

Cabinet

13 March 2017

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

In Attendance: O Daniel (Young Mayor)
D Rose (Business Sector)
R Layton (North Tyneside JTUC)

CAB139/03/17 Apologies

Apologies were received from S Scott (Northumbria Police).

CAB140/03/17 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

CAB141/03/17 Minutes

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2017 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

CAB142/03/17 Report of the Young Mayor

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

- A combined total of over 13,000 votes had been cast for Young Mayor and Member of UK Youth Parliament.
- Sophie Anson from George Stephenson High School had been elected Member of UK Youth Parliament.
- The Young Mayor had attended the Greener North Tyneside Theme Partnership Board meeting and was also looking forward to getting involved with Love Your Street.
- The Deputy Young Mayor had attended the NCS Trustees' celebration event organised by young people with support from VODA and the Linskill Centre.
- Members of the Children in Care Council had attended a theatre production at Northern Stage about Leaving Care. Some of the group had been involved in the stage performance using their own stories with the help of actors to explain what it's like being in care.
- The Assistant Director of Safeguarding and Children's Services had attended the Children in Care Council to meet the group and find out what they were working on. He planned to meet the group regularly to keep them updated.
- The Regional Children in Care Council had attended the North East Regional Chief Executives meeting. They had discussed their current campaigns and ways in which the Chief Executives could help them achieve this. The group would now meet with leaders and deputy leaders of the North East Local Authorities.
- Some Youth Councillors had attended a planning meeting for Lets Make It Special at Howdon Community Centre. They reported that there had been lots of ideas put forward and hoped to be involved with activities in the future.

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- The Young Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing had attended the Burdett Project Board Meeting at Northumbria University. This was to discuss the training pack, film and app that the Health and Wellbeing group had helped to create around healthy nutrition and lifestyle.
- The Children's Council 5 to 11 year olds had completed their walk as part of their Junior Civic Award.
- The Young Mayor was part of the young people's music hub along with some other youth councillors and had been meeting to rebrand and re-launch what had been known as The Event. The Young Mayor's music festival would be called Soundfest.
- Young Women from the Youth Council had helped facilitate workshops and had participated in activities at International Women's Day celebrations.
- European visitors from Greece and Slovakia who were part of a youth exchange with the YMCA in North Tyneside had been welcomed by the Young Mayor and Member of UK Youth Parliament.

The Young Mayor explained that there were similarities between his and the Member of UK Youth Parliament's pledges which included improving public transport provision; and ensuring that the Curriculum included healthy relationship education, money matters and political education. The Young Mayor was also passionate about the environment and had pledged to work hard to achieve a cleaner environment in North Tyneside. Improving existing mental health services for young people alongside reformed mental health education in schools was another important issue for the Member of UK Youth Parliament.

The Young Mayor had chaired his first Youth Council meeting, and had welcomed new members to the group. 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 Elected Mayor thanked the Young Mayor for the report and suggested that he met with the Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport to discuss and get advice about transport issues.

CAB143/03/17 2016/17 Financial Management Report to 31 January 2017 (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which outlined the Authority's financial position as at 31 January 2017 and sought Cabinet's approval to revisions to the Authority's Investment Plan.

The report included forecast outturn positions for 2016/17 for the General Fund, the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), Schools' finance and the Investment Plan, including a summary of projects to be delivered during 2016/17.

The forecast pressure for the General Fund Revenue Account had reduced to £2.648m (from £3.817 reported in November's report). The main areas of spending pressures remained as reported previously to Cabinet and reflected pressures arising from demand in Adult and Children's Social Care Services, the impact of additional unfunded burdens such as the Living Wage on care providers (and the price for services the Authority then had to pay) and the delivery of some aspects of the Creating a Brighter Future Programme. All services continued to develop and deliver actions to mitigate these financial pressures and the out-turn forecast was expected to continue to improve to the run up to the year end. Additional measures had been put in place to minimise non essential spend alongside ongoing reviews of demand led projections in order to reduce

the over-commitment. Careful consideration had been given to the impact of these spend pressures as part of the financial planning for 2017-20.

