

MEETING: CABINET
DATE: Thursday 14th January, 2010
TIME: 10.00 am
VENUE: Town Hall, Southport

Member

Councillor

Robertson (Chair)
Brodie - Browne
P Dowd
Fairclough
Lord Fearn
Griffiths
Maher
Parry
Porter
Tattersall

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Steve Pearce
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The Cabinet is responsible for making what are known as Key Decisions, which will be notified on the Forward Plan. Items marked with an * on the agenda involve Key Decisions
A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution, is: -

- any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater
- any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

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AGENDA

Items marked with an * involve key decisions

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Subject/Author(s)</u>	<u>Wards Affected</u>
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Declarations of Interest Members and Officers are requested to give notice of any personal or prejudicial interest and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the relevant Code of Conduct.	
3.	Minutes Minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2009	(Pages 7 - 18)
4.	Southport Cultural Centre - Temporary Library Service In accordance with Paragraph 2.5 (ii) of the Cabinet Procedure Rules, Councillor Tattersall (as a Cabinet Member) will give a verbal report on the resolution passed by the Southport Area Committee at its meeting held on 6 January 2010 with regard to a petition to be presented by a local resident requesting the provision of a temporary Southport town centre library during the work on the Southport Cultural Centre. The Cabinet will be aware that the provision of a Temporary Library Service was considered at the last Cabinet meeting held on 17 December 2009 (Minute No 236) and it was resolved that Minute No.29 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) held on 9 December 2009 be noted at this stage; namely: That the Cabinet be advised that this Committee considers: (1) that the timetable and funding for the refurbishment of the Southport Cultural Centre should not be jeopardised in any way; and	Ainsdale; Birkdale; Cambridge; Dukes; Kew; Meols; Norwood;

- (2) that Party Groups should be invited to include financial proposals for a temporary Southport town centre library in their budgets at the appropriate time, should they wish to do so.

5.	Local Area Agreement 2007- 2010 - Performance Reward Grant Options Report of the Assistant Chief Executive	All Wards	(Pages 19 - 24)
* 6.	Setting the Council Tax Base 2010/11 Report of the Finance and Information Services Director	All Wards	(Pages 25 - 30)
7.	Common Financial Assessment Project Report of the Strategic Director - Social Care and Well-Being	All Wards	(Pages 31 - 36)
8.	Disabled Facilities Grant Programme Report of the Strategic Director - Social Care and Well-Being	All Wards	(Pages 37 - 40)
9.	Building Schools for the Future - Update And Staffing Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	All Wards	(Pages 41 - 46)
* 10.	Joint Waste Development Plan - Consultation on Preferred Options Report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director	All Wards	(Pages 47 - 76)
11.	Article 4(2) Direction for Moor Park Conservation Area Report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director	Manor	(Pages 77 - 84)
* 12.	Southport Cycle Town 2009/10 - Revised Work Programme Report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director	Ainsdale; Dukes; Norwood;	(Pages 85 - 90)

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|-------|--|---|----------------------|
| 13. | Pathfinder Fund | Harington;
Ravenmeols; | (Pages 91 -
100) |
| | Joint report of the Head of Regeneration and
Technical Services and Leisure Director | | |
| * 14. | Crosby Coastal Park - Draft Master Plan &
Phase 1 Work | Blundellsands;
Church; Manor; | (Pages 101 -
116) |
| | Report of the Leisure Director | | |
| 15. | Proposed Heath and Social Care Directorate
Office (DAT Facility) - 221 to 223 Knowsley
Road, Bootle | Linacre | (Pages 117 -
120) |
| | Report of the Strategic Director - Communities | | |
| 16. | Exclusion of Press and Public | | |
| | To consider passing the following resolution: | | |
| | That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local
Government Act, 1972, the press and public be
excluded from the meeting for the following
item(s) of business on the grounds that it
involves the likely disclosure of exempt
information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1
of Schedule 12A to the Act. The Public Interest
Test has been applied and favours exclusion of
the information from the Press and Public. | | |
| 17. | Thornton to Switch Island Link Road -
Exchange of Land | Manor; Molyneux;
Netherton and
Orrell; Park; St.
Oswald; Sudell; | (Pages 121 -
128) |
| | Report of the Strategic Director - Communities | | |

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THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON MONDAY, 4 JANUARY 2010. MINUTE NO. 236 IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL IN".

CABINET

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, BOOTLE ON THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER, 2009

PRESENT: Councillor Robertson (in the Chair)
Councillors Brodie - Browne, P Dowd, Fairclough,
Lord Fearn, Griffiths, Maher, Parry, Porter and
Tattersall

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor C. Mainey

229. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

230. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 3 December 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.

231. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was received:

Member/ Officer	Minute No.	Reason	Action
Councillor Brodie-Browne	251 - Strategic Budget Review	Personal – His employer would be affected by the proposals for Option 37 in Appendix A of the report	Stayed in the room during the consideration of the item.
Margaret Carney	252 - Statutory Officers	Prejudicial - She is directly affected by the proposal in the report.	Left the room during the consideration of the item.

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232. INVEST FOR THE FUTURE – ANNUAL REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH 2009

Dr. Janet Atherton, the Director of Public Health for Sefton and NHS Sefton gave a presentation on the content of the annual report produced on the health of Sefton's population. The report highlighted the following issues that need to be addressed to tackle health inequalities in the long term:

- Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Healthy Environments
- Climate Change and Sustainability
- Community Cohesion

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health be noted; and
- (2) the development of a health inequalities strategy across all local partners to address the issues identified in the report be supported.

233. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - LICENSING ACT WORKING GROUP

The Cabinet considered the report of the Working Group established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services) to examine and investigate the Council's policies and procedures in relation to community involvement and the Licensing Act 2003.

Councillor C. Mainey, Lead Member of the Working Group, outlined the conclusions and recommendations set out in the report.

The Cabinet also considered the content of Minute No. 56 of the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 23 November 2009 relating to the content of the Working Group report.

This was a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations set out in Paragraph 9 of the report be approved and be referred to all Area Committees for information.

CABINET- THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER, 2009

234. PERICLES REVENUES AND BENEFITS SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

Further to Minute No. 79 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Corporate Services held on 9 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Finance and Information Services Director on the outcome of the procurement exercise to replace the Pericles Revenues and Benefits System.

This was a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) approval be given to the selection of Northgate Information Solutions as the preferred supplier;
- (3) it be noted that the contract for the new Revenues and Benefits System will be between arvato Government System (Sefton) Ltd. and Northgate Information Solutions; and
- (4) costings be presented to the Cabinet Member - Corporate Services in January 2010.

235. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2010/11 TO 2012/13 - UPDATE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2010/11 to 2012/13. The report highlighted the emerging spending pressures, the base assumptions used to determine the budget gap for the above period and the current approved capital schemes which had yet to be contractually committed.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the amended Budget Gaps for 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 be noted;
- (2) the assumption for the level of pay award provision be amended to 0.5% in 2010/11 and 1% in the following two years;
- (3) the "Other Services Growth" set out in Appendix B of the report be deleted from the Medium Term Financial Plan at this stage;
- (4) the provision for unavoidable demand be increased to £6.685m in 2010/11, £4.608m in 2011/12 and £3.851m in 2012/13, as detailed in paragraph 4.1.2 of the report;

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- (5) the following uncommitted schemes set out in Appendix C of the report be deleted from the Capital Programme:
 1. Pine Grove Depot
 2. Hawthorne Road Carriageway Maintenance
 3. Disaster Recovery Business Continuity
 4. Roof Repairs to Libraries
 5. Demolition Fund
 6. Development Fund
- (6) the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services submit a report to the Cabinet on the current position relating to the Southport Commerce Park – Phase 3 scheme referred to in Appendix C of the report. The report to provide details of the outcome of the bid for external funding and the marketing proposals.
- (7) the remaining schemes in Appendix C of the report be retained in the Capital Programme
- (8) the current assumption of a 3% Council Tax increase for 2010/11 be noted and it be considered further in the new year; and
- (9) the Council be requested to approve the above mentioned amendments to the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2010/11 to 2012/13.

(In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, the following Councillors requested that their votes against the following resolutions, referred to above be recorded, namely:

Resolution 5 (2) Deletion of Hawthorne Road Carriageway Maintenance Scheme:

Councillors P Dowd, Fairclough and Maher

Resolution 7 – Retention of the Netherton Activity Centre Scheme:

Councillors Brodie-Browne, Lord Fearn, Robertson and Tattersall

Resolution 7 – Retention of the Southport Market Refurbishment Scheme:

Councillors Brodie-Browne, Lord Fearn, Robertson and Tattersall

Resolution 7 – Retention of the Botanic Gardens Museum – Roof and Lift Scheme:

Councillors P Dowd, Fairclough, Griffiths, Maher and Parry

Resolution 7 – Retention of the IT Strategy – Health and Social Care Scheme:

Councillors Brodie-Browne, Lord Fearn, Robertson and Tattersall

Resolution 7 – Retention of the Energy Efficiency Scheme:

Councillors Griffiths, Parry and Porter)

236. SOUTHPORT CULTURAL CENTRE - TEMPORARY LIBRARY SERVICE

The Cabinet considered the content of Minute No. 29 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) held on 9 December 2009. The Committee had considered a "call-in" request in respect of the Southport Cultural Centre - Temporary Library Service pursuant to Minute No. 196 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 12 November 2009 and resolved:

That the Cabinet be advised that this Committee considers:

- (1) that the timetable and funding for the refurbishment of the Southport Cultural Centre should not be jeopardised in any way; and
- (2) that Party Groups should be invited to include financial proposals for a temporary Southport town centre library in their budgets at the appropriate time, should they wish to do so.

RESOLVED:

That Minute No. 29 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) held on 9 December 2009 be noted at this stage.

237. SOUTHPORT INDOOR MARKET

Further to Minute No. 31 of the meeting held on 14 May 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services which provided an update on the progress with the development of the refurbishment proposals for the Southport Indoor Market. The report also sought approval to the project being progressed to the tender stage and to the implementation of temporary arrangements to the market traders during the construction process.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be given to the further development of the Indoor Market Refurbishment Scheme to enable Officers to invite tenders for the scheme;
- (2) the comments from the Market Consultant on the development of the design in the Business Case for the project be noted;
- (3) the project be phased to enable traders to continue trading during the period of the refurbishment works; and

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- (4) the Legal Director be authorised to negotiate the termination of existing licences and negotiate new licences for the improved facility.

(In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, the following Councillors requested that their vote against the above resolutions be recorded, namely:

Councillors Brodie-Browne, Lord Fearn, Robertson and Tattersall.

238. SOUTHPORT CULTURAL CENTRE - ARTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES INTERIM SERVICE PROPOSALS

Further to Minute No. 195 of the Meeting held on 12 November 2009, the Cabinet considered the joint report of the Leisure Director and Personnel Director on the proposals for the delivery of interim arts and cultural services during the period of the development of the Southport Cultural Centre.

This was a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be given to the retention of the Arts and Cultural Services net budget, allocated to the Service in 2009/10, together with any annual budget uplifts as would have otherwise been applied, until the end of the financial year 2011/12;
- (2) the proposals for an interim service as outlined in the report be approved;
- (3) the Arts and Cultural Service staff be deployed to provide the interim service described in the report;
- (4) the intention to conduct an analysis of the work patterns of casual workers and to take the appropriate steps relative to the closure of the Arts Centre that are consistent with any employment rights they may have accrued, be noted; and
- (5) the intention to undertake a full staffing review of Arts and Cultural Services in 2011 in readiness for the new Cultural Centre becoming operational in September 2012 be noted.

239. SPLASH WORLD - REVIEW OF FULL FINANCIAL YEAR OF OPERATION

The Cabinet considered the report of the Leisure Director which provided an update on the financial performance of the Splash World Leisure Pool after a full financial year of operation during the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

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This was a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) it be noted that the increased Splash World utility costs have been built into the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) from 2010/11;
- (2) it be noted that the improved performance of the Council's other Leisure Centres had allowed the additional costs of Dunes/Splash World to be partially offset in 2008/09, reducing the additional costs from £369,000 to £252,000; and
- (3) the withdrawal of the sinking fund in 2008/09 as a budget saving, and the requirement to facilitate prudential borrowing for up to £1m in 2013/14 to undertake a refurbishment of Splash World be noted.

240. TREE PLANTING CONTRACT 2009/10 - RECEIPT OF TENDERS

Further to Minute No. 65 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism held on 2 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Leisure Director, which provided details of the tenders, received for the Tree Planting Contract 2009/10 and sought approval to the inclusion of the scheme in the Capital Programme.

This was a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to the inclusion of £195,000 for the Tree Planting Contract in the Leisure and Tourism Capital Programme 2009/10.

241. POTENTIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY 1 - ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGIES IN SOCIAL AND LOW INCOME HOUSING

The Cabinet considered the joint report of the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services and the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director which provided details of the resources made available under the North West Operational Plan for improving energy efficiency and the installation of renewable energies in social and low income housing in Merseyside, and sought approval to Sefton Council being the accountable body for a sub-regional project.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Expression of Interest submitted to the North West Regional Development Agency be noted; and

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- (2) support be given in principle to Sefton Council being the accountable body for this sub-regional bid, subject to sufficient external funding being made available for the management of the project.

242. POTENTIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY 2 - LOW CARBON COMMUNITIES CHALLENGE 2010 / 2012

The Cabinet considered the joint report of the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environmental Services and the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director which provided details of the resources being made available under the Low Carbon Communities Challenge Programme, and the request submitted by Formby Parish Council for Sefton Council to assist them in the development and delivery of a successful bid, for which the Parish Council would be the accountable body.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be given to Sefton Council Officers assisting Formby Parish Council in the development of the bid, and then, if successful with the delivery of the project; and
- (2) further reports on the development of the project be submitted to the Cabinet.

243. HIGHTOWN SEA DEFENCES - PHASE 2 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

Further to Minute No. 96 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 6 August 2009, the Head of Regeneration and Technical Services submitted a report on the proposed method of procurement for the appointment of contractors for Phase 2 of the Hightown Sea Defences project.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to the proposed method of procurement for the selection of a contractor for the project as set out in the report.

244. WATERCOURSE MAINTENANCE AND FLOODING WORKING GROUP - ADDRESSING THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Further to Minute No. 136 of the Cabinet Meeting held on 1 October 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Regeneration and Technical Services on the proposed action to be taken to implement the recommendations set out in the report by the Watercourse Maintenance and Flooding Working Group established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services).

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RESOLVED:

That approval be given to the proposed action set out in Section 3 of the report to address the recommendations of the Watercourse Maintenance and Flooding Working Group.

245. FUNDING FOR TRANSPORT ASSET MANAGEMENT

Further to Minute No. 103 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Technical Services held on 16 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director on the capital funding received from the Department for Transport for the development of a Transport Assessment Management Plan.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to the inclusion of the capital funding of £69,100 from the Department for Transport in the Transportation Capital Programme 2009/10.

246. REVIEW OF THE HMRI PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Further to Minute No. 79 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Regeneration held on 16 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director which provided details of the current planning framework for the Housing Market Renewal Investment area.

RESOLVED:

That it be confirmed that the existing planning framework is still appropriate and supportive of the Council's strategy for the Housing Market Renewal Investment area.

247. THORNTON SWITCH ISLAND LINK LAYOUT APPROVAL AND PUBLIC EXHIBITION PROPOSAL

Further to Minute No. 101 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Technical Services held on 16 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Director which provided details of the progress made on the development of the Thornton Switch Island Link Scheme and sought approval to the proposed scheme layout, the proposals for a public exhibition in advance of the planning application and the initial approaches to landowners to open discussions about land acquisition.

This was a Key Decision and was included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

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RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made on the development of the Thornton to Switch Island Link be noted;
- (2) the proposed scheme layout be approved;
- (3) the proposal for a public exhibition of the scheme plans to be held in advance of the submission of the planning application be approved; and
- (4) approval be given for initial discussions to be held with landowners about land acquisition for the scheme.

248. 50 - 64 STANLEY ROAD, BOOTLE

Further to Minute No. 85 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Regeneration held on 16 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Housing Market Renewal Director which sought approval to grant a 250 year lease to the Keepmoat Property Ltd, part of the Keepmoat Group for the sale of 50-64 Stanley Road, Bootle and to jointly fund the construction of twelve apartments for social rent and the 5694 sq. ft. of retail space.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be given to the granting of a Development Licence to the Keepmoat Property Ltd. for the site of 50-64 Stanley Road, Bootle in order to carry out the development of twelve apartments for social rent, and 5694 sq. ft. of retail space;
- (2) approval be given to the granting of a 250 year ground lease for the site at 50-64 Stanley Road to Keepmoat Property Ltd. upon the successful completion of the scheme; and
- (3) approval be given to the use of £885,152 of Housing Market Renewal grant funding in order to jointly fund the construction of the scheme.

249. CABINET MEMBER REPORTS

The Cabinet received reports from the Cabinet Members for Children's Services, Communities, Corporate Services, Environmental, Health and Social Care, Leisure and Tourism, Performance and Governance, Regeneration and Technical Services.

RESOLVED:

That the Cabinet Member reports be noted.

CABINET- THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER, 2009

250. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That

- (1) under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act. The Public Interest Test has been applied and favours exclusion of the information from the press and public; and
- (2) the representatives of the Trade Unions be permitted to remain in the meeting during the consideration of Minute 251 below.

251. STRATEGIC BUDGET REVIEW - UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 228 of the meeting held on 3 December 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on progress made in relation to the Strategic Budget Review (SBR) and sought views on the progression of further SBR options.

During the discussion on this item, a vote was taken on a proposal for the sum of £370,000 to be allocated to the Capital Programme for the provision of a temporary library service in the Southport Market Hall and in accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, the following Councillors requested that their vote for and against the proposal be recorded, namely:

For the proposal (4) - Councillors Brodie-Browne, Lord Fearn, Robertson and Tattersall

Against the proposal (6) - Councillors P. Dowd, Fairclough, Griffiths, Maher, Parry and Porter.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made on the Strategic Budget Review be noted;
- (2) the options within Tables 3 and 4 of Appendix A of the report be developed for further consideration and a further report be submitted to the Cabinet on the progress of the options;
- (3) the options numbered 33 to 40, 42 to 43, 45 to 49 and 52 to 55 within Table 5 of Appendix A, and option 72 within Table 6 of Appendix A of the report be recommended to the Council, at its meeting to be held on 14 January 2010, for implementation;
- (4) the options numbered 41, 50, 51, 56 and 62 to 64 within Table 5 of Appendix A, and option 76 within Table 6 of Appendix A of the

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report be deferred, pending the submission of further details on the schemes to the Cabinet;

- (5) the options numbered 44, 57 to 61 within Table 5 of Appendix A, and the options numbered 66 to 71 and 73 to 75 within Table 6 of Appendix A of the report be not implemented; and
- (6) option 65 within Table 6 of Appendix A to the report be not implemented but a report on the details of the current twinning activity be submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.

(In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules, the following Councillors requested that their votes against the following resolutions referred to above be recorded, namely:

Resolution 3 - Implementation of Options 36 and 55:
Councillors P. Dowd, Fairclough and Maher

Resolution 5 - Implementation of Options 59 and 60:
Councillors Griffiths, Parry and Porter)

252. STATUTORY OFFICERS

The Cabinet considered the report of the Legal Director which provided details of the role of the Council's Finance Officer and the proposed interim arrangements to be put into place.

RESOLVED:

That the Chief Executive be formally appointed the Council's Section 151 Officer on an interim basis for a period not exceeding three months.

