

MEETING: CABINET
DATE: Thursday 10th June, 2010
TIME: 10.00 am
VENUE: Town Hall, Southport

Member

Councillor

Robertson (Chair)
Booth
Brodie - Browne
P Dowd
Fairclough
Maher
Moncur
Parry
Porter
Tattersall

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Steve Pearce
Head of Committee and Member Services
Telephone: 0151 934 2046
Fax: 0151 934 2034
E-mail: steve.pearce@legal.sefton.gov.uk

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.

This page is intentionally left blank.

A G E N D A

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 20 May 2010		(Pages 7 - 24)
* 4.	Corporate Parenting Working Group Report Report of the Assistant Chief Executive	All Wards;	(Pages 25 - 66)
5.	Equalities Working Group Report Report of the Assistant Chief Executive	All Wards;	(Pages 67 - 72)
6.	Medium Term Financial Plan 2010/11 - 2013/14 Report of the Chief Executive to follow	All Wards;	
7.	Workforce Planning Report of the Director of Corporate Services	All Wards;	(Pages 73 - 80)
* 8.	Housing Capital Programme 2010/11 Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director	All Wards;	(Pages 81 - 88)
9.	Sure Start Early Years And Childcare Grant - Quality And Access 2010/2011 Extended Schools Capital Allocation 2010/2011 Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	Blundellsands; Ford; Sudell;	(Pages 89 - 94)

10.	Targeted Capital Fund - Additional Schemes 2010/11 Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	All Wards;	(Pages 95 - 100)
11.	General Capital Schemes at Various Schools Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	Ainsdale; Derby; Kew;	(Pages 101 - 104)
12.	Children's Personal Social Services Capital Allocation 2010/11 Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	All Wards;	(Pages 105 - 108)
13.	Christ Church C. E. Primary School, Bootle - Capital Scheme Report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families	Derby;	(Pages 109 - 112)
14.	Charging for Specialist Transport Service Report of the Adult Social Care Director	All Wards;	(Pages 113 - 120)
15.	Bus / Taxi - Framework Agreements Report of the Operational Services Director	All Wards;	(Pages 121 - 126)
16.	Kew Housing and Employment Site Southport - Progress Update Report of the Strategic Director - Communities	Kew;	(Pages 127 - 134)
17.	Sex Establishment Licence - Sexual Entertainment Venue Report of the Environmental and Technical Services Director	All Wards;	(Pages 135 - 148)
* 18.	Thornton Switch Island Link Scheme Report of the Planning and Economic Development Director	Manor; Molyneux; Netherton and Orrell; Park; Ravenmeols; St. Oswald;	(Pages 149 - 160)

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|----------------------|
| 19. | Hawthorne Road Corridor Improvements
Marsh Lane to Province Road - Acceptance
Of Tender | Derby; Litherland; | (Pages 161 -
166) |
| | Report of the Planning and Economic
Development Director | | |
| 20. | Joint European Support for Sustainable
Investment in City Areas | Kew; Litherland;
Netherton and
Orrell; | (Pages 167 -
178) |
| | Report of the Planning and Economic
Development Director | | |
| * 21. | REECH (Renewable Energy And Energy
Efficiency In Housing) | Church; Derby;
Linacre;
Litherland;
Netherton and
Orrell; | (Pages 179 -
194) |
| | Report of the Planning and Economic
Development Director | | |
| 22. | Moor Park Conservation Area Article 4(2)
Direction | Manor; | (Pages 195 -
208) |
| | Report of the Planning and Economic
Development Director | | |
| 23. | 40 Lancaster Road Birkdale - Urgent Works
Notice | Dukes; | (Pages 209 -
214) |
| | Report of the Planning and Economic
Development Director | | |
| 24. | Provision of Grant Funding for Capping
Layer and Gas Protection at the Tannery
Site | Litherland; | (Pages 215 -
220) |
| | Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment
Programmes Director | | |
| 25. | Cabinet Member Reports | All Wards; | |
| | a) Cabinet Member - Children's Services (Pages 221 - 222) | | |
| | b) Cabinet Member - Corporate Services (Pages 223 - 228) | | |
| | c) Cabinet Member - Communities (Pages 229 - 232) | | |
| | d) Cabinet Member - Environmental (Pages 233 - 234) | | |
| | e) Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care (Pages 235 - 238) | | |

- f) **Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism** (Pages 239 - 242)
- g) **Cabinet Member - Performance and Governance** (Pages 243 - 248)
- h) **Cabinet Member - Regeneration** (Pages 249 - 250)
- i) **Cabinet Member - Technical Services** (Pages 251 - 252)

26. 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.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 27. Remediation Contract and Works - Tannery and Penpol Sites | Litherland; | (Pages 253 - 260) |
| Report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director | | |

THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE 2010. MINUTE NO. 10 IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN".

CABINET

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT ON THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Shaw and Webster

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received:

Member	Minute No.	Reason	Action
Councillor Fairclough	15 - Treasury Management 2009/10 - Fourth Quarter Update	Personal - His employer is referred to in the report	Took part in the consideration of the item and voted thereon

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 15 April 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

4. DEMENTIA WORKING GROUP - FINAL REPORT

The Cabinet considered the report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) Working Group which undertook a scrutiny inquiry into issues around dementia in the Borough.

Councillor Webster, Lead Member of the Working Group outlined the key findings and recommendations of the scrutiny inquiry and responded to questions from Cabinet Members.

RESOLVED: That

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

- (1) care home providers be advised by the Social Care and Well Being Directorate that it is considered to be essential for all care staff in care homes, particularly Elderly, Mental and Infirm (EMI) homes, and domiciliary care staff, to receive training and attend training courses in relation to all aspects of dementia;
- (2) the Social Care and Well Being Directorate be requested to consider and report back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) on the possibility of the implementation of a voluntary local kite mark or certificate, stating that the staff at care homes have undertaken training in all aspects of dementia care;
- (3) the Social Care and Well Being Directorate be requested to consider and report back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) on the possibility of delivering training to care staff within some of the larger care homes and that all care homes be advised of relevant training courses and invited to attend;
- (4) the intention for officers of the Social Care and Well Being Directorate to visit 2 star homes within the Borough be welcomed and the Strategic Director be requested to report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) on the possibility of extending this to provide for officers to undertake visits to all care homes that are likely to have residents who have dementia;
- (5) the Social Care and Well Being Directorate be requested to prepare information on dementia and its early detection, to appear within the Directorate's web pages on the Council's website, providing links to the local Alzheimer's Society and other useful organisations;
- (6) information on raising awareness of dementia, for all members of the public, be prepared by the Social Care and Well Being Directorate and circulated by the Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services with the Council Tax demands for 2011/12, the wording to be approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care), prior to its circulation;
- (7) it be acknowledged that dementia, and care for people with it, particularly for those people living alone without support networks, will increase in the future and place increasing demands on the Council and the NHS;
- (8) it be noted that Members of the Dementia Working Group intend to submit a motion to Council in due course, requesting support for a cross-political motion, calling on the Government to recognise that Sefton has a high number of older people which is likely to increase, within its population, and that the Central Government Formula Grant should allow the Council to meet adequately the needs that this section of the community requires, in order for them to achieve good quality of life, based on relevant age thresholds

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

that adequately reflect the additional costs incurred in caring for an elderly population;

- (9) the work undertaken by young carers of people with dementia be acknowledged and the Strategic Director of Social Care and Well Being be requested to report on the provision of respite for them;
- (10) the development of the Sefton Dementia Strategy be welcomed and progress be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) on an annual basis;
- (11) NHS Sefton be requested to provide information regarding:-
 - (a) the amount allocated to deliver the national dementia strategy, whether this figure is ring-fenced and what it will be used for; and
 - (b) care of patients with dementia who are admitted to hospitals;
- (12) NHS Sefton be requested to ensure that GPs are provided with:-
 - (a) training, in order to detect early signs of dementia; and
 - (b) full information on treatment and support available within the Borough;
- (13) NHS Sefton be requested to note that it is considered to be good practice for GPs to follow up those patients who go into care and nursing homes and to visit them, and to cascade this information to GPs throughout the Borough;
- (14) Mersey Care NHS Trust be requested to consider:-
 - (a) extending facilities for dedicated memory clinics throughout the Borough, particularly in the south and east, to possibly include the centres for health and well-being; and
 - (b) whether the standard of testing at memory clinics requires revision; and
- (15) One Vision Housing, and other large social housing providers within the Borough, be requested to consider implementing mechanisms to identify and offer support to, customers with early signs of dementia, particularly those who live alone.

5. SEFTON CITY LEARNING CENTRES - CAPITAL REDEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Further to Minute No. 145 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Children's Services held on 4 May 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families seeking approval

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

to the implementation of schemes at the South and North Sefton City Learning Centres based at Ainsdale C.E. High School and Savio Salesian College to be funded from the Capital Redevelopment Grant Allocation for 2010/11.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the schemes detailed in the report be approved, and
- (2) the schemes be included in the Children, Schools and Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

6. MAGHULL HIGH SCHOOL - SPECIALIST SCHOOLS REDESIGNATION CAPITAL GRANT

Further to Minute No. 143 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Children's Services held on 4 May 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families seeking approval to the implementation of a scheme to enhance the facilities at Maghull High School following its redesignation as a specialist school for Arts.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the proposed scheme be approved as detailed in the report; and
- (2) the scheme be included in the Children, Schools and Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

7. AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN - ADDITIONAL SCHEMES

Further to Minute No. 144 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Children's Services held on 4 May 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Children, Schools and Families seeking approval to the implementation of schemes at Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre to be funded from the Aiming High for Disabled Children Capital Allocation.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the schemes detailed in the report be approved, and
- (2) the schemes be included in the Children, Schools and Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

8. DEMOLITION OF BALLIOL HOUSE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities which indicated that the application to the North West Development Agency for funding towards the demolition of Balliol House had been unsuccessful owing to programme commitments elsewhere. The report

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

set out the options for the financing of the project, including the marketing of disposal assets.

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 revised proposal for the demolition of Balliol House, with a total cost of £1.3m;
- (3) the capital programme provision for this scheme be increased by £0.55m and be met from prudential borrowing;
- (4) officers be authorised to seek tenders for the demolition of Balliol House;
- (5) approval be given to the marketing of the former 'Z' blocks site in Netherton, with any resultant proceeds being used to accelerate the repayments of the debt incurred on the initial phases of the Accommodation Strategy; and
- (6) it be noted that a further report will be submitted to the Cabinet if the sale of the 'Z' blocks site is agreed.

9. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES - PROGRESS REPORT 4

Further to Minute No. 282 of the meeting held on 4 February 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities which provided details of the progress made with regard to Expressions of Interest submitted for funding from funding bodies and an update on further external funding opportunities.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

10. PROVISION OF NEW SPORTS CHANGING FACILITY - PORTLAND STREET SOUTHPORT

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities on the tenders received for the provision of a new sports changing facility at Portland Street Playing Fields, Southport.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Subject to the confirmation of receipt of all funding for the scheme, the lowest tender submitted by Nobles Construction Ltd. of Liverpool in the sum of £349,500 be accepted; and

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

- (2) the Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be requested to enter into a formal contract with the successful tenderer; and
- (3) it be noted that the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) had given her consent under Rule 17 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules, for this decision to be treated as urgent and not subject to “call in” on the basis that any delay in the implementation of the decision will mitigate delays during the design development process and allow the required completion date to be achieved.

11. BIRKDALE HIGH SCHOOL - REFURBISHMENT OF SCIENCE LABORATORIES

The Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities on the tenders received for the refurbishment of five science laboratories at Birkdale High School.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be given to the inclusion of the scheme at Birkdale High School in the Children, Schools and Families Capital Programme 2010/11 in the sum of £328,527;
- (2) the lowest tender submitted by John Denman Associates of Darlington in the sum of £294,527 be accepted; and
- (3) the Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be requested to enter into a formal contract with the successful tenderer.

12. SOUTHPORT CULTURAL CENTRE - AWARD OF THE SECOND STAGE TENDER

Further to Minute No. 15 of the meeting of the Cabinet Urgent Business Committee held on 21 January 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities which sought approval to the award of the Second Stage tender for the construction of the Southport Cultural Centre and provided an update on the progress of the project.

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 underwriting of a further £400k of funding to the project from the Capital Programme. This funding contribution to be reduced by the amount of any further funding offered to the project from either the North West Development Agency or Sea Change or value engineering reductions;

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

- (2) on the basis of the two stage tendering exercise completed, a contract be entered into with Bovis Lend Lease of Preston for the delivery of the Southport Cultural Centre project for a Target Cost of £11,366,801;
- (3) based upon the Officers' advice, approval be given to the waiving of the requirement for a Performance Bond for Bovis Lend Lease and reliance be placed upon the parent company guarantee; and
- (4) that the Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be given authority to negotiate new leases with the owners of Cambridge Walks as part of the process of securing consent to the proposed works.

13. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010/11 - APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Cabinet considered the report of the Assistant Chief Executive seeking the appointment of representatives to serve on the General Assembly of the Local Government Association (LGA) for 2010/11 and to attend the Annual Meeting to be held on 6 July 2010 at Bournemouth; and agreement on the distribution of the voting power between the representatives appointed.

The Authority had been invited to nominate up to four representatives to attend and exercise the Council's votes at the meetings of the LGA General Assembly.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Councillors Brodie-Browne and P. Dowd be appointed named representatives to attend meetings of the General Assembly of the LGA in 2010/11 and the Annual Meeting on 6 July 2010; and
- (2) the distribution of the voting power between the representatives appointed be as follows:

Councillor Brodie-Browne - 3 votes

Councillor P. Dowd - 2 votes.

14. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2010/11

The Cabinet considered a report of the Assistant Chief Executive which sought the appointment of Council representatives to serve on Outside Bodies set out in the report for 2010/11 or for periods longer than one year. Details of the existing representation on Outside Bodies was set out in the report.

RESOLVED: That

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

- (1) the following Members be appointed to serve on the undermentioned Outside Bodies for 2010/11:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>
ACME Board (pan-Merseyside Arts)	2	Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr. Booth) and the Leisure and Tourism Director
Aintree University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	1	Cabinet Member - Health and Social Care (Cllr. Porter)
British Resorts and Destination Association	2	Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr. Booth) and the Assistant Director (Tourism)
Community Foundation for Merseyside	3	Cllrs. Cuthbertson, Kerrigan and B. Rimmer
Environmental Protection UK	3	Cllrs. Dutton and P. Hardy and the Environmental and Technical Services Director (or their nominees)
Formby Pool Trust - Board	2	Cllr. Griffiths and Mr. R. Paul (Leisure and Tourism Department)
Frank Hornby Trust	3	Cllr. Robertson and Mr. M. Kundi (Economic Regeneration Manager) and Mr. J. Keogh (Altside Business Village Partnership Manager)
Investigation of Air Pollution Standing Conference	2	Cabinet Member - Environmental (Cllr. Tattersall) and the Environmental and Technical Services Director (or their nominees)

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>
John Goore's Charity, Lydiate	1	Cllr. Fenton
Liverpool City Region Cabinet	1	Leader of the Council (Cllr. Robertson) (substitute representatives - Cllrs. P. Dowd and Parry)
Liverpool City Region Housing and Spatial Planning Board	2	Cabinet Member - Regeneration (Cllr. Maher) (substitute representative - Chair of the Planning Committee - Cllr. Tweed)
Liverpool John Lennon Airport Board	1	Leader of the Council (Cllr. Robertson)
Liverpool John Lennon Airport Consultative Committee	1	Cllr. Brady (or his nominee)
Local Government Association:		
- Coastal Issues Special Interest Group	1	Cllr. Brady (or his nominee)
- General Assembly	2	Cllr. Brodie-Browne (3 votes) and Cllr. P. Dowd (2 votes) (see minute 13 above)
- Urban Commission	2	Cllr. Moncur (2 votes) and Cllr. B. Rimmer (3 votes)
Local Solutions	1	Cllr. Tweed
Mersey Forest Steering Group	1	Cllr. Griffiths (substitute representative - Cllr. P. Hardy)

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representatives</u>	
Merseyside Port Health Committee	6	<u>Member</u>	<u>Substitute</u>
		Cllr. Larkin Cllr. Gustafson Cllr. Glover Cllr. Kerrigan Cllr. Sumner Rimmer Cllr. Tweed	Cllr. Hands Cllr. Cluskey Cllr. Pearson Cllr. Mahon Cllr. B. Cllr. Veidman
Mersey Waterfront Regional Park Board	1	Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr. Booth)	
Merseyside Pension Fund Pensions Committee	1	Cllr. Ibbs (substitute Cllr. McIvor)	
Merseyside Playing Fields Association	1	Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr. Booth) (substitute representatives - Cllrs. Cummins and Griffiths)	
Merseyside Police Authority Appointments Committee	3	Leaders of the 3 Political Groups - Cllrs. P. Dowd, Parry and Robertson (or their nominees)	
Merseyside Strategic Transportation and Planning Committee	2	Cllrs. Dodd and Fairclough	
Merseyside Third Sector Technology Centre (3TC)	1	Cabinet Member - Regeneration (Cllr. Maher)	
Merseytravel Advisory Panel (Sefton Division)	3	Cllrs. Griffiths, Sumner and Veidman (or their nominees)	

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>
NewHeartlands Board	1	Cabinet Member - Regeneration (Cllr. Maher) (substitute Cllr. Fairclough)
North West Home Safety Council	3	Cllrs. Dutton, P. Hardy and Tonkiss and the Environmental and Technical Services Director (or their nominees)
North Western Local Authorities' Employers' Organisation	1	Cabinet Member - Corporate Services (Cllr. Parry) (or nominee)
One Vision Housing Board	2	Mr. R. Connell and Mr. D. Hardy
PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London) Adjudication Joint Committee	1	Cllr. Fairclough (substitutes - Cllrs. Parry and Robertson)
Raven Meols Community Centre, Formby - Management Committee	2	Cllrs. Griffiths and McIvor
Sefton Business Village Partnership	1	Leader of the Council (Cllr. Robertson)
Sefton Chamber of Commerce and Industry	3	Cllrs. Cluskey, Lord Fearn and Porter
Sefton Coast Partnership Board	3	Cllrs. Cummins, Griffiths and McGuire (or their nominees)
Sefton Council for Voluntary Service	3	Cllrs. Hill, Doran and Veidman

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>
Sefton Cultural Forum	2	Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr. Booth) and Leisure and Tourism Director
Sefton Cycling Forum	3	Cllrs. Cluskey, Pearson and Weavers
Sefton Education Business Partnership	3	Cabinet Member - Children's Services (Cllr. Moncur) and 2 spokespersons (Cllrs. Cuthbertson and Preece)
Sefton Equalities Partnership	1	Cabinet Member - Communities (Cllr. P. Dowd)
Sefton F.A.S.T. (Families and Schools Together) Steering Group	3	Cabinet Member - Children's Services (Cllr. Moncur) and 2 spokespersons (Cllrs. Cuthbertson and Preece)
Sefton New Directions Limited Board	3	Cllrs. Brennan, Parry and D. Rimmer (Non-Executive Directors)
Sefton Sports Council	3	Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism (Cllr. Booth) and 2 spokespersons (Cllrs. Cummins and Griffiths)
Southport Business Enterprise - Board of Management	3	Cllrs. Byrom, Lord Fearn and Porter
Southport Partnership	4	Cllrs. Byrom, Porter and Tattersall (3 Cabinet Appointees) and Chair of the Southport Area Committee
Southport Pier - Board of Trustees	3	Cllrs. Byrom, Lord Fearn and Glover (or their nominees)

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>
Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education (SACRE)	3	Cabinet Member - Children's Services (Cllr. Moncur) and 2 spokespersons (Cllrs. Cuthbertson and Preece) with their Deputies as substitutes
The Mersey Partnership Board	1	Cabinet Member - Regeneration (Cllr. Maher) (substitute representative - Cllr. Fairclough)
Trans Pennine Trail Members Steering Group	2	Cabinet Member - Technical Services (Cllr. Fairclough) and Chair of the Planning Committee (Cllr. Tweed) (or their nominees)
TREND (Trust for Regeneration and Enterprise Development Limited)	1	Cllr. Tweed
University of Liverpool - Court	6	Cllrs. Cuthbertson, P. Dowd and Preece in addition to the Mayor, Chief Executive and Strategic Director of Children, Schools and Families, who are ex-officio Members

(2) in relation to those appointments for a longer period than one year, the following persons be appointed to serve on the Outside Bodies indicated:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>	<u>Term of Office Expires</u>
North West Reserve Forces and Cadets Association	1	Cllr. Byrom	15.5.2011 (3 year appointment)

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>	<u>Term of Office Expires</u>
North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee	2	Cllr. Glover and one Labour Representative	30.6.2012 30.6.2012 (3 year appointment)
<u>Charities</u>			
Ashton Memorial Fund, Formby	3	Cllr. Griffiths Rev. A. Woodhouse Mr. L.A. Street	31.5.2011 (4 year appointment)
Consolidated Charities of Thomas Brown and Marsh Dole	2	Cllr. Ibbs Cllr. Dutton	26.6.2014 26.6.2012 (4 year appointment)
Halsall Educational Foundation	1	Cllr. Parry	21.5.2011 (2 year appointment)
Mayor of Crosby's War Relief Fund	7	Mr.T.V. Beswarick Cllr. Papworth Cllr. Cummins Cllr. Hill Cllr. Webster Mr.J.R.M. Heppell Mr. N. Goldrein	30.9.2011 30.9.2011 30.9.2012 30.9.2012 30.9.2012 30.9.2012 30.9.2014 (4 year appointments)
<u>Governing Bodies</u>			
Hugh Baird College, Bootle	1	Cllr. Hill	3.2.2014 (4 year appointment)
Peterhouse School, Southport	1	Cllr. Glover	July 2014 (3 year appointment)

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>No. of Representative(s)</u>	<u>Representative(s)</u>	<u>Term of Office Expires</u>
St. Mary's College, Crosby	2	Cllrs. Hill and Dorgan	May 2014 (3 year appointment)

15. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2009/10 - FOURTH QUARTER UPDATE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Interim Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services which provided an update on the Treasury Management Activities undertaken during the fourth quarter of 2009/10.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

16. SEFTON COAST LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

Further to Minute No. 110 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member - Leisure and Tourism held on 21 April 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Leisure and Tourism Director which sought approval to the development of a Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme with the Council acting as the accountable body and provided details of the offer of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the cost of the scheme.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) officers be authorised to complete the necessary agreements with partners for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme;
- (3) approval be given to the Council, as the accountable body, accepting the offer of grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund;
- (4) the Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be authorised to enter into a contract with the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Sefton Coast Landscape Partnership Scheme.

17. LAND AT PALMERSTON AVENUE, LITHERLAND

The Cabinet considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director which sought approval to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in the site at Palmerston Avenue, Litherland, to Liverpool Housing Trust, for less than "best consideration".

RESOLVED: That

Agenda Item 3

CABINET- THURSDAY 20TH MAY, 2010

- (1) approval be given to the disposal of the Council's freehold interest in the site at Palmerston Avenue, Litherland, to Liverpool Housing Trust for £1, on terms and conditions as previously approved by the Cabinet on 20 April 2006; and
- (2) the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director in consultation with the Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be granted delegated authority to agree any other terms as are necessary to enable the completion of the transaction.

18. RESTRUCTURE OF THE TAXI LICENSING ENFORCEMENT TEAM AND REDUCTION OF DRIVER LICENCE FEES

Further to Minute No. 105 of the meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 19 April 2010, the Cabinet considered the report of the Environmental and Technical Services Director which sought approval to the restructure of the Taxi Licensing Enforcement Team and the reduction of the hackney carriage and private hire driver licence fees.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to:

- (1) the temporary increase in the establishment of the Taxi Licensing Enforcement Team;
- (2) the increase in the 'Hackney Stands' budget; and
- (3) the Taxi Licensing Fees set out in Annex 1 of the report.

19. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve 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.

20. PROVISION OF "GAP" FUNDING TO KEEPMOAT LIMITED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF 69 DWELLINGS FOR SALE AND SOCIAL RENT AT QUEENS ROAD, BOOTLE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director which sought approval to provide 'gap' funding for the development of new housing for sale and rent at Queens Road, Bootle, using funding from the Council's Housing Market Renewal Programme.

RESOLVED:

That approval be given to a total Gap Funding Grant of £875,895 being made available to Keepmoat Limited subject to the completion of the necessary grant agreement for land remediation and the development of 69 new dwellings at Queens Road, Bootle and subject to confirmation of Homes and Communities Agency 'Kickstart' grant funding for the scheme.

21. INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTRE SCARISBRICK AVENUE SOUTHPORT

Further to Minute No. 188 of the meeting held on 29 October 2009, the Cabinet considered the report of the Strategic Director - Communities which provided details of the progress made with regard to the development of the Independent Living Centre at Scarisbrick Avenue, Southport, and sought approval to the appointment of Thomas Barnes to undertake the fit-out works.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) approval be given to the appointment of Thomas Barnes to undertake the fit out works for the Independent Living Centre as outlined in paragraph 3 of the report;
- (2) approval be given to an increase in the provision for the Independent Living Centre of up to a maximum of £43,112. The sum of £20,000 can be met from the 2010/11 capital allocation for social care in the Health and Social Care capital programme with the balance of £23,112 being met from prudential borrowing; and
- (3) the existing Lease Agreement between Sefton Carers and Sefton Council for the Shopmobility operation on Tulketh Street Car Park be terminated and the vacated space be reverted back to Tulketh Street Pay and Display Car park.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 4

Meeting: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(CHILDREN'S SERVICES);

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

CAINET MEMBER - CHILDREN'S SERVICES

CABINET

Date of Meeting: 20 APRIL 2010
1 JUNE 2010
1 JUNE 2010
10 JUNE 2010

Title of Report: FINAL REPORT
CORPORATE PARENTING WORKING GROUP

Report of: S. Tunney
Assistant Chief Executive

Contact Officer: Ruth Harrison
(Telephone No.) 0151 934 2042

This report contains	Yes	No
CONFIDENTIAL Information/		√
EXEMPT information by virtue of paragraph(s)..... Of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (If information <u>is</u> marked exempt, the Public Interest Test must be applied and favour the exclusion of the information from the press and public).		√
Is the decision on this report DELEGATED?	√	

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To formally present the Final Report of the Corporate Parenting Working Group.

Agenda Item 4

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED

The Working Group has been investigating Sefton M.B.C as Corporate Parent. The recommendations within the report will improve that element of the Children's Schools and Families Department.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That the Committee agrees the Final Report with recommendations of the Corporate Parenting Working Group as detailed in paragraph 14 of the attached report;
- (2) That the Committee authorises the Chair in consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Officer to amend the Final Report accordingly as a result of comments from this meeting;
- (3) That the report with recommendations be referred to the Corporate Parenting Board, informally, for information;
- (4) That the report with recommendations be referred to Cabinet Member – Children's Services, for information; and
- (5) That the report with recommendations be referred to the Cabinet for approval.

