remain with their current provider, people would be supported to use a Direct Payment to pay for services or move to an alternative provider on the new Framework.

The Framework would have a clear contract monitoring process that linked to a strong performance management framework, to ensure that it met the requirements set out in the service specification. Key Performance Indicators would be developed with the providers.

It was proposed that the Council set a maximum price for day service sessions. The price for the day service sessions would remain fixed for the full term of the contract. The Contract would however recognise the impact that the National Living Wage would have and would allow for cost negotiations on the staffing element of the price only, to reflect the increases that this would bring in subsequent years.

The contract would include a clause to ensure that the Provider was not able to charge the Council a price which was above their published rates for private customers.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 - agree the recommendations set out at section 1.2 of the report.

Option 2 - not agree the recommendations set out at section 1.2 of the report.

**Resolved** that the Head of Commissioning and Investment be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding, the Cabinet Member for Adult



Social Care, the Head of Law and Governance and the Head of Finance, to undertake a competitive procurement exercise to procure a Framework of providers for day services for older people and award contracts to those providers whose tenders are the most economically advantageous to the Authority.

(Reason for decision – As the current contract is due to expire, the Council must re-tender the service to satisfy procurement requirements; day service provision is proven to have a key role to play in supporting older people remain independent; day services are a cost effective way of supporting people to maintain social contact and prevent isolation. Six hours of day service provision will cost approximately 50% less compared to only three hours of support that could be provided by the Supporting People to Live at Home contract, at a cost of £42.

The 2011 Census identified 22,208 adult carers in North Tyneside and highlighted a 19% increase in the number of people who are caring for more than 20 hours: the point at which caring starts to significantly impact on a carer's health and wellbeing and their ability to have a life alongside caring. Day Services have a significant part to play in providing respite from the caring role).

### **CAB147/03/16 Delivering Affordable Homes Update (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report which provided an update on the progress made during 2015/16 in delivering new affordable homes within North Tyneside, and sought approval for the first phase of a new Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Housing Delivery Programme that would bring forward a number of Authority owned sites to potentially deliver a further 88 new affordable homes by North Tyneside Council.

The report also detailed proposals for the development of sites at Silverbirch in Camperdown and the former Dudley and Weetslade Social Club in Dudley with affordable homes and sought approval for the preferred development options for these sites.

Also, two options were outlined in the report in respect of the Meadow Well Centre in North Shields and Cabinet was asked to agree to a preferred option for this property.

Significant progress had been achieved this year with an expected 247 new affordable homes programmed to be delivered by the end of this financial year, against the 312 projected, This would bring the total of new affordable homes delivered over the first two years of the Affordable Homes Programme to 512. Anticipated numbers had decreased for 2015/16 primarily due to some re-programming on some of the North Tyneside Living schemes and also one of the Registered Providers contractors going into administration. These homes would now be delivered in 2016/17. Plans were well developed to deliver 411 homes in 2016/17 and a full delivery programme for 2016/17 was provided in Appendix 2 to the report.

Following the budget announcements last summer, work had been undertaken to understand the impact of the Welfare Reform and Work Bill that was currently progressing through Parliament. An indicative revised 10 year delivery programme had been developed. This was necessary due to the potential introduction of new social rent setting criteria that required local authorities to reduce their social rents by 1% each year for the next 4 years. This reduction had been accounted for within the HRA that provided capital funding for the new build programme. It would also affect partner Registered Providers and would result in a slow down of affordable homes for rent being provided by this sector.

Despite these changes the Authority remained on target to deliver 3,000 new affordable homes with an projected increase of new affordable products including shared ownership and starter homes being delivered by Registered Providers and volume house builders.

The North Tyneside Trading Company (Development) had recently secured planning permission for their first site at Reed Avenue, Camperdown and a contractor had been appointed following a procurement exercise. It was anticipated that initial site works would start before the end of this financial year with the new homes being delivered in 2016/17. This would deliver 13 affordable homes on the site.

An indicative 3-year HRA Housing Delivery Programme 2016-2019 had been developed with a potential to deliver 88 new homes in total, subject to consultation with ward members and residents.

It was proposed that the programme be split into two phases in line with the HRA Capital Programme. Approval of the HRA Housing Delivery Programme Phase 1 would see 49 new homes built on sites at Dudley and Weetslade Social Club, Chapelville, Seaton Burn, Perth Gardens, and the Meadowell Centre, North Shields (if Cabinet agreed to develop the site for affordable homes).