Agenda Item 5

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 14th January 2010

SUBJECT: Local Area Agreement 2007-2010 Performance
Reward Grant Options

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Samantha Tunney, Assistant Chief Executive
0151 934 2030/4039

CONTACT OFFICER: Ian Willman, Local Area Agreement Coordinator
0151 934 2015

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To inform Members of the proposed Performance Reward Grant option for Sefton's Local Area Agreement 2007 – 2010.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Performance Reward Grant will be paid on performance against agreed stretch targets, with the earliest having been measured between May and October 2009, it is therefore timely that Cabinet consider a model for distribution that can be shared with the Sefton Borough Partnership Board.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

It is recommended that Cabinet agree the preferred option as detailed within this report. The preferred option will then form the basis of discussions with Sefton Borough Partnership Board.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the call-in period for the Minutes of this meeting

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not have a recommended option for distribution and make the decision following receipt of Performance Reward Grant

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:	This report contributes to the development of the performance management framework in relation to the Local Area Agreement.
Financial:	The total amount of Performance Reward Grant potentially available is £9,503,596.00. There is an additional amount of approximately £1.9 million payable on the new LAA targets, which is not considered in this report.
Legal:	None
Risk Assessment:	<p>There are a number of targets where any amount of attention is unlikely to change the out-turn position and Performance Reward Grant generated at this stage. <i>A safe amount of Performance Reward Grant to consider in terms of this proposal would be circa £4.5 million.</i></p> <p>The option choices have potential risks to the strength of partnership working, risks to the engagement of partnership organisations and some risks to delivery, these are captured throughout the report in the potential negatives of the distribution models.</p>
Asset Management:	Not applicable

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

NOT APPLICABLE.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	➤➤		
2	Creating Safe Communities	➤➤		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	➤➤		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	➤➤		
5	Environmental Sustainability	➤➤		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	➤➤		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	➤➤		
8	Children and Young People	➤➤		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Sefton LAA 2007-2010
 LAA Guidance for Round 3 & Refresh
 Local Area Agreements Guidance

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1. Performance Reward Grant background

- 1.1 Sefton Council and the Sefton Borough Partnership were part of the Local Area Agreement Round 3 negotiations. This meant they agreed a set of 11 priorities through Government Office North West and Whitehall that were underpinned by 29 targets.
- 1.2 These 29 targets had a figure that should be achieved regardless (the baseline target) and an additional agreed target, which would extend this still further (the stretch target). The difference is the 'stretch' so these 29 targets are often referred to as the LAA 'stretch' targets.
- 1.3 If all 29 targets achieved 100% of their stretch target in 2009/10 the potential total performance reward grant would be £9,503,596.00. Each of the 29 targets has a Performance Reward Grant amount attached and that is paid in full for 100% performance achievement and on a scale for performance between 60% and 100%. Any Performance Reward Grant achieved would be paid in two parts, one part in 2010/11 the second in 2011/12 dependent upon the availability of actual final performance outturns. Payments are made half capital and half revenue, with no further restrictions on spending.
- 1.4 There are no national criterion on how Performance Reward Grant should be spent as indicated in point 1.3, however, within the guidance for round 3 Local Area Agreement's published on the 31st March 2006, it is suggested that "Performance Reward Grant is a significant sum for reinvestment in an area" obviously this depends on our success in achieving the stretch targets
- 1.5 It is important for members to be aware that Sefton has a "new" LAA to which there is a less significant reward grant attached of circa £1.9 million paid in 2011/12. It is therefore expected that any options agreed in this paper would be transferable to the distribution of this performance reward grant using a similar formula.

2. Key Issues For Consideration

- 2.1 This report suggests that the total amount of Performance Reward Grant received would form a 'Performance Reward Grant Improvement Fund'. The decision upon spend from the Improvement Fund would be made by Cabinet, with significant consultation with the Sefton Borough Partnership Board.
- 2.2 It is suggested that once the total Performance Reward Grant amount and the expected date of the payment is known all partners will be invited to submit bids against the fund.
- 2.3 The Sefton Borough Partnership Board would initially consider all the submitted bids and then forward their comments to the Cabinet.
- 2.4 Cabinet would make the final decision upon the bids. Any remaining spend could produce a second round of bidding, or be rolled forward to the following financial year if appropriate.

- 2.5 It is suggested that Cabinet will make their decision upon the spending of the Performance Reward Grant Improvement Fund that follows these broad principles:

That the proposed bid:

- Is based on Sefton's priority needs (details given in the next section)
- Has an exit strategy
- Can demonstrate measurable improvement on priority outcomes by virtue of the bid
- Has a focus on reducing inequalities
- Has a sustainable approach, following the exit strategy

Additional weight will be given to bids that:

- Involve more than one partner; particular weight will be given if there is strong involvement of the Voluntary, Community and Faith sectors
- Where the partners involved can demonstrate previous improvement on performance outcomes
- Where the bid can demonstrate previous reduction of inequalities

Cabinet may additionally wish to consider:

- The balance of capital and revenue bids
- The balance of priority needs addressed by the bids

- 2.6 Cabinet should note that proposed suggestions are made in annex one of the report, which highlights key priorities that may benefit from the Performance Reward Grant Improvement Fund. These areas of need have been weighted against comments received within the recently published Comprehensive Area Assessment, Local Area Agreement priorities and the on-going Strategic Budget Review.

- 2.7 We are currently assuming that the total performance reward grant will circa £4.5 million at 31st March 2010, however based on current actual and projections as at the 31st March 2009 the amount of reward payable would be circa £6 million. The assumption of £4.5 million therefore is reasonable but it must be noted that this figure may vary dependent upon the final performance either negatively or positively.

3. Recommendation(s):

- 3.1 It is recommended that Cabinet agree the preferred option as detailed within this report. The preferred option will then form the basis of discussions with Sefton Borough Partnership.

Agenda Item 5

Annex 1

Suggested themed priority areas for Performance Reward Grant Bids

Priority Need	Comp Area Assessment	Local Area Agreement	Strategic Budget Review
<p style="text-align: center;">Area Management</p> <p>E.g. Involvement in Decision making, Inequality between our Areas, Improving Health, Area Commissioning and Area Facilities e.g. Cultural Centre, Libraries, Schools etc.</p>	√	X	√
<p style="text-align: center;">Local Environment</p> <p>E.g. Street Cleanliness, Dog fouling, Fly-tipping & Graffiti. Access to healthy environments (green space strategy), Air Quality.</p>	√	√	√
<p style="text-align: center;">Older People & Vulnerable Adults</p> <p>E.g. Extra Care Housing, Reducing Inequality between areas, Services from the 3rd Sector to enable people to live longer at home. Inclusion activities at the new Lakeside centre for water sports.</p>	√	√	√
<p style="text-align: center;">Children / Vulnerable Children</p> <p>E.g. Building schools for the future, Reducing Inequalities between areas, Improving life chances for our younger people. Inclusion activities at the new Lakeside centre for water sports.</p>	√	√	√
<p style="text-align: center;">Employment</p> <p>E.g. Improving access and support to employment for people with Disabilities including Mental Health, Improving labour force skills and increasing opportunities for young people's employment.</p>	√	√	√
<p style="text-align: center;">Pump Priming Innovation fund</p> <p>E.g. A "one-off" fund, which provides pump priming for innovative work, which aspires to achieve priorities, agreed within our Sustainable Community especially those that create efficiencies and cost savings.</p>	X	X	√

Agenda Item 6

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 14 January 2010

SUBJECT: Setting the Council Tax Base for 2010/11

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Finance and Information Services Director

CONTACT OFFICER: John Farrell
Asst. Finance & Information Services Director
Ext 4339

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To set the various Council Tax Bases for 2010/11

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Council is required to set its Council Tax Bases for 2010/11 by 31st January 2010.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 1992 as amended the amount calculated by Sefton Council as the council tax base for Sefton and for each Parish Area for 2009/10 shall be as follows:

In the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton	-	93,050.25
In the Parish of Aintree Village	-	2,277.05
" " " " Ince Blundell	-	191.26
" " " " Little Altcar	-	286.52
" " " " Lydiate	-	2,249.07
" " " " Maghull	-	7,138.85
" " " " Melling	-	1,093.54
" " " " Sefton	-	232.79
" " " " Thornton	-	817.97
" " " " Hightown	-	892.27
" " " " Formby	-	9,528.00

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes

Agenda Item 6

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the call-in for the minutes of this meeting

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: N/A

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: The Council Tax Base is an essential component in the calculation of the Council Tax.

Financial: The Council Tax Base has increased by 103.57 properties. This is mainly due to new build completions with a higher emphasis on property conversions into flats.

	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>				
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: None

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: None

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS
None

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People		√	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT
 Local Government Finance Act 1992
 AMA Finance Circular 94/92
 AMA Finance Circular 109/92
 DOE Practice Note 7

Agenda Item 6

BACKGROUND:

1. Setting the Council Tax Base

- 1.1 The Council Tax Base is the link between the Council's budget and the level of Council Tax. The tax base will be used to calculate the Council Tax in Sefton, once the Council's budget has been agreed. The Council is required to calculate the various Council Tax Bases and have them approved by Cabinet by the 31st January 2010.
- 1.2 The calculation of the Council Tax Base takes into account many factors such as the rate of new building and the trends in people living on their own. (Sole Occupier Discount).
- 1.3 The tax base calculation for 2010/2011 assumes a collection rate of 98.25%, which is the same as that used for 2009/2010 and which reflects that collection will remain challenging in the current economic climate. A prudent view has been taken in estimating the number of new properties that will be completed in 2009/2010.

2. Council Tax Base 2010/11

- 2.1 The new tax base for 2010/11 is 93,050.25 Band D equivalent units for Sefton, an increase of 0.11% over the main tax base for 2009/10, which was 92,946.68 Band D equivalent units. There are also new figures for parish areas. Full details are set out in the recommendations.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended), the amount calculated as the council tax base for Sefton and for each parish area for the year 2010/11 shall be as follows:

In the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton	-	93,050.25
In the Parish of Aintree Village	-	2,277.05
" " " " Ince Blundell	-	191.26
" " " " Little Altcar	-	286.52
" " " " Lydiate	-	2,249.07
" " " " Maghull	-	7,138.85
" " " " Melling	-	1,093.54
" " " " Sefton	-	232.79
" " " " Thornton	-	817.97
" " " " Hightown	-	892.27
" " " " Formby	-	9,528.00

Chargeable Dwellings	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Total
(a) No.of dwellings shown on Banding List by The Valuation Officer on 23rd November 2009	38808	26238	29862	14838	8056	3833	2778	233	124646
(b) LESS Estimated Exempt Dwellings	2358	848	731	314	149	84	65	5	4554
(c) Estimate of dwellings subject to DPR +	77	141	236	154	111	93	44	0	923
Estimate of dwellings subject to DPR -	0	77	141	236	154	67	93	44	923
(d) Estimated no. of "H" chargeable Dwellings	77	36514	25485	29049	14481	7863	3775	2664	120092
"R" second homes where discount reduced to 10%	165	134	151	73	46	20	26	5	620
"S" relevant percentage	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
"Q" total number of dwellings adjusted	16.5	13.4	15.1	7.3	4.6	2	2.6	0.5	62
Adjusted no. of chargeable dwellings	77	36497.5	25471.6	29033.9	14473.7	7858.4	3773	2661.4	120030
(c) Estimated no. dwellings subject to 25% discount	24	20920	10426	9314	4002	1680	670	424	47482
(d) PLUS Estimated no. of dwellings subject to 50% discount (x2)	92	130	98	102	66	134	112	10	744
(d) Total no.of 25% discounts "I"	24	21012.00	10556.00	9412.00	4104.00	1746.00	804.00	536.00	48226.00
(e) x 25% - no.of properties "I" x "E"	6.00	5253.00	2639.00	2353.00	1026.00	436.50	201.00	134.00	12056.50
3. (a) Estimated no. of "H" chargeable Dwellings	77	36497.5	25471.6	29033.9	14473.7	7858.4	3773	2661.4	120030
(b) LESS no.of properties discounted ("I" x "E")	6.00	5253.00	2639.00	2353.00	1026.00	436.50	201.00	134.00	12056.50
Sub-Total "H" - ("I" x "E")	71	31244.50	22832.6	26680.9	13447.7	7421.9	3572	2527.4	107973.5

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4. Calculation of Item "J"

Adjustments to List

(a) Estimated additions to List 23rd November 2009 to 31st March 2011	109	57	11	46	6	3	3	2	237	
(b) Estimated deletions from List 23rd November 2009 to 31st March 2011	-75	-8	-6	-4	-3	-3	-2	-1	-102	
(c) Total adjustment in respect of changes to Banding List during the year "J"	34	49	5	42	3	0	1	1	135	
Total No. of properties ("H" - ("I" x "E") + "J")	<u>71.00</u>	<u>31278.50</u>	<u>22881.60</u>	<u>26685.90</u>	<u>13489.70</u>	<u>7424.90</u>	<u>3572.00</u>	<u>2528.40</u>	<u>176.50</u>	<u>108108.50</u>

5. Apply Ratio (F/G)

5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9	11/9	13/9	15/9	18/9
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6. Relevant Amount (A)

39.44	20852.33	17796.80	23720.80	13489.70	9074.88	5159.56	4214.00	353.00	94700.51
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7. RELEVANT AMOUNT (A) =

94700.51

x 98.25% EST. COLLECTION RATE

93043.25

MUNICIPAL TAX BASE

8. I estimate of No. of Band D

7.00

equivalent prop where M.O.D.

pay contributions in lieu.

9. TAX BASE FOR SEFTON

93050.25

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Agenda Item 7

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care
Cabinet

DATE: 23rd December 2009
14th January 2010

SUBJECT: Common Financial Assessment Project

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Charlie Barker
Strategic Director - Social Care and Well-Being

CONTACT OFFICER: Keith Baines, Business Transformation Team
Tel.: 0151 934 4428

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To seek approval from the Cabinet Member to include funding received from the North West Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (NWIEP) into the Capital Programme for the purpose of improving the efficiency of Financial Assessments.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To comply with the Council's Constitution.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to:-

- i) approve the Common Financial Assessment Project as detailed in this report;
- ii) refer the funding of up to £150,000 to Cabinet for inclusion in the Health and Social Care Capital Programme 2009/10, noting that financial commitment will only be entered into as and when grant approval is gained for each phase of the project.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: Not Appropriate

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately following the call-in period for the minutes of this meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

A grant of £200k has been approved by the Northwest Regional Efficiency Programme for Sefton, Lancashire and Tameside. Sefton will use up to £150k of this fund to cover the cost of running the project. No other funds will be required. At the time of writing this report, grant approval for phase 1 of the project in the sum of £38,701 has been received. Financial commitment will only be entered into as and when grant approvals for further phases are made.

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011£	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	£150K			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources	£150K			
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/	June 2010			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A – one off project			

Legal:

None

Risk Assessment:

If the recommendation is not approved, the funds cannot be included in the capital programme and the work cannot be undertaken

Asset Management:

none

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 250 -

Officers from the following organisations have been involved in the application for this grant and the planning of the project: Sefton H&SC directorate, North West Electronic Government Group, DWP, Lancashire Council H&SC Directorate and Tameside H&SC Directorate

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		X	
2	Creating Safe Communities	X		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		X	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	X		
5	Environmental Sustainability		X	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		X	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	X		
8	Children and Young People		X	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None

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BACKGROUND:

1. Recent work in South Lakeland has shown that, for vulnerable older people, there are over 25 eligibility checks across 47 services relating to only two needs: “Warm, safe and secure housing”, and “Staying in general good health as long as possible”.
2. Of these, the financial assessments undertaken in adult social care are perhaps the most longwinded and stressful. Much of the difficult to source data is already held within the public sector, particularly by the DWP. Sharing this data would provide an opportunity to reduce unnecessary stressful contacts for Service Users and to reduce the council’s overheads.
3. The principal benefit from data sharing for the Service User is a much simpler application process, if they are already in receipt of benefits. For local authorities the benefit comes from quicker and easier assessments and reassessments as a result of having knowledge of an individual’s status and not having to ask for duplicate sets of information. There are potential savings for the council in reducing the effort required to carry out assessments, reducing expenditure by identifying ineligible claims and reducing the amount of bad debt arising from overpayments due to incomplete information being available when assessments are carried out.
4. There are also benefits for the DWP in terms of better knowledge of, for example, an individual’s accommodation status and thus whether they are eligible for attendance allowance and similar benefits.
5. With this in mind the North West Improvement and Efficiency Partnership have made available £200k (£150k to Sefton) to fund a project to improve the effectiveness of financial assessments in adult social care (ASC) for non-residential care across the whole of the North West through the adoption of best practice guidelines and closer working with the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP). The funds are to support a joint programme with Sefton, Tameside and Lancashire councils and the DWP to share financial Assessment information
6. The project will be carried out in three phases:
 - 1) Baseline. The processes undertaken in the different sections and organisations will be documented to provide a means of comparing processes. These will be used to identify common data and processing requirements and opportunities for sharing information.
 - 2) Scenario generation and process redesign. The baseline information will be used to inform a series of workshops where a common approach to financial assessments will be identified. The output of the workshops will be a high level scenario; this will then be turned into a detail process definition.

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3) Pilot. Once the detailed process is agreed by all parties, a pilot will be undertaken to prove the viability of the agreed process. The results of the pilot will be published in the form of an 'implementation guide' that can be circulated to all North West councils.

7. The NWEIP funds will be used employ staff to undertake the project tasks. Staff will be a mix of Sefton employees and contractors. The scope will be controlled by the project manager to ensure that no budget over-runs occur and that all expenditure incurred on the Common Financial Assessment Project can be met from within grant approvals received, up to a total of £150,000.

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Agenda Item 8

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member – Health And Social Care
Cabinet

DATE: 23 December 2009
14 January 2010

SUBJECT: Disabled Facilities Grants Programme

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Charlie Barker, Strategic Director - Social Care and Well-Being

CONTACT OFFICERS: Jim Ohren
Principal Manager (Housing Strategy)
☎ 0151 934 3619

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY: To seek endorsement of the virement of £250k within the Health and Social Care Capital Programme in support of Disabled Facilities Grant obligations.	
REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED: To ensure that adequate funding for Disabled Facilities Grants is in place to support increased spending commitments.	
RECOMMENDATION(S): That: (i) Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care notes this report, and (ii) Cabinet agrees to the virement of £250k from the Social Care SCP (C) 2008/09 – 2010/11 Capital Grant provision for 2009/10 in the Health and Social Care Capital Programme to the Disabled Facilities Grant budget.	
KEY DECISION:	No
FORWARD PLAN:	No
IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	Following expiry of the call in period for the minutes of this meeting

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

The alternative course of action would be to not vire the funds. However, this would result in insufficient funding being in place to fund the mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant which would, in turn, delay the approval of applications and lengthen waiting times.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: There is no extra cost or consequences to the Council in making this virement as the Social Care SCP (C) Capital Grant for 2009/10 is currently uncommitted.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources:HMRI				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 260 - The Finance and Information Services Director has been consulted and has no comments on this report.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None

Agenda Item 8

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek endorsement of the proposed virement of £250k from the Social Care SCP (C) 2008/09 – 2010/11 Capital Grant provision for 2009/10 in the Health and Social Care Capital Programme to the Disabled Facilities Grant budget.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) is a statutory grant, which must be paid in respect of cases that meet the qualifying criteria to enable improved access for the disabled applicants in and around their home. The Government helps to fund this through the provision of a direct grant. In Sefton's case this amounts to £1.157m for 2009/10.
- 2.2 Whilst the Government grant is distributed according to assumed need (as measured by numbers of disability benefit claimants within the Borough, for example) and taking into account the Council's annual bid, in practice does not match actual demand, and hence it is expected that the local authority will supplement the government funding from local capital resources i.e. the local housing capital pot. Sefton's budget for 2009/10 for DFGs is £2.690m
- 2.3 The DFG budget has been actively monitored during the year. Although currently spend is within budget, the trend of demand for grants is such that, without increased budgetary provision there will be an overspend on this budget line by the end of March 2010. This is forecast to be approximately £250k.
- 2.4 The rise in DFG approvals is due to a combination of reasons. One of these is the impact of improved grant administration processes resulting in grant approvals flowing through more quickly. In this respect the Council is a victim of its own success in implementing improved administration. However, there is a cost to success - the need to fund a 'rump' of expenditure flowing through the system. If other factors remained constant this would be a temporary phenomenon, and the flow of approvals would even out in future years. However, other factors are changing too. There is a rising demand due to demographics and the ageing population. Also, there is a need for the Council to increasingly jointly fund applications from RSL tenants. Furthermore, the removal of means testing for DFG applications involving children following a national review of the DFG legislation in 2005 has meant that there is increased pressure on resources from this category of applicant, and cases involving disabled children tend to be the more high value adaptations.
- 2.5 Consequently in this financial year (2009/10) and in future years it is anticipated that there will be a need to allocate significantly increased resources to this budget line. For this year, 2009/10, a currently unallocated resource exists in the Social Care SCP (C) Capital Grant. It would be an appropriate use of this resource to direct this capital grant towards funding DFGs. It is therefore proposed to vire £250k from this line in the Health and Social Care Capital Programme to the DFG line.
- 2.6 The DFG budget will continue to be actively monitored during the rest of the year, and future assumptions as to realistic budgetary provision will be built into the budget setting process for 2010/11 and beyond.