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	√		

Agenda Item 4

Financial Implications

	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE				
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS				
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?				

There are no Financial Implications as a direct result of this report.

Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report

Children's Schools and Families, Finance, Human Resources and Legal.

List of Background Papers relied upon in the preparation of this Report

LGA Being a Corporate Parent
IDEA How do you know you are a good Corporate Parent?
Sefton MBC Sefton Council's Corporate Parenting Strategy
DCSF 2007 Care Matters: Time for Change
DCSF 2008 Care Matters: Time to Deliver

The appendices to the Report of the Working Group, can be accessed in the full version of the report which has been published in the Library of documents in the "Modern.gov" Committee Management System, via the Council's website www.sefton.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

Sefton Council 

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
(Children's Services)



CORPORATE PARENTING
WORKING GROUP

FINAL REPORT
April 2010

Overview
& Scrutiny



Overview & Scrutiny



**‘Valuing
Improvement’**

www.sefton.gov.uk
scrutiny@sefton.gov.uk

Lead Member's Introduction

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Working Party Report into Corporate Parenting in Sefton. This is an issue that has concerned me personally for many years and I am delighted that finally our 'Looked After Children and Young People' are now finally receiving the attention they deserve through the creation of the Corporate Parenting Board. For too long, concern for these most vulnerable Sefton residents has not been at the level necessary to make the concept of Corporate Parenting a reality in Sefton. Many Elected members and Officers have not been aware of their responsibilities towards this group whose numbers are growing, following the national trend, in the wake of the tragic death of Baby Peter, and the consequent report produced by Lord Laming.

This report seeks to improve the understanding and enactment of Corporate Parenting in Sefton through a series of recommendations resulting from the Working Party's discussions, focus groups and interviews. The recommendations are not heavily dependent on additional resources, and we believe are realistic and achievable. In conjunction with the work of the Corporate Parenting Board if these recommendations are accepted the profile of Sefton's Looked After Children will be raised, hopefully leading to greater attention and improved life chances. The efforts of our Foster Carers and Residential Child Care workers also deserve greater recognition and support.

I wish to thank all those people who took part in interviews and groups for their ideas and interest, and for giving up their time to inform the Working Party. I am also tremendously grateful to my fellow Working Party members for their commitment to our children, and for their ideas and contributions. My final thanks go to Ruth Harrison, Scrutiny Support Officer, for her production of this report, on a subject that has many complexities, and for her excellent organisation, and for her considerable patience. I sincerely hope that this report will not be merely shelved, but that its recommendations are taken forward to enhance the lives of our most challenged children in our borough.



**Councillor P. Cummins,
Lead Member,
Scrutiny and Review Committee
(Childrens Services).**

Agenda Item 4



Contents

		<u>Page No.</u>
1	Glossary of Terms	5
2	Introduction – Corporate Parenting Review	6
	- Membership	6
	- Terms of Reference	6
	- Site Visits	6
3	Background	7
4	Working Group Approach	8
5	National Context	9
6	Local Context	10
7	The Improvement and Development Agency	12
8	How do you know that you are a good Corporate Parent?	13
9	Statistics	14
10	Interviewing Witnesses	15
11	Findings	
	- Member and Officer Booklet	19
	- Member and Officer Briefings	19
	- New Members Booklet and Briefing	19
	- Partner Organisations Booklet and Briefing	20
	- School Staff Booklet and Briefing	21
	- Governor Responsibilities	23
	- Out of Borough placements	24
	- Profile Every Looked After Child	25
	- Develop Relationships with PCT (NHS Sefton)	26
	- Multi-agency “After Care” Safety net for Care Leavers	28
	- Employment Opportunities for Looked After Children	30
12	Conclusion	31
13	Acknowledgements and Supporting Information	33
14	Recommendations	35



Agenda Item 4



1.0 Glossary of Terms

The Working Group came across many terms that professionals use to describe children in need under the Children Act 1989. Below are simple definitions of the most common:

Looked after children – these are children who are looked after by the local authority through a care order made by a court or by agreement with their parent(s), whether in a residential home, with other members of their extended family or with foster carers. Some may be placed outside the area of the local authority but will still remain the responsibility of the local authority. These are the children for whom the council is corporate parent.

Care Leavers – These are young people who have been looked after by the local authority and who the authority has a duty to keep in touch with and to support when they leave care. The responsibility lasts up to the age of 21 or beyond if they are in education or training.

Children in need – These comprise a much wider group of children who are assessed as being unlikely to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development without access to services. In particular the Children Act 1989 identifies all disabled children as children in need, and also those whose names are on the Child Protection Register.

Children at risk of harm – These are children about whom there are concerns that they are at risk of suffering harm through abuse or neglect. The Council will maintain a Child Protection Register of the names of children who are the subject of a child protection plan because of continuing concerns about their safety. The Council will monitor closely their safety and developmental progress.

Personal Education Plan (PEP) – Each looked after child should have a PEP. The purpose of the PEP is to ensure access to services and support; contribute to stability; minimise disruption and broken schooling; signal particular and special needs, establish clear goals; and act as a record. The PEP should be agreed at the latest, within 20 school days of the child becoming looked after or joining a new school. An accurate and constructive educational record provides a looked after child with a “passport” for the future.

Agenda Item 4

2.0 INTRODUCTION – CORPORATE PARENTING REVIEW

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services) met on the afternoon of the 14 July 2009 where a Work Programme Session was facilitated. The purpose of the session was to invite all sections of the Children’s Services Directorate and their partners to share with the Committee issues that they felt required further investigation. It was identified that as the Local Authority was, at that time, not achieving 100% compliance with Statutory Requirement of Member visits to Care Home that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should investigate Corporate Parenting within Sefton M.B.C. (Corporate Objective No. 17 – Ensure the safety of Sefton Children and Young People). Minute No. 19 of the meeting held on 14 July 2009, resolved that a new Working Group be appointed as follows:-

2.1 Membership

Minute No. 19 of the meeting held on 14 July 2009, re-affirmed the Membership of the Corporate Parenting Working Group, as follows:-

Councillors P. Cummins (Lead Member), Hough and T. Jones and Mrs S. Cain (Parent Governor Representative).

Further to Minute No. 43 of the meeting held on 22 September 2009, the Membership was amended to include Councillor Bradshaw, as follows:-

Councillors P. Cummins (Lead Member), S. Bradshaw, and T. Jones and Mrs S. Cain (Parent Governor Representative).

2.2 Terms of Reference and Objectives

The objective of the review is to make recommendations to Cabinet on:-

1. Having a definition and understanding of Corporate Parenting.
2. Producing a set of guidelines for Councillors and Officers on their Role as Corporate Parent.
3. Scrutinising and commenting upon the Corporate Parenting Strategy.
4. Defining a policy for Corporate Parenting.

2.3 Meetings / Site Visits

The following meetings have taken place:-

Date	Meeting	Venue
27 July 2009	Scope Review	Bootle
22 September	Interviewing Witness	Southport
6 October	Interviewing Witnesses	Bootle
20 October	Interviewing Witnesses	Bootle
21 January 2010	Review Scope	Bootle
	Agree Draft Report	Bootle



3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Working Group investigated the basic principles and facts of Corporate Parenting. Elected Members become responsible for ensuring that the Council acts as a good “corporate parent” for all the children it looks after, as soon as they sign the Declaration of Office and are officially an Elected Member. The role of corporate parent is to seek for children in public care the outcomes that every good parent would want for their own children. The Council has a legal and moral duty to provide such support to the children it looks after.
- 3.2 The Working Group considered that there was a common misconception about children in care and that being that many people believe that they are there because they have done something wrong. The overwhelming majority of children in care are there because of family pressures and problems or because they have experienced abuse or neglect.
- 3.3 The first meeting was arranged to meet with Members to scope the review. The Scoping Document is attached as Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Once the scope of the review had been identified the following documents were obtained to support Members with the review:-
- Reports referred to this Working Group by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children’s Services) Meeting 28 April 2009
 - The Protection of Children in England: Action Plan (The Government’s response to Lord Laming)
 - Young Peoples Guide to the Care Matters – Green Paper
 - “.....” Easy Read
 - Care Matters: Transforming the Lives of Children and Young People in Care
 - Guidance – Education of Young People in Public Care

All the above information is available upon request – details at paragraph 8.

Agenda Item 4

4.0 WORKING GROUP APPROACH

- 4.1 Working Group Members agreed that it was of great importance to set a benchmark and have a greater understanding of what being a corporate parent was about. They also agreed that there was a requirement to measure how good the Council is performing as corporate parents.
- 4.2 Working Group Members felt that, because Children in care face a range of challenges from the very reason they came into care in the first place, to their educational and emotional development needs, as the elected representatives of the communities these children come from, we all have a responsibility to do the very best we can for all of Sefton's Children.
- 4.3 The Working Group considered that because Children in care have their own specific needs, it is the job of Elected Members, as corporate parents, to firstly understand those needs and secondly to ensure they are met to the highest possible standard. An understanding that Looked After Children can move from place to place leading to a lack of stability is important in order that the Council can plan for individual needs when they do leave care so that they are less likely to end up in prison, unemployed or homeless.
- 4.5 Ensuring their needs are met is complicated. Social work and safeguarding is complex with professional codes and intricate detail of law.



5.0 NATIONAL CONTEXT

- 5.1 National instances of child care neglect and abuse resulting in the death of children have been the catalyst of this type of review being undertaken throughout the Country. In many Authorities it has been a “wake up call” to ensure that all Children who are required to be on Child Protection Plans are, and that Children Known to Authorities are monitored closely.
- 5.2 The increase in statistics, some would say are not surprising as a result of the “Baby P” incident in Haringey in 2008 and the Victoria Climbié case. In the wake of the Baby Peter case, child protection referrals have shot up.
- 5.3 Whilst Local Authorities try, wherever possible to either ensure support networks are in place in order that a child or young person may remain with their parents or placed with other family members any child who is known to the Authority and is at risk will be removed. Unfortunately as cases such as those mentioned above come to light, Local Authorities will continually review children on child protection plans and at risk registers and this could result in some children being removed from risk families and hence the increase in statistics.
- 5.4 The National Picture:-
- 12% of children in care achieve 5 A* - C grades at GCSE (or equivalent) compared to 59% of all children.
 - 45% of children in care are assessed as having a mental health disorder compared with around 10% of the general population.
 - 30% of care leavers aged 19 are not in education, employment or training (NEET).
 - 9.6% of Children in care aged 10 or over, are cautioned or convicted of an offence annually – almost 3 times the rate for all children of this age.

Agenda Item 4

6.0 LOCAL CONTEXT

6.1 Sefton Council currently has 386 children who are looked after by the Council. 120 of those are placed outside the Borough. All of those 386 children should have had Personal Education Plans (PEP's) drawn up for them. Of the 386 Children in care:-

- 12.6% have had 3, or more, placement changes.
- 32% have not been in their placement for more than 2 years, 2 years and more is considered a "stable" placement.
- 92% have had full health assessments completed.
- 89.5% are engaged in education, employment or training; and
- 11% gained at least 5A* - C at GCSE.

6.2 Sefton Council set up a Corporate Parenting Board in August/September 2009. The Children's Trust Partnership feeds into the Board and the Board feeds into the Sefton Local Safeguarding Children Board. It is made up of Elected Members, Looked After Children, Foster Carers and other partner organisations.

6.4 The Corporate Parenting Boards key responsibilities are as follows:-

To set the strategic and operational priorities for children in care and to monitor and scrutinise service delivery. It will also:-

- Ensure that the commitments outlined in the Sefton Pledge for Children in Care are delivered.
- Oversee the implementation of the Sefton Corporate Parenting Strategy.

6.5 The Corporate Parenting Boards Terms of Reference are as follows:-

The Corporate Parenting Board will work to a yearly work programme. It will:-

- Provide a forum for Children in Care to influence policy, service developments and practice and ensure continuous improvement.
- Ensure there are good joint working arrangements between Council Departments, with Partner Agencies and hold them to account for good, high quality, service delivery.

6.6 The Sefton Pledge:

Be Healthy: Improve the emotional and behavioural health of Looked After Children Pledge Standard: we promise to take an interest in your health and encourage you to be healthy.



Stay Safe: Improve the stability of placements for Looked After Children (Increase length and reduce number) Pledge Standard: We promise that we will do our best to find a home that suits your needs.

Enjoy & Achieve: Increase educational achievement at Key Stage 2 Maths and English, increase number of Looked After Children achieving 5 A* - C GCSE's. Pledge Standard: We promise to help you to do the best you possibly can at school.

Achieve Economic

Well-Being: Care Leavers have access to suitable, good quality, living accommodation, increase the number of Care Leavers in employment, education or training. Pledge Standard: we promise to work hard with you to give you all the help and support you need to make a success of moving on from care to adult life.

Make a Positive

Contribution: Increase number of Looked After Children involved in positive activities (leisure, volunteering), reduce number of permanent exclusions of Looked After Children. Pledge standard: we promise to encourage you to develop your talents interests and hobbies.