The HRA was forecast to have year-end balances at 31 March 2017 of £5.053m, which was £2.137m 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 (£0.787m). The forecast in-year was an estimated underspend of £1.350m.

The report included an update in respect of work in progress with regard to 2016/17 school funding, with particular reference to the progress of the eight schools that had approved deficits for the year and the allocation of the 2017/18 Dedicated Schools Grant..

The Investment Plan for 2016-19 had been adjusted, as detailed in Annex 1 to the report, and was £205.707m. The report also sets out delivery progress to date and planned delivery for 2016/17.

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 2017, be noted; (2) the receipt of the new revenue grants, as outlined in the report, be approved; (3) the level of spend on the Investment Plan, as at 31 January 2017, be noted; and (4) the variations of £0.368m within the 2016/19 Investment Plan, as set out in the report, 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.)

CAB144/03/17 Procurement of Local Auditor by 31 December 2017 (All Wards)

Cabinet received a report requesting approval to undertake a joint procurement exercise for the appointment of local (external) audit services from 2017/18, in collaboration with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council.

Historically, the Audit Commission had appointed external auditors to local authorities, which had no involvement in the choice of appointment or the fees charged. Around two thirds of authorities had their audit provided directly by the Audit Commission and the remaining third had their audit provided by one of the larger accountancy firms.

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 abolished the Audit Commission and introduced a number of other changes to local authorities' corporate governance and external audit arrangements.

The biggest immediate change provided by the Act was that all local authorities in England and Wales must now procure and appoint their own external auditor (known as a 'local auditor') by 31 December 2017. The new auditor would take up their duties from April 2018.

The Act also required that an Auditor Panel was established. The Authority was required to consult and take into account the advice of the Auditor Panel on the selection and appointment of a local auditor. In addition the Auditor Panel was required to advise the Authority on the maintenance of an independent relationship with the local auditor. Such

an Auditor Panel must consist of a majority of independent members (as defined by the Act). An Auditor Panel could be created and act for more than one local authority.

The main opportunities and risks from appointing the Local Audit were outlined in the report.

The Act included a number of requirements on how the appointment could be made, with some requirements being dependent upon the procurement route chosen. There were three main procurement avenues that a principal local authority could follow when appointing a 'local auditor'. These were:

- A stand-alone appointment by a local authority, either advertising and procuring directly or via an established external audit framework agreement;
- A collaborative approach, working with one or more local authorities, again procuring as a specific tender for all the authorities involved, or selecting a provider for all collaborating authorities from an external audit framework agreement; and
- Following a 'sector led' approach. The Local Government Association (LGA) had an established company, Public Sector Audit Appointments Ltd, which it had successfully lobbied to be recognised as an 'appointing person' under the Act.

The Head of Finance had recently met with colleagues from Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council to consider the opportunities and risks inherent in all three procurement options outlined above, including the potential for a joint procurement and appointment on behalf of three 'north of Tyne' local authorities. Northumberland County Council (which had recent experience of procuring external audit services under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014) was proposed to lead the procurement exercise, complying with the Contract Standing Orders of that Authority and relevant procurement legislation as well as the requirements of the Act in relation to the suitability of the local auditor.

Together, external audit fees across the three authorities had totalled approximately £2 million over the last three years (North Tyneside's fees accounting for £0.571m of this sum). A collaborative contract of a similar value would be likely to be attractive to the market, whilst allowing efficiencies in the procurement process and potentially attracting economies of scale. This option was considered by the Head of Finance to be the optimum procurement option for the Authority at the current time.

It was also suggested that one Auditor Panel be established by the three local authorities to provide the necessary advice and support that each Authority required in relation to the appointment of the local auditor and the maintenance of the relationship between the Authority and the local auditor.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1: To support the proposal for a joint procurement and appointment of external audit services with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council including the creation of a joint Auditor Panel to support each authorities' appointment process.

Option 2: Not to support the proposal for a joint procurement and appointment of external audit services with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council.

Resolved that (1) a joint procurement exercise for the appointment of local (external) audit services from 2017/18, in collaboration with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council, be undertaken; and

(2) the Head of Finance be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources and the Head of Law and Governance, to manage North Tyneside Council's responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 regarding an Auditor Panel, including appointment of a suitable independent person to represent North Tyneside Council on the Auditor Panel.

(Reason for decision - A joint procurement with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council is likely to be most efficient from a procurement perspective, and is likely to deliver the greatest economies of scale from the choices available.)

CAB145/03/17 Public Open Space advert for Land at Glebe Crescent, Forest Hall – Objections (Benton Ward)

Cabinet considered a report which detailed representations made in relation to a statutory advertisement to dispose of an area of public open space at Glebe Crescent, Forest Hall.

The area of land shown by dark outline on the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report was Authority owned and was currently accessible by members of the public. It was therefore deemed to be an area of public open space.

Planning permission had recently been granted for the development of the site with affordable homes for rent comprising a scheme of six 2 bed bungalows. Terms and conditions were therefore currently being provisionally negotiated for the proposed disposal of the site to the Registered Provider.

As the area of land was considered to be public open space the Authority had to advertise its intention to dispose of the land in accordance with Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 and formally consider any representations made.

The statutory advertisements had been published as required, in addition to which the Authority had sent out a courtesy letter to the residents of Glebe Crescent on 22 December 2015, informing them when the Notices were due to appear in the press and also confirming the closing date for representations.

Prior to the closing date, five representations had been received from local residents. Details of the objections and responses received from the Registered Providers and the Authority's Highway and Planning officer were included in the report.

The Cabinet Member for Housing and Transport advised Cabinet that the majority of objections raised had been addressed during the planning process. In relation to loss of green space he referred to the fact that half of the space would be left for public use and that there was other green space available not too far away. He also explained that the housing development fitted in with the Affordable Homes Programme, particularly the need to build more bungalows in that area.

Cabinet considered the following decision options:

Option 1: Set aside the objections received in relation to the disposal of public open space at Glebe Crescent, Forest Hall and allow the disposal of the land to proceed.

Option 2: Uphold the objections received in relation to the disposal of public open space at Glebe Crescent, Forest Hall in which case the disposal of the land cannot proceed.

Resolved that the objections received be set aside and approval be given to proceed with the disposal of an area of public open space at Glebe Crescent, Forest Hall, as shown in dark outline in the plan attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

(Reason for decision – To allow the disposal of the land to be actioned and the proposed housing development to proceed in order to deliver new homes in accordance with the Authority’s Affordable Homes Programme.)

CAB146/03/17 Delivering the Affordable Homes Programme (All Wards)

Cabinet considered a report which provided information on progress made during 2016/17 in delivering 347 new affordable homes within North Tyneside. The report also set out the anticipated delivery of affordable housing in 2017/18 together with the indicative affordable homes delivery programme through to 2024.

In the ten years to 2013, a total of 789 new affordable homes had been delivered within the Borough. In October 2013, Cabinet had agreed an ambitious programme to increase the pace and scale of the affordable homes delivery within North Tyneside through the delivery of 3,000 affordable homes over the next 10 years.

To date around 850 new affordable homes had been delivered within 3 years under the Affordable Homes Programme, exceeding the total number delivered in the previous 10 years.

Plans were well developed to deliver a further 301 homes in 2017/18 and the Authority remained on target to deliver 3,000 new affordable homes by 2024. Full delivery programmes were provided in Appendix 1 to the report.

The report outlined the delivery of new homes under the Housing Revenue Account this year, and delivery on the following developments in 2017/18: Dudley and Weetslade Social Club; Chapelville, Seaton Burn; Perth Gardens, Howdon; and Wallington Court.

The North Tyneside Living PFI had been a major project that had seen the transformation of the Authority’s sheltered housing with the refurbishment of 582 homes and the provision of 342 new build homes. The project had been anticipated to deliver 169 new homes in 2016/17. However, due to the anticipated earlier completion of Eldon Court the project would actually deliver 195 new homes this year.