Agenda Item 9

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 14 JANUARY 2010

SUBJECT: BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE - UPDATE AND STAFFING

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

REPORT OF: PETER MORGAN
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR - CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES

CONTACT OFFICER: CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to update members on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme and to seek approval for the establishment of additional posts to support the programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The additional posts are required to support the BSF programme.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet is recommended to:-

- i) note the progress of the BSF programme;
- ii) approve the establishment of additional posts as detailed in this report to support the programme;
- iii) note that all costs will be contained within the approved budget of £300,000 for 2009/10 and that a further report will be presented to the next meeting updating the total cost, benefits and risks of programme entry.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial:



Members will recall that on 16 April 2009 it was agreed that £300,000 from the Council's Modernisation Fund would be allocated to the initial 2009/10 costs of the BSF programme.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: Not appropriate.

Risk Assessment: A full risk assessment for the BSF programme is being developed.

Asset Management: Not appropriate.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Agenda Item 9

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children and Young People		✓	

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

Not appropriate.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN'S SERVICES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

Not appropriate.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

25 November 2009 – Report to Cabinet BSF: Outcome of Readiness to Deliver Submission.
25 November 2009 – Report to Cabinet BSF: Appointment of Project Director and Project Manager.
25 November 2009 – Report to Cabinet BSF: Proposed Delegation of Decision Making Powers to the Project Board.

Agenda Item 9

BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE: UPDATE AND STAFFING

1. Background and Update

- 1.1 Members will recall from previous reports to Cabinet, the background to the following updates.
- 1.2 The Readiness to Deliver document was resubmitted to Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF)/Partnerships for Schools (PfS) by the due date of 7 December 2009. Representatives from these two organisations, and the Office of the Schools Commissioner, will visit Sefton on 11 January 2010 to meet with the Chief Executive, the Strategic Director – Children, Schools & Families, the Strategic Director – Regeneration & Environmental Services, the Legal Director, Project Director, Project Manager and other senior officers. It is anticipated that this will be followed by an invitation to attend a Remit Meeting, before 31 March 2010, which is a high level meeting which focuses on setting strategic objectives and targets as informed by the Readiness to Deliver assessment and pre-engagement process.
- 1.3 Cabinet approved the delegation of decision making powers to the Project Board on 25 November 2009, including the decision on the appointment of advisors for Finance, Legal and ICT/Education. Project Board confirmed these appointments as detailed below:-
- Finance Advisors – Deloitte
 - Legal Advisors – Addleshaw Goddard
 - ICT/Education – Edunova
- These appointments are subject to the necessary funding being approved and are initially limited to the period leading up to approval of the Outline Business Case.
- 1.4 Sefton's assigned representative from PfS, David Ogden, contributed to these appointments and will be involved in all aspects of Sefton's BSF programme.
- 1.5 Advertisements for Project Director and Project Manager were placed in the Guardian and Sunday Times in early December and this recruitment process is being managed by Gatenby Sanderson. It is anticipated that personnel will be in post by June 2010. The interim Project Director and Project Manager will continue in post until these permanent positions can be filled.
- 1.6 Further permanent appointments for a Project Officer, to support the Project Manager and a Project Communications and Engagement Manager will need to be actioned early in the New Year, with a part-time, appointment made for Communications Officer in the interim. Cabinet is asked to approve these further appointments which will not be advertised externally in the first instance in order to ensure that any staff who may be eligible for redeployment can be considered. A number of senior officers, across all Directorates, are involved in the BSF programme and as this gathers pace it is anticipated that some back filling arrangements will have to be made to support these officers.
- 1.7 The Project Board, chaired by the Strategic Director – Communities, continues to meet regularly to steer the programme and the Workstream Teams are all actively working on the Strategy for Change (SfC) Documentation which will be required approximately 6 months after the Remit Meeting has taken place. The Local Authority and each Phase 1 school are required to produce a SfC which sets out, in considerable detail, the transformational, educational vision and strategies that provide the information needed to meet later requirements of the estate strategy, design brief and procurement, at Authority and school level. Meetings with the Phase 1 schools and the wider group of secondary/special schools are ongoing and will gather pace as the SfCs are developed.

- 1.8 The Chief Executive has formally written to the CEO at Wirral MBC to invite a nominated officer to join Sefton's Project Board and to continue the working relationship that has developed, especially with regard to the possibility of forming a joint Local Education Partnership.

2. Funding Update

- 2.1 Members will recall that on 16 April 2009 it was agreed that £300,000 from the Council's Modernisation Fund would be allocated to the initial 2009/10 costs of the BSF programme and it is anticipated that the costs for 2009/10 can be contained within this budget. No further commitment above this sum will be made until the Council has approved the resources necessary to achieve the Outline Business Case.

- 2.2 This report deals with the preparations necessary for the Council to be ready to progress to the initial stage of the BSF programme. No commitments above the approved £300,000 will be made until a further report has been presented to the Cabinet detailing the total cost of achieving Outline Business Case approval and fully assessing the risks and opportunities of the funding. This report will be presented to the next Cabinet meeting and an appropriate budget will need to be established as part of the 2010/11 capital and revenue budget.

3. Recommendation(s)

- 3.1 The Cabinet is recommended to:-

- i) note the progress of the BSF programme;
- ii) approve the establishment of additional posts as detailed in this report to support the programme;
- iii) note that all costs will be contained within the approved budget of £300,000 for 2009/10 and that a further report will be presented to the next meeting updating the total cost, benefits and risks of programme entry.

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REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regeneration and Environmental Services)
Planning Committee
Cabinet
Council

DATE: 5th January 2010
13th January 2010
14th January 2010
14th January 2010

SUBJECT: Joint Waste Development Plan: Consultation on Preferred Options Report

WARDS AFFECTED: Linacre, Litherland, Netherton and Orrell, Norwood directly
All indirectly

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis, Planning & Economic Regeneration Director

CONTACT OFFICERS: Steve Matthews – Local Planning Manager
0151 934 3559
Alan Jemmett – Director, Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service 0151 934 4950

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

This report, and the report attached in Annex 1, outlines progress with the preparation of the joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document (DPD) and the reasons why it is now necessary to seek approval and endorsement of the Preferred Options Report. This will include consultation on specific sites that have the potential to accommodate the additional waste management facilities that will be required in the future.

The Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service is leading the plan-preparation process and has prepared the report in Annex 1.

This is in accordance with a decision of City Region Cabinet that all the authorities participating in the preparation of the joint plan should receive a common report to explain and recommend approval of this Preferred Options Report.

The recommendations make it clear that members are being asked to both approve and endorse the Preferred Options Report. This is a significant shift in emphasis, as it means members will be endorsing the technical content of the report including the proposed policies and proposed site allocations in advance of a six week period of public consultation. Four sites are identified in total within Sefton, together with the types of waste uses which are considered suitable for these sites.

This consultation requires the approval of all six participating authorities. It is anticipated that subject to these approvals the consultation will commence on 18th February 2010.

The report outlines the proposed arrangements for consultation.

The full consultation document will be made available on the web-site and to assist members a copy has been placed in the party group offices in Bootle/Southport Town Halls.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To authorise the commencement of public consultation on this stage of the Waste DPD and to comply with statutory provisions in relation to consultation on development plan documents.

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

Overview & Scrutiny; Planning Committee; Cabinet

That the following recommendations to Council be agreed.

Council

- 1 That the Preferred Options Report be approved and endorsed.
- 2 That the commencement of a six-week public consultation process on the Waste DPD Preferred Options Report during 2010 be agreed.
- 3 That Members note that the Waste DPD forms an essential part of Sefton's Local Development Framework.
- 4 That the Waste DPD team is delegated to make editorial changes to the Preferred Options Report as a consequence of the report being considered and comments made.
- 5 That Members receive a further report on the outcomes of the Preferred Options consultation.

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes (Dec 2009 – March 2010)

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the Council meeting on 14th January 2010

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

There is no alternative to considering this Preferred Options Report. However, the Report itself includes a number of options and states which are preferred.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

There are no immediate financial implications. But delay in the process of preparing and adopting the Waste DPD and in the subsequent development of facilities required to reduce landfill could have significant adverse financial consequences for all the authorities. Corporate Plan Strategic Objective 9 supports the development of a more sustainable waste management strategy.

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2006/ 2007 £	2007/ 2008 £	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal:

None

Risk Assessment:

A separate risk register is maintained for this project. A key risk identified is the breakdown of the joint commitment and approvals process required to progress the Waste DPD.

Asset Management:

Not applicable

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

None

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CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3	Jobs and Prosperity	√		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People		√	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Joint Merseyside Waste DPD Preferred Options Report

Background

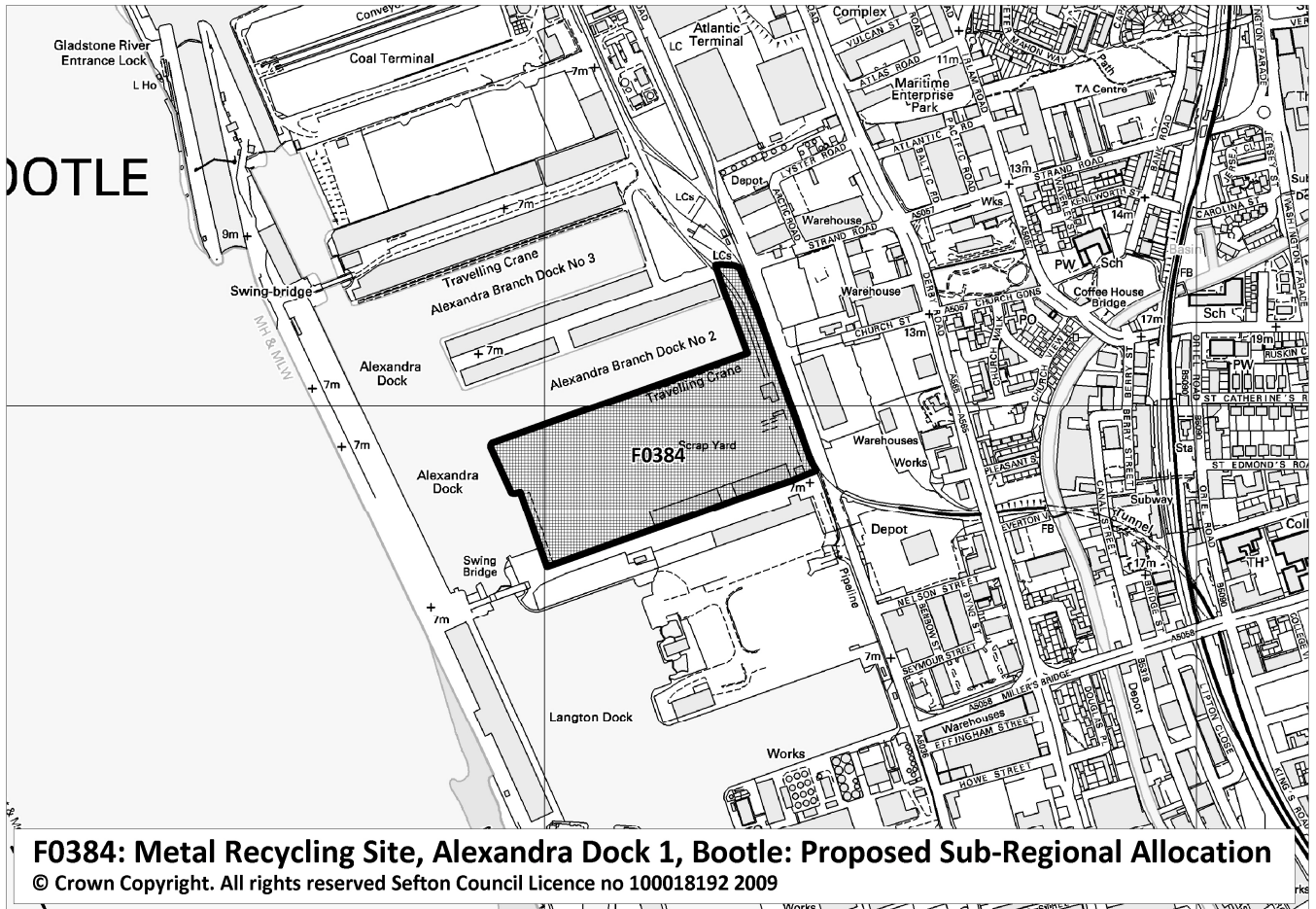
1. The joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document (DPD) is a statutory plan and is a key part of Sefton's Local Development Framework. The Merseyside authorities are required to contribute to this important piece of work which must allocate suitable sites, or preferred locations, to meet future needs for waste management facilities in the most sustainable way. A key principle in preparing the Waste Plan is that waste should be disposed of close to where it is generated. It is no longer possible to assume that waste can simply be exported outside the Merseyside sub-region.
2. The preparation of a Waste Development Plan Document is a complex and lengthy process. It needs to be supported by up to date evidence, there is a rigorous approach to identifying and selecting suitable sites, and there are prescribed periods of consultation with stakeholders and with the public. Work on the joint Waste DPD - in which all six Greater Merseyside authorities are partners - commenced in 2005. The Council's participation was approved by Cabinet and full Council in June 2005. A dedicated team within the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) is leading the work.
3. An initial Waste DPD public consultation on Issues and Options was conducted in March/April 2007. The Council was a consultee and a report with recommendations for the Council's response was considered by Cabinet Member Environmental and Planning Committee on 11th April 2007.
4. This led to the preparation of a document called 'Spatial Strategy and Sites' which was consulted on between December 2008 and January 2009. From an initial long-list of over 900 sites, 45 sites were selected for waste management facilities across Merseyside. Nine sites were proposed in Sefton. Members gave their views on both the sites and the proposed waste management uses for those sites in January 2009.
5. Following consultation on the Spatial Strategy and Sites report further studies have been commissioned to make sure that the need for further waste facilities is accurate. This means having an up-to-date understanding of the amount of waste produced and taking account of planning consents for new waste facilities.
6. The Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service is leading the process of preparing the Plan and has prepared the report in **Annex 1**. City Region Cabinet agreed that a single common briefing report be produced by the Waste DPD team to explain and recommend approval of this Preferred Options Report. This has been subject to detailed discussion with the Steering Group and Senior Officers and is now attached to support the approvals process.
7. This report, and the report attached in Annex 1, outlines progress with the preparation of the joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document and the reasons why it is now necessary to seek approval and endorsement of the Preferred Options Report.
8. The Preferred Options Report addresses a number of issues of which the following will be of particular interest to Members:
 - assessment of needs and how this translates into the number of sites required
 - proposed land allocations for built facilities for waste uses

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- proposed landfill site allocations
- policy on Energy from Waste
- development management policies – these are the policies used to control waste development both on allocated and unallocated sites.

Proposed sites

9. The most significant part of the Preferred Options Report, however, is the selection of sites for waste related uses. The assessment of needs for waste facilities, and the requirement for sites, have been updated to take account of recent consents. This has resulted in many fewer facilities being required. From the 45 sites identified across Merseyside in the Spatial Strategy and Sites report, the Preferred Options report identifies only 19 sites. Several of these are existing waste uses with potential for further development. With regard to Sefton, there is still a sub-regional allocation (though on a different site) but the number of 'district site' allocations has reduced from eight to three. All the sites identified have the support of the operator or landowner. Where sites have been carried forward from the previous consultation (Spatial Strategy and Sites – January 09), the proposed uses which have been identified have been amended to reflect concerns expressed by the Council.
10. Sub Regional Allocations - One proposed sub regional site is identified for each District. These have been difficult to identify. The site proposed at the previous stage was off Heysham Road, but Members considered that this was not suitable because of nearby residential uses. Previously the Dock estate was identified as an 'Area of Opportunity' suitable for a range of waste related uses. Following consultation, this concept was not considered to be helpful as it could potentially blight land within the boundary of that area, but could equally suggest that land outside the line was not suitable for waste related uses. It is therefore proposed that one specific site within the Dock Estate should now be allocated for managing a particular type of waste.
11. The proposed site in the Preferred Options Report is the EMR (Metal Recycling) site at Alexandra Dock (see plan below). The reason for suggesting this site is that there is a current proposal for the treatment of the non-metal parts of scrapped vehicles on-site and this would significantly reduce the amount of waste being disposed of to landfill. However, any specific proposal would be required to satisfy all the normal environmental and other assessments. The site is a good distance from residential properties and is generally screened from view by its Port neighbours. It also has good transport links. A significant proportion of the imported waste materials are imported by rail or sea (17%), and 99% of the recycled metals are exported by sea.