Agenda Item 4

7.0 THE IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

- 7.1 The Working Group also examined the National Indicator Set which included several indicators about looked-after children. The Council completes a detailed annual return on looked-after children and in order to do so, information must be collected regularly.
- 7.2 The Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) believe that the following key tasks should be undertaken in the quest to become a good corporate parent:-
- Make sure all councillors understand their corporate parenting responsibilities and are committed to fulfilling them.
 - Appoint a “councillor champion” for looked-after children.
 - Ensure the corporate strategy gives a high priority to the council’s role as corporate parent.
 - Create a corporate parenting group to improve outcomes for looked-after children ensuring children and young people are represented on the group.
 - Ensure that the Council work closely with key partners, the needs of looked-after children cannot be met by a single agency. (The children and young people’s plan should set out how agencies will work together to support looked-after children).
 - Ensure that looked-after children and young people have the opportunity to discuss and give feedback on the quality of the services they receive. (Corporate parents will need to support young people in doing this, it is important, not only to listen to young people’s views but also to act on them).
 - “Care Matters” and its implementation plan state that all areas need a “Children in Care Council” to enable councils and their partners to have regular dialogue with local children in care, involving them in shaping and delivering services. Children in care should also be involved in the recruitment of key staff.
 - Young people who have been in care face particular challenges when they leave. They may have missed opportunities and have little or no family support. Councils should provide the support a good parent would give on housing, education, training and employment. The IDeA state that “this can make all the difference between achieving independence or requiring long-term help”. They also state that

“Councils must keep in touch with care leavers until they are 21, and beyond if they are in education”.

7.3 The IDeA states that “research has demonstrated that educational achievement is a very significant factor in improving the life chances of looked-after children”. Information that helps assess progress includes:-

- personal education plans(PEPs)
- school absenteeism
- exclusions
- SAT scores
- The qualification that looked-after children are achieving

The performance of looked-after children should be measured against those of other children in the area.

7.4 It is also stated that because many looked-after children experience poor health outcomes, looked-after children must:-

- be registered with a GP
- have their immunisations up to date
- receive a regular health assessment and dental checks.

8.0 HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE A GOOD CORPORATE PARENT?

8.1 Corporate Parenting places collective responsibility on Local Authorities to achieve good parenting for all children in their care. It requires ownership and leadership at a senior level and this includes all elected Members.

8.2 The circumstances and experiences of looked-after children and young people mean that they can experience many disadvantages. Research indicates that looked-after children experience poorer outcomes than other children across a range of measures, including health and education.

8.3 Looked-after children have a right to expect the following outcomes we want for every child and young person:-

- be healthy
- be safe
- enjoy and achieve
- make a positive contribution to society
- achieve economic wellbeing.

8.4 To achieve the above outcomes, Councils must demonstrate their commitment to helping every child they look after, wherever the child is placed, to achieve their full potential.



Agenda Item 4

9.0 STATISTICS

9.1 The following statistics have been obtained from the Department for Children, Schools and Families: Children Looked After in England (including adoption and care leavers) year ending 31 March 2009:-

- There were 60,900 looked after children at 31 March 2009, 2% more than last year's figure of 59,400 and relatively unchanged compared to 2005 (61,000).
- There were 25,400 children who started to be looked after during the year ending 31 March 2009, an increase of 9% from the previous year's figure of 23,300 and an increase of 2% from the 2004-05 figure of 25,000.
- There were 24,700 children who ceased to be looked after during the year ending 31 March 2009, an increase of 1% from the previous year's figure of 24,400 and a decrease of 5% from the 2004-05 figure of 26,000.
- 3,300 looked after children were adopted during the year ending 31 March 2009. This represents a 3% increase from the previous year's figure of 3,200 and a 13% decrease from 2004-05 figure of 3,800.
- In the past 5 years the % of former care leavers, with whom the local authorities were in touch and who were in education, employment or training around the time of their 19th birthday, had increased from 58.4% in 2005 to 64.9% in 2008. However in 2009 the % dropped to 63%.



10.0 INTERVIEWING WITNESSES

10.1 At their first meeting, Working Group Members scoped the review (see Appendix 1 to the report). This meant that they set out clear aims and objectives for the review and listed all key witnesses they would invite to interview. At that time the Lead Member suggested that there would be three main questions to be asked of key witnesses:-

1. What was their understanding of corporate parenting?
2. What would they like to see?
3. What they believe the gaps to be?

(It was highlighted that subsequent questions could and would be asked)

10.2 The notes of those Meetings are available upon request however witnesses' evidence has been referred to within the following paragraphs in relation to findings and evidence.

10.3 The following witnesses were interviewed:-

- 3 Area Managers
- Solicitor Sefton MBC – Children's Social Care
- Strategic Director Children's Services
- Children's Social Care Director
- Resource Managers – Looked After Children, Children's Homes
- Children's Trust Director
- Sefton MBC – Cabinet Member Children's Services and Spokespersons
- Connexions

10.5 The following statements will give a flavour and snap shot of what some key witnesses understanding of corporate parenting was:-

One key witnesses had met with a group of looked after children who had stated that:-

“Everybody who has the power to help us should be helping us”

“Everybody should be working together”

“We don't want sympathy but acknowledge the hurdles looked after children come up against”

Agenda Item 4

Another key witness stated that corporate parenting was a shared responsibility of children in public care, she explained that she looked at it simply as shared responsibility underpinned by a clear commitment – a genuine want.

Corporate parents should ensure the very best for those children like a parent would. It was stated that looked after children can arrive very quickly and that each school should have a designated teacher who is corporate parent to those looked after children within their school.

Corporate parenting was a fundamental part of the work of Children's Services. That in addition to ensuring that a statutory requirement was carried out the Council had a moral obligation to provide the best service it could for what could be some of the more vulnerable children and young people in its area.

One key witness stated that there was a simple benchmark to use when visiting children's homes or foster carers, which would be to ask yourself the following simple question "would I leave my child here?"

Another key witness drew upon experiences from another Authority he had worked for and stated that a care leaver, who had become a Solicitor, had commented that they wouldn't have chosen the Authority to look after them but felt they had done a good job in contrast to another who had stated that the Authority had done nothing for them.

- 10.6 Whilst interviewing key witnesses it was apparent, from that there is a clear commitment and genuine passion to provide the best possible start to our children of Sefton.

"Corporate parents should do what a parent would do for their child. This can be done by profiling each individual child, assessing their needs, looking at ways we can help them in overcoming challenges, knowing when they are taking exams (as a parent would), ensuring stability of placements and ultimately knowing each and everyone of the Council's children."



- 10.7 Key witnesses believe that challenging negative attitudes to looked after children can be critical in changing their educational experiences and improving outcomes. Research also illustrates that some looked after children are often vulnerable to bullying, particularly if they lack close friends in school, come from a different social class to the majority of pupils or appear to be less well off. Members believed that schools play a major role in ensuring safe and positive school environment and that pupils require careful induction into new schools and that staff should be diligent to ensure no one is isolated or bullied.
- 10.8 After interviewing key witnesses it became apparent that corporate parenting is a responsibility that stretches beyond elected members and officers. The Council's partners have a key role to play with a corporate parent responsibility to offer a support network for looked after children.
- 10.9 Key witnesses interviewed made it clear that providing the right support and assistance and staying in touch in the first few years of independence was part of the Council's corporate parenting responsibilities and a requirement under the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000. The Working Group interviewed the Council's Resource Managers for Looked After Children and they stated that some looked after children were leaving care too early, before they were prepared and ready to leave care. They felt that in those circumstances there needed to be some kind of safety net or provision in order that they have a base they can come back to should they find themselves in difficulty, as a young person would return to their family home.
- 10.10 They also believed that local authorities should ensure there is proper planning and preparation in the run up to someone leaving care. Young people should stay in care until they are prepared and ready to leave. Each young person should have a pathway plan, setting out the preparation for independence and a personal adviser to act as mentor both before and after leaving care.
- 10.11 Key witnesses also stated that as a Council we should aim to maximise the number of care leavers who are engaged in education, training or employment by the age 19 and that our progress should be monitored against those objectives with the overall aim of reducing the gap between care leavers and other young people in our area.
- 10.12 After interviewing key witnesses and questioning them through our lines of enquiry it became apparent that care-leavers are over represented in both the prison and homeless populations, indicating that spending time in care does not help prepare them for independent living when they leave. Key witnesses felt that as a major local employer, the Council with partners could provide work related placements, apprenticeships and other employment and training opportunities to care-leavers.

Agenda Item 4

10.13 After interviewing key witnesses and undertaking further research Members of the Working Group had a clear understanding of their recommendations. The following paragraphs underpin the reasons for the recommendations and the research to support those recommendations.



11.0 FINDINGS/EVIDENCE

- 11.1 **Members and Officers should receive a booklet outlining their responsibilities;**
- 11.2 **A Briefing should be arranged for current Elected Members and Officers;**
- 11.3 **Newly Elected Members and Officers should receive a briefing and the booklet as part of their induction**

Councillors have a responsibility as corporate parents to do their best for children in care. “Corporate” conjures up an image of bureaucratic systems served to protect the interests of an organisation, while “parenting” is a reminder of our family ties. The two images do not fit well. The working group felt that it was no wonder that there was confusion around a Councillors role as corporate parent, for some it was about the organisation, reviewing statistics and ensuring due diligence whilst for others it was actually getting to know those children in care for whom they are corporate parent to. The working group believe that both roles have their place, however they felt that to avoid confusion and uncertainty among councillors about how to get corporate parenting right in ensuring that every young person in care gets the start in life that they would want for their own children Training and support was required in the form of a booklet and briefing. The Working Group have designed a booklet “If this were my Child” for both Members and Officers, Appendix 3 to the report. **(If agreed Recommendations 1, 2 & 3 will promote and translate a greater understanding of Officer and Member responsibilities in their role as Corporate Parent).**

Agenda Item 4

11.4 Partner Organisations should receive a booklet/briefing on their responsibilities

11.41 The Children Act 2004 places a duty on the local authority, health and other key partners to co-operate to improve the wellbeing of children in their area. Members of the Working Group agreed that as a Council we should seek to ensure that provision of all public services used by looked after children and young people is high quality, “joined up” and takes account of their needs. It was agreed that a booklet designed for partner agencies would be beneficial as it would set out the ground rules in relation to legal and moral obligations however Members emphasised that this calls for commitment and collaboration across a range of Council services and with key partners in ensuring that the looked after children in our area:-

- Have a flying start in life and the best possible basis for their future growth and development;
- Have access to a comprehensive range of education, training and learning opportunities including acquisition of essential personal and social skills.
- Enjoy the best possible physical and mental, social and emotional health including freedom from abuse, victimisation and exploitation.
- Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities.
- Are listened to, treated with respect, and are able to have their race and cultural identity recognised.
- Have a safe home and a community that supports physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Are not disadvantaged by child poverty.



11.5 Booklet and briefings for school staff - Educational Attainment

11.51 The Working Group agreed that as a Council we are responsible for our looked after children and so we should also be responsible for ensuring that our partner organisations are privy to, and understand, their responsibilities for looked after children within their school. It was agreed that they too should have access to a reference guide to support them in their role.

11.52 Members looked at Section 52 of the Children Act 2004 which places a positive duty on councils to promote the educational achievement of looked after children. Duties of co-operation to improve well-being under section 25 of the Act include education, training and recreation. These duties apply to all council's looked after children, wherever they are placed and to young people leaving care.

11.53 Members of the Working Group felt that, at the very least the Council should be ensuring that:-

- looked after children have educational support;
- looked after children have a school place, attend school regularly, we know how many are excluded (officially or unofficially) from school;
- those looked after children who are out of school are provided with appropriate learning provision;
- we are aware what progress looked after children are making and how they are doing in their examinations, teacher assessments and other assessments;
- every looked after child has a personal educational plan and that it is up to date;
- elected members are aware of what the latest inspection report says about standards of education for looked after children in the authority;
- looked after children receive the support they need to be able to make effective use of the education available to them;
- there are effective practices in place to prevent looked after children from being bullied;
- head teachers and colleagues make every effort to promote stability by avoiding moving looked after children to different schools;
- the numbers of looked after children who have a statement of special educational needs or who are on programmes are known.

11.54 The research that the Working Group undertook indicated that too many children in care do not achieve their educational potential. Even allowing for the effect of trauma on children before they came into care, being in care has shown to adversely affect children's educational attainment. The UK Government's Social Exclusion Report confirms that the major barriers to achievement continue to be:

- Lack of stability.
- Time out of school.
- Insufficient help with education, particularly catching up.



Agenda Item 4

- Lack of proactive support and encouragement from carers.
- Insufficient help with their emotional, mental and physical health.

11.55 “If this were my child”, any good parent will want their child to do well at school and to get the best start in life. As a corporate parent it is our responsibility to have the highest aspirations for children in the Council’s care. Ensuring close co-operation between education and the council is crucial in raising standards. Members of the Working Group believe that designing a guide for schools will go some way in bridging the gap and improving knowledge of what is expected of them in their corporate parent role.



11.6 Where there are a number of Looked After Children in a school a Governor be nominated to have special responsibilities for them.