Three long-term empty properties had been returned to occupation as affordable housing units in the North Shields and Wallsend areas with at least a further two refurbishments due to start on site before the end of March 2017. In addition, as part of the Authority’s proactive approach, four “trainer flats” had been procured for use by the Authority’s Leaving Care team.

A new Council Housing Strategy had been approved by Cabinet in February 2017. This document continued to highlight the importance of returning empty homes to occupation and, where possible, ensuring that these homes were rented as affordable housing units. The Affordable Homes Programme would reflect this and would look to bring more long term empty homes back into use during 2017/18. This would be achieved by providing advice and support to private landlords both directly by the Authority and in partnership with the National Landlord Association.

The Authority continued to work closely with Registered Providers to identify opportunities and funding to meet housing need in the Borough.

As part of the Homes and Communities Agency's Affordable Homes Programme 2015-18 the Authority had been successful in securing £7.2 million worth of grant funding to support the development of 300 affordable homes in the Borough. The Authority was working in partnership with a number of Registered Providers and developers to deliver these homes.

In 2016/17, Registered Providers expected to deliver 136 new affordable homes. This reduced to 51 new homes due to development of a site not proceeding and a number of sites experiencing delays due to ground conditions and also to ensure that further consultation with local residents could take place. Following this consultation and the resolution of the ground conditions, the completion of the 44 homes were now scheduled to be complete in 2017/18.

Delivering affordable housing through planning obligations was central to meeting the need for affordable housing in the Borough. Through Section 106 Town and Country Planning Act 1991 Agreements, the Authority successfully secured 25% affordable housing on relevant sites (developments with 15 or more units). In 2016/17 a total of 78 new homes had been delivered across the Borough by developers through this route.

The North Tyneside Trading Company (Development) Limited had successfully secured planning approval in January 2016 for their first site at Reed Avenue, Camperdown, to build 13 new homes comprising 5 houses and 8 apartments. Esh Property Services had been appointed to build the homes following a procurement exercise and the development was now reaching completion. The homes would be let at a sub-market affordable rent, subject to a local lettings policy that gave priority to qualifying people from the Camperdown and Burradon area in need of affordable housing.

Work to identify new opportunities for the Company was continuing.

A delivery of 301 new affordable homes had been identified for 2017/18 and a breakdown of these was provided in Appendix 2 of the report. This would bring the total number of homes delivered in the first 4 years of the programme to 1,115.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning welcomed the report and the progress that had been made in delivering affordable homes across the whole of the Borough.

The Elected Mayor also welcomed the report and the much needed assortment of new housing across the Borough, in particular the new bungalows which would facilitate the release of larger homes for people on the housing waiting list.

Cabinet considered the following decision option: to note progress made during 2016/17 in delivering new affordable homes within North Tyneside.

Resolved that the progress to date of the Affordable Homes Programme be noted.

(Reason for decision – The report is for Cabinet's information only.)

CAB147/03/17 Our North Tyneside Plan Performance Report (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 Authority had agreed the Our North Tyneside Plan at the Council meeting held on 26

September 2013 and it had been refreshed by Council on 17 March 2016. The priorities in the Plan provided the strategic policy framework for the Authority.

Performance against the Our North Tyneside plan was managed on two levels, the strategic level and the service level.

The report included only those measures that had been updated since the last report on performance against the Our North Tyneside Plan to Cabinet on 17 October 2016.

Appendix 1 to the report contained a detailed breakdown of progress against these measures. An overview of performance against each of the themes in the Our North Tyneside Plan was outlined in the report.

Cabinet Members welcomed the report and the excellent progress that had been made against the Performance Plan, which made North Tyneside a desirable place to live, work and visit. Reference was particularly made in relation to educational attainment achievements, cleanliness of the Borough's beaches and the Blue Flag Awards, the high number of new businesses locating to North Tyneside and the high number of apprenticeships which had been taken up during the past year. It was hoped that the local press would pick up on these positive outcomes.