12. District Site Allocations

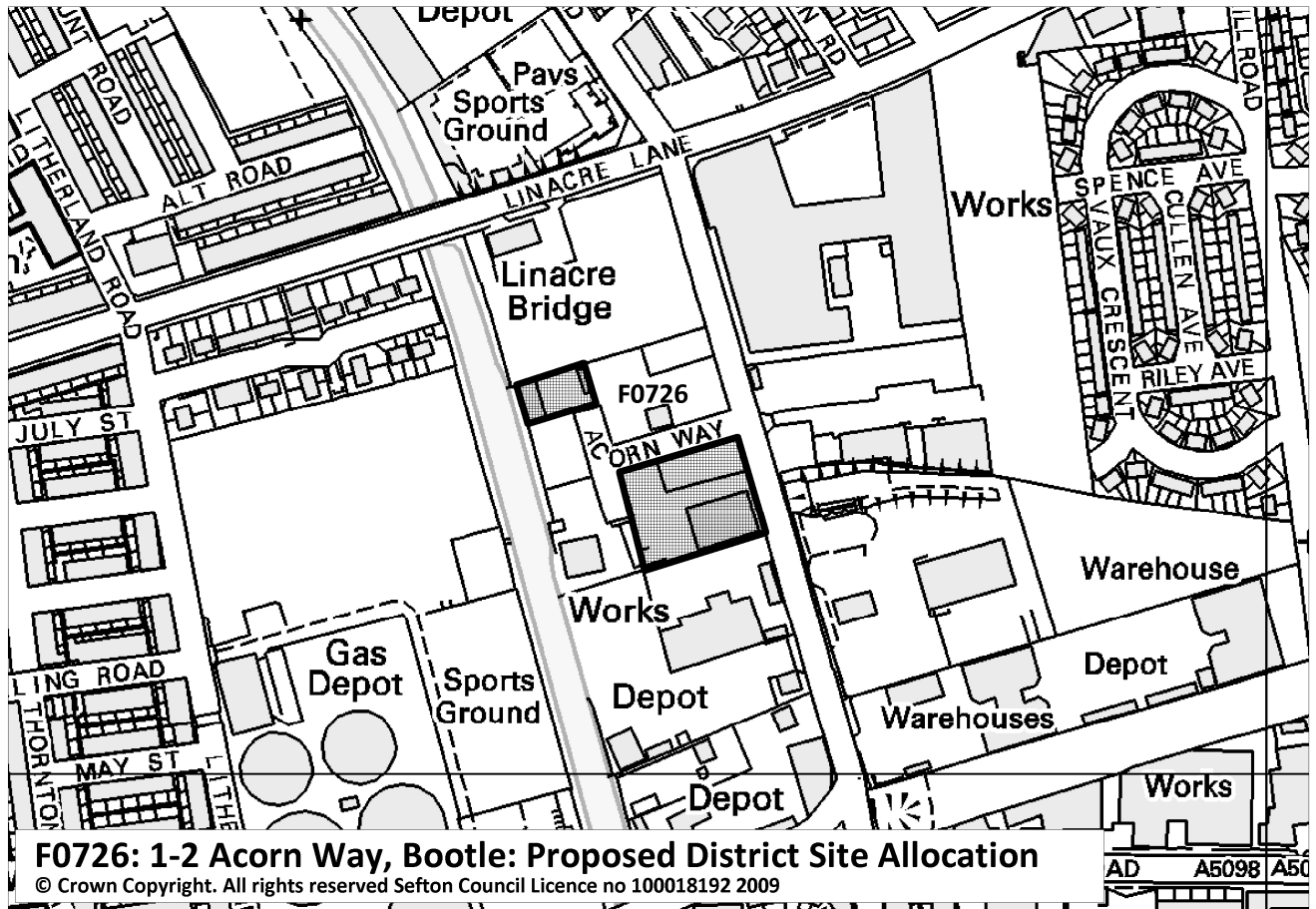
Three 'district level' sites have been agreed as the most suitable for waste uses taking account of the Council's responses to the Spatial Strategy and Sites consultation, and detailed discussion with land owners. These are:

- 1-2 Acorn Way
- site off Grange Road, Dunnings Bridge Road
- 55 Crowland Street, Southport

13. 1-2 Acorn Way

Following the Council's comments at the last stage, the proposed waste management uses suggested for this site have been restricted to enclosed uses. Any proposed uses would therefore not include a household waste reception centre, or an open waste transfer station. However, an enclosed waste transfer station or reprocessing uses may be acceptable subject to an assessment of the impact of any specific proposal on emerging Housing Market Renewal plans.

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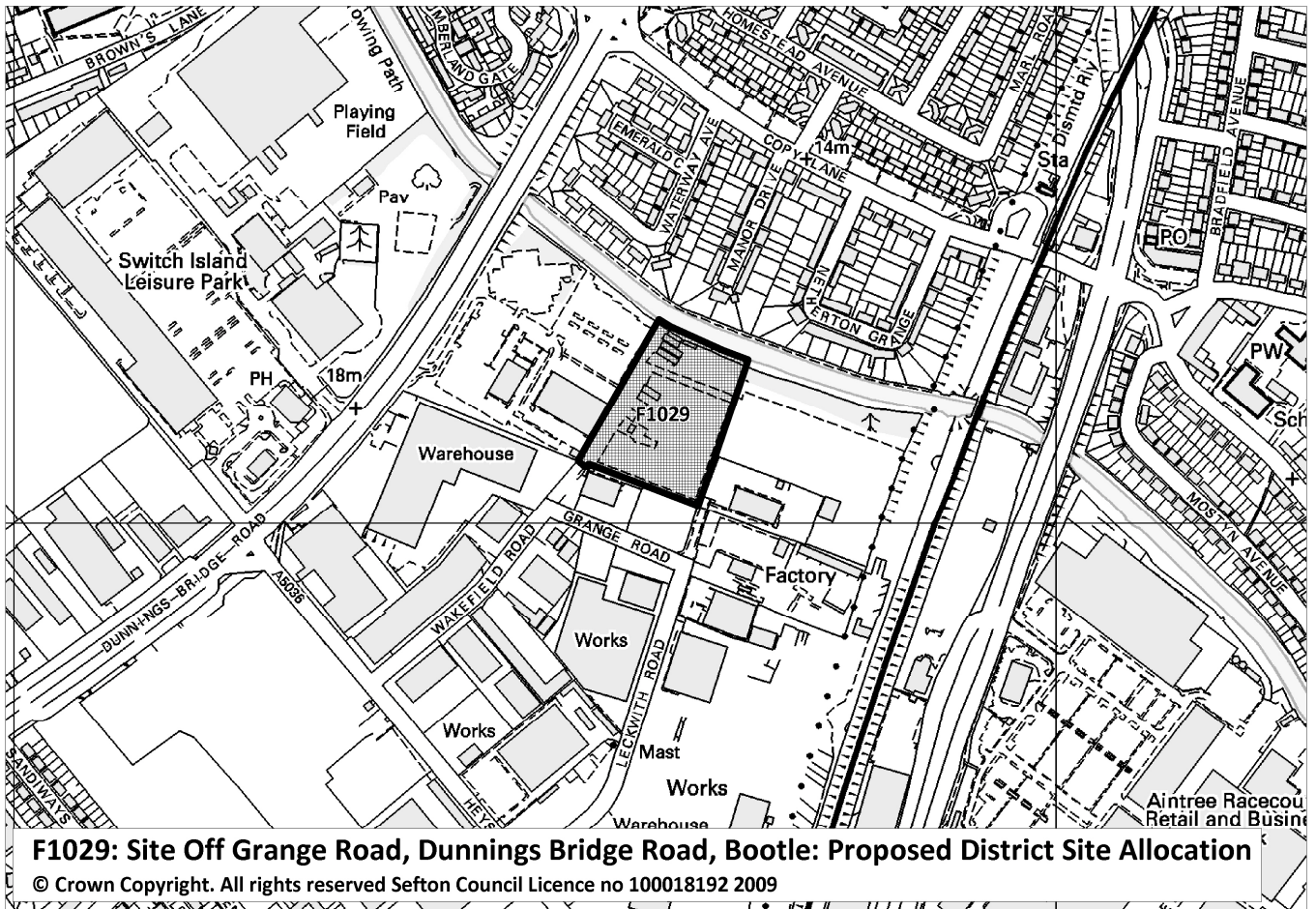
14. Site off Grange Road, Dunnings Bridge Road

This site was originally identified as a potential site for waste but was not included as a proposed site at the 'Spatial Strategy and Sites' stage. However, a couple of sites in the vicinity which scored marginally above this site have now been omitted. In both cases immediate access to these sites was considered to be too constrained; in addition, the owner of one of the sites did not wish his site to be used for managing waste. This site off Grange Road, given its location within an exiting industrial area and subject to appropriate restrictions to minimise environmental impact, is therefore proposed as being suitable for a limited range of waste related uses.

The site borders the Canal and beyond this a residential area. Any waste related use on this site would need to ensure that the residential amenity of the occupiers of those properties is protected. This would have implications for the types of waste uses that would be allowed. The Preferred Options Report proposes that these be limited to enclosed uses. The Council has previously commented that:

- the site would be suitable for low impact uses with suitable conditions to restrict hours of use
- further consideration would need to be given to the detailed impact of any proposed operation on the Heysham Rd/ Dunnings Bridge Rd junction.

It is understood that any waste uses proposed for this site would have to comply fully with these criteria.



F1029: Site Off Grange Road, Dunning's Bridge Road, Bootle: Proposed District Site Allocation

15. 55 Crowland Street, Southport

Although this site did not score highly in the site assessment criteria, it has been included to ensure that north Sefton has adequate waste management facilities to meet the needs of the whole of the Borough. One of the principles underlying the Waste Plan is that waste should be dealt with as close as possible to its source so as to reduce transport.

There is potential for the expansion and intensification of the existing site operation within the parameters of the current consent. However, there is a need for detailed consideration of specific proposals and in particular traffic and highways issues, such as the impact of increased use on the junction of Butts Lane with Norwood Road.

Consultation

19. All the other Merseyside authorities are considering the same common report (attached at Annex 1) over the next month or two, together with a covering report setting out the relevant issues for their own districts. Subject to District approval and endorsement of the Preferred Options Report a six-week public consultation period, for all authorities, will start on 18th February and end on 31st March 2010. The approach to consultation has been previously agreed with Leaders.
20. The full Preferred Options Report describes the background to the plan, the strategy, the proposed land allocations, policies on landfill sites, energy from waste and various other policy approaches for managing waste sustainably. The full Report, and a non-technical summary to be designed by professional communications consultants, will be made widely available in Libraries and Council offices. There is a dedicated web-site where the documents will be available to download and for the submission of consultation responses on-line.
21. To assist members, copies of the full Preferred Options Report are being placed in the Party group offices in Bootle and Southport Town Hall.
22. Once Members have approved and endorsed the Preferred Options Report, there will be no further opportunity for the Council to make comments. However, there may be issues which Members wish to comment on individually. Such comments should be submitted during the 6-week public consultation alongside all other consultation comments.
23. The Preferred Options public consultation will include a single consultation event. This is likely to be held in Bootle, probably in late February or early March.
24. Additional consultation events will be arranged for specialist groups, and there is scope for more local events should this be required to consider local issues.

Conclusions and recommendations

25. Members will receive a further report on the outcomes of the Preferred Options consultation. It is recommended that the Waste DPD team is delegated to make editorial changes to the Preferred Options Report as a consequence of the report being considered and comments made.
26. The responses will be used to feed into the final development of the Waste DPD which is scheduled to be submitted to the Secretary of State in March 2011. The examination is planned for July 2011, so the process of preparing the Waste Plan still has a long way to run.
27. The recommendations make it clear that members are being asked to both approve and endorse the Preferred Options Report. This is a significant shift in emphasis, as it means members will be endorsing the technical content of the report including the proposed policies and proposed site allocations in advance of a six week period of public consultation.

Joint Merseyside Waste Development Plan Document **Preferred Options Report.**

1.0 Recommendations:

- **That each Council approves and endorses the Preferred Options Report.**
- **That each Council agrees to the commencement of a six-week public consultation process on the Waste DPD Preferred Options Report during 2010.**
- **That Members note that the Waste DPD forms an essential part of each District's Local Development Framework.**
- **That the Waste DPD team is delegated to make editorial changes to the Preferred Options Report as a consequence of the District approvals process and comments received.**
- **That Members receive a further report on the outcomes of the Preferred Options consultation.**

2.0 Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the approval and endorsement from each of the Councils on Merseyside to the Waste DPD Preferred Options Report. As part of the process of preparing the Waste DPD, there has been considerable on-going dialogue, discussion and joint working between the Districts, waste sector, land owners and the Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority. As such the proposals contained within the Preferred Options report have already been through a high degree of scrutiny.
- 2.2 As part of the approvals process, opportunity will be taken by the Waste DPD team to amend the Preferred Options Report on the basis of comments received.
- 2.3 In contrast to previous consultation processes supporting the Waste DPD, by approving the Preferred Options Report, the Districts will be endorsing the technical content of the report including the proposed policies and proposed site allocations in advance of a six week public consultation period commencing on 18th February 2010. This is an important change in emphasis because the Waste DPD is now at an advanced stage of plan preparation and will form, upon adoption, and essential part of the Local Development Framework of each District.

3.0 Background and Issues

- 3.1 Government planning policy, the National Waste Strategy and Regional Spatial Strategy all require Development Plan Documents to address sustainable waste management. Through Planning Policy Statement 10 (Planning for Sustainable Waste Management) the Merseyside Districts are required to put in place a

planning framework that identifies the locations for new waste management infrastructure to meet the identified needs of that Council or group of Councils. The Waste DPD covers the six Merseyside Districts including Halton and will become the statutory land use plan to guide future development of all waste management and treatment facilities across the Merseyside sub-region. Its scope therefore covers all types of waste produced including municipal, commercial, industrial, hazardous, agricultural, construction, demolition and excavation materials.

- 3.2 In 2005, Leaders agreed that the waste planning matters for the sub-region would most effectively be addressed through formal collaboration in preparing a joint Waste Development Plan Document (Waste DPD). Under the legislative requirements of the land use planning system each Council approved the preparation of the Waste DPD in this way.
- 3.3 The Waste DPD aims to deliver significant improvements in waste management across the sub-region whilst also diverting waste from landfill. It seeks to provide industry with much greater certainty to bring forward proposals for waste facilities whilst also providing a robust planning framework to resist inappropriate waste development. Specifically, the Waste DPD will provide Districts with a high degree of control and also greater certainty for the waste sector through its site allocations and policies.
- 3.4 The preparation of the sub-region's first joint statutory Development Plan Document, the Waste DPD, is being managed by the Waste DPD team (Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service) on behalf of the Districts. The process is being led by a Steering Group and overseen by the shadow City Region Cabinet. The Waste DPD has been prepared through a multi-stage process. Two public consultation stages have been completed:
 - Issues and Options took place in March and April 2007.
 - Spatial Strategy and Sites stage took place between December 2008 and January 2009.
- 3.5 The results of the public consultation, engagement with stakeholders, industry (including MWDA) and the Local Authorities and, detailed technical assessments have all been used to inform the preparation of the third public consultation stage, Preferred Options. Officer views from the MWDA are also being sought informally on factual issues directly within the remit of the Waste Disposal Authority.
- 3.6 Throughout the preparation of the Waste DPD there has been on-going dialogue and consultation with Government Office and the Planning Inspectorate to ensure procedural compliance. In addition the process and evidence base has also been subject to several independent quality assurance checks on the process involving legal advisors, private consultants and Planning Officers' Society.
- 3.7 Issues Addressed by the Preferred Options Report – the report addresses several issues of which the following will be of particular interest to Members:
 - Needs Assessment and Site Requirements.
 - Proposed land allocations for built facilities for waste uses.
 - Proposed landfill site allocations.
 - Policy on Energy from Waste.

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- Development management policies – these are the policies used to control waste development both on allocated and unallocated sites.
- 3.8 In addition the Preferred Options Report includes a Vision, Spatial Strategy, Core Policies and an Implementation and Monitoring framework. It also outlines the overarching strategy for waste management referred to as the Resource Recovery-led Strategy.
- 3.9 The spatial strategy seeks to identify an appropriate number of large sites suitable for sub-regionally significant facilities of more than 4.5 hectares in area. Sites will ideally be around existing clusters of waste management facilities where these are shown to be sustainable. These areas around these clusters will be defined as Areas of Search. Sites will also be identified for smaller-scale local facilities taking into account specific local need ensuring that sufficient small sites are available for meeting the short to medium term needs for waste management in the sub-region.
- 3.10 The Core Policies are high level policies designed to implement the vision and strategic objectives and guide development to ensure that they deliver sustainable waste management across the sub region. The five core policies address the following issues:
- Waste prevention and resource management.
 - Waste Management Design and Layout for new development.
 - High Quality Design of new waste management facilities.
 - Sustainable Waste Transport.
 - Net Self Sufficiency.
- 3.11 Each of the issues addressed in the Preferred Options report is accompanied by consultation questions. Where more than one realistic policy option has been identified the Report presents the pros and cons of these before providing the reasons for choosing the preferred policy option. This provides transparency in the policy development process.
- 3.12 The full Preferred Options report and supporting technical appendices will be available on line at <http://merseysideeas-consult.limehouse.co.uk>

4.0 Needs Assessment and Site Requirements

- 4.1 Planning legislation requires development plan documents to be based upon sound and up-to-date evidence. Throughout the preparation of the Waste DPD, great care has been taken to develop and update the baseline information pertinent to waste planning matters including operational waste management facilities, the types and quantities of waste produced in the City Region, changes in recycling behaviour and the impact of economic factors. A number of studies have therefore been commissioned or updated as part of the Waste DPD evidence base and the key documents are referred to in **Appendix 1**.
- 4.2 During 2009, this evidence base has been the subject of further detailed technical work and updating particularly on waste arisings and the effects of recent planning consents for waste facilities within Merseyside and Halton and more widely. As part of this process detailed discussions with the waste industry and the Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority have continued.

- 4.3 The evidence base has been used to inform the Needs Assessment which predicts the waste infrastructure requirements to meet Merseyside and Halton's needs until 2030. **Table 1** summarises the identified needs. It should be noted that these site requirements are identified **after** taking into account capacity on sites within Merseyside and Halton which are already consented for waste management.
- 4.4 The evidence base will continue to be updated until the final stages of preparing the Plan to ensure that it continues to accurately reflect the issues that the sub region must address whilst taking account of wider factors, such as progress with the MWDA strategy.

Table 1: Identified Site Requirements at November 2009 [Source: Merseyside EAS]

Function and site type (in Waste Hierarchy order)	New sites 2010-2015	New sites 2016-2021	New sites 2022-2027	Total	Approx. land/site
Sorting & recycling wastes					
MRF		1	1	2	<=3ha.
Non-inert WTS		1		1	3-5ha.
HWRC	1			1	ca. 1ha.
Preparing & treating wastes					
Food waste composting	1	1		2	3-5ha.
Municipal waste treatment	3	1		4	3-8ha.
C&I waste treatment	1	3		4	3-5ha.
EfW for Municipal Waste					>8ha.
Hazardous waste treatment	1			1	<=3ha.
Landfill disposal					
Non-inert landfill	(2)			(2)	n/a
Inert landfill	2			2	>10ha.
Total requirement					
Built facilities	7	7	1	15	
Landfill sites	(4)			(4)	

- 4.5 The inert landfill need shown above can be met by the two sites referred to in section 6 below. However, an extensive site search has shown the difficulty of finding further sites for non-inert landfill in the sub-region. The non-inert need (which will be for landfill of non-municipal waste) will therefore unavoidably be met by exporting waste outside the sub region. Since this need will not be met within the sub-region the number of sites is shown (in brackets) and is balanced by an equivalent input of waste for treatment in built facilities to deliver net sub-regional self-sufficiency. Provision for this import is shown through two additional treatment plants for C&I waste in the period 2016-2021. The Waste DPD delivers overall sub-regional self sufficiency consistent with the spatial strategy (see paragraph 6.4).
- 4.6 During the preparation of the Waste DPD the waste sector will continue to come forward with planning applications and the Districts will continue to take planning decisions. Therefore the quantity, type and spatial distribution of consented waste treatment capacity across Merseyside and Halton will continue to change. The Waste DPD team is continually monitoring this and updating the Needs Assessment and identified Site Requirements accordingly.

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- 4.7 Members should note that if any new consents are issued between now and Waste DPD publication stage that the new consents will be fully taken into account. The relationship between the location of any new consents issued and the spatial patterns of proposed site allocations is particularly important to ensure that new facilities are near to the main sources of waste arisings.

