

**Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Wednesday, 6 February 2013**

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Decision</b>
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**Part A – Items considered in public**

<b>A1</b>	Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January were approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.
<b>A3</b>	Employer Supported Volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That the report be noted;</li> <li>(2) That support be given to the establishment of an ESV pilot scheme for the council, following consultation with staff, followed by an initial open forum with employees and other interested parties on the concept of volunteering to gauge the level of interest in the organisation;</li> <li>(3) That, in the event of a pilot being set up, a review of this pilot be supported in order to ascertain whether a permanent ESV scheme should be set up in the council; and</li> <li>(4) That the proposal from North Staffordshire Volunteer Centre (NSVC) be endorsed, this being designed to support the development of an ESV pilot for the Borough Council.</li> </ul>
<b>A4</b>	Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012	That the steps set out in the Action Plan submitted at Appendix B be approved.
<b>A5</b>	Revenue and Capital Budgets and Council Tax 2013-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That it be recommended to full council that the revised minimum balances requirement be £1,300,000, with the excess of £200,000 above the current levels being transferred to the Insurance Fund (£150,000) and the Renewals and Repairs Fund (£50,000);</li> <li>(2) That it be recommended to full council that £80,000 be transferred out of the Standards Fund into the MMI Provision;</li> <li>(3) That the 2013/14 General Fund Revenue Budget and the Capital Programme 2013/14 as detailed in the report to Cabinet dated 16 January 2013 be recommended to full council for approval; and</li> <li>(4) That the charges in respect of waiver permits be approved and added to the Scale of Fees and Charges.</li> </ul>
<b>A6</b>	Procurement of Corporate Mail	That a contract be issued to UK Mail (the successful provider) for a period of two years with the

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	Services	option to extend to August 2016, subject to the completion of the pilot exercise of up to six months duration, for the delivery of corporate mail services.
<b>A7</b>	Joint Housing Allocation Policy - Minor Amendment	That the proposed amendment to the Joint Housing Allocations Policy as set out above be approved.
<b>A8</b>	Newcastle-under-Lyme Co-operative Strategy 2013-2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That the content of the strategy be noted;</li> <li>(2) That the content as submitted be endorsed;</li> <li>(3) That the strategy be circulated to partners and communities and further updates on its development be submitted at future Cabinet meetings; and</li> <li>(4) That the strategy be placed before the relevant scrutiny committee for its consideration and comment.</li> </ul>
<b>A9</b>	Financial and Performance Management Report to End of Quarter 3 (December 2012)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That the contents of the report be noted the monitoring and scrutiny of performance alongside finances be continued;</li> <li>(2) That the new style of the performance report be developed further for 2013-14 as detailed, in line with the Performance Management Framework Review and the Council Plan 2013-14 to 2015-16, the intention being to report performance information in a new format as the work is progressed;</li> <li>(3) That the comments raised at the Transformation and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 24 January 2013 be noted.</li> </ul>
<b>A10</b>	Support and Maintenance Contract for Council Telephony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That Standing Orders relating to Contracts be waived on the grounds of 2b(v) which states 'goods and services are obtainable only from a limit numbers of persons or bodies'; and</li> <li>(2) That the support and maintenance contract be awarded to Mitel Networks (Mitel) with effect from 1 April 2013 for a period of three years.</li> </ul>
<b>A11</b>	Charging for Pre-application Planning Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) That, subject to (3) below, the provision of "free" informal written advice as to whether or not planning permission is required for development proposals, be</li> </ul>

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		<p>discontinued;</p> <p>(2) That, subject to (3) below, the introduction of charging of fees for pre-application advice, as set out in the report be approved;</p> <p>(3) That, solely in relation to householder development, the provision of one half-hour meeting per case be allowed without charge, but a charge be levied in the event of any further meeting or if written confirmation of the advice given is sought; and</p> <p>(4) That the Head of Planning and Development be requested to report back after six months on the implementation of these changes, the feedback received and the impact of them.</p>