Mr Rose, on behalf of the business community, expressed his appreciation for the support provided by Members and officers to local businesses. He also praised the Authority for their hard work in bringing in many credible businesses, job creation and funding into the Borough.

The Elected Mayor thanked officers and Cabinet Members for their work and support in delivering the Performance Plan and mentioned the excellent praise the Authority was receiving from residents.

Cabinet considered the following decision option: to receive the report and note the progress that has been made against the delivery of the Our North Tyneside Plan.

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

(Reason for decision – The report is for Cabinet's information only.)

CAB148/03/17 Reduction of NHS services and implications of the Sustainable and Transformation Plan in North Tyneside – Response to Council Motion (All Wards)

Cabinet received a report in response to a Motion approved by Council on 19 January 2017 that requested the Elected Mayor and Cabinet to consider undertaking a review of the current plans for the NHS in North Tyneside and in particular understanding the impact of the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham (NTWND) Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) for North Tyneside, and the outcome to be reported to the next ordinary Council meeting.

The NHS described STPs as being developed to ensure that health and care services were based upon the needs of local populations in order to support successful implementation of the NHS Five Year Forward View (5YFV). STPs were intended to bring together key players across Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Foundation Trusts, Local Authorities and other health and care service providers organised as STP 'footprints'.

North Tyneside CCG was required to develop a two year operational plan consistent with the local STP and the 5YFV, delivering core access and quality standards for patients and restoring and maintaining financial balance.

The review had been led by the Director of Public Health and involved Senior Managers in Adult Social Care, the Interim Chief Operating Officer of North Tyneside CCG and members of North Tyneside's Health and Wellbeing Board including the Chair and Deputy Chair. It had also drawn on national guidance and wider discussions across the region and North East Combined Authority Area.

The outcome of the review had concluded that:

- There had been a number of changes in NHS services in North Tyneside
- There were examples of where NHS services had been reduced and would be reduced further in the coming year, the impact upon residents was not fully understood
- The process of developing STPs had raised concern nationally
- More locally the process of developing the NTWND plan raised concerns around engagement with Local Authorities
- There was no assurance currently that the plans would deliver the necessary changes to address the gaps identified
- The priorities identified in current CCG operational plan could go further in addressing the wider prevention and early intervention aspects of the STP
- The detailed CCG operational plan should be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board
- There was concern about the financial impact of the plans on the Authority

A number of NHS service changes in North Tyneside had been implemented in the last two years and the changes reflected the priorities described in North Tyneside CCG's plans and had contributed to the improvement in the CCG's financial position. The key changes were set out in the report.

The report described and explained the purpose of STPs, and also provided details about the Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and North Durham STP.

NHS Planning Guidance 2016 required CCGs to produce an Operational Plan 2016/17 - 2018/19 to cover the first two years implementation of the STP.

North Tyneside CCG operational plan key priorities had been shared with the North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Board in a presentation at its meeting on 14th February 2017, these were outlined in detail in the report.

The Health and Wellbeing Board had welcomed the further detail of the priorities for North Tyneside. However Members had expressed concern that the issue of prevention and tackling inequalities did not feature despite being a critical part of the North Tyneside Health and Wellbeing Strategy and one of the central aspects of the STP.

Concern had been expressed about the extent to which the local authority had been a true partner in the development of the STP. The Chief Executive of the Authority had written to NHS England in October last year on behalf of the chief executives of all North East Combined Authorities about the process of developing the STP. In particular, the concern had centred around the lack of engagement with Local Authorities and understanding the financial implications of the plans upon the ability of local authorities to deliver services to residents, such as, adult social care, children's services and public health. Whilst NHS

England had acknowledged the concerns with regards to the engagement process, there still remained significant concern about the financial implications and impact of the STP for local authorities. This concern between officials had been replicated in public debate.