Phase 2 of the proposed 3 year programme could include Bonchester Court, Bawtry Court, Beadnell Court, Battle Hill. These sites comprised former Sheltered Accommodation schemes that were due to be demolished following the release of the sites by the North Tyneside Living project. Cabinet approval was required to utilise the above sites for future Housing delivered by HRA.

In September 2014, Cabinet had declared the site of Silverbirch Industrial Estate, Camperdown surplus to the Authority's requirements and had endorsed the principle of residential redevelopment at this location. In May 2015, Cabinet had approved disposal of the property to a preferred developer. This would secure the development of the site with affordable homes for rent in association with an associated Registered Provider.

Because of the potential impact on affordable rents contained within the Housing and Planning Bill, the developer and Registered Provider were no longer in a position to develop the site with affordable homes for rent because of viability issues. However the developer was still prepared to develop the site with shared ownership homes, where 30% of the equity in the property was bought by the occupier who then paid a proportionate rent in respect of the remaining 70% equity.

It was proposed that the developer would be responsible for demolishing the vacant industrial buildings that remained on the site and this work would be an allowable deduction from the purchase price. This would be subject to "open book" scrutiny of the cost of demolition to ensure best value to the Authority.

The site had been valued between £0.450m and £0.550m for market sale residential. Whilst it may be possible for the Authority to realise a higher capital receipt, the option to provide Shared Ownership homes on this site would ensure the speed of delivery, contribute to the delivery of the Affordable Homes Programme and help meet demand for affordable homes in this area.

Due to the high level of Affordable Homes Grant attached to this scheme and the uncertainty caused by a reduction in affordable rent levels, the developer had proposed a small uplift to the purchase price on the land by £0.010m from the offer that had previously been made for the scheme of 100% affordable rental homes. As the revised offer was

within the range of potential values for market sale residential, this offer was seen as providing best value for the Council for a development of affordable homes in line with the Authority's aspirations.

In August 2014, Cabinet had approved the acquisition of the former Dudley and Weetslade Social Club in Dudley by the HRA to provide a site for the future development of affordable homes. Cabinet had also agreed to receive a further report providing detailed information on a preferred delivery option for the development of the site including the financial implications.

The following options had subsequently been considered: the construction of Council homes as part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Phase 1 Delivery Programme; and the disposal of the site and its subsequent redevelopment to a Registered Provider. Following further consideration of these options it was now proposed that Cabinet agree to the site being developed as part of the HRA Capital Phase 1 Delivery Programme. This option was preferred as it would provide 20 new affordable homes which would be owned by the Authority, and would provide a rental income to the HRA.

In October 2014, Cabinet had declared the Meadow Well Centre surplus to the Authority's requirements. In approving this decision Cabinet had been informed that the property may have potential as a site for affordable homes or alternatively could be marketed for sale.

The property had formerly been occupied by the Authority's Youth Services and Education Welfare Service Teams and had remained vacant since July 2014 when both teams had relocated to the Youth Village in North Shields. The property was now listed on the Authority's Register of Assets of Community Value following a formal application made by the Cedarwood Trust.

The site had now been confirmed as being suitable for redevelopment with affordable homes for rent through the Phase 1 of the HRA Housing Delivery Programme. An indicative scheme had been identified for the site showing that 17 homes could be delivered at an indicative cost of £2.040m. The funding for this scheme was included within the approved 2016-2019 HRA Investment Plan.

Alternatively, the Cedarwood Trust had expressed an interest in occupying the property for community use. Whilst the Trust's preferred option would be to lease the building this had been considered and discounted as an option by the Strategic Property Group. Therefore if the building were to be made available to the Trust it would be on the basis of a freehold transfer and in this respect, the value of the building for community use had been assessed at £0.215m.

The Cedarwood Trust currently occupied premises leased from the Authority at Avon Avenue in North Shields. If the Trust were to take occupation of the Meadow Well Centre there was the opportunity that the Trust's existing premises could be surrendered back to the Authority with the potential to be converted into a number of one bedroom flats for affordable rent through the HRA or a partner Registered Provider. Should this be the preferred option, further investigation into the feasibility of converting the offices would be undertaken and presented to Cabinet for a decision.

If Cabinet was minded to approve the sale to the Cedarwood Trust by private treaty it was proposed that they be required to complete the purchase of the property by 31 July 2016. Should the Trust fail to complete the purchase within this timescale then it was proposed

that the site be developed in accordance with option 1 as specified in Recommendation 5 of the report.

