

## MEETING OF THE CABINET

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 at 6.00 p.m.  
in Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Dudley

### PRESENT:-

Councillor L Jones (Leader of the Council) (Chairman)  
Councillor Wright (Deputy Leader)  
Councillors Adams, Blood, P Harley, Stanley, A Turner, Vickers and Mrs Walker

together with the following Minority Group Members appointed to attend meetings of the Cabinet

Councillors Ali, Crumpton, Foster, Hanif, Lowe and Ms Partridge (Labour Group)

### OFFICERS:-

The Chief Executive, Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services, Director of Corporate Resources, Director of the Urban Environment, Acting Director of Children's Services, Treasurer and Mr Sanders (Directorate of Corporate Resources), together with other officers.

---

65            APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillor Sparks.

---

66            CHANGE IN REPRESENTATION OF MINORITY GROUP MEMBER

It was reported that Councillor Hanif had been appointed to serve as a Minority Group representative in place of Councillor Sparks, for this meeting of the Cabinet only.

---

67            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No member declared a Personal or Prejudicial Interest, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, in respect of any matter to be considered at this meeting.

---

68

MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on 13<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2011, be approved as correct records and signed.

---

69

CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING

A joint report of the Chief Executive and the Treasurer was submitted on progress with the implementation of the Capital Programme and which proposed certain amendments to the Programme.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the current progress with the 2011/12 Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix A of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.
- (2) That the results of the Post Completion Reviews of capital projects, as set out in Appendix B of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.
- (3) That the Council be recommended that the Urgent Amendment to the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 6 of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.

(This was a Key Decision with the Council and Cabinet being named as Decision Takers)

---

70

QUARTERLY CORPORATE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted on the second Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report for 2011/12, relating to performance for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2011.

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 be noted and its contents approved.

- (2) That the information contained within the Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report be referred to Scrutiny Committees to consider specific issues within their Terms of Reference.
- 

71

NEW BRADLEY HALL RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME – PROPOSED CONSULTATION

A report of the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services was submitted seeking endorsement of the resolution of Council on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 to set aside the decision of Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 to close New Bradley Hall Residential Care Home, which had been made as part of the home closure programme approved within the agreed proposals for the modernisation of adult social care, and which also sought agreement to a proposed consultation process in respect of the future of New Bradley Hall.

The report had been circulated following the resolution of the full Council on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 to set aside the decision of the Cabinet made on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 relating to New Bradley Hall Care Home.

In view of the timescales involved, it had not been possible for the officers to complete the report and circulate it with the main agenda papers. All Members of the Cabinet confirmed that they had received and read the report. However, some members of the Minority Group stated that because of the short time available between receiving the report and the onset of the meeting, they had not had time to read and digest the report in detail.

The Leader was of the opinion that the report needed to be considered at this meeting as a matter of urgency to comply with the full Council resolution to submit a report to this meeting of the Cabinet.

In the discussion, the Leader confirmed that the decision made previously to close New Bradley Hall had been set aside as a result of the Council resolution, indicated that the purpose of the report was to agree a start to consultation, confirmed that the Council would be open to any suggestions and gave an assurance that the entire process regarding the determination of the future of New Bradley Hall was being started afresh.

In response to questions asked, the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care confirmed that alternatives to closure arising from consultation would be considered and that representations made already in relation to the closure of New Bradley Hall would be reconsidered in the consultation process, without fresh representations from those contributors having to be made. Reference was made for the need for the process to include consideration of a current Equality Impact Assessment.

A request was made by a Minority Group representative for figures regarding the average length of stay of residents of homes which had not closed to be provided, in response to which the Leader confirmed that this information would be made available if it existed.

#### RESOLVED

- (1) That the resolution of Council on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 to set aside the Cabinet's decision in respect of the closure of New Bradley Hall Residential Care Home be endorsed.
- (2) That the proposed consultation process in respect of the future of New Bradley Hall Residential Care Home, including the option of keeping New Bradley Hall open, be agreed, with a report back to Cabinet being made in July 2012.

(This was a Key Decision with the Cabinet being named as Decision Taker)

---

72

#### HOUSING REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE: PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF SERVICES

A joint report of the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services and the Director of Corporate Resources was submitted on the outcome of an option appraisal in respect of the service delivery of a repairs and maintenance service for the Council's Housing stock. The report also set out progress to date in respect of a Joint Venture Option for Dudley.

In the discussion, in response to a question, the Leader explained the reasons for the discussions with the Unions having to be concluded by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2012.

#### RESOLVED

- (1) That the continued development of a Joint Venture option as the preferred externalisation route to meet the service needs of Dudley be approved.

- (2) That discussions take place with Unions to explore other options to externalisation on the basis that these are concluded by 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2012.

(This was a Key Decision with the Cabinet being named as Decision Taker)

---

73      REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

A report of the Chief Executive was submitted on the process of reviewing all polling districts and polling places in the Borough.

RESOLVED

That the proposed alterations to polling districts and polling places as detailed in Appendix A to the report submitted be approved, subject to the relocation of the following roads to polling district YO6, rather than polling district YO4: Agenoria Drive, Bowling Green Road, Kohima Drive and Maypole Drive, Stourbridge.

---

74      DRAFT REVIEW OF THE “PARKING STANDARDS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT” – APPROVAL FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted on the draft review of the “Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document” for six weeks public consultation.

RESOLVED

That the draft review of the Parking Standards Supplementary Planning Document publication be approved for a statutory public consultation period of six weeks.

(This was a Key Decision with the Cabinet being named as Decision Taker)

---

75      PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE HALESOWEN AREA ACTION PLAN “PREFERRED OPTIONS” STAGE DOCUMENT

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted seeking approval for the Halesowen Area Action Plan Preferred Options document to be used as a basis for statutory public consultation commencing in January 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Halesowen Area Action Plan Preferred Options document be approved as a basis for public consultation.

(This was a Key Decision with the Cabinet being named as Decision Taker)

---

76                    ISSUES ARISING FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

No issues were reported under this item.

---

77                    EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the ground that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as specified below and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure.

<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Relevant paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A</u>
Staffing Issues – Directorate of Children’s Services	1

---

78                    STAFFING ISSUES – DIRECTORATE OF CHILDREN’S SERVICES

A report of the Acting Director of Children’s Services was submitted seeking approval to terminate the contracts of employment of the officers referred to in the report submitted to the meeting on the grounds of redundancy if successful redeployment was not achieved before the 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.

RESOLVED

That, subject to no suitable redeployment opportunities being found by 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2012, the termination of the contracts of employment of the employees referred to in the report submitted to the meeting be approved, on the grounds of redundancy, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the report.

The meeting ended at 7.20 p.m.

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL