

**Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 14 January 2015**

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

<p><b>A3</b></p>	<p>REVIEW OF CONCURRENT FUNDING AND FUNDING FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS</p>	<p>a) That Cabinet notes the contents of this report and, in particular, the findings and recommendations from the Town/Parish Councils – Review of Concurrent Funding Task and Finish Group (see Appendix A) established by the Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee (FRAPS) in June 2014 to review concurrent funding of parish and town councils in the Borough by NULBC</p> <p>b) That Cabinet decides whether it wishes to support the all or some of the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group (as endorsed by FRAPS in November 2014) namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish a cross-party monitoring group by NULBC</li> <li>• To require all parish and town councils to provide proof to the above monitoring group of use and purpose of their grant from 2015/16 before receiving any further grant for 2016/17</li> <li>• Further to the above recommendation from the Task and Finish Group, that any town/parish council not spending their NULBC grant in full will have any identified underspend from 2015/16 removed from their grant for 2016/17</li> </ul> <p>c) That Cabinet remove 25% of the section 136 funding made available to Parish Councils in the next financial year.</p>
<p><b>A4</b></p>	<p>MIDWAY MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK</p>	<p>a) That officers be authorised to take all necessary actions to proceed with proposals for the installation of physical control measures on the building at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>b) That officers be authorised to identify key non-health agency partners with a view to jointly procuring appropriate training, the details of which shall be approved by the relevant officer and Portfolio Holder.</p>

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<b>A5</b>	CAPITAL STRATEGY	a) That the Capital Strategy be agreed and forwarded to Council with a recommendation for approval.  b) That in the future the Capital Strategy be agreed by Cabinet in line with other relevant strategies.																						
<b>A6</b>	ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY	(a) That Members approve the Asset Management Strategy (2015/16 – 2017/ 2018). (b) That Officers take the necessary steps to explore the development potential of the sites listed in Appendices 2 and 3 at the earliest opportunity. (c) That Officers report back the outcome of recommendation (b) to Cabinet at the earliest appropriate time. d) That the NDP seven sites are not brought back into the strategy.																						
<b>A7</b>	CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE	That, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amounts calculated as the Council Tax Base for 2015/16 shall be as follows:-  <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;"> <u>Band D equivalent properties</u> </div> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Newcastle Borough Council</td> <td style="text-align: right;">35,242</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kidsgrove Town Council</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6,387</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Audley</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2,450</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loggerheads</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,849</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balterley, Betley and Wrinehill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">564</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chapel and Hill Chorlton</td> <td style="text-align: right;">194</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Keele</td> <td style="text-align: right;">331</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Madeley</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,413</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maer</td> <td style="text-align: right;">253</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Silverdale</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1,410</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whitmore</td> <td style="text-align: right;">803</td> </tr> </table>	Newcastle Borough Council	35,242	Kidsgrove Town Council	6,387	Audley	2,450	Loggerheads	1,849	Balterley, Betley and Wrinehill	564	Chapel and Hill Chorlton	194	Keele	331	Madeley	1,413	Maer	253	Silverdale	1,410	Whitmore	803
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<b>A8</b>	SCALE OF FEES AND CHARGES	(a) That the fees and charges proposed to apply from 1 April 2015, as set out in Appendix 1 be approved and be submitted to the Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee for comment.
<b>A9</b>	REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS	<p>a) That the assumptions set out in the report be approved.</p> <p>b) That the Council Tax levy for 2015/2016 be frozen at the current level.</p> <p>(c) That the Finance, Resources and Partnerships Scrutiny Committee be asked to consider what comments it wishes to make on the draft Budget and Council Tax proposals before the final proposals are considered at Cabinet in February 2015.</p>
<b>A10</b>	CONTRACT AWARD FOR THE SUPPLY AND MANAGEMENT OF VEHICLE TYRES	<p>a) That the joint contract for the supply of vehicle tyres be awarded to the preferred bidder for two years with a one year review. Details of the preferred bidder provided in the confidential appendix.</p> <p>b) That delegated authority for any review to the contract to be made to the Executive Director – Operational Services and Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling.</p>
<b>A11</b>	POLICY FOR UNSUPERVISED CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS	<p>a) That the programme of works as detailed in the 2014 inspection report is approved.</p> <p>b) That the Executive Director - Operational Services be authorised to seek and accept the lowest suitable quotations for the works in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Recycling.</p>

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		c) That authority is granted to expend £31,042 from the existing approved provision in the General Fund Capital Programme for play equipment repair and replacement in 2014/2015.
<b>A12</b>	ICT STRATEGY	That Cabinet approves the ICT Strategy.
<b>A13</b>	MEMBERS' ICT AND OUTCOMES OF THE MEMBERS DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY (TABLET) TRIAL	<p>That Cabinet approves the following recommendations:</p> <p>(i) That a similar policy to that currently applied to officers be implemented to also cover Member email accounts and that the use of Borough Council email by all elected Borough Council Members for council business be made mandatory</p> <p>(ii) That the practice of printing off and sending on elected Members' emails cease</p> <p>(iii) That the Members' weekly courier service be ceased. Instead, Members will be required to use either electronic means to access committee papers in future, or will be required to visit the Civic Offices to pick up their printed papers. The Council will continue to encourage all Members to use appropriate available technology and will offer the necessary training for Members to use this technology.</p> <p>(iv) That, following the May 2015 Borough Council elections, all newly elected Members are issued with a tablet device to receive their minutes, agendas and emails to replace the current printed pack service</p> <p>(v) That those Members due for re-election post May 2015 be given the option of using a tablet device instead of the current printed pack system until the end of their current term.</p>

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A14	NEWCASTLES OF THE WORLD ALLIANCE	<p>a) That the Council maintain a limited membership of the Newcastles of the World Alliance but does not allocate any funding to support local business development initiatives.</p> <p>b) That this membership be carried out through the office of the Mayor.</p>