

FORWARD PLAN -

This Plan sets out the decisions which the Council expects to take over the next few months.

Key decisions are decisions which are likely:

- (a) to result in the Council incurring expenditure or making savings which are significant having regard to the budget for the service concerned, or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards of the Borough.

There is a requirement to publish with 28 clear days' notice any key decision that is intended to be made. An Authority cannot take a key decision without giving 28 days' notice unless an urgent decision is required.

Other Decisions

Although it is not a statutory requirement, this Forward Plan also contains details of other matters likely to be considered by the Council's Cabinet, Committees or Full Council which are not 'key decisions'.

Reports relevant to key decisions, and any listed background documents, may be viewed at the Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs, ST5 2AG six days before the decision is to be made. Copies of, or extracts from, these documents may be obtained on the payment of a reasonable fee from the following address:

Head of Business Improvements and Partnerships
Civic Offices,
Merrial Street,
Newcastle-under-Lyme,
Staffordshire,
ST5 2AG.

Telephone: 01782 742227

However, it is not possible to make available for viewing or to supply copies of reports or documents the publication of which is restricted due to confidentiality of the information contained therein.

Unless otherwise stated, representations in respect of any proposed decision may be made in writing to the Member Services Manager at the Civic Offices, Merrial Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 2AG not later than two working days prior to the meeting at which the decision will be taken.

A decision notice for each key decision is published within 6 days of it having been made. This is open for public inspection on the Council's website and at the Civic Offices.

The law and the Council's constitution provides for urgent key decisions to be made. A decision notice will be published for these in exactly the same way.

**FORWARD PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 15 JANUARY 2015
TO 21 MAY 2015**

TITLE OF REPORT:

HS2 - RESPONSE TO CITY COUNCIL PROPOSALS

Portfolio	Councillor Terry Turner
Brief description of report	Response to the Government consultation on High Speed Rail : Investing in Britain's Future - Consultation on the route from the West Midlands to Manchester, Leeds and beyond (HS2 Phase 2)
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	15th January 2014
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Economic Development and Enterprise
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	The HS2 Working Group of the Economic and Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee has submitted its recommendations to Council on the 27th November 2013
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Guy Benson, Head of Planning and Development
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Economic Regeneration, Business and Town Centres
Brief description of report	To approve a new playing pitch strategy for the Borough.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Rob Foster, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

PROPOSED LAND SALE - MEADOWS ROAD, KIDSGROVE

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Economic Regeneration, Business and Town Centres, Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Environment and Recycling, Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Planning and Assets
Brief description of report	To consider the disposal of the freehold interest of the above car park.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	Will involve the receipt of a capital sum.
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	12 Nov 2014
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Not Applicable
Wards affected	Kidsgrove
Proposed consultation	Yes, in respect of proposed removal of off street parking order.
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Louise Beeby
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	Part Exempt - By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

TITLE OF REPORT:

REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS 2015/16

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Finance and Resources
Brief description of report	To review progress on the completion of the revenue and capital budgets for 2015/16 to enable a robust and affordable budget for 2015/16 to be approved.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	14 Jan 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Transformation and Resources
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	Representations on public agenda items can be made up to one working day before the meeting
Background documents	
Officer contact	Dave Roberts, Head of Finance
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2015/16

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Finance and Resources
Brief description of report	To approve the strategy to be followed by the Council in carrying out its treasury management activity in the forthcoming financial year, 2015/16.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Council
Earliest date of decision	25 Feb 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Transformation and Resources
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	Representations on public agenda items can be made up to one working day before the meeting
Background documents	
Officer contact	Dave Roberts, Head of Finance
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

REVIEW OF AUTOMATIC NUMBER PLATE RECOGNITION AND CASHLESS PARKING PILOT

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Economic Regeneration, Business and Town Centres
Brief description of report	To review the first six months of the car parking pilot. Automatic Number Plate Recognition records when a vehicle arrives and departs the Midway car park, this enables the customer to park then pay anytime up to midnight. Cashless parking enables the use of a mobile phone to pay for parking and extend the period of parking whilst away from the car park.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	24 Jun 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Economic Development and Enterprise
Wards affected	Town
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Graham Williams
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	N/A

TITLE OF REPORT:

THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BOROUGH MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Leisure, Culture and Localism
Brief description of report	To report on the options for the future development of the Borough Museum and Art Gallery along with the development of a medium to long term plan for its management.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	None at this stage
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Active and Cohesive Communities
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	To be developed
Last date for representations	None
Background documents	
Officer contact	Rob Foster, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

WAMMY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK PHASE 3

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Environment and Recycling
Brief description of report	To deliver teenage provision, make improvements to attract wildlife, and to plant trees so as to further develop the project and comply with obligations.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	No capital financial implications for the Council
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	10 December 2014
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Active and Cohesive Communities
Wards affected	Cross Heath; Knutton and Silverdale
Proposed consultation	Consultation undertaken in 2009 to obtain views of local community and stakeholders in drawing up masterplan. Teenager consultation carried out in 2013 with local youngsters to discover most popular activities and requirements for teenagers.
Last date for representations	None
Background documents	
Officer contact	Peter Stepien
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY 2015-18

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Communications, Policy and Partnerships
Brief description of report	
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Not Applicable
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Phil Jones
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT SERVICE DELIVERY

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Environment and Recycling
Brief description of report	To Inform members of the practical/resourcing implications arising from the County Council's decision to operate with a new provider for on-street parking enforcement and to review the options for parking enforcement on the Council's car parks.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	At this stage, your officers are not in a position to present the necessary financial/resource implications therefore a further report will be required.
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	4 Feb 2015
Likely Date of Decision	10th December 2014
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Economic Development and Enterprise
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Graham Williams
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