5.0 Proposed Site Allocations

- 5.1 Government guidance requires the Waste DPD to identify and allocate sites to meet the identified waste management needs of the Districts within the sub region. Proposed site allocations will eventually be presented in land use allocation maps for each of the District Local Development Frameworks.
- 5.2 In identifying proposed site allocations the Waste DPD needs to deliver a good balance of small and larger sub-regional sites across Merseyside and Halton to meet the identified needs of all the waste produced. It is also a Government requirement to provide sufficient flexibility within which the industry can operate though this must be within the context of constrained land availability across the sub region. The proposed site allocations in the Preferred Options report therefore include a degree of over-provision to provide the required flexibility.
- 5.3 A multi-stage process has been used to identify the proposed site allocations which is described in more detail in the supporting document '**Built Facilities Site Search Methodology**' of the Preferred Options Report. This process has included a range of site specific technical assessments and site visits. There has also been a detailed and on-going process of consultation with the local authority, MWDA and land owners.
- 5.4 The site selection process has included the following steps:
- Initial Broad Site Search yielding a list of nearly 2000 sites ;
 - Initial clean up of this data set removing duplicates etc ;
 - Detailed appraisal of remaining sites (>1600) with input from District Officers, removing over 900 sites as not available or not suitable for further assessment ;
 - Multi-criteria assessment (using 41 constraint criteria) of remaining 700 sites ;
 - Consultation on the 45 best performing sites in Spatial Strategy & Sites report.

Dialogue with Districts, landowners and the waste industry has informed the process.

- 5.5 The full database of the sites assessed as part of the Waste DPD process is available from the Waste DPD website, <http://merseysideas-consult.limehouse.co.uk> . This database clearly identifies the very large number of sites that have been assessed and provides evidence for why sites have been discounted from the process. This evidence includes planning constraints, overall site performance and importantly, views received as a consequence of public consultation. Members should be aware however, that sites can only be discounted from the process for sound and evidenced planning and deliverability reasons.
- 5.6 The sites contained within the Preferred Options report are the best performing and most deliverable sites across the sub region. Many other sites have been assessed and discounted from the process for a range of sound planning and deliverability reasons.

5.7 **Table 2** presents the proposed site allocations with each District having a single sub regional site greater than 4.5 hectares in area. For each of the proposed site allocations proposed waste management uses are also suggested with the broad categories of waste use being household waste recycling centre, re-processing industry, waste transfer station, primary treatment facility and resource recycling park.

Table 2: Proposed Allocations for Waste Management Uses

Site ID	District	Site Significance	Site Name and Address	Area (ha)
H1576	Halton	Sub Regional	Ditton Sidings, Newstead Road	9.2
H2293	Halton	District	Runcorn WWTW	1.2
H2351	Halton	District	Eco-cycle Waste Ltd, 3 Johnson's Lane, Widnes	2.0
K2322	Knowsley	Sub Regional	Butlers Farm, Knowsley Industrial Estate	8.4
K2204	Knowsley	District	Brickfields, Ellis Ashton Street, Huyton	2.4
K2192	Knowsley	District	Image Business Park, Acornfield Road, Knowlsey Industrial Estate	2.8
K2358	Knowsley	District	Former Pilkington Glass Works, Ellis Ashton Street, Huyton Industrial Estate	1.3
L1289	Liverpool	Sub Regional	Vacant Land south of Spitfire Road, Triumph Trading Park (this site has come forward since Spatial Strategy and Sites stage and, as such, has yet to be considered in detail by Liverpool City Council Executive Board)	5.9
L0435	Liverpool	District	Waste Treatment Plant, Lower Bank View	0.7
L0468	Liverpool	District	Site off Regent Road / Bankfield Street	1.4
F0384	Sefton	Sub Regional	Alexandra Dock 1, Metal Recycling Site	9.8
F0726	Sefton	District	1-2 Acorn Way, Bootle	0.6
F1029	Sefton	District	Site off Grange Road, Dunning's Bridge Road	1.6
F2333	Sefton	District	55 Crowland Street, Southport	3.7
S1885	St.Helens	Sub Regional	Former Hays Chemical Site, Lancots Lane	6.4
S1897	St.Helens	District	Land North of T A C Abbotsfield Industrial Estate	1.3
W0360	Wirral	Sub Regional	Car Parking/Storage Area, former Shipyard, Campbelltown Road	5.9
W0180	Wirral	District	Former Goods Yard, Adjacent Bidston MRF / HWRC, Wallasey Bridge Road	2.8
W2215	Wirral	District	Bidston MRF / HWRC, Wallasey Bridge Road	3.7

5.8 Members should note that as a consequence of changes made in response to the public consultation stages already completed (as well as recent planning consents and improvements in recycling rates) that, the number of sites needed has been substantially reduced. For example, earlier in 2009, at Spatial Strategy and Sites Stage a total of 45 sites were identified, 10 of which were sub regional sites. The Preferred Options report includes just 19 sites in total, several of which are existing waste uses with potential for intensification of land use.

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5.9 **Appendix 2** summarises the planning consents issued since 2006.

5.10 Within Section 6 of the Preferred Options Report each of the proposed site allocations includes a detailed site profile which includes the following information:

- Site name, map and area.
- Suggested Waste Management uses.
- Planning context.
- Infrastructure.
- Wildlife.
- Site Deliverability assessment.

5.11 Members should note that the Waste DPD is not allowed by Government policy to prescribe the specific waste use or technology on a specific site as this is a matter for the waste industry.

5.12 Should any site drop out of the Waste DPD process either as a consequence of the Preferred Options District approvals and endorsement process or as a consequence of the public consultation then alternative sites will still be needed from within that District because the identified need does not go away. However, given the very limited availability of suitable sites for waste facilities within Merseyside and Halton as a consequence of severe land constraints, any alternative site is likely to have more significant constraining and deliverability issues. It is therefore considered important that members support the proposed site allocations within the Preferred Options report.

5.13 There is a good spatial distribution of sites across all six Merseyside Districts as shown in **Figure 1** with:

- 3 sites in Halton, total site area 12.4 hectares, largest single site 9.2 hectares.
- 4 sites in Knowsley, total site area 14.9 hectares, largest single site 8.4 hectares.
- 3 sites in Liverpool, total site area 8.0 hectares, largest single site 5.9 hectares.
- 4 sites in Sefton, total site area 15.7 hectares, largest single site 9.8 hectares.
- 2 sites in St.Helens, total site area 7.7 hectares, largest single site 6.4 hectares.
- 3 sites in Wirral, total site area 12.4 hectares, largest single site 5.9 hectares.

5.14 In considering the spatial distribution of sites particular attention is drawn to the importance of proximity to main centres of waste arisings and the availability of suitable land. Two inert landfill sites have also been identified – one in Knowsley and St. Helens (please see section 6 below).

5.15 Proposed allocations within the Preferred Options report include privately owned land, public land as well as a small number of sites with multiple ownerships. Landowner support for the proposed waste uses and the proposed site allocations within the Preferred Options Report is required as this significantly reduces deliverability risk.

5.16 Each developed site will generate employment benefits for the surrounding area. The estimated total number of direct jobs to be created as a result of development of the Waste DPD allocated sites is 500-700 with additional indirect jobs estimated at up to

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twice this number. Temporary jobs related to construction of facilities are expected to total 25-400 per site, depending on the scale of the facility being built.

5.17 Consultation questions 12 and 13 seek specific comments on the proposed District and sub regional site allocations.

6.0 Landfill

6.1 At Spatial Strategy and Sites stage a long list of sites for detailed technical assessment on their potential as landfill and land raise was identified. During the preparation of Preferred Options that long list has now been the subject of consultation and detailed technical assessment and confirms that the potential for new landfill sites in the sub region is extremely constrained. A detailed technical report on landfill is presented in the supporting document '**Survey for Landfill in Merseyside and Halton**' to the Preferred Options Report.

6.2 Section 7 of the Preferred Options Report has identified two landfill sites as shown in figure 1 for the final disposal of inert waste, they are:

- Bold Heath Quarry.
- Cronton Clay pit.

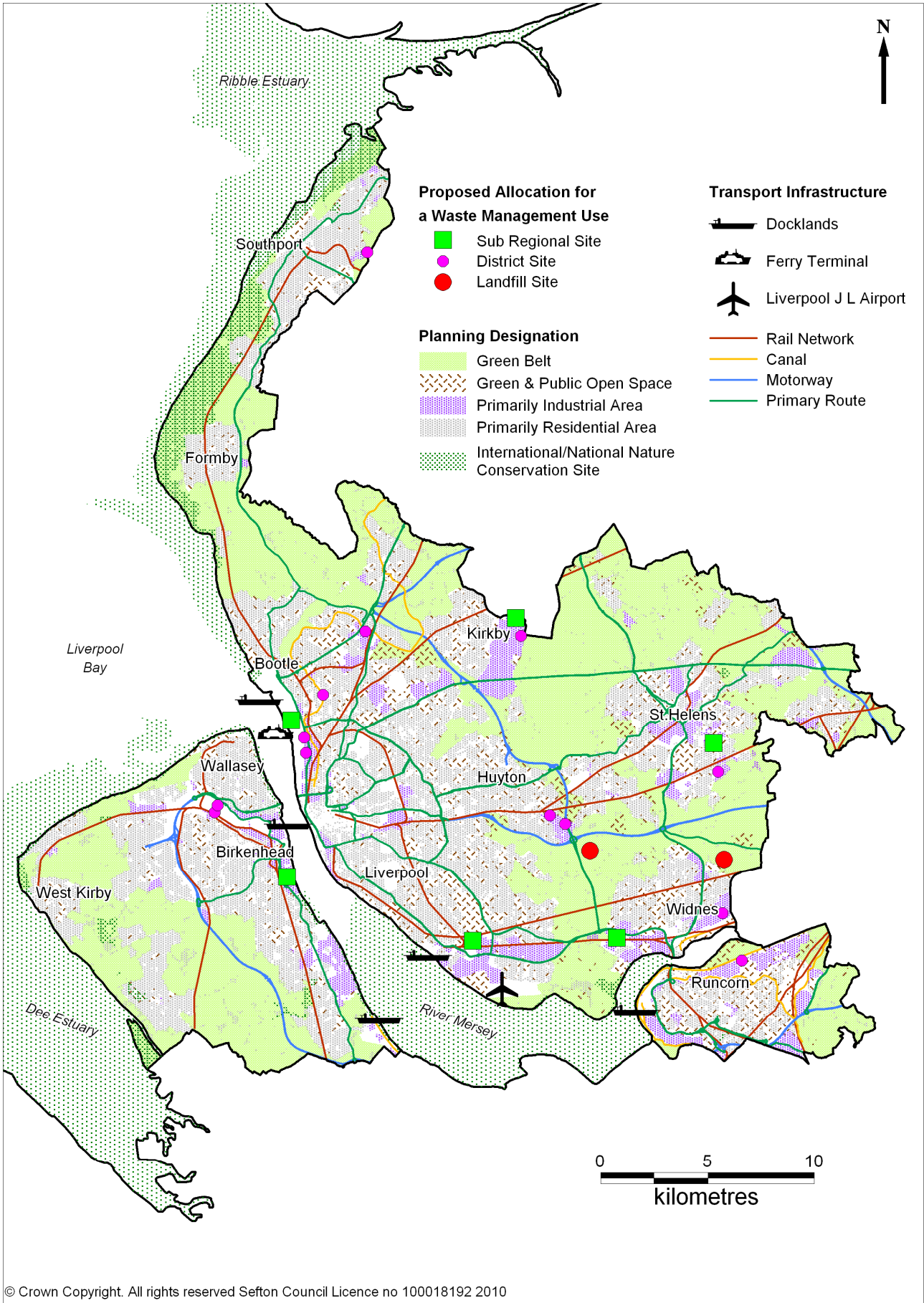
6.3 In addition the existing non inert landfill at Lyme and Wood Pits in St. Helens has recently extended its operational life until 2012.

6.4 No landfill sites have been identified for the disposal of non inert (including hazardous) waste. All future non inert waste management needs (identified in **Table 1**) will be met through a combination of proposed site allocations for built facilities that will divert the waste away from landfill and, through the use of existing landfill disposal contracts which export the waste outside of the sub region. The amount of export of non inert waste to landfill sites outside of Merseyside and Halton will be offset against 2 new built facilities for Commercial & Industrial waste thus ensuring that the Waste DPD is net self sufficient and delivers the Waste DPD Spatial Strategy.

6.5 Consultation question 15 seeks specific comments on the proposed landfill site allocations.

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Figure 1. Proposed allocations within Merseyside & Halton



7.0 Energy from Waste

- 7.1 The development of a policy position for Energy from Waste (EfW) has been challenging for the Waste DPD. This is because Merseyside and Halton is in an extremely unusual position of having a large number of consented, but not yet operational, EfW facilities that already more than meet the identified sub regional needs. In addition, the MWDA is at an advanced stage of its resource recovery contract PFI procurement process where it is seeking to procure new EfW facilities. Specifically MWDA is seeking to acquire sites >8 hectares to build new EfW facilities and has been actively seeking to secure such sites. Furthermore, the Ince Marshes EfW facility and Resource Recovery Park immediately adjacent to Merseyside and Halton within the Liverpool City Region has recently been given planning consent.
- 7.2 The Waste DPD site search and technical assessments aimed at identifying suitable and deliverable land for EfW facilities concluded that there are very limited opportunities to allocate new sub regional sites for EfW.
- 7.3 Therefore, in meeting the identified needs for EfW the Waste DPD has needed to take account of the consents within the sub region, the larger regional consents such as Ince Marshes and Ineos Chlor as well as the stated needs and strategy for municipal solid waste.
- 7.4 This unique combination of circumstances led to a period of intense joint working between MWDA and the Waste DPD team to help inform both the MWDA's own procurement processes and the Waste DPD policy position on EfW. This process focussed on assessing the risks of the different procurement and land use options available to meet the identified need of the MWDA.
- 7.5 This risk assessment process is the subject of a separate report to the Liverpool City Region Cabinet (13 November 2009) and is described in supporting document "**Risk Assessment for EfW Options for MSW in Merseyside & Halton**" of the Preferred Options Report. City Region Cabinet resolved that the Waste DPD should, in developing its policy position on EfW, take particular account of the lower risk options which made best use of existing consented capacity within and outside of Merseyside and Halton in preference to allocating new land for EfW. In particular, the recently consented regional facility at Ince Marshes was identified as the preferred location for an EfW solution.
- 7.6 Two policy options have been identified for EfW. A reasoned justification is provided as to the planning merits and constraints for each of these. The preferred policy option being: "for the Waste DPD not to allocate any new sites for Energy for Waste for MSW as well as C&I waste and to rely on existing consented and operational facilities within Merseyside and Halton and the wider North West region."
- 7.7 For the avoidance of doubt, the preferred policy option to not allocate new sites for EfW includes any allocations which could include multiple facilities on a site, such as "Resource Recovery Parks".
- 7.8 Consultation question 10 seeks specific comments of the preferred EfW policy.

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8.0 Development Management Policies

- 8.1 In addition to the proposed site allocations there is a need to provide the waste industry with clear policy guidance about what is and is not acceptable on both allocated and non allocated sites. The development management policies have been prepared in close consultation with the Development Control Managers of each of the Districts and are specifically designed to provide a high degree of development control and certainty. They are designed to be used in concert with and avoid duplication with the District's own development management policies within the LDF.
- 8.2 Six Development Management policies are included within the Preferred Options Report and specific consultation questions are asked on each one.
- 8.3 **Applications for waste management facilities outside of allocated sites** – as land use and industry requirements will change during the plan period the Preferred Options report includes a policy designed to control waste development on land that has not been allocated for waste use (consultation question 17).
- 8.4 **Applications for landfill on non allocated sites** – whilst the landfill allocations discount a number of sites as not being suitable or deliverable for landfill in the future, it is still possible that site owners and operators may still wish to apply for landfill on unallocated sites in the future. This policy is designed to provide a very high degree of control over such activities and as unallocated sites would be more difficult to bring forward as landfill (consultation question 18).
- 8.5 **Open Windrow Composting** – the evidence base has identified that there is no need for new open windrow composting facilities and has therefore not allocated new land for this waste use. This operation has very specific operational constraints and as there is always potential for such operations to satisfy local needs, particularly if existing consents are not fully utilised or are no longer operational. The preferred policy option for open windrow composting facilities therefore provides a high degree of control for this activity (consultation question 19).
- 8.6 **Protecting Existing Waste Management Sites** – by protecting existing waste management sites for future waste management use, the essential waste management infrastructure of the sub region will be protected thus ensuring future waste management needs of the sub region are met. Should other competing land uses result in the displacement of the existing waste management uses then an alternative site will be required to ensure that the waste management needs are still met, unless the need has been met elsewhere (consultation question 20).
- 8.7 **Restoration and Aftercare of Landfill Facilities** – a specific restoration and aftercare policy is required for landfill because of the duration, scale and impact that this activity has on the landscape and environment including mineral and water resources (consultation question 21).
- 8.8 **Criteria for Waste Management Development** – in taking planning decisions on the development of waste facilities it is important that all appropriate information is submitted with the planning application to enable an objective assessment of the planning issues and merits. This policy provides guidance to developers on what information will need to be submitted with a planning application to enable swift determination and avoid any delays in the planning process (consultation question 22).

9.0 Implementation and Monitoring

- 9.1 Chapter 10 of the Preferred Options report covers the implementation and monitoring plan for the Waste DPD including how specific policies will be implemented and whether site allocations are being implemented for waste uses. The section also provides a monitoring plan, largely based on national indicators, to ensure that the evidence base is kept up to date and the effectiveness of the plan can be assessed. It has important interactions with the on-going monitoring programmes of the Districts particularly with respect to their own LDFs.
- 9.2 Consultation question 23 seeks feedback on this implementation and monitoring of the Plan.
- 9.3 The timetable for completing the Waste DPD is set out in **Appendix 4** with adoption expected in April 2012.

10.0 Consultation

- 10.1 Subject to swift District approval and endorsement of the Preferred Options Report a six-week public consultation period will start on 18th February 2010. The approach to consultation has been previously agreed with Leaders and is fully compliant with the adopted Statements of Community Involvement of each District.
- 10.2 The beginning of the public consultation process on Preferred Options will be accompanied by statutory press notices in newspapers covering the six districts, press releases, email and letter communication with all individuals and organisations on the Waste DPD database. A Waste DPD newsletter / information sheet will also be distributed. Copies of the Preferred Options Report and Executive Summary will also be made available for the public at selected Council offices and public libraries.
- 10.3 Consultation will end on 31st March 2010 ahead of the pre-election period, provided that there are no delays in the District approvals processes. Due to the timing of Committee meetings there is a slight overlap with the purdah period of 3 working days.
- 10.4 This core content Committee Report is to be supported by a District specific covering report and a three-page Briefing for Elected Members (see **Appendix 3**).
- 10.5 Once Members have approved and endorsed the Preferred Options report, there will be no further opportunity for the Council to make comments. However, there may be issues which Local Elected Members may wish to comment on individually. Such comments should be submitted during the 6-week public consultation alongside all other consultation comments.
- 10.6 The purpose of the public consultation is to invite comments from all interested parties on the sites, issues and policies covered. The Preferred Options report will be available both in paper format and on a web-based consultation site (<http://merseysideeas-consult.limehouse.co.uk>). The public is invited to make comments in writing or electronically and there is a series of consultation questions to facilitate this process. District officers and the Waste DPD team will be pleased to assist in this process, although anonymous responses or telephone comments will not be accepted.

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- 10.7 Given the sub-regional nature of the Plan , the Preferred Options public consultation will include a single District officer led consultation event in each of the six Districts. All events will be held at an accessible location to comply with all relevant Council policies. Whilst the Waste DPD team will be on hand to support, the consultation events will be led and chaired by an appropriate officer from each of the Districts.
- 10.8 However, a programme of additional stakeholder consultation events will also be developed and agreed with each District. Such events will target specialist groups that have asked for presentations as well as the potential for some more local events should this be required to consider local issues. Once again, these events will be District led, with the Waste DPD Team supporting.
- 10.9 Queries about the Preferred Options Report approval process, endorsement and consultation processes should be referred to the Waste DPD Steering Group officer or other nominated officer from the Districts in the first instance. Should further advice be required from the Waste DPD team, this should be co-ordinated through the District officer and not direct to the Waste DPD team at Merseyside EAS.
- 10.10 At the end of the consultation period all the responses will be collated and a “Results of Consultation Report” will be written summarising the findings. This will be reported to Members as appropriate by District officers as well as being published on the Waste DPD website.
- 10.11 The Districts and the Waste DPD team will work together to take due account of the representations received during Preferred Options consultation. The responses will be used to inform the final development of the Waste DPD Submission Document. (see **Appendix 4**).