- 11.61 Elected Members who are school governors have a key role in ensuring schools have high expectations of and focus on raising attainment standards for looked after children. Looked after children have said they want schools and councils to believe in them and to have the same aspirations for what they can achieve as for other children.
- 11.62 At governing body meetings Elected Members who are school governors should be requesting to scrutinise the strategies that should be in place that assist looked after children in doing better. It may be seen as appropriate for councillor-governors to be the link governor for this issue, given the dual responsibility as both governor and corporate parent.
- 11.63 Councils should expect council appointed governors to act as champions promoting the needs of children in care in schools and nurseries. Under the Children and Young Persons Act, every school will be required to have a designated member of staff who is well versed in education and children in care who has specific responsibility for looked after children. The Working Group believed that this should be examined by taking the requirement one step further in order that where there are a number of looked after children in one school a council – governor be nominated to have special responsibility for them. Members of the Working Group have also requested that a list of all those teachers and councillor-governors assigned to looked after children be kept by the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families.

Agenda Item 4

11.7 Reach an Agreement with other authorities to share information on Looked After Children transferred into another Authority – Out of Borough Placements

11.71 The Working Group looked closely at looked after children whom for one reason or another have been placed outside the Borough. This can occur for various reasons the most likely reason would be because extended family are outside the Borough. Out of Borough Placements still remain the responsibility of the Authority.

11.71 Sefton Council has 23 looked after children who are placed outside the Borough.



11.8 Every Individual Looked After Child be profiled – Personal Education plans for Children and Young People in Public Care.

11.81 “Every child and young person in public care needs a Personal Education Plan which ensures access to services and support; contributes to stability, minimises disruption and broken schooling; signals particular and special needs; establishes clear goals and acts as a record of progress and achievement.”

11.82 The Personal Education Plan should be sensitive to the diverse needs of children and young people and should focus on the action that is required for them to fulfil their potential. The Plan should be an integral part of the Care Plan. Plans should set clear objectives or targets for the young person which relate to academic achievement as well as other personal and, if appropriate, behavioural targets, and details of who will action the Plan with timescales for action and review. The Plan should cover the following four areas:-

- An achievement record (academic or otherwise);
- Developmental and educational needs (short and long term, development of skills, knowledge or subject areas and experiences);
- Short-term targets (including progress monitoring); and
- Long term plans and aspirations (targets including progress, career plans and aspirations).

11.83 Ensuring that each child has a Personal Education Plan and is profiled should make it easier to map where every child is living, giving Elected Members a clear understanding of how many looked after children are within their own wards. This will allow Elected Members to champion this vulnerable group ensuring they are aware of and have access to services.

Agenda Item 4

11.9 Develop relationship with PCT (NHS Sefton)

11.91 The research Working Group Members undertook indicated that looked after children, especially those in residential units, tend to have more health problems than their peers, including higher rates of mental health problems, pregnancy, smoking and alcohol or drug misuse. One of the issues children in care feel most keenly about is not having someone to talk to in confidence about their health needs and concerns, particularly information about growing up. Members of the Working Group considered that all looked after children should be offered a holistic health assessment which covers mental health and emotional needs, as well as physical health. Such assessments would provide the opportunity to discuss the children's health concerns and to offer advice on health promotion. Each looked after child should have an individual health plan that sets out their health needs and how they will be met.

11.92 There should have been a specialist health practitioner to co-ordinate a child's health care plan and address the health needs of looked after children. Children's homes are required to designate a link worker responsible for promoting the child's health and education in liaison with key professionals.

11.93 Working Group Members agreed that as a Council arrangements should be in place to regularly review how it assesses the health of looked after children in a sensitive way and seeks to promote better health and wellbeing. Members of the Working Group agreed that a joined up approach with health partners was required to ensure the health needs of looked after children are being given sufficient joint priority by the Council and its National Health Service (NHS) partners, particularly in the development of the local health and wellbeing strategy. As part of the recommendation in relation to ensuring a joined-up approach, Working Group Members recommend that it should be the role of the Council with their NHS partners to ensure priority is given to child protection responsibilities and promoting looked after children's health. The Council should work with NHS partners in order that all whom have a responsibility for looked after children know the following information about them:-

- How the Authority is improving the health (including mental health) of looked after children including those in out of Borough placements.
- How many have had health assessments.
- How many are registered with a GP and have access to a dentist.
- What is being done to improve the health of those who refuse to attend an assessment.
- That the health needs of children placed in children's homes are being adequately met, particularly those placed out of the area.



- How many have got personal health plans and how planned outcomes are being achieved.
- How the Authority and NHS partners are ensuring that the views of looked after children are taken into account in health and wellbeing strategy development.

11.94 The Working Group considered that by developing relationships with the PCT (NHS Sefton), the Authority could be in a position to use the flexibilities in Section 31 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 to pool budgets, fund or commission services jointly with the NHS. This would need further investigation and examination.

11.95 Following on from the suggestion in paragraph 5.94 above, Working Group Members agreed that they would also like to see, as a longer term goal, the Authority using powers in the Children Act 2004 to jointly fund projects across a wider range of local partners including police and probation as well as health services.

Agenda Item 4

11.10 Multi-agency “After Care” safety net for Care Leavers

- 11.101 All Members of the Working Group and key witnesses agreed that most young people need care and support from their parents during the transition to independence when leaving home. It was felt that this was even truer for the majority of care leavers who have had a disadvantaged start in life.
- 11.102 The Children and Young Persons Act 2008 strengthens current arrangements to ensure that young people are not forced out of care before they are prepared and ready to leave by giving them a greater say over moves to independent living and ensuring they receive the support they need for as long as they need.
- 11.103 Members of the Working Group agreed that the following set of simple guidelines or questions would support Officers, Elected Members and Partners:-
- Are we (Officers, Elected Members and Partners) confident that our care leavers are leaving care when they are prepared and ready to leave?
 - How many young people who left care at 16 are still in touch with their social worker, carer or other approved person at the age of 19/21
 - What sort of progress, for example in education, training, and employment, do young people make after they leave our care?
 - How many of our care leavers are not in education, employment or training (NEET)?
 - How does this compare with other young people in the area?
 - How will they secure employment?
 - How many care leavers do we (the Council and Partners) employ?
 - How many work experience placements and apprenticeships do we make available for care leavers?
 - Do we provide assistance with the costs of education, training or employment for care leavers?
 - How have we implemented the provisions of the Children (Leaving Care) Act 200 in our area?



- Do we contribute to the Child Trust Funds of our looked after children to give them an investment for their transition to adulthood? (Do Government re-imburse local authorities for top-ups they make to the Child Trust Fund accounts?)

11.104 Working Group Members are recommending that the Council work with their partners to provide a multi-agency “after care” safety net for when children leave care.



Agenda Item 4

11.11 Employment Opportunities for Looked After Children.

- 11.111 Through the work of the group it became apparent that the previous Strategic Director for Children's Services had given an undertaking that Sefton's care leavers would be guaranteed employment opportunities once they had left education. This was a personal pledge that he fulfilled. The Working Group agreed that this gave care leavers a sense of security and helped with their identity, as the Council had been their family whilst growing up and that identity was translating through to their employment.
- 11.112 Once the cycle, in the majority of cases, has been broken, that is care leavers going into unemployment, there is less of a chance of history repeating itself. Working Group Members believed that whilst the Strategic Director for Children's Services had grasped this notion, it wasn't being conveyed to other Council departments and indeed partner organisations.



12.0 Conclusions

- 12.1 While the Working Group was investigating Corporate Parenting, the Children's Services Department was making improvements through the work of its Corporate Parenting Board. The Working Group would like to express its congratulations for the hard work which has already been achieved.
- 12.2 The purpose of recommendations 2, 3, 4, and 5 is to raise awareness of Elected Member and officer responsibilities in terms of their Corporate Parenting role. The concept of corporate parenting isn't new, it has not just appeared. Councils have been corporate parents for many many years. It is about being the best corporate parent for our looked-after children as if it were our own child, always asking the question "Is this good enough for my child?". By asking that question, we are most likely to ensure that the most vulnerable children are given the best that society can offer, the care, safety and security and opportunities to make the most of their lives that all children deserve. Corporate Parenting is about our community, our children and young people, our responsibility. The Working Group's scope was to have a definition and understanding of Corporate Parenting and to draft a set of guidelines for Elected Members and officers. Recommendations 2,3, 4 and 5 seek to address those objectives. (Paragraphs 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5 of the report explore the rationale for recommendations 2, 3, 4 and 5).
- 12.3 Throughout the report and indeed the review itself, Members of the Working Group felt that the importance of the Council's role and responsibilities as Corporate Parent should not be under-estimated or under-stated. In that respect the Working Group felt that any proposals or recommendations including budget cuts considered by Cabinet or Council should include what impact they may have on the Council's Looked After Children, hence recommendations 6 and 7.
- 12.4 It became apparent from early on in the review that Looked After Children should be the responsibility of all public organisations. Members of the Working Group agreed that for Looked After Children to get the best possible care, there was a requirement for all partner organisations to understand their role and responsibilities and to work together with the Council, hence recommendations 8, 9, 16 and 17.
- 12.5 Working Group Members examined the concept of nominating a Teacher and Governor to have special responsibilities for Looked After Children attending their individual schools. Members felt that the designated Teacher and Governor should be an advocate for young people in public care, accessing services and support, and ensuring that the school shares and supports high expectations for them, hence recommendation 11. (Paragraph 7.6 of the report examines in further detail the rationale for recommendation 11).

Agenda Item 4

- 12.6 Working Group Members agreed that, when taking on the role as an Elected Member, they were taking on one of the most important roles as corporate parent to Sefton's looked after children, including those who live outside the Borough. The importance of that role can not be overemphasised. Elected Members have a responsibility to ensure that children looked after by the Council are able to thrive, that they are nurtured, supported, educated, listened to and prepared for adult life in the way any good parent would want for their own children. Recommendation 13 should address the issue of ensuring that all Looked After Children have a personal profile set up setting out when they are due to take examinations, identifying who their individual mentor including advocate is and any other relevant information that the Council deems to be necessary to be included.
- 12.7 Recommendation 14 refers to a representative from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services being invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee. The National picture states that 45% of Children in Care are known to have a mental health disorder compared with around 10% of the general population. Members agreed that, with that in mind and after considering key witness interviews, that NHS Sefton should be approached to explore taking a more active role in Looked After Children's physiological and psychological welfare, hence recommendation 15.
- 12.8 Members of the Working Group agreed that part of their brief was to raise awareness of the Elected Members' role in being a good corporate parent and this report is the beginning of that task.

"Elected councillors have a crucial role. Only you can carry it out. You can make sure that the interests of the children come first. You bring a fresh look and common sense. As councillors you set strategic direction of your council's services and determine policy and priorities for your local community within the overall objectives set by Government. It is the responsibility of our officers to manage services and resources in order to achieve those policy objectives and to advise your council on the best way forward. Councillors and officers need to have a good dialogue to ensure that councillors clearly understand their role and responsibilities, and that officers understand the expectations of your council". Extract from Frank Dobson's letter to all councillors, September 1998.



13.0 Acknowledgements and Supporting Information

- 13.1 The Working Group is grateful to all those witnesses and other persons who have assisted with research, provided and shared information and given up time to attend interviews.
- 13.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Officer will circulate the Final report to all witnesses who have taken part in the review.
- 13.3 Finally the Working Group would like to take this opportunity to thank Members, Officers and Partner Organisations who do all they can for the looked after children of Sefton.
- 13.4 During the process of this review, the Working Group has gathered a substantial amount of information and data, which will be invaluable in helping it to form its conclusions and recommendations.
- 13.5 Any background information that has been gathered so far is available on request from Ruth Harrison, Scrutiny Support Officer (telephone 0151 934 2042 e-mail: ruth.harrison@legal.sefton.gov.uk)

Agenda Item 4

14.0 Recommendations

1. That the Cabinet approves the booklet “If This were my Child”, attached as Appendix 3, to the report.
2. That, in order to raise awareness of the Council’s responsibilities as Corporate Parent, all Elected Members and appointed officers receive the “If This were my Child” booklet outlining their responsibilities, to be distributed by the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families, as detailed in Appendix 3 to the report.
3. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Children’s Social Care Director, be requested to brief, by way of a presentation, all Elected Members and all officers.
4. That all newly Elected Members and appointed officers receive a briefing, from the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families and the booklet “If This were my Child” as part of their induction.
5. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families be requested to draft a Role Description for an Elected Member Champion for Corporate Parenting, to be agreed in consultation with Corporate Parenting Board.
6. That an Elected Member Champion for Corporate Parenting be nominated by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, once a Role Description has been agreed.
7. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families, in consultation with the Children’s Social Care Director, be requested to deliver a presentation in relation to the Corporate Parenting Strategy to all of the Council’s Area Committees at each first meeting of the Municipal Year, 2010.
8. That the Finance and Information Services Director, in consultation with the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families be requested to, when reporting any proposed budget cuts, determine their impact on the Council’s Looked After Children.
9. That, in the future, Cabinet proposals/recommendations be considered, in relation to assessing the impact on the Council’s Looked After Children, if appropriate.
10. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Children’s Social Care Director, be requested to approach partner organisations to make a pledge in relation to what Looked After Children can expect from them and how they can contribute to Corporate Parenting.



11. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Children's Social Care Director, be requested to prepare a separate booklet specifically detailing the Council's expectations of partner organisations in delivering services for Looked After Children across Sefton.
12. That the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families, in consultation with the Children's Social Care Director, be requested to design a booklet specifically for school staff detailing schools responsibilities in their Corporate Parent Role.
13. That the Strategic Director, Children Schools and Families be requested to ask those schools with Looked After Children attending, to nominate a Teacher and Governor to have special responsibilities for them, the names of the nominated persons to be held by the Strategic Director, Children Schools and Families.
14. That the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families be authorised to approach other Authorities in order to reach an agreement to share information on Looked After Children transferred into another Authority (Out of Borough Placements).
15. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families, the Children's Social Care Director and appropriate officers assigned by them, take a more individual interest in Looked After Children regarding a profile being set up for each child, including examinations, mentoring and advocacy.
16. That the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) be requested to make a presentation in relation to Looked After Children to a future Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services).
- 17a. That the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families, in consultation with the Children's Social Care Director, be requested to approach an appropriate representative from NHS Sefton requesting them to take a more active role in Looked After Children's physiological and psychological welfare, in that the possibility of a dedicated psychologist for each children's home be explored.
- 17b. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Health and Social Care) be requested to support recommendation 17a above.
18. That the Strategic Director Children, Schools and Families, in consultation with the Children's Social Care Director, be requested to explore the possibility of a multi-agency after care safety net approach to be adopted when children leave care.

Agenda Item 4

19. That Sefton Council and its partner organisations be encouraged to offer work placements to Looked After Children on finishing their education.
20. That the Strategic Director, Children, Schools and Families be requested to report on progress to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Children's Services) in September 2010.



Agenda Item 5

REPORT TO: Cabinet
DATE: 10 June 2010
SUBJECT: Equalities Working Group – Final Report
WARDS AFFECTED: All
REPORT OF: Assistant Chief Executive
CONTACT OFFICER: Ruth Appleby Ext. 2181
**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To report the findings of the Equalities Working Group

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Working Group has made a number of recommendations which were approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) at its meeting held on 25 May 2010 and which subsequently require consideration by the Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. The Sefton Equalities Partnership be commended for its achievements to date in progressing the Equality Framework for Local Government;
2. the Strategic / Service Directors be recommended to:
 - (i) develop the mainstreaming of equality and diversity into the core business of departments; and
 - (ii) develop a more consistent approach to training in the application of Impact Assessments across all Council departments
3. The Head of Procurement be recommended to amend the Procurement Equalities Questionnaire Form, as indicated in Appendix 10 to the report, in order to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and simplify procedures for small businesses of 5 employees or less, wishing to tender for work with the Council; and
4. the Assistant Chief Executive be recommended to consider the inclusion of an Equalities Impact Statement on the Council's Committee Report template and the Sefton Equalities Partnership be requested to give guidance on the suggested content of such statement.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: N/a

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

Agenda Item 5

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general capital resources.

<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: None arising from this report.

Risk Assessment: None arising from this report.

Asset Management: Not appropriate

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

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

See Final report

Agenda Item 5

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) at its meeting held on 24 June 2008 (Minute No 13 (3) refers), resolved that a Working Group be established to consider the equality of access to services provided to members of the public with a start date of November/December 2008 and a deadline date of April 2009. It was agreed that Councillors Brennan and Shaw would be members of the Working Group.
- 1.2 At a subsequent meeting held on 16 December 2008, (Minute No. 45 (2) refers), Councillor Papworth was appointed as a member of the Working Group, with a view to its commencement 'early' in 2009.
- 1.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) on 17 February 2009 (Minute No 53 (2) refers), resolved that Councillor Hardy replace Councillor Brennan on the Working Group.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 the Working Group held Meetings as follows:-

Date	Activity
10 November 2009	Introduction by Andy Woods, from the Sefton (CVS) Equalities Partnership. Scoping and discussion of issues.
30 November 2009	Follow-up presentation and information provided by Andy Woods, Sefton (CVS) Equalities Partnership.
1 December 2010 to 31 January 2010	No meetings held during this period because of non-availability of Members due to unforeseen work commitments and illness.
3 February 2010	Agreement to conclude the Working Group and determination of recommendations.

- 2.2 Working Group Members and the Overview and Scrutiny Officer also attended the following events and conferences:

Date	Conference / Event	Attendees
11 November 2010	Annual North West Equalities Conference	Councillor Papworth Councillor Byrne Ruth Appleby (O&S Officer)
9 February 2010	Sefton Equalities Partnership Conference	Ruth Appleby

- 2.3 Full details of the work carried out, the information received and the conclusions which led to the recommendations set out above are detailed in the Final Report of the Working Group, which can be accessed in the Library of documents in the "Modern.gov" Committee Management System via the Council's website www.sefton.gov.uk

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) the Sefton Equalities Partnership be commended for its achievements to date in progressing the Equality Framework for Local Government;
- (2) the Strategic / Service Directors be recommended to:
 - (i) develop the mainstreaming of equality and diversity into the core business of departments; and
 - (ii) develop a more consistent approach to training in the application of Impact Assessments across all Council departments
- (3) the Head of Procurement be recommended to amend the Procurement Equalities Questionnaire Form, as indicated in Appendix 10 to the report, in order to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and simplify procedures for small businesses of 5 employees or less, wishing to tender for work with the Council; and
- (4) the Assistant Chief Executive be recommended to consider the inclusion of an Equalities Impact Statement on the Council's Committee Report template and the Sefton Equalities partnership be requested to give guidance on the suggested content of such statement.

4.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 4.1 The Working Group is grateful to all those witnesses and other persons who assisted the Group with its research and provided it with information.

S. Tunney
Assistant Chief Executive

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 7

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 10Th June 2010

SUBJECT: WORKFORCE PLANNING

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: Mike Fogg
Director of Corporate Services

CONTACT OFFICER: Jan McMahon
Head of Transformation Services
0151 934 4431

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To update the Cabinet on progress made in relation to Workforce Planning and recommend the next steps in relation to progressing this activity.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

None required

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That :-

- a) Notes the content of the report and confirms satisfaction with the progress made to date.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Workforce Planning has been identified in the current Forward Plan.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately following the expiry of the “call-in” period for this meeting.

Agenda Item 7

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: NA

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial:

<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: NA

Risk Assessment: There are no risks arising from this report.

Asset Management: None

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS There are no financial consequences at this stage and therefore the Finance Director has not been consulted

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 11 June 2009 "*Strategic Budget Review*"

Report to Cabinet 1 October 2009 "*Transformation Update*".

Report to Cabinet 29 October 2009 "*Transformation Programme Update - Senior Management Structure*"

Report to Cabinet 25 November 2009 "*Transformation Programme Update – Strategic Budget Review*"

Report to Cabinet 3 December 2009 "*Transformation Programme Update – Strategic Budget Review*"

Report to Cabinet 17 December 2009 "*Medium Term Financial Plan 2010/11 to 2012/13 – Update*"

Report to Cabinet 4 February 2010 "*Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2010/11 to 2012/13*"

Report to Cabinet 4 March 2010 "*Revenue Budget 2010/11 and Medium Term Financial Plan*"

ResourceLink has supplied all employee data for this report.

Agenda Item 7

1. Background

- 1.1. This report follows on from the Revenue Budget 2010/11 and Medium Term Financial Plan report to Cabinet on 4th March 2010. The Cabinet noted that a further report on workforce planning would be presented. This report updates progress to date.
- 1.2. The Council still needs to identify £15-25m of savings over the next two years and constant effort will be required to identify how this is to be achieved. Effective workforce planning will be critical to the success managing the Transformation Programme and a robust framework will need to be introduced and maintained if the anticipated changes are to be implemented successfully.
- 1.3. The Council is subject to many external inspections relating to the quality of services delivered to the community. Inspectors will often look for evidence that links workforce planning to the effective delivery of services and the link between the current and the future. Service specific workforce plans are already in place or in development but a more cohesive approach now needs to be adopted across the organisation.
- 1.4. The need for workforce planning is recognised by the Trade Unions.

2. Workforce Planning

- 2.1. Workforce planning is essentially about understanding the organisation and planned future changes, analysing the current workforce and then extending that analysis to identify the future skills and competencies needed to deliver services. In other words, it's about getting the right number of people with the right skills in the right place at the right time.
- 2.2. By linking workforce planning to the Transformation Programme it will help to ensure that the savings options are readily identifiable and that the future workforce has the flexibility to sustain and strengthen the delivery of quality and timely services at a reduced cost.
- 2.3. Key to workforce planning is active vacancy management. Considerable progress has been made in this area over the past six months. The Leadership Team has scrutinised long term vacancies to see if the posts in question can be permanently deleted from the establishment and required directorate teams to delete vacancies where possible with associated savings being "harvested". Current data cleansing work, to be concluded by the end of June, is a way of assessing the impact of these changes and it is intended to provide an accurate analysis of the current establishment including the source of funding for each post and any areas of risk. This work being completed jointly by directorate budget holders, Finance, Personnel and the Transformation team.

- 2.4. The Director of Corporate Resources now chairs a weekly Vacancy Panel. Again Finance, Personnel and the Transformation team are represented with input being received from service areas. All remaining, and future, vacancies will be considered by the panel who will actively seek opportunities to explore alternative solutions and consider redeployment. This will help to generate savings and minimise any future redundancies as the reorganisation of services, redeployment and re-skilling of staff will be taken into account during the consideration process. It should be noted that some roles will continue to be filled with temporary staff because of the seasonal nature of the work and or the availability of external funding, e.g. play scheme workers.
- 2.5. Where it is possible delayed recruitment to vacancies is being applied provided this does not unduly hamper service delivery in the short term. This element of vacancy management is closely linked to the Integration/Rationalisation workstreams of the Transformation Programme again with a view to minimising any potential redundancies. In such cases acting up arrangements, additional hours and overtime continue to be used to meet service requirements. Spend in these areas is closely monitored by directorate teams.
- 2.6. The Vacancy Panel also considers requests to employ consultants and agency staff needed to cover essential activity. Approved requests for agency staff are now procured centrally via Matrix Solutions.
- 2.7. Consideration is also being given to growing an existing pool of casual staff, managed by Personnel to provide the same flexibility as agency staff but at reduced cost; with the long term relationship providing a more valuable resource that understands the council and the work that is required.
- 2.8. The Personnel team has also been working on the development and production of detailed workforce reports (Annex A). As previously mentioned ongoing data cleansing work will improve the quality of these reports. The Transformation team is working with colleagues to further develop this data so that it supports the tracking of the key elements.
- 2.9. There is still a considerable way to go to improve workforce planning. There is a clear need to develop a “one Council” holistic view of the deployment and development of staff. Adopting a corporate approach will better enable us to deploy our resources effectively and build capacity and capability so we can continue to meet our priorities in such challenging times.
- 2.10. Over the next year the intention is to formalise a corporate workforce plan, supported by robust and effective systems and processes, that will make best use of existing skills, develop a longer term view of skills shortages and introduce succession planning. This will enable the Council to demonstrate that it is fully utilising its talent and equipping its workforce for the future. The corporate workforce plan will give a clear picture of the

Agenda Item 7

directorate based plans already in place; show how they link together and demonstrate a clear golden thread to corporate priorities as well as at service level.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Cabinet:-

Notes the content of the report and confirms satisfaction with the progress made to date.

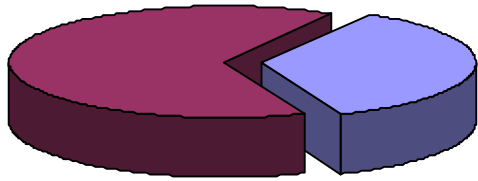
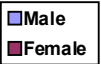
Agenda Item 7

Annex A

Report for: Sefton Council (excludes All School Staff and Supply Teachers)

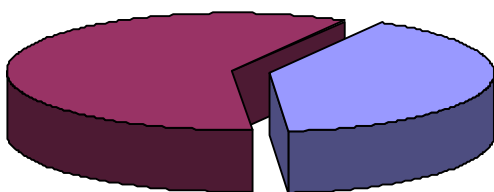
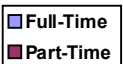
Employees as at 29-04-2010

Male		Female		Total	
1769	36%	3192	64%	4961	100%



Posts as at 29-04-2010

Full-Time		Part-Time		Total	
2377	40%	3538	60%	5915	100%

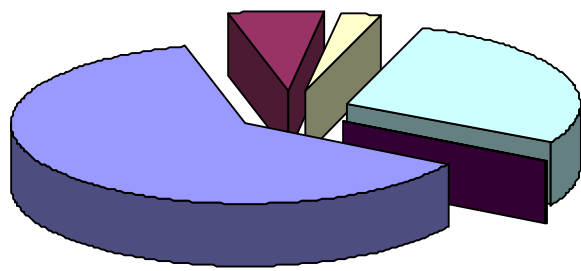
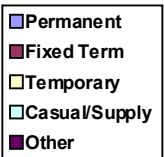


Starters and Leavers in Period 01-01-2010 to 31-03-2010 Q4 2009/10

Post Starters: 326 includes 135 Sefton Starters
 Post Leavers: 1029 includes 422 Sefton Leavers

Contract Types as at 29-04-2010

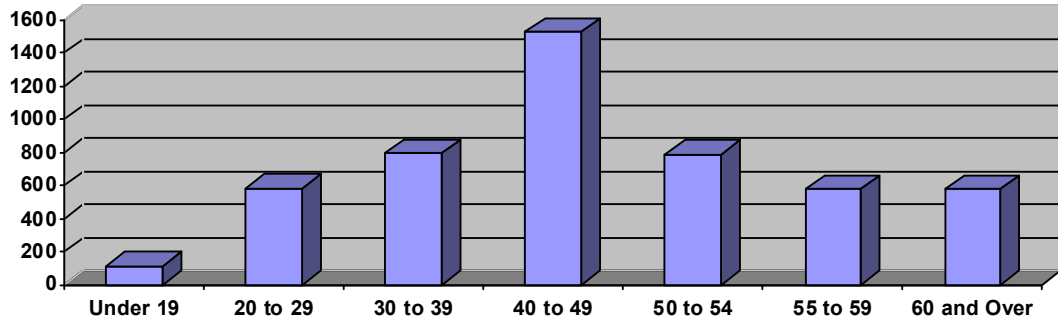
Permanent	Fixed Term	Temporary	Casual/Supply	Other
3701	386	174	1637	17
63%	6%	3%	28%	-%