Should Cabinet decide to sell the site to the Cedarwood Trust, the capital receipt would be realised by the HRA. The money budgeted for this scheme would be re-directed to bring forward a scheme within Phase 2 of the HRA Housing Delivery Programme allowing time for further schemes to be brought forward towards the end of the programme.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 - approve the recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of the report.

Option 2 - not approve the recommendations at paragraph 1.2 of the report and request Officers to identify further options to deliver the Affordable Homes Programme.

**Resolved** that (1) the progress to date of the Affordable Homes Programme be noted; (2) the proposed HRA Housing Investment Delivery Programme 2016-2019 be approved; (3) the disposal of the Silverbirch Site at Camperdown for the development of affordable shared ownership homes be approved subject to final terms and conditions including the sale price to be approved by the Head of Commissioning and Investment, in consultation with the Head of Finance (as Section 151 Officer), the Head of Law and Governance, the Elected Mayor and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources; (4) approval be given to the development of the site at the former Dudley and Weetslade Social Club for affordable homes as part of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Housing Delivery Programme Phase 1; and (5) approval be given to the disposal of the Meadow Well Centre to the Cedarwood Trust subject to final terms and conditions to be approved by the Head of Commissioning and Investment, in consultation with the Head of Finance (as Section 151 Officer), the Head of Law and Governance, the Elected Mayor, and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources; however, if the Cedarwood Trust are unable to meet the final terms and conditions then the decision will revert to option 1 set out in the report (ie the redevelopment of the property with affordable homes for rent through the Housing Revenue Account Capital Phase 1 delivery programme).

(Reason for decision – It will support progress on delivering the Elected Mayor and Cabinet’s commitment to deliver 3,000 affordable homes in 10 years).

### **CAB148/03/16 North Tyneside Council Low Carbon Plan (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval of a new Low Carbon Plan for North Tyneside that would build on the achievements delivered through the Climate Change Strategy, provide a strategic approach to reduce carbon emissions by 50% by 2027 in line with national government targets and explore a number of emerging opportunities associated with energy generation and services.

The Authority had developed key strategies and plans to ensure a holistic approach to carbon management in its operations, services and also across the Borough. Two key documents, the Climate Change Strategy and the Carbon Management Plan had come to an end in 2015/16. These documents had been successful in guiding the Authority towards its current 34% carbon reduction target.

At the end of 2015/16 the Authority’s carbon footprint would be approximately 25% lower than the baseline year of 2010/11. To achieve this reduction in carbon emissions the Authority had followed the Energy Hierarchy; reduction, efficiency, low carbon energy

generation. The report outlined actions that had been undertaken in respect of each of those stages of the energy hierarchy.

The Low Carbon Plan would build on the Authority's success in reducing carbon dioxide emissions and placed an increased focus on exploring a number of emerging opportunities associated with energy generation and energy services. However, to maintain and improve on recent carbon reduction, the Low Carbon Plan also recognised that the energy reduction and energy efficiency stages of the energy hierarchy were essential building blocks and included actions to further develop these areas.

For the purposes of aligning this Plan with national Government targets, the carbon emissions reduction target of 50% reduction by 2027 had been set. Within the time period of 2027 for achieving the 50% reduction against a baseline of 2010/11, it was recognised that both external and internal factors would influence performance and robust performance management would need to take place. Also annual reporting against the target would be published on the Authority's website as part of the statutory reporting obligations under the Department of Energy and Climate Change's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocol.

The Low Carbon Plan would draw on the skills of officers from a range of Authority services to investigate and develop business cases for the Authority to take advantage of emerging opportunities around energy generation and services. Suitable funding arrangements would be considered as part of the development of each business case for future energy projects prior to Cabinet's consideration/approval.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1 - agree the recommendations detailed at paragraph 1.2 of the report.

Option 2 - reject the recommendations detailed at 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 North Tyneside Low Carbon Plan, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be adopted as the strategic approach by which the Authority will manage and reduce its carbon footprint by 50% by 2027 against a baseline of the 2010/11 carbon footprint.

(Reason for decision – The adoption of the Low Carbon Plan will bring the following benefits: it sets the Authority's target and action plan to meet the National Government's carbon reduction target by 2027 and allows officers to develop business cases for energy generation and energy service projects which could lead to cost savings for the Authority).

### **CAB149/03/16 Our North Tyneside Plan (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered a report which provided a summary of progress against the delivery of the aims and objectives, as described in the Our North Tyneside plan.