11.0 Recommendations

- (i) That each Council approves and endorses the Preferred Options Report.**
- (ii) That each Council agrees to the commencement of a six-week public consultation process on the Waste DPD Preferred Options Report during 2010.**
- (iii) That members note that the Waste DPD forms an essential part of each District’s Local Development Framework.**
- (iv) That the Waste DPD team is delegated to make editorial changes to the Preferred Options Report as a consequence of the District approvals process and comments received.**
- (v) That members receive a further report on the outcomes of the Preferred Options consultation.**

Appendix 1 – Evidence Base, summary of key documents and technical assessments.

- Broad Site Search (SLR Consulting September 2005).
- Initial Needs Assessment (Land Use Consultants September 2005).
- Agricultural Waste Survey (Merseyside EAS April 2007).
- Regional Study on Commercial and Industrial Waste (Urban Mines May 2007).
- Regional Study on Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste (Smith Gore July 2007).
- Revised Needs Assessment (SLR Consulting December 2007) [Needs Assessment version 2].
- Radioactive Waste Review (Merseyside EAS December 2007).
- Planning Implications Report (Merseyside EAS January 2008) [Needs Assessment version 3].
- Review of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Waste Management Facilities (RPS April 2008).
- Review of Health Impacts from Waste Management Facilities (Richard Smith Consulting June 2008).
- Equality Impact Assessment (Merseyside EAS July 2008).
- Survey for Landfill Opportunities in Merseyside (Merseyside EAS - 2008).
- Built Facilities Site Search Methodology
- Sustainability Appraisal – Phase 1 (Mouchel Parkman (2006-7)
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Capita Symonds 2008-9).
- Habitats Regulations Assessment (Scott Wilson 2007-present).
- Sustainability Appraisal – Phases 2 & 3 (Scott Wilson 2007-present).
- Review of Relative Sustainability of Waste Management based on Mass-Burn or Two-Stage Recovery of Energy from Waste (Juniper Consulting 2009).
- Risk Assessment for EfW Options for MSW in Merseyside & Halton November 2009
- Revised Needs Assessment (Merseyside EAS November 2009) [Needs Assessment version 4].

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Appendix 2 – Planning Consents issued for Waste Facilities since Commencement of the Waste DPD.

Operator	Location	Type of facility	Capacity (tonnes)	Position in Waste Hierarchy	Operational status
Orchid Environmental	Huyton, KNOWSLEY	Primary treatment (autoclaving) to produce solid recovered fuel	50,000	Preparation for recovery	Operational (capacity rise to 120,000 pending)
Mersey Docks & Harbour Board	Bootle, LIVERPOOL	Ship breaking and dismantling	Variable	Recycling	Operational
Future Industrial Services Ltd	Kirkby, KNOWSLEY	Reprocessing of plasterboard and some chemical waste recovery	43,000	Recycling	Operational
Eco-Cycle Ltd	Widnes, HALTON	Materials recycling facility (municipal waste) and non-inert transfer station	75,000	Recycling	Operational
Ineos ChlorVinyls (with Viridor)	Runcorn, HALTON	Large-scale direct-burn of pre-treated waste (ie. solid recovered fuel)	Up to 850,000	Recovery	Early stages of site clearance and off-site fabrication
Minerals Resource Management Ltd	Kirkby, KNOWSLEY	Reprocessing of plasterboard and ash into secondary material	88,000	Recycling	Operational
James Industrial Ltd	Prescot, KNOWSLEY	Non-inert waste transfer station with some recycling	69,000	Recycling	Site undeveloped to date
Biossence Ltd	Eastham, WIRRAL	Large-scale primary treatment using gasification technology with heat and power generation	Up to 400,000	Preparation and recovery	Conditions discharged, awaiting site clearance
Biffa Waste Management Ltd	Pocket Nook, ST HELENS	Materials recycling facility (commercial & industrial waste)	Up to 200,000	Recycling	Possibly discharging conditions
Veolia Waste (on behalf of MWDA)	Fazakerley, LIVERPOOL	Materials recycling facility (municipal waste)	100,000	Recycling	Site cleared; discharging conditions?
Energos Ltd	Kirkby, KNOWSLEY	Medium-scale thermal treatment using gasification technology with heat and power generation	Up to 96,000	Recovery	Site cleared; discharging conditions?
D Morgan Ltd	Bold Heath, ST HELENS	Inert landfill	Up to 76,000	Disposal	Revised extraction and backfill with waste
PDM (Granox) Ltd	Widnes, HALTON	Direct-burn of food processing wastes with energy recovery	150,000	Recovery	Construction not started – expansion of existing plant
Cory Environmental	Haydock, ST HELENS	Non-hazardous, non-inert landfill	Up to 425,000	Disposal	Continued operation to 2012 (on appeal)

Appendix 3

Waste DPD Briefing for Elected Members **Overview of Preferred Options Consultation**

Background

Preparation of a Waste Development Plan Document (Waste DPD), which provides a policy framework for waste management, is a statutory duty for all six districts in the Merseyside sub-region (Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral).

The duty derives from EU Waste Directives and UK Government Planning Policy. Given that significant cost, risk and strategic advantages could be identified from working together, the authorities have agreed to produce a joint Waste DPD. The Waste DPD is therefore being prepared jointly by the six Districts with support from the Waste DPD team at Merseyside EAS. The resulting plan will become part of the Local Development Framework for each of the Districts.

The Waste DPD provides the template for managing all types of waste, not just household waste, until 2027, taking into account both national legislation and local and regional considerations. It directs new and appropriate waste management infrastructure to the most suitable locations.

It does not deal directly with the management and treatment of waste produced in Merseyside and Halton. Rather, the Waste DPD aims to set up a long-term planning framework for waste management.

Currently, a Preferred Options report has been drafted and public consultation on this report will take place for six weeks from 18th February 2010, subject to full approval and endorsement from all six districts. Responses to this consultation, and discussions with stakeholders, will then be used to further develop the Waste DPD, which is scheduled to be formally adopted in April 2012.

Consultation programme

The consultation on Preferred Options is the third public consultation on the development of the Waste DPD, and is particularly important, as this is the last opportunity for stakeholders to make major comments on the sites and proposed policy options which may result in changes to policy or site allocations.

There are a number of ways of responding to the consultation. Answering a series of questions asked throughout the Preferred Options report either online or on paper means responses can be processed more efficiently and accurately – but all types of response will be welcome, although anonymous responses cannot be accepted.

The Preferred Options Report and supporting information will be available at <http://merseysideeas-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>, and through council websites, offices and libraries. Consultees are also able to request a paper copy by contacting the Waste DPD team directly.

During the consultation and afterwards, there will be a continuing dialogue and discussion with stakeholders. A public meeting will also be held within each District to provide additional information and answer any questions.

Information on the meetings will be found on www.wasteplanningmerseyside.gov.uk

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Policy issues

The Waste DPD must be consistent with national and regional policy, contributing to achieving the goals of the Waste Strategy for England and the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West, while dealing with local issues and priorities.

The Preferred Options report discusses the core policies for waste management and details the principles that will underpin the Waste DPD. It includes preferred options on sustainable waste management, sustainable transport of waste, sustainable design of new developments, the site selection process, net self-sufficiency and waste management applications outside of allocated sites.

The report also presents a series of policies for Development Management designed to control waste management development on allocated sites as well as other land that may be brought forward for future waste use.

A key section of the report is dedicated to issues around Energy from Waste, where combustion of waste or a fuel derived from waste is used to generate heat and power, to fed into the national grid or used locally in industry. For the avoidance of doubt, the Preferred Options Report is not allocating any new sites for Energy from Waste use.

Proposed sites

The Preferred Options report includes details of the proposed allocations for waste management use, which could become final allocations for the Waste DPD across all six districts.

The proposed allocations are mapped, district by district, and include a brief description and explanation of why they are the preferred sites. The sites have been put forward following a detailed technical assessment process.

Two types of site have been identified:

- sites capable of supporting larger and more complex, sub-regional facilities,
- sites suitable for smaller, district-level, waste management operations.

The Preferred Options Report contains no site allocation for Energy from Waste, as no site has been identified as suitable for this specialised use. In addition, Merseyside and Halton are in a unique position in that there is a large amount of capacity already consented for Energy from Waste facilities in the Districts and adjacent areas. The report therefore concludes that there is no need to make additional allocations for this use.

The Waste DPD has explored landfill disposal potential across Merseyside and Halton. Despite the difficulty of finding such sites, there are two proposed allocations for inert landfills on existing minerals sites, in addition to the one existing consented landfill site in the sub region. It is important that we fully explore landfill opportunities in our sub region rather than assuming waste can continue to be exported to landfill sites outside Merseyside and Halton.

The Report also discusses the need to identify new or replacement sites for Household Waste Recycling Centres, which are provided by Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority. The Preferred Options Report does not allocate sites for this purpose but identifies broad areas where sites will need to be found.

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority

Prior to the publication of the Report, extensive efforts have been made to engage with key stakeholders, such as the Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA).

MWDA is the statutory authority that disposes of municipal solid waste (household waste) for the local authorities across Merseyside.

Whilst MWDA business needs and statutory responsibilities are different from the planning purpose of the Waste DPD, the processes must be aligned as the Waste DPD cannot progress to a sound outcome if it does not cater for the needs of the MWDA.

Similarly, the risks to the MWDA procurement can be significantly reduced with a supportive planning framework. Therefore both the Waste DPD team and MWDA continue to work in partnership to find appropriate solutions.

What happens next?

Following the Preferred Options consultation, the Waste DPD team will consider all responses and evaluate them, with the intention of drawing up a Submission Document by the start of 2011.

The Submission Document will be published so that further representations on the soundness of the Waste DPD can be made before it is submitted to Government for formal consideration and scrutiny (in March 2011). A Results of Consultation Report will also be published following the public consultation that will detail all representations made and the Waste DPD responses.

An examination hearing will then be held: this is an independent examination of the plan by an Inspector, who can hear evidence on unresolved issues from those who have already made representations on the soundness of the Plan as well as those who are supportive of the plan.

The final stage of the process is the adoption of the Waste DPD by each of the Merseyside districts as its statutory spatial plan for waste. This is scheduled for 2012.

Financing the Waste DPD

The costs of preparing the Merseyside Waste DPD are being shared by the six districts. There are significant time and money savings that have already been delivered from working in partnership.

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Appendix 4 Stages to Adoption of the Final Waste DPD

- A2.1 The Land Use Planning System has strict requirements with respect to the process to be adopted and the consultative stages required. The timetable to adoption of the Waste DPD is summarised in the following table.
- A2.2 Further public consultation will take place in 2010 when the Waste DPD is published. This is the final opportunity to make representations on the soundness of the Waste DPD when the plan prior to submission to Government for consideration.
- A2.3 Adoption of the Waste DPD by the 6 Councils will take place once the plan has been found sound at public examination by the Secretary of State's Inspector. Following adoption the Waste DPD will be subject to periodic review as part of the monitoring and implementation framework.

Waste DPD Project Timetable and key milestones.

Commencement of Plan preparation*	December 2006	Current Status
Public Consultation on Issues and Options Report.	March to April 2007 (6 weeks)	Complete
Public Consultation on Sites and Spatial Strategy Report.	December 2008 – February 2009 (8 weeks)	Complete
Results of consultation report published.	May 2009	Complete
Preferred Options Report to Council/Committee/ Executive for approval as appropriate.	December 2009 – February 2010 (10 weeks)	On-going
Public Consultation on Preferred Options and Sustainability Appraisal Environment Report	February - March 2010 (6 weeks)	
Draft Waste DPD / Sustainability Appraisal Final Report for Full Council approval.	August 2010 (22 weeks)	
Publication of the Waste DPD	January 2011 (6 weeks)	
Submission Waste DPD / Sustainability Appraisal Final Report/ Representations following publication to DCLG.	March 2011 (6 weeks)	
Joint Examination in Public.	July 2011	
Full Council meetings	January 2012 (13 weeks)	
Adoption of Waste DPD	April 2012	
Implementation and Monitoring	May 2012 onwards	

REPORT TO: Planning Committee
Cabinet
Council

DATE: 13th January
14th January
14th January

SUBJECT: Article 4(2) Direction for
Moor Park Conservation Area

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** Manor

REPORT OF: Planning and Economic Regeneration Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Dorothy Bradwell

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To seek Committee, Cabinet and Council's Agreement to make an Article 4(2) Direction within Moor Park Conservation Area so that planning permission will be required for a greater range of alterations to properties, helping to ensure that the character of the Conservation Area is maintained.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

- a) To meet the Council's duty under section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- b) To follow up on the recommendations of the adopted Moor Park Conservation Area Appraisal.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Planning Committee :

- recommend to Cabinet that the Moor Park Article 4(2) be made.

That Cabinet, subject to Planning Committee's recommendation above:

- recommend to Council that the Moor Park Article 4(2) be made.

That Council subject to the above recommendations:

- authorises the making of a Direction under Article 4[2] of the Town and Country Planning [General Permitted Development] Order 1995 (as amended) in respect of the Moor Park Conservation Area.

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KEY DECISION: N/A

FORWARD PLAN: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: N/A

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

a) Article 4(1) Direction

This would require the Secretary of State's agreement and is a more lengthy process. The scope of permitted development rights that could be removed is much wider and more applications would be submitted as a result. In the Moor Park conservation area it is felt that the scope of an Article 4(2) Direction is sufficient and therefore an Article 4(1) is not recommended.

The operation of the Article 4(2) Direction will be kept under review as to its effectiveness and ease of use and it may be necessary to revisit an Article 4(1) as a future option.

b) Not to make a direction

This would be against the wishes of the local residents association and would leave the conservation area open to further harm from unsuitable development.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: N/A

Financial: There is the potential for compensation claims. However, as the claimant has to demonstrate that abortive expenditure or other loss or damage has been incurred, claims very rarely arise.

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

INTERNAL

The Development Control Service, who will be administering the applications, have been consulted for their views and are in support of the proposal.

Legal Department have been consulted and their recommendations have been incorporated into the report

FD280 – the Finance and IS Director has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into this report

EXTERNAL

Letters have been received from the Moor Park Residents Association whom have been asking for an Article 4 Direction to be made for the conservation area. Specific problems that have been identified by the Residents Association include the loss of grass verges, erection of uncharacteristic walls, changes to roofing materials and insertion of upvc windows.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		*	
2	Creating Safe Communities		*	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		*	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		*	
5	Environmental Sustainability	*		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		*	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		*	
8	Children and Young People		*	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment

'Heritage at Risk' English Heritage, 2009.

Moor Park Conservation Area Appraisal, Sefton MBC, March 2008

Agenda Item 11

1. BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 places a statutory duty on local planning authorities to prepare proposals for the preservation and enhancement for any conservation areas that they designate.
- 1.2 It is under this duty that the Moor Park Conservation Area appraisal was carried out. The appraisal identifies the elements that contribute to the character of the area, and notes negative factors and suggests opportunities for enhancement. The appraisal recognises that a growing number of properties have lost historic features and had uncharacteristic alterations made to them. As a consequence one of the recommendations of the appraisal was for an Article 4 Direction to be made.
- 1.3 An Article 4 Direction brings about the removal of permitted development rights, meaning that a greater range of alterations to houses will require planning permission before being carried out. This would help to avoid the further loss of historic features important to the character of the conservation area.
- 1.4 Applications for planning permission for work, which prior to the Direction would have been automatically permitted, do not incur a fee. In Sefton one conservation area, Sefton Village, has an Article 4 Direction. Overall a relatively low number of applications are received as a result of this. The Council's experience with the Sefton Village Article 4 Direction is that it has been successful and is well understood by residents.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 There are two options available to the Council, either an Article 4(1), or an Article 4(2) Direction. The Article 4(1) direction has been ruled out as an option for reasons given above.
- 2.2 With an Article 4(2) the range of rights which can be removed affect only works to properties on elevations that front the highway. In the Moor Park area the fronts of the properties are the key area where restriction over changes would be most beneficial and would have the greatest effect on preserving the appearance of the conservation area.
- 2.3 The works that will be newly brought under planning control include the following:

Changes to front elevation (e.g. windows & doors, rendering, painting)

Alterations to roofs and chimneys

Erection of front walls/gates

Hard landscaping front gardens

- 2.4 The formal wording of the Article 4(2) Direction is given in Appendix 1
- 2.5 The public consultation process is built into the way that Directions are made. Once a direction is in force it remains so for up to 6 months, during this time the opinions of residents are canvassed and representations can be made to the Council. A leaflet and questionnaire is being prepared to help gain resident's views.
- 2.6 Unless, the Direction is confirmed, by the Council within 6 months, then the Direction will cease to be in effect.
- 2.7 While it is possible to carry out consultation before making an Article 4 Direction this is not the preferred option as it helps to avoid a situation arising whereby a resident may rush to carry out uncharacteristic works prior to the direction being made. Additionally it is helpful in that residents can 'try out' the system, therefore enabling them to make more informed judgements about its effects. Also, residents would not in effect be consulted twice.
- 2.8 A further report will be presented to Council before the end of the six month consultation period, so that a final decision can be made, to either confirm the Article 4 Direction or remove it.

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Appendix 1 - formal text of the Article 4(2) Direction:

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT)
ORDER 1995 (as amended)

DIRECTION MADE UNDER ARTICLE 4(2)

WHEREAS Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council being the appropriate local planning authority within the meaning of article 6 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, are satisfied that it is expedient that development of the descriptions set out in Schedule I below should not be carried out on land in the Moor Park Conservation Area being the land shown edged in red in Schedule II, unless permission is granted on an application made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

NOW THEREFORE the said Council in pursuance of the Power conferred on them by article 4(2) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 hereby direct that the permission granted by article 3 of the said Order shall not apply to development on the said land of the descriptions set out in the Schedule below to the extent permitted by Article 4(2)-(5) of the 1995 Order.

THIS DIRECTION is made under article 4 (2) of the said Order and in accordance with article 6 (7) shall remain in force until the *DATE* and shall then expire unless it has been confirmed by the said Council. Any representations concerning the Direction should be made to:

Planning Director, Sefton MBC, Magdalen House, 30 Trinity Road, Bootle, L20 2NJ
by the *DATE*.

SCHEDULE I

Class A of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to the said Order, consisting of the enlargement, improvement or other alteration of a dwellinghouse, where any part of the enlargement, improvement or alteration would front a highway, waterway or open space;

Class C of Part 1 of that Schedule, where an alteration would be made to a roof slope which fronts a highway, waterway or open space

Class D of Part 1 of that Schedule, consisting of the erection or construction of a porch outside any external door of a dwellinghouse where the external door in question fronts a highway, waterway or open space;

Class F of Part 1 of that Schedule, consisting of the provision within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse of a hard surface for any purpose incidental to the enjoyment of the

dwellinghouse as such; or the replacement in whole or in part of such a surface, where the hard surface would front a highway, waterway or open space;

Part 1 of that Schedule, consisting of the erection, alteration or removal of a chimney on a dwellinghouse or on a building within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse.

Class A of Part 2 of that Schedule, consisting of the erection, construction improvement or alteration of a gate fence wall or other means of enclosure, where the gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure would be within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse and would front a highway, waterway or open space;

Class C of Part 2 of that Schedule, consisting of the painting of the exterior of any building or work, where the painting of the exterior of any part, fronts a highway, waterway or open space, of –

- (i) a dwelling house; or
- (ii) any building or enclosure within the curtilage of dwellinghouse.