Agenda Item 7

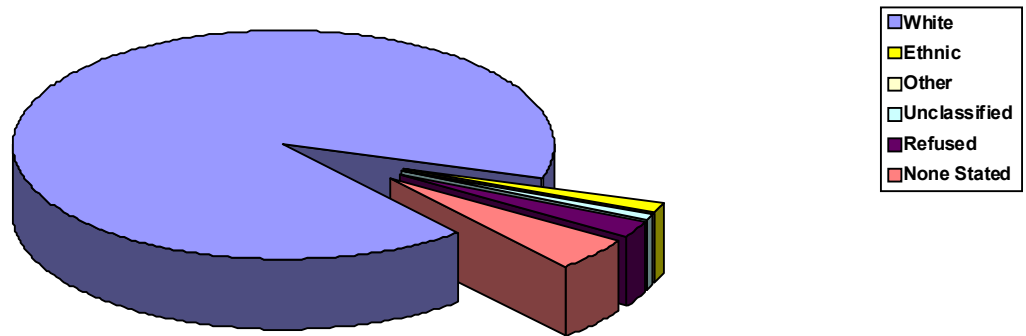
Age Profile as at 29-04-2010 (note age intervals are 5 years at 50 to 54 and 55 to 59 – otherwise 10 years)

19 and Under	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 54	55 to 59	60 and Over
113	582	793	1530	789	577	577
2%	12%	16%	30%	16%	12%	12%



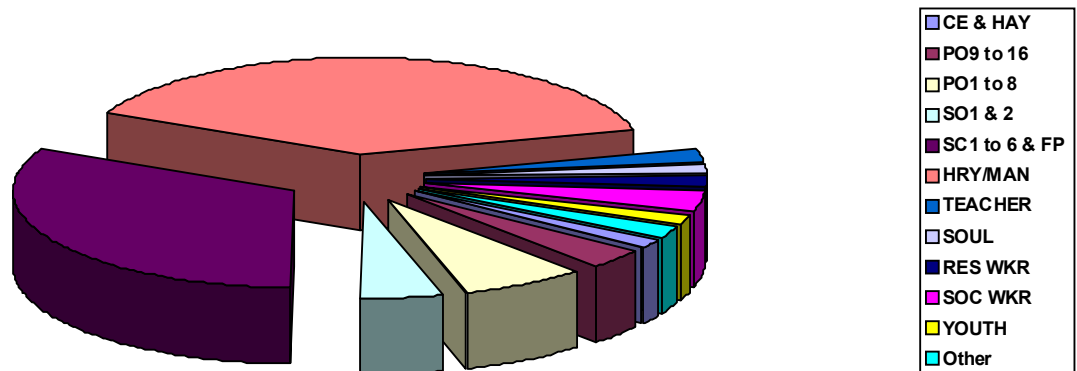
Ethnicity Profile as at 29-04-2010

White	Ethnic Minority	Other	Unclassified	Refused	None Stated
4505	66	1	45	108	236
91%	1%	-%	>1%	2%	5%



Grades as at 29-04-2010

CE & Hay	PO9 – PO16	PO1 – PO8	SO1 & 2	SC1 to 6 & FP	HRY/MAN	TEACH	SOUL	RES WKR	SOC WKR	YOUTH	Other
98	194	424	279	1900	2287	120	89	114	198	98	114
2%	3%	7%	5%	32%	38%	2%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%



Agenda Item 8

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet
Council

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010
8th July 2010

SUBJECT: Housing Capital Programme 2010 -2011

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** All

REPORT OF: Alan Lunt – Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes
Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Jim Ohren – Principal Manager, Housing Strategy
0151 934 3619

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To seek the approval of Members for the Housing Capital Programme 2010-2011

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To enable schemes to be progressed in the current financial year.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Cabinet Member and Cabinet notes and recommends to Council:-

That the housing capital programme detailed at Annex A, which requires the utilisation of £2.225m One Vision Housing capital receipts as a funding resource, together with other capital funding, be approved.

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: Yes

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

Agenda Item 8

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not to agree the Capital Programme would delay progress on individual schemes and would have an adverse affect on delivery of the HMRI Programme.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: The proposed schemes can be funded from available resources and have no adverse affect on the Council’s overall position.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	6.595m			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources	5.259m			
Specific Capital Resources	1.336m			
<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?	Annual allocations			

Legal: None.

Risk Assessment: None.

Asset Management: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD No. 420 – The comments of the Interim Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services have been incorporated in the report.

Interim Head of Legal Services

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

North West: Local Authority Housing Capital Allocations – March 2010

Agenda Item 8

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The mainstream housing capital funds from the Regional Housing Pot for 2010/11 were announced in early April 2010. This report contains details of the 2010/11 housing allocations and an updated housing capital programme.

2.0 Current Position

- 2.1. Sefton's Housing Allocation from the North West Regional Housing Pot for 2010/11 totals £2.188m, compared to the allocation of £4.063m received in 2009/10. This therefore represents a 46% reduction year on year. The reason for this reduced allocation is due in part to the change in the methodology for distribution of the Regional Housing Pot as agreed by 4NW (the Regional Leaders Forum) and relevant Government ministers, and also due to a reduction in the overall size of the Regional Housing Pot. This has reduced from £108.143m to £65.791m. The reduction is due to the (previous) Government's desire to support their pledges around increasing affordable housing. In essence, the budget of the Homes and Communities Agency (the agency which funds affordable housing) has increased at the expense of Regional Housing Pot funding for local government. Like Sefton, other authorities in the North West have suffered a reduction, including Wirral, Liverpool, St.Helens and Halton.

3.0 Capital Programme

- 3.1. Attached at Annex A is the proposed Housing Capital Programme. The programme can be financed by the available resources identified in paragraph 4.1 and has no adverse effect on the Council's overall position.
- 3.2. Particular attention is drawn to:
 - a) The provision for funding Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs). The DFG is a statutory grant, which must be paid in respect of cases that meet the qualifying criteria to enable improved access for 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 £1.336m for 2010/11, a 15% increase over the basic grant provided in 2009/10. 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 it may 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.

For various reasons – particularly the impact of improved grant administration processes resulting in grant approvals flowing through more quickly; rising demand due to demographics and the ageing population it is anticipated that there will be considerable pressure on this budget line. The DFG budget will be actively monitored during the year and, should there be a need to increase further the resources to meet commitments, the issue will be flagged up via the Council's Strategic Asset Management Group. Any opportunities to bid for increased resources from central government will be maximised, as in previous years, although it is not anticipated that these opportunities will arise due to constrained public resources nationally. The demand for Disabled Facilities Grants will be monitored throughout the year and further reports will be brought before Members if it proves to be necessary

- b) Provision for Home Improvement Grants/Loans, such as Home Repairs Assistance loans. These are provided where there is an assessed need for housing repairs in urgent or dangerous situations, and applicants are in receipt of means tested benefits. However, they are non statutory and there is some evidence that take up has fallen due to the fact that in accordance with recently adopted policy, the Council no longer provides grants but provides loans, secured in the form of a legal charge against the property in question and recovered upon sale of the property.
 - c) The provision in the programme for funding the procurement of a new ICT system for the 'Homesearch' Choice Based Lettings, run in partnership with One Vision Housing. This will add extra functionality and allow for efficiency savings in the medium to long term.
- 3.3. Attention is also drawn to the £2.6m contribution to the Council's Housing Market Renewal Programme for 2010/11, which is vital to ensure the Programme continues with its core commitments around strategic acquisitions in identified priority areas in south Sefton. The £2.6m is essential in securing the £9.3m Housing Market Renewal Grant. Any reduction in the Council's contribution will result in the grant being reduced or potentially withdrawn.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The basic Housing Allocation could be supplemented by other related capital resources, as exemplified overleaf, to give a total of £6.595m available to finance the Housing based Capital Programme shown at Annex A.

Agenda Item 8

<u>Resources Available 2010/11</u>	<u>£m</u>
Capital Grant - 2010/11 Allocation	2.188
- 2009/10 B/Fwd	0.584
Disabled Facilities Grant	1.336
Prudential Borrowing	0.262
Capital Receipts (OVH) for HMR (business rates)	0.100
Capital Receipts (OVH - Right to Buy sales)	<u>2.125</u>
Total	<u>6.595</u>

- 4.2 The above table assumes the use of £2.225m One Vision Housing (OVH) Capital Receipts, received as a result of Right to Buy sales. As part of the housing stock transfer agreement, these receipts were to be reinvested in housing in the Borough.
- 4.3 The full year revenue costs of the prudential borrowing of £0.262m, which amount to approximately £23,600 in 2011/12, have been incorporated in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

5.0 Conclusion

- 5.1 Growing demand for Disabled Facilities Grants and the requirement to contribute towards the Housing Market Renewal programme in order to secure additional grant, together with significantly reduced housing capital resources, place pressure on the Council's finite Capital resources. As in previous years, Officers will endeavour to secure additional resources for housing related purposes and will attempt to continue to perform well in securing resources for RSL partners to deliver affordable housing and for the remediation of contaminated land in order to ease pressure on the need for development of Greenfield sites.
- 5.2 The programme, if approved, will however, secure significant additional resources for Sefton in its own right, notably £9.3m Housing Market Renewal Grant and significant private sector investment, delivered by key RSL and developer partners.

Agenda Item 8

ANNEX A

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SEFTON CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2010/11 - 2013/14

HOUSING - GENERAL FUND

1	2	3	4	5	7	8
REF. NO.	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	TOTAL COST	EXPEND TO 31.3.2010	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13 & LATER YEARS
		£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000
	<u>Health and Social Care</u>					
	<u>Disabled Facilities Grants</u>					
1	Previous Years' Approvals	70.52	0.00	70.52	0.00	0.00
2	2009/10 Approvals	3,264.30	1,717.03	1,477.27	70.00	0.00
3	2010/11 Approvals	2,500.00	0.00	1,352.00	1,098.00	50.00
	Total Disabled Facilities Grants	5,834.82	1,717.03	2,899.79	1,168.00	50.00
	<u>General</u>					
4	Piper Solo	150.00	97.67	52.33	0.00	0.00
5	Drug Rehabilitation / Boscoe Hostel	1,280.00	1,217.35	62.65	0.00	0.00
	Total General	1,430.00	1,315.02	114.98	0.00	0.00
	<u>Provn. for new starts - subj. to report</u>					
6	DFG (SCG)	168.00	0.00	0.00	168.00	0.00
	TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	7,432.82	3,032.05	3,014.77	1,336.00	50.00
	REGENERATION (HOUSING) SCHEMES					

Agenda Item 8

	<u>Home Improvement Grants</u>					
7	Previous Years' Approvals	13.34	0.00	13.34	0.00	0.00
8	2009/10 Approvals	428.23	337.79	75.44	15.00	0.00
9	2010/11 Approvals	600.00	0.00	491.00	90.00	19.00
10	Grant Administration Fees	297.60	226.14	20.00	51.46	0.00
	Total Home Improvement Grants	1,339.17	563.93	599.78	156.46	19.00
	<u>General</u>					
11	Energy Efficiency Grants	337.53	324.34	13.19	0.00	0.00
12	Landlord Accreditation / HMO's	35.00	29.78	5.22	0.00	0.00
13	Green Business Project	302.89	266.60	36.29	0.00	0.00
14	Strategic Housing Market Assessment	61.15	51.15	10.00	0.00	0.00
15	Housing Act - Works in Default	35.00	15.57	19.43	0.00	0.00
16	Older Persons Hsg Strat.- extra care provn.	2,890.00	0.00	200.00	2,690.00	0.00
17	Contribution to HMRI 08/09 - 10/11	7,724.00	5,124.00	2,600.00	0.00	0.00
18	Affordable Housing Study	25.00	0.24	24.76	0.00	0.00
19	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Provision	12.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
20	Site Appraisal and Consultation Choice based lettings - ICT procurement	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
21	Old Schemes	10.24	0.84	9.40	0.00	0.00
	Total General	11,482.81	5,812.52	2,980.29	2,690.00	0.00
	TOTAL REGENERATION (HOUSING)	12,821.98	6,376.45	3,580.07	2,846.46	19.00
	TOTAL HOUSING GF SCHEMES	20,254.80	9,408.50	6,594.84	4,182.46	69.00

Agenda Item 9

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET

DATE: 1 JUNE 2010
10 JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: SURE START EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE GRANT: QUALITY
AND ACCESS 2010/2011
EXTENDED SCHOOLS CAPITAL ALLOCATION 2010/2011

WARDS AFFECTED: BLUNDELLSANDS, FORD AND SUDELL 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 seek approval for the proposed schemes.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, has delegated powers to approve the proposed schemes detailed in this report and refer them to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:

- (i) approve the proposed schemes;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

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

Agenda Item 9

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general capital resources as all funding is from specific resources. The total value of the schemes is £606,139 which will be funded from the Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant and the Extended Schools Allocation 2010/2011.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
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: There are no financial risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: The proposals are in line with the Children, Schools & Families Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 379 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

The proposals will contribute to the Extended Schools agenda, which integrates the five elements of the Every Child Matters agenda. The proposals will also link to the following CYPP priorities:

- ❖ Create and maintain an environment where people feel safe;
- ❖ Create highly effective, inclusive learning environments for all age groups where learners can enjoy and achieve;
- ❖ Create a culture and an environment where people can make a positive contribution to their community.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposals will have a positive impact on and contribute to the five CYPP targets and the following LAA targets.