There was a lack of detail about development of specific plans in each area and how initiatives would be funded - in particular the efforts and up scaling of prevention and the implications for diminishing local authority public health budgets and also for the capacity and future funding of adult social care. There was no assurance at this point in time that the plan would deliver the stated ambitions. The detailed CCG operational plan had not yet been shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The future engagement process, governance arrangements and development of detailed plans for implementation of the STP were not clear and further information was required to understand next steps in the process of delivering the NTWND STP.

While the NTWND STP did not make reference to reduction in NHS services in North Tyneside the review had identified examples of where funding had been withdrawn by the CCG and where services had been reduced.

The Cabinet Member for Public Health and Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), thanked the CCG and the lead officer of the STP for their on-going commitment in sharing information with the HWB, but stressed that more detail was needed to truly to understand the impact for North Tyneside.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Deputy Chair of the HWB, expressed concern about the CCG's decision to remove its contribution for the Memory Support Service and social prescribing and the impact this would have on Adult Social Care.

It was clarified that although there was not a direct link between the Better Care Fund (BCF) and the STP, overall the NHS may affect how the BCF delivered social care. National guidance on the BCF was still awaited; this would decide how best to use BCF over the next two years.

Mr Layton of the JTUC, expressed concern that the STP was another vehicle to deliver austerity measures and stressed the need for the Authority to be cautious and directly involved in the decision making.

Option 1: To note the content of the report and authorise the Head of Health Education Care and Safeguarding and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to seek more detail on the plans for the NHS and monitor the progress of the STP in North Tyneside on behalf of Cabinet in accordance with the recommendations set out in Section 1.2.

Option 2: Not to note the content of the report and not authorise the Head of Health Education Care and Safeguarding and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board to continue to seek more detail the plans for the NHS and monitor the progress of the STP in North Tyneside on behalf of Cabinet.

Resolved that (1) the content of the report be noted; and

(2) the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board be authorised to seek more detail on the plans for the NHS and monitor the progress of the STP in North Tyneside on behalf of Cabinet, and where there is likely to be any significant impact for the Borough or the Authority to report back to Cabinet.

(Reason for decision - so that a mechanism can be established to monitor the progress of plans for the NHS in North Tyneside in the future.)

CAB149/03/17 Exclusion Resolution

Resolved that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and having applied a public interest test as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

CAB150/03/17 Procurement of Supported Accommodation Services to reduce Homelessness (16-24 year olds) (All Wards)

Cabinet received a report seeking approval to undertake, for a second time, a competitive procurement exercise for a new supported accommodation service. The service would include a range of accommodation settings and community based support, which would seek to prevent homelessness for vulnerable and socially excluded 16-24 year olds within the Borough.

In March 2016 Cabinet approved a procurement exercise to secure supported accommodation services in 2 categories, one for the 16-24 age group and a second for the over 25's. The Authority had successfully procured and awarded a contract for the over 25's service, but received no compliant bids for the 16-24 year olds service. The requirement to fully meet the placement needs of some of our youngest and most vulnerable care leavers would now be addressed outside of a new 16-24 procurement exercise, and would be met by expanding the Authority's in-house accommodation offer.

The new service for 16-24 year olds was proposed following a further review of the Authority's existing provision, and would replace the existing contractual relationships with a range of providers. The proposed service model would replace a 'one size fits all' model with a more flexible service which could provide targeted support to those who need it the most, at one of 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 (TOM). The proposed model created clear pathways towards an individual achieving independence and allowed them to reduce their support needs whilst encouraging greater access to 'universal services'.

It was proposed that the contract would start in October 2017. The initial contract duration would be for twenty four months, with an option to extend for a further twelve months. The contract would be procured through an open and transparent process, in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and would be conducted through the NEPO portal.

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

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:

- (1) 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; and
- (2) enter into a contract with the preferred bidder following the procurement exercise.

(Reason for decision - Current contracts have expired and in order to comply with procurement regulations, the Authority must undertake a competitive procurement exercise to secure a new service. 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 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.)

CAB151/03/17 Date and Time of Next Meeting

6.00pm on Monday 10 April 2017

Minutes published on 16 March 2017.

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 23 March 2017.