Class B of Part 31 of that Schedule, consisting of the demolition of the whole or part of any gate, fence wall or other means of enclosure, where the gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure is within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse and fronts a highway, waterway or open space.

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SCHEDULE II



Sefton Council Planning & Economic Regeneration Department Andy Wallis - Director <small>Planning & Economic Regeneration is part of the Regeneration & Environmental Services Directorate</small>	Moor Park Conservation Area Article 4 (2) Crosby		Standard Site Plan Scale: 1:2545 Date: 23/12/2009 Drawn By: FEARY on Contact Officer: vep Plan Ref: 2.6.2 Ward(s): Manor, Victoria Postcode Sector(s): L23 9, L23 2, L23 4 Polling District(s): NS, NE, SE, SW Parish(es): Thornton Cp
	OSGR: 332787, 400403	Sheets:	Area: 584679 sqm

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Agenda Item 12

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member Technical Services
Cabinet

DATE: 13th January 2010
14th January 2010

SUBJECT: Southport Cycle Town 2009/10 - Revised Work Programme

WARDS AFFECTED: Ainsdale, Dukes, Norwood

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis, Planning & Economic Regeneration Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Dave Marrin, Traffic Services Manager
0151 934 4295

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To inform Members of an additional funding allocation and to seek approval to revise the funding allocations for individual schemes within the approved Cycle Town Work Programme for 2009/10

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To allow delivery of schemes within the Cycle Town Work Programme in 2009/10

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:

Cabinet Member Technical Services:-

- i) Note the report:

Cabinet:-

- i) Approve the inclusion of the capital funding from Cycling England / Department for Transport into the 2009/10 Capital Programme:

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the 'call in' period for the minutes of the meeting

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

None

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IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: The funding will be from a Department for Transport Grant administered through Cycling England

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	250,000			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources	250,000			
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y	31.3.10			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS – The Finance and Information Services Director has been consulted on the report and has no comments - FD 283 .

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None

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Southport Cycle Town – Working Programme 2009/10

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 A report was submitted to the Cabinet Member – Technical Services at his meeting of the 29th July 2009 and to the Cabinet at its meeting of the 6th August 2009 which detailed the Southport Cycle Town – Working Programme for 2009/10. The approved Capital Working Programme is shown below

Capital	£'000
East West Link - Design Fees for the preliminary design and 2 nd round of Public Consultation to develop proposals for an east/ west link across the town. Delivery of Scheme to commence Jan 2010. This will be linked to the delivery of a Local Safety Scheme in the Portland Street Area and a Route Action Scheme on Cemetery Road	220
Wennington Road - Design Fees for the preliminary design and Public Consultation for a cycle route along Wennington Road to be delivered Autumn 2009	80
Seafront Cycle Facilities – Completion of Seafront Circular Route and links to Town Centre	147
Selworthy Road Link – Link to Coastal Road route from Birkdale / Hillside	10
Cycle Parking – Ongoing Provision of cycle parking and cycle lockers within the town and district centres	30
Pontins Trans Pennine Trail Diversion – Contribution to scheme funded through LTP	3
Signing – Develop comprehensive route signing strategy with indicating key destinations and travel times along key routes on seafront and coastal path to Formby	10
Schools(Parking/ Infrastructure) - Improved cycle parking/ access improvements to Secondary Schools	25
Cycle Hire – Purchase of Bikes	40
Total Capital	565

- 1.2 All funding for the programme is provided by The Department for Transport through Cycling England.

2.0 Additional Funding

- 2.1 For some time concerns have been expressed by cyclists regarding the cycletrack, which runs alongside the Coastal Road to Ainsdale (Pontins Roundabout). These concerns have been recognised by Cycling England.
- 2.2 The track was built some years ago and is part of the Trans-Pennine Trail. For the majority of its length it is only some 1.5 metres wide, which creates problems when cyclist pass each other or cyclists pass pedestrians. The track is also perceived as not being particularly pleasant to use due to the close proximity of a large volume of high-speed traffic (speed limit on this section of the road being 50mph).
- 2.3 There has long been an aspiration to create a more pleasant track along this route, however, funding has not been available.
- 2.4 In October 2009 Officers of the Council were approached by Cycling England with a suggestion to develop the route and were informed that an additional Capital Grant may be available during the 2009/10 financial year to enable the works to be completed.
- 2.5 Subsequently in November, confirmation was received from Cycling England that £250,000 had been allocated to Sefton Council to complete the route.
- 2.6 This report now seeks the inclusion of this funding in the 2009/10 Capital programme
- 2.7 It is anticipated that the route can be delivered by the 31st March 2010.

3.0 Amendments to existing programme

- 3.1 Members will note the allocation of £80k to deliver a cycle route along Wennington Road. Whilst discussions are continuing with Councillors regarding the form of this route it will not be possible to deliver a scheme on the ground during 2009/10. Consequently, it is proposed that the allocation to the Wennington Road scheme will be reduced to £5K for the current financial year. The remaining £75k will be used to further develop the Seafront Cycle facilities and routes.

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 That the Cabinet Member Technical Services note the report.
- 4.2 That the Cabinet approve the inclusion of the capital funding from Cycling England / Department for Transport into the 2009/10 Capital Programme:

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REPORT TO: Cabinet Member Leisure and Tourism
Cabinet Member Environmental
Cabinet

DATE: 6th January 2010
13th January 2010
14th January 2010

SUBJECT: Pathfinder Fund

WARDS AFFECTED: Harington, Ravenmeols.

REPORT OF: Mike McSorley, Head of Regeneration and
Technical Services and
Graham Bayliss, Leisure Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Graham Lymbery – Project Leader Coastal
Defence
Tel: 0151 934 2960
Dave McAleavy, Head of Coast and Countryside
0151 934 2967

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To seek approval to accept the DEFRA grant offer and include part of the project expenditure in the Capital Programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Following a report brought to the Cabinet Member Environmental on the 19th of August 2009 it was agreed that a further report would be brought in the event that the Pathfinder bid was successful.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Cabinet Member Leisure & Tourism :

- 1) approve acceptance of the DEFRA grant offer amounting to £337,000.

That the Cabinet Member Environmental :

- 1) approve acceptance of the DEFRA grant offer amounting to £337,000.

That Cabinet :

- 2) be requested to include the Capital elements of the project in the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix A totalling £145,000 to be fully funded from DEFRA grant.

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KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: Not applicable

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: Total grant of £337,000 has been awarded for spending by 31st March 2011. This is split between Capital and Revenue as shown below.

	2009/10 £	2010/11 £	2011/12 £	2012/13 £
<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>				
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	30,000	115,000		
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources	30,000	115,000		
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	26,000	166,000		
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources	26,000	166,000		
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Yes	31/03/11			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	Project ceases 31/3/11			

Legal: None

Risk Assessment: The 2nd year allocation of grant (Capital £115,000 and Revenue £166,000) is ‘indicative’ only. Although highly unlikely, the 2010/11 grant could be withdrawn which would require the Council to fund any commitments from it’s own resources.

Other specific risk areas are detailed in the report.

Asset Management: None

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 265 - The Finance Director has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated into this report

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2	Creating Safe Communities	√		
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		√	
8	Children and Young People		√	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 DEFRA launched a consultation on their Coastal Change Policy (June 2009) which considers issues around how communities can adapt to a changing coastline in the context of future climate change. Included within this is a fund to establish a number of Pathfinder Authorities that are at the forefront of this type of work and can test new approaches and subsequently share the lessons learnt. The overall fund is £11 million to be spent within this and next financial year. Applications were required to be submitted by the 11th of September 2009. The grant rate is 100%.
- 1.2 The Coastal Defence Team have developed an application in partnership with the Leisure Services Coast and Countryside Service that will focus on capturing our experience to date and undertaking a number of actions in the Formby area including community engagement, plan development and access works. The grant offer from DEFRA is non ring-fenced and is for £337,000. It is anticipated that Pathfinder status would benefit the Council in future applications if this funding source is continued in later years.
- 1.3 The grant does not commit any additional Council resources now or in the future and does not require match funding. Analysis of anticipated spend relating to the award is shown in Appendix A of this report.

2.0 Project Description

2.1 Community Engagement

- 2.1.1. The aim is for the community to have a better understanding of coastal change and the problems arising from it so that they can participate in deciding on an appropriate way forward and be prepared to both make and accept some of the 'hard' decisions.
- 2.1.2. This would be delivered via three mechanisms that complement and build upon existing work; a community outreach officer, a project with schools and parents and a project engaging with the residents of the caravan site that is under threat.
- 2.1.3 A Community Outreach Officer would focus on the Formby area but will also encourage wider participation from residents across Sefton. This element of the project has two key remits; the first is to promote understanding through talks, walks, newspaper articles and such like focussed specifically on the issues facing the community of Formby. The second is to engage the

community through volunteering, this not only provides an opportunity for education of the community but also for them to develop a much greater ownership of their environment and this hopefully will encourage wider participation. There would be additional benefits in relation to the health agenda but these are peripheral to our aims.

- 2.1.4 The Schools and Parents Project would seek to work with not only children but adults via their children. Working with primary schools in Formby through the North Sefton City Learning Centre we would work with the children to develop their understanding of coastal change and climate change and then extend the work to involve their parents; a key element of this would be discussion of possible options and their relative benefits. This would be designed to obtain a baseline of current understanding of climate change (which can be compared to the NW of England response for the same questions) and of coastal change. Subsequent surveys would then evaluate any change in attitudes over time within the target groups and enable the team to explore changing attitudes to coastal and climate change in space and time. This project would be delivered in partnership with the North Sefton City Learning Centre and the National Trust.
- 2.1.5 The Caravan Site Residents Engagement would seek to promote an understanding of their predicament through documentation of residents' long standing experience with the site. This is a very intimate approach suitable for a small and discrete community such as that found at the caravan site. There would also be an opportunity for the residents to undertake some sand dune management work. It is anticipated that this would help with the understanding of the problem and offer ownership of the problem. This project would be delivered in partnership with the National Trust.
- 2.1.6 The community engagement would be further supported through material developed using visualisation science. This work would be undertaken by Dr Andy Heath, a Visualisation Scientist who has 20 years scientific visualisation and programming experience including web development, he is also the Photographer in Residence for Liverpool University. A summary of Heath's work and interests can be found at <http://pcwww.liv.ac.uk/~aeh>. The work would focus on showing past and future coastal change at Formby Point using modern approaches to the manipulation of visual data.

2.2 Planning for Adaptation

- 2.2.1 The aim would be to set out key decisions in a timely and sustainable manner so as to optimise the timing and design of any investment. A substantial amount of work is already underway to support the development of the Adaptation Strategy for the coast but two specific areas that would benefit from additional funding are plans looking at dune slacks and at car park provision.

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- 2.2.2 The Dune Slack Study would supplement some work already undertaken to identify the potential for dune slack creation (see later) but this was only done for areas that had previously experienced sand extraction, not in a comprehensive manner across Formby Point, and set in the context of the wider sand dune system. Dune slacks are a valuable habitat and Sefton currently contains approximately 40% of the dune slacks in England but the roll-back of the coast will destroy a number of them and also lead to fragmentation of this habitat both in terms of distance and the nature of habitat between slacks. This study would build upon current work looking at potential future extents of habitats to establish where and when dune slacks should be located and what associated works would be required to avoid habitat fragmentation. It would also consider the work being undertaken on dune hydrology when designing new slacks given that climate change is predicted to lead to lower water tables on average. The work would be delivered in Partnership with the National Trust and would make use of the wide range of expertise found within the Sefton Coast Partnership.
- 2.2.3 The work on the Car Park Study would build on initial consultation already undertaken in relation to the car park at Victoria Road which is currently being inundated by sand dunes with its foundations being exposed by erosion of the frontal dunes. Key areas to be addressed in such a study would be the design of the sand dune restoration following removal of the car park, an outline design of the replacement car park and a consideration of the balance of car parking provision between the two principle sites on this area of coast. All this is required in order to progress discussions with the public, to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment and to identify costs for inclusion in future budget applications. This work would be delivered in Partnership with the National Trust.
- 2.2.4 The two actions above represent the extremes of adaptation, planning for future dune slacks can be considered to be proactive in that it is identifying actions prior to the optimum implementation point passing; the work on the car park is reactive, responding to a problem caused by past decisions when the optimum time for intervention has long past and it is a case of trying to limit the damage.

2.3 Adaptation Actions

- 2.3.1 The aim will be to undertake actions that improve our understanding of designing and implementing adaptation actions in a sustainable and timely manner so as to inform future approaches. There are two key areas that can be addressed through actions within the time period available for this funding, the first relates to access and the second to dune slacks.
- 2.3.2 Whilst there is an acceptance that access in a natural environment can be challenging and that it is not possible to provide easier access all the time there is a general expectation that in a limited number of locations there

should be improved access provision such as boardwalks. The problem with boardwalks in a dynamic environment is that as the sand dunes erode not only is the support for the structure undermined or lost but the loading conditions are increased as more of the structure is exposed to tidal energy. This action would design and construct a boardwalk in such a way as to be both able to withstand short term changes without having to be closed and to be able to be adapted in a planned manner to match in with the changes in the future position of the coastline. Based on the knowledge gained from this it will be possible to assess the relative merits of a more robust but expensive structure compared to cheaper but more vulnerable alternatives.

- 2.3.3 Whilst there is a requirement for a broader study considering dune slacks a previous study considering areas of past sand extraction has already identified a number of locations where new slacks can be created in anticipation of the loss of old slacks to coastal change. This would be of clear value in habitat terms and would be a valuable activity for volunteers to participate in and thus gain a broader appreciation of the coastal environment and coastal change.

2.4 Dissemination

- 2.4.1 As a Pathfinder dissemination is a key element of the work to be undertaken and this would be achieved via two mechanisms. The first would be through having an academic Partner who can provide scientific rigour to our approaches in a research context and would also provide support in the evaluation, documentation and collation of the lessons learnt through the various adaptation activities being undertaken on the Sefton Coast. This would ensure that the process is well documented and presented and that it can be presented to both an academic and practitioner audience.
- 2.4.2 The second would be through offering to host a conference towards the end of the funding period where the results from the various Pathfinders can be presented and collated in to conference proceedings. This could be structured under the three themes of community engagement, planning for adaptation and adaptation actions along with a fieldtrip to Formby to see adaptation in action and participate in some marram planting. The conference would be facilitated through the North West Coastal Forum who have significant experience of organising and promoting such events. This would provide a significant opportunity to collate and disseminate the results of the initial Pathfinder funding and potentially consider further funding opportunities.

3.0 Delivery and Programme

- 3.1 The project will be delivered with key Partners within the Council including Coastal Defence, Coast and Countryside Service and North Sefton City Learning Centre and also Edge Hill University, Liverpool University and the

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National Trust. The programme is set out below and Partners will lead on different elements as set out in Appendix A.

Key milestones	Estimated start date	Estimated end date
Community Outreach Officer	To be appointed by December 2009	March 2011
Schools and Parents Project	Planning work to commence in April 2010	Completion by December 2010
Caravan Site Residents Engagement	Planning work to commence in April 2010	Completion by December 2010
Formby Point Visualisation	To commence November 2009	Completion by December 2010
Dune Slack Study	To commence in April 2010	Completion by December 2010
Car Park Study	To commence in January 2010	Completion by December 2010
Boardwalk construction	Planning and design to commence November 2009	Completion by November 2010
Dune Slack Creation	Work to commence May 2010	Completion by March 2011
Dissemination outputs	Work to commence April 2010	Completion by January 2011
Conference	Preparation to commence in June 2010	Conference held in February 2011

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The activities along with budget allocations are set out in Appendix A.
- 4.2 The grant is non ring-fenced and is approved over the years 2009/10 and 2010/11 as shown in Appendix A.
- 4.3 A key element of the bid was to demonstrate Partnership working and as such we will draw down funding for the key Partners but release of this money will be on a staged basis based on activities undertaken to ensure that the funds are properly administered. As this is a research project the only criteria is to provide outputs to inform the development of good practice guides and to participate in some of the workshops developing these.
- 4.4 The Community Outreach Officer will be a new appointment for a fixed period to March 2011, and any redundancy costs have been budgeted for.

5.0 Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member Leisure & Tourism :

- 1) approve acceptance of the DEFRA grant offer amounting to £337,000.

That the Cabinet Member Environmental :

- 1) approve acceptance of the DEFRA grant offer amounting to £337,000.

That Cabinet :

- 2) be requested to include the Capital elements of the project in the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix A totalling £145,000 to be fully funded from DEFRA grant.

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APPENDIX A

Activity	Delivery lead	Expected outcome	2009-10	2010-11
Community Outreach Officer REVENUE	Sefton MBC	Better educated and engaged communities able to participate in decision making.	£15,000	£35,000
Schools and Parents Project REVENUE	North Sefton City Learning Centre	Better educated and engaged communities able to participate in decision making.	0	£15,000
Caravan Site Residents Engagement REVENUE	National Trust	Better educated and engaged communities able to participate in decision making.	0	£20,000
Formby Point Visualisation REVENUE	Liverpool University	Better educated and engaged communities able to participate in decision making.	£2,000	£3,000
Dune Slack Study REVENUE	Sefton MBC	Key decisions planned out in a timely and sustainable manner so as to optimise the timing and design of any investment.	0	£25,000
Car Park Study REVENUE	National Trust	Detailed approaches set out to inform the next stage of community engagement.	£5,000	£20,000
Boardwalk construction CAPITAL	Sefton MBC	Improved understanding of design and implementation of adaptation actions in a sustainable and timely manner.	£30,000	£75,000
Dune Slack Creation CAPITAL	Sefton MBC	Improved understanding of design and implementation of adaptation actions in a sustainable and timely manner.	0	£40,000
Dissemination outputs REVENUE	Edge Hill	Documentation of lessons learnt in an appropriate manner and format to share with other users.	0	£20,000
Conference REVENUE	North West Coastal Forum	Sharing of lessons learnt between Pathfinders at the Conference and to a wider audience via the proceedings.	0	£12,000
Project Management REVENUE	Sefton MBC	Project run to time and budget.	£4,000	£8,000
Contingencies REVENUE	Sefton MBC	To cover unforeseen variations in costs.		£8000
Total			£56,000	£281,000

Agenda Item 14

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER FOR LEISURE AND TOURISM
CABINET

DATE: 6TH JANUARY 2010
14TH JANUARY 2010

SUBJECT: CROSBY COASTAL PARK; DRAFT MASTER PLAN AND PHASE 1
WORK

WARDS AFFECTED: CHURCH, BLUNDELLSANDS, MANOR

REPORT OF: GRAHAM BAYLISS
LEISURE DIRECTOR

CONTACT OFFICER: PHIL ESSEEN (0151 934 2392)
Dave McAleavy (0151 934 2967)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet Member on progress with the Master Plan for Crosby Coastal Park, and to seek approval for the Phase 1 works.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Cabinet Member's approval is required to enable progress of the master plan and procurement of the proposed Phase 1 works.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism:

- i.) Notes the work done to date, and approves the first draft master plan.
- ii.) Authorises the Leisure Director to seek competitive tenders for the Phase 1 landscape works
- iii.) Notes that the Leisure Director will accept the lowest tenders for the works in accordance with delegated powers identified in the Council's Constitution
- iv.) Requests Cabinet to include the additional sum of £26,879 (from Section 106 deposits) for Crosby Coastal Park in the Department's Capital Programme.

Cabinet:

- i) Approves that the increase to the scheme of £26,879 be included in the capital programme, to be funded from Section 106 deposits, bringing the total scheme costs of the Phase 1 works for Crosby Coastal Park to £226,879

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Member meeting.

