

**ADDITION TO THE STATEMENT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL TO FULL COUNCIL –
19TH JULY 2018**

Submitted by: Councillor Simon Tagg

Portfolio: All

Wards affected: All

6. Cabinet Meeting of the 18th July 2018

6.1. Biodiversity and Habitat Restoration

Cabinet agreed to match fund the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) grant to support projects for environmental improvement in 5 sites across the Borough.

6.2. Kidsgrove Leisure Centre Progress Report

Cabinet received a progress report on the work taking place with the Community Interest Organisation (CIO), the County Council and other partners.

It is intended to bring a further report by the September Cabinet meeting following the completion of the final Business Case for re-opening Kidsgrove Sports Centre.

6.3. Public Space Protection Orders

Cabinet approved two variations to the Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO).

This involves streamlining of the PSPO enforcement process and includes tackling the increase in persistent begging and associated ASB, which has caused complaints from both residents and businesses in Newcastle town centre.

6.4. Changes to Mandatory Houses in Multiple Occupation Licensing from 01.10.2018

Cabinet welcomed the expansion of the criteria for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licensing.

From the 1st October 2018 the Government will remove the criteria relating to the number of storeys which previously meant that licences were only required for HMOs that had 3 or more storeys.

Cabinet agreed a scheme of fees which aim to offer an incentive for landlords to join the North Staffs Accreditation Scheme and to complete training ensuring ongoing development, therefore further raising the standard of HMOs in the Borough.

**Councillor Simon Tagg
Leader of the Council**