HOUSING ALLOCATIONS POLICY

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Planning and Assets
Brief description of report	Under Part V1 of the Housing Act 1996 local authorities are required to have an Allocations policy and procedure in place to allocate social housing and under Part V11 of the Housing Act 1996 (as amended by Homelessness Act 2002) to make provision for homeless households. The policy has been reviewed and minor amendments are recommended for adoption.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	Minor changes to the ICT software will be required, it is anticipated that the costs can be met from the existing budget.
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Economic Development and Enterprise
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	Discussions have taken place at the Lettings Forum and Homelessness Forum, an on-line survey has been used to collect customer views and the issues have been considered at the Economic Development and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Jo Halliday, Head of Housing
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

**DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT COMMISSIONING PROCESS FOR
NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME BOROUGH**

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Communications, Policy and Partnerships
Brief description of report	This is a follow up to a previous Cabinet report, presented in October 2014 and covering the review of the Newcastle Partnership. As part of the Partnership review, it was proposed and accepted by the Partnership that a collaborative approach to commissioning would be set up in order to deliver added value services in key areas of need for the Borough. This report will set out the details of this collaborative approach and secure Cabinet approval of the transfer of funds from the existing Third Sector Commissioning Framework and also for the Borough Council to act as the lead agency for this work in terms of administrative support and accounting.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	Transfer of funds from existing Third Sector Commissioning budgets to Partnership Commissioning Budget - approx. £70,000 No additional spend or savings at this stage, although around £30,000 is being saved from the NULBC budget in third sector commissioning for 2015/16
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	4 Feb 2015
Likely Date of Decision	4th February 2015 Cabinet
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Transformation and Resources
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	Newcastle Partnership - key commissioning bodies including Staffordshire CC, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Public Health.
Background documents	
Officer contact	Mark Bailey, Head of Business Improvement and Partnerships
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A	

<i>(if applicable)</i>	
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TITLE OF REPORT:
IRRECOVERABLE ACCOUNTS

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Finance and Resources
Brief description of report	Items to be Written off
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Not Applicable
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Karen Hollinshead
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Finance and Resources
Brief description of report	To consider the award of discretionary rate relief and relief under s49
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	25 Mar 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Karen Hollinshead
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

LOCALISM ACT 2011 - PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Finance and Resources
Brief description of report	Local Authorities are required by the Localism Act to prepare a Pay Policy Statement for each financial year. The Statement should set out the authority's policies relating to the remuneration of its chief officers, the remuneration of its lowest paid employees and the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers and the remuneration of its employees who are not chief officers.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Council
Earliest date of decision	4 Feb 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Transformation and Resources
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Sarah Taylor
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR NEWCASTLE TOWN CENTRE

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Economic Regeneration, Business and Town Centres
Brief description of report	In September 2014 Cabinet agreed to receive a further report after the Town Centre Partnership sets the levy so that the full financial implications can be calculated, enabling a full assessment of the business case and cost to the Council as a rate payer, prior to the ballot taking place.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	24 Jun 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Economic Development and Enterprise
Wards affected	Town
Proposed consultation	The Town Centre Partnership are holding a range of workshops whereby local businesses can develop the Business Plan and contribute to the establishment of the levy and boundary prior to the ballot.
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Jo Halliday, Head of Housing
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

TITLE OF REPORT:

AWARD OF DOMESTIC ENERGY SAVING SERVICE CONTRACT

Portfolio	Cabinet Portfolio Holder - Environment and Recycling
Brief description of report	Cheshire West and Chester Council has led a competitive tendering process to select an experienced company to deliver a comprehensive service that all residents can access for energy efficiency advice, finance and installation of energy saving measures. The Council is now in a position to contract with Climate Energy Ltd, it is therefore appropriate that Cabinet makes a decision to enter into this contract.
Spend required/saving generated (<i>if applicable</i>)	Funding has previously been allocated as part of the capital programme.
Decision maker	Cabinet
Earliest date of decision	4 Feb 2015
Likely Date of Decision	
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Economic Development and Enterprise
Wards affected	All Wards
Proposed consultation	
Last date for representations	
Background documents	
Officer contact	Jo Halliday, Head of Housing
Reasons for exemptions under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A (<i>if applicable</i>)	

THE CABINET:	OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY:
<p>Councillor Mike Stubbs – Leader Portfolio: Communications, Policy and Partnerships</p>	
<p>Councillor Terry Turner Portfolio: Economic Development, Regeneration and Town Centres</p>	<p>Cleaner, Greener and Safer Communities: Chair: Cllr Gill Williams Vice Chair: Cllr Billy Welsh</p>
<p>Councillor Elizabeth Shenton – Deputy Leader Portfolio: Finance and Resources</p>	<p>Economic Development and Enterprise: Chair: Cllr Dave Stringer Vice Chair: Cllr Simon White</p>
<p>Councillor Ann Beech Portfolio: Environment and Recycling</p>	<p>Active and Cohesive Communities: Chair: Cllr Reg Bailey Vice Chair: Cllr Amelia Rout</p>
<p>Councillor Trevor Hambleton Portfolio: Leisure, Culture and Localism</p>	<p>Transformation and Resources: Chair: Cllr Paul Waring Vice Chair: Cllr Robert Wallace</p>
<p>Councillor Tony Kearon Portfolio: Safer Communities</p>	<p>Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny: Chair: Cllr Colin Eastwood Vice Chair: Cllr Hilda Johnson</p>
<p>Councillor John Williams Portfolio: Planning and Assets</p>	