The Our North Tyneside plan was performance managed on two levels: Our North Tyneside level and Service level. In addition, Cabinet had agreed to a pilot which tested the aims of the Our North Tyneside plan alongside the operational delivery of the Creating a Brighter Future programme, to focus on reducing deprivation within the wards of Chirton and Riverside. If this pilot was successful the intention was to move on to the other areas that had concentrated pockets of deprivation.

The Our North Tyneside plan now included 17 measures, of which 13 were being updated in the report. Just under 80% of the measures had either improved or remained consistent.

Seven measures had shown an improvement in relation to:

- The percentage of NHS Health Checks being completed in the most deprived areas of North Tyneside.
- A reduction in the number of people smoking in the Borough.
- An increase in the number of visitors to the Borough.
- The Swans Infrastructure project.
- The Coast Infrastructure projects.
- A decline in the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance.
- An increase in the number of apprenticeships that had been started.

Three measures had remained the same:

- The percentage of people who felt that the Council acted on their concerns.
- The number of new business start ups.
- Number of residents who were satisfied with their local area as a place to live.

Three measures had declined:

- The achievement gap between 'disadvantaged pupils' and their peers had increased in the past year.
- An increase in the number of alcohol related admissions into hospital.
- The proportion of people who used care service who felt safe.

There were five measures where data was directly available and two measures where data was indirectly available for Chirton and Riverside, and a summary of performance in those two wards was set out in the report.

There were no decision options for Cabinet to consider.

**Resolved** that the progress that has been made in delivering the Our North Tyneside Plan be noted.

### **CAB150/03/16 Community Led Local Development (Riverside, Chirton, Howdon, Wallsend, Valley and Camperdown Wards)**

The Elected Mayor had agreed to this report being considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. The Chair of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development had also agreed to the report being considered as a matter of urgency and the Chair of Council had agreed to the decisions not being subject to call-in. The reasons for urgency were as follows:

The Authority had recently received confirmation that it had been successful in securing funding of £0.022m from ESF (European Social Fund) and ERDF (European Regional Development Fund), to support the development of a Community Led Local Development (CLLD) project, a European Union funded initiative (Phase one). The Authority had until 31 August 2016 to recruit a Local Action Group, develop a CLLD strategy and identify who would be the accountable body. To allow time to successfully recruit from within the community to the Local Action Group and meet the milestones set out in the funding agreement, urgent action needed to be taken.

## Cabinet

This was a joint project with South Tyneside that would cover parts of Riverside, Chirton and Howdon wards. The funding would be split with South Tyneside and the North Tyneside allocation would be matched by staff time.

Under Phase one a further application for CLLD funding of around £2.1 million per CLLD area would be submitted. It was anticipated that this funding would be available from April 2017 and would be available for 5 years. If successful, any funding granted for CLLD would also include a requirement for match funding. The phase one development phase would identify how this funding was likely to be spent and the process for organisations to be able to apply for it, the details of the role of the accountable body and the process for monitoring of any allocations.

Any requirement for match funding from the Authority that could not be met within existing resources would be brought to Cabinet or Council as appropriate for approval before any monies were committed or grant bids submitted.

A successful CLLD strategy would result in around £2.1 million for each CLLD area from April 2017 from the ESF and ERDF.

CLLD was a European Union funding programme focused on urban areas. The focus of the project was to get people who had multiple and complex needs into work. CLLD areas needed to focus on communities in the lowest 20% on the 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation with population sizes of between 10,000 and 150,000. The focus of the programme must be community led, from the bottom up and advice/guidance received from the Managing Authorities had indicated that projects that spanned across more than one Local Authority were more likely to be successful.

As a result, the Authority had been working with Newcastle City Council on a CLLD area that would include central Wallsend and with Northumberland County Council on a CLLD area that would include some of the North West (particularly the pit villages).

However the main CLLD area for North Tyneside would be a joint North / South Tyneside programme covering parts of Riverside, Chirton and Howdon in North Tyneside together with Jarrow and Hebburn in South Tyneside. The Authority had led the bid development for both ESF and ERDF development funding.

The conditions of the successful bid application had been addressed and funding agreements for both ESF and ERDF development funding had been received by the Authority at the beginning of March 2016.

The key milestones, as set out in the funding agreement, were set out in the report.

The following decision options were available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1- agree the recommendations set out in section 1.2 of the report to support the recruitment of a Local Action Group, agreement of an Accountable Body and the development of a CLLD strategy.

