

**Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 25 March 2015**

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
<b>Part A – Items considered in public</b>		
<b>A4</b>	Petition from Residents regarding Land at the Butts	<p>a) That Cabinet note the decision made by Full Council at the meeting held on Wednesday 25th February 2015.</p> <p>b) That Cabinet resolve to ask officers to review the matters raised by the petition and to bring a report for consideration at a future meeting.</p> <p>c) That the petition organiser be kept informed about the process to be undertaken.</p>
<b>A5</b>	Establishment of a Cabinet Panel - Capital	<p>(a) That a Capital Programme Cabinet Panel be established with a membership of five appointed on the basis of political proportionality (Labour 3; Conservative 1; Liberal Democrat 1).</p> <p>(b) That a portfolio holder be appointed to chair the panel.</p> <p>(c) That the Group Leaders be requested to make nominations for membership of the panel from their respective groups in accordance with (a) above.</p> <p>(d) That the Panel make recommendations to Cabinet in respect of the Council's future capital programme.</p> <p>(e) That Cllr John Williams be the Chair of the Cabinet Panel</p>
<b>A6</b>	Establishment of a Cabinet Panel - Concurrent Funding	<p>(a) That a cross party Cabinet Panel be established with a membership of five appointed on the basis of political proportionality (Labour 3; Conservative 1; Liberal Democrat 1).</p> <p>(b) That the portfolio holder for Finance and Resources be appointed to chair the panel.</p> <p>(c) That the Group Leaders be requested to make nominations for membership of the panel from their respective groups in accordance with (a) above.</p>

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		<p>(d) That the intention to put in place arrangements for the portfolio holder for Finance and Resources to make decisions in response to recommendations of the cross-party panel be noted.</p> <p>(e) That it be noted that Part 3 of the council’s constitution (Scheme of Delegation) will be amended to show the inclusion of this responsibility in the list of responsibilities for the exercise of Cabinet functions.</p>
<b>A7</b>	Housing Allocations Policy Review	That the revised Housing Allocations Policy be agreed.
<b>A8</b>	Staffordshire Compact	That the revised Staffordshire Compact be endorsed
<b>A9</b>	Financial Inclusion Update	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Continue to support Officers to represent the Council and contribute to the work of the North Staffordshire Financial Inclusion Group (FIG) in order to ensure that the Borough benefits from the work set out in the FIG action plan.</li> <li>b) Endorse Officers in continuing to build on the work already undertaken to address issues faced by some our most disadvantaged residents and to help to address wider social issues leading to positive outcomes. This focus of this work can be categorised into the following priorities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Planning and responding effectively to the challenges of welfare reform;</li> <li>ii. Contributing to and improving financial education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii. Improving the access to financial services and affordable credit</li> <li>iv. Improving the awareness of and access to quality debt advice and the promotion of savings and insurance.</li> </ul>
<b>A10</b>	Communications Strategy 2015 -2018	That Cabinet approves the Communications Strategy 2015-18.
<b>A11</b>	Newcastle Partnership - Accountable Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That Cabinet endorse the proposed 'Newcastle Partnership – Locality Commissioning - Roles and Responsibilities' document and accompanying letters of commitment from the County Council to therefore approve the formal appointment of the Borough Council as the accountable body for the Newcastle Partnership for the purposes of locality commissioning and as currently exercised under the Local Government Act (2000) relating to leading the co-ordination of Local Strategic Partnerships activity.</li> <li>b) That Cabinet authorise the Chief Executive, on behalf of the Borough Council, to sign the letter dated 27th February 2015 from Staffordshire County Council (SCC) (found at Appendix C), thereby authorising the transfer of up to £141,000 from SCC to the Borough Council for the purposes of locality commissioning and sign the 'Roles and Responsibilities' document at Appendix D.</li> </ul>
<b>A12</b>	Newcastle Economic Development Strategy: Year Three Review and Year Four Action Plan	That the review of the Economic Development Strategy Year Three Action Plan be noted and that the Year Four Action Plan be approved following consideration of the Economic Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations.
<b>A13</b>	Locality Action Partnerships (LAPS) - Further Development	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Acknowledges and endorses the progress reports produced by each of the nine Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs), which highlights their achievements during</li> </ul>

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		<p>the last twelve months.</p> <p>b) Continues to support the work of the LAPs in the nine localities across the Borough and assists in enabling them to continue to contribute to the delivery of the Council's Co-operative Strategy through further development.</p> <p>c) Challenges the LAPs to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. proactively engage and contribute to Regeneration and Economic Development activity with Council Officers;</li> <li>b. continue to share information, disseminate good practice and raise awareness of activity through the LAP Chairs group;</li> <li>c. report further progress and activities back to Cabinet in 12 months to contribute to a further review of Council support.</li> </ul> <p>d) That a five member cross party Cabinet Panel (3 labour, 1 conservative and 1 liberal democrat) be set up to oversee the development of the LAPs.</p>
<b>A14</b>	Discretionary Rate Relief	That, in accordance with Section 47 of The Local Government Finance Act 1988, Discretionary Rate Relief is either granted or refused as per the recommendations detailed in Appendix A of the report.
<b>A15</b>	Irrecoverable items	That the items detailed at Appendix A be considered irrecoverable for the reasons stated and be written off.