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not drawing up a master plan would mean that any future developments may be unco-ordinated and may result in poor value for money. Not spending the capital allocation would mean that the area around the new facilities such as the CLAC and the new Play Area are poor quality and reflect badly on the Council.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: £200,000 in Capital Programme for 2009/10. 26,879 from Section 106.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure		26,879		
Funded by:		26,879		
Section 106				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE</u>				
<u>IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N				
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: There are no legal implications directly associated with this report.

Risk Assessment: Not appropriate.

Asset Management: Not appropriate.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Finance and Information Services Director has been consulted and his comments are included in the report FD269.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities	✓		
3	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	✓		
5	Environmental Sustainability	✓		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet dated 27th January 2007; "Crosby Coastal park Improvements"

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1. **Background**

- 1.1 Cabinet, in January 2007, recommended that the master plan for Crosby Coastal Park be updated and a phased costed development programme be produced.
- 1.2 Crosby Coastal Park is defined as the coastal open space between Seaforth Docks in the south and Hightown in the north. It includes the Seafront Gardens and Potters Barn in Waterloo, and the Promenade, dunes and the beach which run along its western boundary. A Location Plan of the area is shown in Annexe A.
- 1.3 A number of key projects have been developed in the area over recent years, which have increased the status of the coastal park, and attracted an increasing number of local users, and visitors from further afield. These projects include Crosby Leisure Centre, 'Another Place' sculptures, the new Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre, on-going improvements to the Marine Lake and the surrounding footpaths and landscape infrastructure, and the proposed 'Big Lottery Fund' Play Area to be constructed by summer 2010.
- 1.4 It is therefore important to consider the wider context of the coastal park, how the different centres of activity link together, and how the park may be developed in the future to maximise its potential as a strategically important recreational facility for local communities and a significant tourist attraction for Sefton.
- 1.5 The best way of achieving this is to draw up a master plan for the medium and long- term development of the area.

2. **Consultation**

- 2.1 Extensive consultation has been carried out over the past few months with various groups of people, including:
 - Ward members
 - Council officers
 - Local community groups
 - Wider public.
- 2.2 The consultation indicates that there is strong support for a master plan for the area, and demand for improvement works to start on site as soon as possible, to maximise the potential of the new facilities, such as the new Lakeside centre and the BLF Play Area.
- 2.3 A report on progress to date, and the Draft Master Plan will also be taken to Crosby Area Committee, and any significant issues raised at the meeting will be reported back to Cabinet Member.

3.0 Initial Report of Issues

3.1 An 'Initial Report of Issues' has been produced, incorporating the findings of the consultation exercises. This report discusses the key areas which need to be addressed by the master plan. These are summarised under the following headings:

- Identity and Character
- Access and Circulation
- Linkages and Facilities
- Activities
- Heritage
- Habitats and Wildlife
- Coastal Protection
- People management
- Park management and maintenance

3.2 The initial report is included in Annexe B.

4.0 Draft Master Plan

4.1 The initial findings have been developed into a 'first draft' master plan. A previous plan, which was drawn up 4 years ago has also been considered in the design.

4.2 The first draft master plan will be available to view at the Cabinet Member meeting.

4.3 The plan aims to address the issues raised to date and set a direction for the long-term development of the park. It will be used as a reference point for the design of any projects in the park in the future. It will also be used as a basis for attracting external funding for individual schemes within the overall master plan, by showing that the development of the area has been considered in context with the wider environment.

4.4 Subject to approval of this first draft by Cabinet Member (Leisure and Tourism), further consultation and design work will be carried out on the master plan to produce a definitive version. The Master Plan will be then be presented to Cabinet Member (Leisure and Tourism) for final approval.

5.0 Delivery

5.1 Following its formal adoption, funding will be sought to implement the master plan in phases. Due to the scale of the work, it is likely to take several years to achieve the desired results. However, having an overall strategic direction for the park will enable funding packages to be assembled for discrete areas of work, and also enable the Council to be ready to take up any opportunistic funding that may be available.

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- 5.2 Although the master plan which has been produced is a realistic document, and does not include any extravagant or unachievable proposals, the full master plan will take several millions of pounds to realise it, over a number of years (due to the scale of the site). It will therefore be necessary to prioritise work according to what is most urgent and what funding is available.
- 5.3 A programme of higher priority works has been identified to commence implementation of the master plan. These works concentrate on improving the most heavily used area of the park, between the ends of South Road and Cambridge Road, including the area around the proposed new play area and Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre.
- 5.4 The programme of works include:
- Improvements to the key 'gateway' entrances to the park at South Road, Cambridge Road and Great Georges Road.
 - Improvements to the access road from Cambridge Road.
 - A new viewing platform at a key location to the end of the South Road footpath
 - New footpaths to link key features in this area
 - Repairs to the lake edge in this area
 - Interpretation and signage in the park
 - Pilot project to establish dune vegetation along Promenade towards Burbo Bank
- 5.5 £200,000 is available for the above works from Leisure Services' Capital Programme. This funding is programmed for expenditure in 2009/10. There is also £26,879 available from Section 106 funding for recreational open space improvements in Crosby Coastal Park, which is also to be allocated to the Phase 1 works for 2010/11.
- 5.6 The works will be tendered to appropriate contractors taken from the Select List for Landscape Construction Works and will be accepted via delegated powers.
- 5.7 The draft programme for the Phase 1 works is
- Tender acceptance: January 2010
 - Start on site: January 2010
 - Phase 1 works complete: March 2010

ANNEXE B:

INITIAL REPORT OF ISSUES:

This report summarises the main issues which have arisen through the research, consultation and early feasibility work to date. This information has been used to feed into the master planning process, and the production of the First Draft Master Plan.

This document will form the basis of a more comprehensive Report of Issues which will be worked up along with the draft master plan to produce a final version.

Identity and Character

Current Situation and Issues

The Coastal Park is given a strong character by its proximity to the coast, and the typical regional maritime landscape of beach, sand-dunes, and grassland. This character should be preserved.

The character is important as it gives the park a strong identity, which helps to promote the area and make it distinct from other urban parks and recreational areas. It also creates a sense of unity from one end to the other.

Many of the recent additions to the park have been sympathetic with the character of the area. For example, the new Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre fits in well with the coastal theme, with its use of timber cladding, jetties and boardwalks, stone gabions and a wildflower meadow on its roof-garden.

Draft Proposals

All new work within the coastal park should be designed with the local character in mind, both on the macro scale (e.g. when improving large open spaces or buildings) and on the micro scale (e.g. when selecting materials, furniture and signage).

A palette of suitable materials should be developed which can be used throughout the park whenever new work is being carried out. Improvements to entrances along the length of the Coastal Park, for example, if following a standard design and using similar materials, will help to improve the common identity of the park, as will selection of appropriate furniture, surfacing, signage, planting, etc.

Access and Circulation

Current Situation and Issues

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There are already a number of key access points along the length of the park, linking different communities with the open space. This helps to promote the use of the whole area, and gives community 'ownership' to certain sections of it. Links are also good with public transport, particularly the train stations at Waterloo, Hall Rd East and Hightown. Links with the wider cycle path network are also strong.

Although the number of access points is probably sufficient, the quality of these entrances is variable and generally poor. There is little to welcome visitors to any of the main access points, and some of the key approaches to the park (along Cambridge Road and South Road) are particularly uninviting.

Circulation through the site is generally stronger in an east-west direction (linking access points with the Promenade) than in a north-south direction. The strong north-south route is the Promenade, which continues along a partly tarmac track to Hightown. However, there is no 'return' route leading through the park, and visitors usually have to use the same route in both directions.

Consultation has also indicated the demand for a better continuous path around the Marine Lake. This circular route is currently interrupted around the locality of the play area and CLAC, meaning that people have to walk on the grass or along the access road in order to do a complete circuit.

One of the key issues with circulation is the lack of access from the Seafront Gardens to the remainder of the Coastal Park. A high brick wall at the interface between the two means that there is no connectivity, and this results in the Seafront Gardens being less well used, and therefore subject to anti-social behaviour and abuse.

Draft Proposals

All entrances to the park should be upgraded using a common approach, depending on whether they are primary access points (i.e. an entrance which will be regularly used by thousands of visitors) or secondary ones (i.e. those used mainly by smaller numbers of mainly local communities). This will help to create a better sense of unity throughout the area, and will improve the important first impressions of the park. This in turn should lead to greater use, better surveillance and a decrease in anti-social behaviour. Entrance improvements could include signage, lighting, furniture gateway features etc.

To improve circulation in the park, an alternative route which goes in a north-south direction through the grassed area from Burbo Bank to the Marine Lake would provide a greater series of options for walkers and cyclists, as well as the possibility of escaping from the extremes of wind and sand blow at certain times. It would also encourage the increased use of the park for running, cycling etc. Improved circulation around the Marine Lake will also assist in better use of the park for informal recreation.

Access between the Seafront Gardens and the wider Coastal Park could effectively be enabled by creating openings in the walls, and constructing new footpaths to link in with the existing footpath system. These openings could be gated in the same way that all the other entrances to these parks are. This improved circulation would help to increase the foot traffic through the Gardens, increase the natural surveillance and eliminate some of the hidden spots within them. The existing shelters in some of the gardens would be a good point to create these links, and they would effectively become an entrance feature for the Gardens.

Facilities and Linkages

Current Situation and Issues

There are a significant number of important leisure facilities of local and regional importance in the park. These include Crosby Beach, Crosby Leisure Centre, 'Another Place' sculptures, the new Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre, Crosby Marine Lake, the Seafront Gardens and Potters Barn, the proposed 'Big Lottery Fund' Play Area to be constructed by summer 2010, and sites of nature interest, particularly towards Seaforth and Hightown.

The provision of toilets and refreshments are always considered of major importance by park users in large recreational areas such as these, and the consultation has raised these as key issues. There are a number of toilets available for public use in the park, at the CLAC, Crosby Leisure Centre, and at Burbo Bank. Similarly there are refreshments currently available at the South Road entrance, CLAC, Crosby Leisure Centre, and (via a mobile franchise operation) at Burbo Bank. In addition, there are toilets off-site opposite Waterloo Station and numerous cafes along South Road.

There are a number of car parks available for visitors to the site, specifically near the Cambridge Road entrance, around the CLAC, at the end of the access road, Blucher Street, Crosby Leisure Centre and Burbo Bank. There is also a certain amount of on-road parking along the length of the park. Provision of car parking is an issue, however, particularly to the south of the park, around the more active areas. A major influx of visitors in the summer, using the facilities in the park and accessing the beach, places a very heavy demand on the existing car parking areas. This intensity of use at peak times is likely to increase as the number and quality of attractions increases.

Proposals

The main centres of activity need better linkages, to promote better access between them for pedestrians, cyclists etc. Physical improvements such as paths and cycle routes are one obvious way to achieve this, but signage within the site and from the

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main approaches is also important. Marketing and promotion also needs to address the 'whole package' which is on offer.

The former toilet block at the South Road entrance is no longer in use, and given the new facilities at Waterloo Station and the CLAC, it would not be economically feasible to re-open these. A future use for the building as some type of community facility, such as a storage area / base for volunteer gardeners should be considered.

There have also been requests for further toilet facilities, especially along the Promenade between Seaforth and Blundellsands. However, the capital costs of building facilities here would be considerable, particularly due to the distance of the nearest utilities (water and sewage). Maintenance costs would also be high, and the remote nature of these locations would make them susceptible to abuse. The Council is therefore unlikely to fund provision or maintenance of further toilets.

There has been a long-standing demand for improved refreshment facilities near to the car park at Burbo Bank. The popularity of this car park suggests that such a facility could be sustained and would be of a strong benefit to the park.

The provision of new car parking areas to cater for the current and potentially increased demand will have to be balanced against their high cost and aesthetic and environmental considerations, and the fact that for a large proportion of the time, many of the parking spaces will be empty due to the seasonal nature of the park use.

One solution may be to provide 'overspill' car parking with a reinforced turf or 'grasscrete' surfacing, which could be used at peak times, but would help to preserve the green nature of the park.

The car park near to the South Road entrance / Marine Gardens has been raised a number of times in the consultation, mainly with regards to its restricting access and circulation around this area, and the visual issues around having a car park in this prominent location. Again, future relocation of this parking facility could be carried out, but would have to be balanced against cost and the priority in the overall scheme of works to be carried out on a limited budget.

Signage and furniture are also generally considered of high importance, particularly by local residents, and improvements to facilities such as these, while not appearing to be of strategic importance, will have a marked effect on people's enjoyment of the park.

Activities

Current Situation and Issues

There are a number of established activities associated with the park. These include:

- Informal recreation, such as walking, cycling, jogging, ball games, beach activities, dog walking, picnics, kite flying, play, wildlife watching,

- Formal recreation, mostly associated with the Marina, and including canoeing, sailing and other water-sports.

Proposals

There is potential for an increased diversity of activities in the park. The opening of the new CLAC offers up potential for further activities to be run from this building, using the park as well as the Marina, and offering a wider range of pursuits for disabled visitors.

The new 'BLF' funded play area project will include a temporary play worker post, and this person will engage children and young people in outdoor play throughout the park, maximising the potential of the wider coastal environment and not just the built play facilities.

Heritage

Current Situation and Issues

The historically most important areas within the Coastal Park are the Seafront Gardens and Potters Barn. These gardens have an interesting design and are of great interest to the local community, who wish to see them improved or restored. The large areas concerned mean that costs for improvement works are very high. Some works have taken place to manage and improve the vegetation over the last few years using a planned approach and funded by small amounts of revenue budgets when available. Significant amounts of funding, however, will be needed to carry out restoration works on the railings and footpaths of the Seafront Gardens, and the building in Potters Barn.

Potters Barn Park is currently owned by Peel Holdings, as part of their land holding around Seaforth Docks. The land and building is leased to Sefton Council, but the terms of the existing lease are not sufficiently secure for the Council to apply for external funding to carry out restoration or improvement works. Dialogue is on-going with Peel Holdings to enable a new lease to be secured, but negotiations have not been successful to date.

Proposals

The existing planned refurbishment of the Seafront Gardens should continue, subject to availability of resources. The community involvement in this scheme has been very beneficial in improving these areas, and additional funding should be sought from appropriate sources in partnership with the 'Friends of Seafront Gardens'. As discussed previously, improved connections between the Gardens and the wider Coastal Park should be created to improve circulation and natural surveillance within these areas.

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The dialogue with Peel Holdings should be continued to try and resolve the leasing issues at Potters Barn Park, and, subject to a satisfactory agreement, Potters Barn and the surrounding park can be used more effectively as a gateway to the Coastal Park, and a site of important local heritage.

Habitats and Wildlife

The coastal park, including the foreshore, extending from the Freeport to the River Alt, is afforded numerous nature conservation designations. The shore and most of the Hightown Dunes and Meadows are a Site of Special Scientific Interest and Special Area of Conservation. The foreshore is also a Special Protection Area and Ramsar site in respect of wetlands and migratory birds. The whole of the site is a Site of Local Biological Interest in the UDP.

Coastal Protection

The Shoreline Management Plan and Coastal Defence Strategy take into account the issues relating to the management and maintenance of the promenade and sand dunes as important coastal protection features. Although the strategy identifies the long-term plans for maintaining the defences in the short-term there are proposals to lower and fix parts of the sand dunes above the promenade and transfer sand to Hightown to strengthen the frontal dunes. This work will contribute to the objectives of the master plan.

Park management and maintenance

Current Situation and Issues

The Seafront Gardens and Potters Barn Park are maintained by the Landscape Development and Management Section of Leisure Services, along with the other formal parks in Sefton.

Recent consultation has indicated that the issues of most concern to local residents in the management of these gardens are:

- Litter
- Rodents
- Neglected areas
- Anti-social behaviour
- Dog-fouling
- Lack of toilets
- Lack of park keeper
- Lack of sports facilities

Proposals

Due to the age of the Seafront Gardens, they are now in a condition where they need considerable investment to resolve such issues as poor and time-worn

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infrastructure. Some changes of maintenance of the planting and lawned areas are also required, particularly to the recently improved areas of shrub planting.

The local community is pro-actively involved in the maintenance and care of the Seafront Gardens, and their input is a very positive step forward for the future of the Gardens.

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Agenda Item 15

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 14th January 2010

SUBJECT: Proposed Health and Social Care Directorate Office (DAT facility)
221 to 223 Knowsley Road, Bootle

WARDS AFFECTED: Linacre

REPORT OF: Alan Moore
Strategic Director - Communities

CONTACT OFFICER: David Kay
Architecture and Buildings manager
Tel No. 0151 934 4527

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

This report is to seek approval for the inclusion of grant funding in the Capital Programme in order to be able to undertake the provision of the proposed facility.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To authorise acceptance of grant funding into the Capital Programme.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:

- (i) Cabinet approves acceptance of the £80,000 in specific grant funding for inclusion in the Health and Social Care Capital Programme.
- (ii) Subject to (i) above and to Planning Consent, authorise the Head of Technical services and Regeneration to proceed with the works as proposed.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: Not Appropriate

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately following expiry of the call in period

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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

All alternative options have been considered and have been discounted.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Specific Grant funding of £120,000 has been provided to the Council in order to provide the requirements of this project.

The sum of £80,000 has already been deposited with the Authority in order to meet the capital cost of the refurbishment works. The balance of £40,000 will be utilised to meet initial revenue costs.

Financial

Subject to Cabinet approval the Head of Technical Services and Regeneration will proceed with the works as proposed.

The cost of the initial Building Works phase has been established at £54,939.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	£80,000			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources	£80,000			
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	£40,000			
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources	£40,000			
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	March 2010			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A			

Legal: Not appropriate

Risk Assessment: Not appropriate

Asset Management: The proposals have been considered and approved by the Strategic Asset Management Group at its meeting held on 3rd November 2009.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN / VIEWS

The Finance & Information Services Director has been consulted and any comments have been taken into account in preparing this report – FD284.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	√		
2	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being	√		
5	Environmental Sustainability	√		
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8	Children and Young People	√		

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Capital Programme

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Sefton Drug Action Team (DAT) are in receipt of a government grant of £120,000 in order to provide an out reach facility offering a first point of contact and assessment of needs for drug users in the South of the borough.
- 1.2 Under the terms of the partnership arrangement, with Merseyside Police and Sefton NHS among others, Sefton MBC has undertaken to provide the necessary accommodation for the team.
- 1.3 A property, 231 - 233 Knowsley Road, Bootle, has been identified as being suitable to meet the DAT's requirements for the new facility and heads of terms have been agreed with the properties landlord.
- 1.4 It will however be necessary to undertake certain refurbishment, alteration and fit out works in order for the facility to fully meet the DAT's requirements.
- 1.5 A scheme of proposed building works has been identified and a total cost of £54,939 has been established.

2.0 ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 The grant funding for the scheme was originally provided to the Council's partner organisation, and the DAT's accountable body, Sefton NHS.
- 2.2 Sefton NHS have however now deposited £80,000 of the funding with Sefton in order that the Authority can meet the capital cost of the refurbishment works. The £40,000 balance of funding will also be deposited with the Authority and will be utilised to meet initial revenue costs.
- 2.3 Members are requested to consider approving the inclusion in the Health and Social Care Directorate Capital Programme the sum of £80,000 in specific grant funding with which to meet the capital costs of providing the new facility.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- (i) Cabinet approves acceptance of the £80,000 in specific grant funding for inclusion in the Health and Social Care Capital Programme.
- (ii) Subject to (i) above and to Planning Consent, authorise the Head of Technical services and Regeneration to proceed with the works as proposed.

Alan Moore
Strategic Director for Regeneration and Deputy Chief Executive

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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