

**Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 12 November 2014**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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**Part A – Items considered in public**

<b>A2</b>	Financial and Performance Management Report to end of Quarter Two (July-September, 2014)	<p>(a) That Members note the contents of the attached report and agree to the recommendation that the Council continues to monitor and scrutinise performance alongside the latest financial information for the same period.</p> <p>(b) That Members note the comments made through the Scrutiny process and the responses from officers and others to these comments.</p>
<b>A3</b>	Draft Council Plan Summary 2015-20	That Cabinet notes the contents of the summary and recommends that it is progressed.
<b>A4</b>	Planning Peer Review	<p>(a) That Cabinet agree to the Action Plan attached as Appendix 2 to this report</p> <p>(b) That Cabinet receive in 6 months' time a report back on progress made in implementing the agreed Actions</p> <p>(c) That the Planning Committee similarly receive the same report</p>
<b>A5</b>	Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief	That, in accordance with Section 47 of The Local Government Finance Act 1988, Discretionary Rate Relief be granted in respect of the organisations and premises detailed in the appendix to the report.
<b>A6</b>	Hardship Relief - Business Rates	That the application for hardship relief detailed at appendix (b) be dealt with in accordance of the reasons stated.

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<b>A7</b>	Customer Service and Access Strategy and Customer Promise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That Cabinet approve the Customer Service and Access Strategy and Customer Promise.</li> <li>b) That a timetable for implementation of the strategy across the Council is submitted to the Portfolio Holder by 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014.</li> <li>c) That any required changes to the Council’s communications policies are implemented following consideration by the relevant portfolio holders in conjunction with the Head of Communications and the Head of Customer Services and ICT.</li> </ul>
<b>A8</b>	Review of Allotments Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That the responses received during the consultation are noted</li> <li>b) That the minor changes to the Allotments Strategy, arising from the consultation, as detailed in this report, are approved.</li> <li>c) That the Allotments Strategy 2014-2020 is formally adopted and Officers are authorised to implement the actions set out in the Action Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>A9</b>	Asset Disposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That Members approve (with the exception of the sites at Church Lane, Knutton and Gallowstree Lane, Westlands) the disposal of the tranche 2 sites, subject to having first secured an appropriate outline planning permission for each parcel of land.</li> <li>b) That Members approve the procurement of specialist consultants to prepare and submit planning applications in respect of the sites at Sandy Lane/Brampton</li> </ul>

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		<p>Road, May Bank, Market Drayton Road, Loggerheads and Eccleshall Road, Loggerheads and the associated costs.</p> <p>c) That members agree to add the cost of procuring the specialist consultants referred to in recommendation (b) to the current capital programme in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations.</p>
<b>A10</b>	Council Response to Newcastle-under-Lyme and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Local Plan- Call for Sites	<p>a) That officers be authorised to complete and submit pro-forma responses to the local planning authority for all Borough Council owned sites listed in the appendix to this report.</p> <p>b) That officers be authorised to incorporate the identified sites listed in the appendix in the scope of the proposed masterplan (around the former Keele Golf Course and western / southern fringes of urban Newcastle) and to proceed, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to agree the principles of a brief with appropriate land owners.</p> <p>c) That the financial implications arising from recommendation (b) be addressed through the 2015/16 budget setting process.</p> <p>d) That the sites listed in the appendix to this report be used to inform the next and future Asset Management Strategies / Plans.</p> <p>e) That officers bring forward at the earliest opportunity a further report identifying any additional sites which may be identified as appropriate for alternative use or development once key strategy documents have been finalised as described in</p>

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		the report.