Option 2 - reject the recommendations set out in section 1.2 of this report

**Resolved** that the Head of Corporate Strategy be authorised:

(1) in consultation with the Head of Finance and the Head of Law and Governance, to undertake appropriate discussions as set out in the report for the development of an

accountable body for the funding of the Community Led Local Development (CLLD) project, and a further report be submitted to Cabinet in August 2016 to agree who will be the named accountable body for the CLLD project;

(2) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, the Head of Finance and the Head of Law and Governance, to agree the recruitment process that will result in the appointment of the North Tyneside / South Tyneside Local Action Group;

(3) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement, to ensure that appropriate representation is made from North Tyneside on the North of Tyne and Northumberland CLLD Local Action Groups; and

(4) in consultation with the Head of Finance and the Head of Law and Governance, working with the Local Action Group, to commission the development of the CLLD strategy that meets the requirements set out in the European Union funding agreements from the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.

(Reason for decision – If Cabinet reject the recommendations the milestones set out in the preparatory stage of CLLD will not be achieved. This will mean that the Authority will not be able to complete the application stage for CLLD funding, which based on current exchange rates is approximately £2.1 million for each CLLD area, which in turn would mean the loss of opportunity to get people who have multiple and complex needs into work).

### **CAB151/03/16 Procurement of Contractor to Carry out Works at Norham Road Bridge (All Wards)**

The Elected Mayor had agreed to this report being considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency. The Chair of the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development had also agreed to the report being considered as a matter of urgency and the Chair of Council had agreed to the decisions not being subject to call-in. The reasons for urgency were as follows: To ensure the timely procurement of Phase 3 of the A1058 – Coast Road Highways Improvement Scheme and that conflict with other major highway works in the Borough is minimised as much as practicably possible, specifically in relation to the Highways England scheme at Silverlink. The timely procurement of Phase 3 would ensure that external funding spend requirements were achieved.

The report sought approval to undertake a competitive procurement exercise to establish and appoint a construction partner to deliver the Norham Road Bridge demolition and rebuild. It was anticipated that the procurement exercise would begin in March 2016, with a view to the contract commencing in June 2016.

Government funding for transport major schemes had been awarded to the North East through the North East Growth Deal. North Tyneside had been successful in bidding for funding through the growth deal for the Coast Road scheme. The funding was administered by the North East Local Enterprise Partnership.

The strategic aims of the scheme were to:

- Improve road safety on the A1058 Coast Road Corridor
- Remove congestion on the key junctions of Billy Mill and Norham Road, to enable future growth (employment and residential)
- Increase the longevity and capacity of the Norham Road Bridge
- Support the Proposed “Cycles Cities” Coast Road Cycle Route



The complexity of the demolition and rebuild of the bridge meant securing a specialist delivery company to undertake these works. The proposal to directly subcontract with a specialist contractor for the bridge demolition and rebuild works was expected to provide better value for money for the scheme. It was anticipated that the tenders would be contained within the current budget; however if they exceeded the budget a further report would be brought forward for consideration.

Subject to approval, the procurement would run from March to June 2016, with the intent of appointing a single contractor to undertake the demolition and rebuild works of the bridge. The contract would be awarded to the bidder who submitted the most economically advantageous tender.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1- agree the recommendations set out at section 1.2 to carry out a procurement exercise and appoint a contractor for the Norham Bridge Works.

Option 2 - not agree the recommendations set out at section 1.2.

**Resolved** that the Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport, the Head of Law and Governance and the Head of Finance, to undertake a competitive procurement exercise and to appoint a construction partner to deliver the Norham Road Bridge demolition and rebuild.

(Reason for decision – The timely procurement of phase 3 will ensure that conflict with other major highway works in the borough is minimised as much as practicably possible, specifically in relation to the Highways England scheme at Silverlink; and that external funding spend requirements are achieved; contracting directly will deliver the best Value for Money for the Authority.

If the preferred option is not approved, the Authority will be unable to progress its procurement exercise and will not be in a position to award the contract in June causing delay to the Coast Road programme, and consequential impact on the Highway Network. Additionally there is the potential to impact on the spend profile agreed with the LEP) .

### **CAB152/03/16 Dates and Times of Next Meetings**

6.00pm on Wednesday 23 March 2016 (Extraordinary Meeting)

6.00pm on Monday 11 April 2016 (Ordinary Meeting)

### **Minutes published on 17 March 2016.**

**With the exception of Minutes CAB150/03/16 and CAB151/03/16, 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 24 March 2016.**

**The decisions contained within Minutes CAB150/03/16 and CAB151/03/16 are not subject to call-in and may be implemented immediately.**