

STATEMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL TO FULL COUNCIL – 13TH JULY 2016

Submitted by: Councillor Elizabeth Shenton

Portfolio: All

Wards affected: All

Purpose of the Report

To provide an update to Members on the activities and decisions of Cabinet together with the Forward Plan.

Recommendation

That the statement of the Leader of the Council be received and noted.

Reasons

To update Council Members on the activities and decisions of the Cabinet and to allow questions and comments on the Statement to the relevant Portfolio Holders.

1. Cabinet Meetings

Cabinet has met once since the last meeting of Full Council, on 8th June 2016. The next Cabinet meeting is on 20th July 2016. Below is a summary of actions and decisions taken, along with a link to the Forward Plan. (For further background to the Cabinet's decisions please refer to the actual published Cabinet agenda and Minutes).

2. Appropriation of Property for Planning Purposes: Development Sites (i) Former St Giles' and St George's School, Barracks Road; (ii) Ryecroft

Cabinet received a report for the appropriation of the sites at former St Giles' and St George's School in Barracks Road and land at the Ryecroft. Cabinet resolved that this was appropriated, in accordance with section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), from use for commercial purposes to use for planning purposes.

3. Locality Action Partnerships

Cabinet discussed and endorsed a report which gave an update on the work of the Locality Action Partnerships (LAPs). This report highlighted their achievements of the nine LAPs during the past year. The work that LAPS are doing within their communities is valued and Cabinet have asked for a further update in 12 months' time.

4. Newcastle-Under-Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-2021

Cabinet have adopted and approved the Newcastle-under-Lyme Housing Strategy 2016-2021. Before coming to Cabinet the strategy had been through the scrutiny process and public consultation process.

5. **Newcastle-Under-Lyme Homelessness Strategy 2016-2021**

Cabinet have approved and adopted the Homelessness Strategy 2016-2021. This strategy takes into account good practice and government guidance, and will assist in our aim to achieve the Gold Standard in the delivery of homelessness services.

6. **LGA Conference**

Councillor Turner and myself will be attending the LGA Conference being held from 5th – 7th July 2016.

7. **Cabinet Portfolios**

Since the last Full Council I have undertaken a review of the portfolios and also replaced the vacant Cabinet position. The updated Cabinet line-up and responsibilities are now as follows:

Cllr Elizabeth Shenton – Policy, People & Partnerships
Cllr Terry Turner – Finance, IT & Customer
Cllr Ann Beech – Operational Services
Cllr John Williams – Town Centres, Property & Business
Cllr Amelia Rout – Leisure & Culture
Cllr Kyle Robinson – Planning & Housing
Cllr Tony Kearon – Communities & Social Cohesion

8. **Forward Plan**

The Forward Plan of Key and non-Key Decisions covering the period June to August 2016 can be found at:

<http://sviam/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=68&RP=118>

Councillor Elizabeth Shenton
Leader of the Council