

STATEMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL TO FULL COUNCIL – 22ND NOVEMBER 2017

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 three times since the last meeting of Full Council on 6th September 2017.

Minutes for two of these meetings are available online, as follows:

Cabinet Meeting 26th September 2017

<http://moderngov.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MId=2933&Ver=4>

Cabinet Meeting 18th October 2017

<http://moderngov.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=118&MId=3063&Ver=4>

Cabinet Meeting 8th November 2017

a) **Financial and Performance Management Report to End of Quarter Two**

Cabinet noted the report, which was presented in a slightly different format, and contained additional information on action plans. Further improvements to the report were also suggested.

b) **Future Delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants**

Cabinet approved the participation of the Council in the procurement of a new service to support independent living, including the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants in the Borough. This will enable a wider range of services to be delivered within the allocated funding, and ensure enhanced value for money for our residents.

c) **Update on Asset Management Strategy and Delivery Plan**

Cabinet approved the update on the Asset Management Strategy and Delivery Plan, and agreed in principle to the disposal of three sites. These will be subject to consultations being carried out, with the outcomes being reported back to Cabinet.

d) **Planning For Homes Consultation Document**

Cabinet noted that the consultation had been taken to Planning Committee on the previous evening, plus additional feedback that had been received from individual members and the public. The Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing was authorised to agree the final consultation response, taking account of the additional representations that had been received.

e) **Delegation for Neighbourhood Planning**

Cabinet agreed that all decisions relating to Neighbourhood Planning be delegated to the Executive Director, Regeneration and Development in consultation with the Cabinet Member responsible for the Planning and Housing Portfolio. However it was also agreed that if the Neighbourhood Planning process had resulted in significant public objection and/or the decision is publicly contentious in the opinion of the Cabinet Member; and/or the decision was considered to be a 'Key Decision'; then it would be delegated to the Cabinet Member responsible for the Planning and Housing Portfolio.

2. **Forward Plan**

The Forward Plan covering the period from 01/11/2017 to 28/2/2018 can be found at:

<http://sviam/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=77&RP=118>

Councillor Elizabeth Shenton
Leader of the Council