- ❖ Educational achievement and training;
- ❖ Health of children and young people;
- ❖ Making a positive contribution;
- ❖ Community involvement;
- ❖ Statutory education targets.

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

Report to Cabinet Member & Cabinet 13/15 April 2010: Extended School Capital Allocation 2010/2011
 Report to Cabinet Member & Cabinet 13/15 April 2010: Sure Start Early Years & Childcare Grant: Quality and Access 2010/2011

Agenda Item 9

SURESTART EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE GRANT: QUALITY AND ACCESS 2010/2011 **EXTENDED SCHOOLS CAPITAL ALLOCATION 2010/2011**

1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC has received a £960,958 Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant (EYCG): Quality and Access 2010/11 and a further £237,019 as an Extended Schools Capital Grant 2010/11.
- 1.2 Taking into account the schemes already approved by Members a balance of £489,120 and £117,019 remain in the EYCG grant and Extended Schools Grant respectively, giving a total of £606,139 available to support further schemes.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 A proposal is being developed to relocate Tweenie Tots Nursery from their current location in the Parish Hall adjacent to English Martyrs Church, Litherland, to accommodation within English Martyrs Catholic Primary School, currently used by the school nursery class. The Parish Hall is not fit for purpose and the refurbishment of the school nursery area will coincide with the development of new accommodation and remodelling at English Martyrs Catholic Primary School. The changes to the school accommodation will be funded from the school's DFC and capital allocations available to VA schools and is not detailed further in this report.
- 2.2 The external space connected to the proposed Tweenie Tots accommodation will be redesigned and landscaped to provide an exemplar play area. It is also proposed to construct an additional room for extended school/multi purpose activities at English Martyrs Catholic Primary School which currently has limited space for such activities. The estimated costs of the three elements to this proposal are shown in Table 1 below.
- 2.3 A further proposal is to secure the external play area at Sandford Pre-school Playgroup, Blundellsands and to add new doors to provide free flow from the internal to the external play area. Improved heating and landscaping to a small external area will complete the proposed improvements at an estimated cost of £35,000.
- 2.4 Little Acorns is an independent nursery housed in a classroom at Summerhill Primary School. The school is keen to retain the nursery on the school site but would like to regain the classroom in order to develop a new staffroom. The existing small staffroom would be remodelled to provide separate offices for the Headteacher and school secretary who currently share an office. As the nursery classroom can only be accessed by crossing the school playground there are safeguarding issues which the school needs to address.
- 2.5 It is proposed to build a self contained nursery unit within the school site but in a position where families and visitors would not have to cross the playground. This would consist of a large nursery room, pupil and staff toilets, small office/staff area, storage and a dedicated play area. The facility will also be used for holiday club activities. The estimated cost of the scheme is £350,000 with the funding mix detailed in Table 1 below.

Agenda Item 9

3. **Funding**

3.1 The breakdown of funding for the proposals in 2.1 to 2.5 is detailed in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Funding Breakdown for Proposed Schemes

PVI nursery/school	Proposal	Extended Schools £	EYCG: Q & A £
Tweenie Tots	Internal remodelling/refurbishment	-	130,000
Tweenie Tots	External Play area	-	21,139
English Martyrs	Extended schools/Multi-Purpose Room	70,000	-
Sandford Day Nursery	Security fencing, access door, heating improvements and landscaping	-	35,000
Little Acorns Nursery	Purpose built nursery building	47,019	302,981
Total		117,019	489,120

4. **Recommendations**

4.1 The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:

- (i) approve the proposed schemes;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 10

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET
DATE: 1 JUNE 2010
10 JUNE 2010
SUBJECT: TARGETED CAPITAL FUND: ADDITIONAL SCHEMES 2010/11
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 seek approval for the schemes detailed in this report.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, has delegated powers to approve the schemes detailed in this report and to refer them to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital programme 2010/11.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:

- (i) approve the proposed schemes;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

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

Agenda Item 10

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general capital resources as all funding is from specific resources. The total value of the schemes is £2,540,424 which will be funded from the Targeted Capital SEN Allocation 2010/2011.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
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: There are no financial risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: The proposals are in line with the Children, Schools & Families Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 383 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

The proposals detailed in this report will help to:-

- ❖ Create highly effective, inclusive learning environments for all age groups where learners can enjoy; and
- ❖ Achieve and create a culture and an environment where people can make a positive contribution to their community.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposals will have a positive impact on the following priorities:-

- ❖ Educational achievement and training.
- ❖ The health of children and young people.
- ❖ Making a positive contribution.
- ❖ Statutory Education Targets.

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

Report to Overview & Scrutiny, Cabinet Member and Cabinet 6/20/22 January 2009: - Targeted Capital Funding: Proposed Schemes for 14-19 Diplomas
 Report to Cabinet 14 May 2009: - Targeted Capital Funding 14-19 Diplomas :Proposed Schemes
 Report to Cabinet 06 August 2009: - Sefton Water Sports Centre

Agenda Item 10

TARGETED CAPITAL FUND: ADDITIONAL SCHEMES 2010/11

1. Background

- 1.1 Members will recall that Sefton received a total of £8,000,000 Targeted Capital Funding allocation in 2009/10 (£2,000,000) and 2010/11 (£6,000,000).
- 1.2 This funding was to provide additional support for the provision of facilities for the delivery of 14-19 diplomas and to improve facilities for the pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
- 1.3 Members will further recall that approval was given in January 2009 to allocate a total of £4,759,576 to provide a technology rich Diploma delivery room in every high school in Sefton and these plans are well advanced with all schemes either completed, on site or in the final development stages. A further £700,000 was allocated to the Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre in January 2009. Taking into account these approved schemes, a balance of £2,540,424 remains to develop improved facilities for pupils with Special Educational Needs or disabilities.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 It is proposed to develop a scheme to remodel and refurbish Thornton Primary School, which is due to close on 31 August 2010, as a post-16 SEN base for pupils with a range of disabilities and special educational needs.
- 2.2 It is anticipated that this base will not provide post-16 education for those pupils with complex and profound disabilities and that these pupils will continue to receive post-16 provision at Rowan Park and Merefield Special Schools as appropriate. Members will recall that Presfield has a changed designation and will from September 2010 only provide for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders. As a result there is a need to provide an alternative site for post-16 students unable to access local sector colleges as this provision is currently located at Presfield. Analysis of NEET (pupils not in education, employment or training) information suggests that there is significant fall out of 17 and 18 year olds with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The proposal would help to address this unmet need.
- 2.3 These proposals are at a very early stage of development but approval is sought to develop a scheme at Thornton Primary School if early feasibility work confirms that this is a suitable venue for post-16 provision. It is anticipated that approximately £2,000,000 would be required for this development.
- 2.4 It is further proposed to use the balance of the available funding (£540,424) to carry out some improvement works, identified in Sefton's Schools Asset Management Plan, at Newfield and Merefield Special Schools. These may include replacement boilers at Newfield and replacement roof-lights and air-handling units at Merefield with some rewiring at this school.
- 2.5 At the time of writing this report, the feasibility work at Thornton Primary School is incomplete and the development of the post-16 provision on this site will only be progressed if the early work suggests a positive outcome and therefore a more accurate estimate of funding required to complete the scheme is not available. If, however, the scheme is approved and progressed then accurate details of funding required for this and the condition works at Newfield and Merefield Special Schools will be reported to Members at Tender stage.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Cabinet Member, Children, Schools & Families, is recommended to:

- (iii) approve the proposed schemes;
- (iv) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

CD – 26.04.10
G:\Capital\2010 2011\CM Reports\CM Report - TCFAdditional Schemes 201011 (01 & 10. 06.10).DOC

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 11

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET

DATE: 1 JUNE 2010
10 JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: GENERAL CAPITAL SCHEMES AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS

WARDS AFFECTED: AINSDALE, DERBY AND KEW 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 seek approval for a number of general capital schemes at various schools.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member has delegated powers to approve the capital schemes and to refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended:

- (i) to approve the schemes detailed in this report;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

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

Agenda Item 11

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from specific resources as detailed below. This will increase the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme by £491,060.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	491,060			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources £328,060 Birkdale High, School Budget £73,000 Meols Cop High, School Reserves £40,000 Greenacre Nursery, School Reserves £50,000 Kings Meadow Primary, School Budget	491,060			
<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: There are no risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources as detailed in the report.

Asset Management: The proposals are in line with the Children, Schools & Families Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The appropriate schools/services have been fully consulted.
FD 381 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

Not appropriate.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

Not appropriate.

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

None.

Agenda Item 11

GENERAL CAPITAL SCHEMES AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS

1. Background

- 1.1 A small number of capital schemes are proposed by schools where an element of the funding is from a revenue source. Three such schemes are detailed below with the recommendation for approval and for the funding to be added to the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme for 2010/11.

2. Proposals

- 2.1 Birkdale High School is proposing to refurbish 6 science laboratories at a total cost of £328,060. All funding will be provided by the school from Standards Fund within their Delegated School Budget.
- 2.2 Meols Cop High School is proposing to extend the science preparation room and chemical store at an estimated cost of £73,000 to be funded entirely from school reserves.
- 2.3 A third proposal is to extend Greenacre Nursery to provide a multipurpose parents/training/interview room. The estimated cost of this proposal is £65,000 to be funded from the school's reserves (£40,000) and DFC (£25,000, already in the Capital Programme).
- 2.4 Kings Meadow Primary School is proposing to refurbish the kitchen by adding £50,000 from their Delegated Schools budget and £67,000 from Devolved Formula Capital (already in the Capital Programme) to the £16,500 Kitchen and Dining Room Capital Grant. This gives a total budget of £133,500.
- 2.5 The total of funding to be added to the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme in 2010/2011 from school sources is £491,000.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended:
- (i) to approve the schemes detailed in this report;
 - (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2009/10.

Agenda Item 12

REPORT TO: CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES
CABINET

DATE: 1 JUNE 2010
10 JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: CHILDREN'S PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES CAPITAL
ALLOCATION 2010/11

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 seek approval for the proposed schemes.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member has delegated powers to approve the schemes and to refer them to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to: -

- (i) approve the schemes detailed in this report and refer them to Cabinet for inclusion in the Capital Programme;
- (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

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

Agenda Item 12

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from specific resources. The increase in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme is shown in the table below.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	44,732			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources Children's Personal Social Services Capital	44,732			
<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: There are no financial risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: In line with Children, Schools & Families Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The relevant Children, Schools & Families officers and managers of the relevant properties have been fully consulted.

FD 380 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

The proposals will improve the facilities for children in public care and contribute towards the five Every Child Matters outcomes.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The proposals will also have a positive impact on the following LAA targets.

- ❖ Educational achievement and training.
- ❖ Looked After Children.

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

None.

Agenda Item 12

CHILDREN'S PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES CAPITAL ALLOCATION 2010/11

1. Background

- 1.1 Sefton MBC has received a Children's Personal Social Services capital allocation of £44,732 in 2010/11 which is a formulaic allocation based on the number of children in the Authority.

2. Proposed Schemes

- 2.1 Table 1 below details the proposed schemes to be funded from the Children's Personal Social Services capital allocation.

Table 1: Proposed Schemes

CENTRE	PROPOSALS	Estimated Cost £
Marie Clark Family Centre	Replace defective boundary fencing. New entrance doors, flooring and decoration	19,077
Cherry Road	Loft insulation	1,209
Southport Children's Centre	New fire alarm and new intruder alarm	11,199
Kirwan House	Repair garage roof and refurbish bathrooms and toilets	13,247
TOTAL		44,732

- 2.2 These estimated costs can be contained within the funding available.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended to: -
- (i) approve the schemes detailed in this report and refer them to Cabinet for inclusion in the Capital Programme;
 - (ii) refer the funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme 2010/11.

Agenda Item 13

REPORT TO: CABINET

DATE: 10 JUNE 2010

SUBJECT: CAPITAL SCHEME: CHRIST CHURCH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL,
BOOTLE

WARDS AFFECTED: DERBY WARD

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 seek approval for the extension of the contract for the Primary Capital scheme at Christ Church CE Primary School.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The scheme will be delayed if approval is not given.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

Cabinet is recommended to:

- (i) approve the extension of the contract at Christ Church CE Primary School as detailed in this report; and
- (ii) increase the line in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme to include the additional works to be funded from the school's Devolved Formula Capital and Extended Schools Grant.

KEY DECISION: No.

FORWARD PLAN: Not appropriate.

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

Agenda Item 13

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general resources as all funding is from the school's Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) and Extended Schools Grant, both of which are already in the Capital Programme.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
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: There are no risks associated with this report as all funding is from the school's DFC and Extended Schools Grant 2009/10.

Asset Management: In line with the Children, Schools & Families Asset Management Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 422 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

Not applicable.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

Not applicable.

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

Report to Cabinet – 10 July 2008 – Primary Capital Programme: Implementation Proposals.
 Report to Cabinet Member/Cabinet – 5/14 May 2009 – Extended Schools Capital Schemes 2009/10.
 Report to Cabinet – 25 November 2009 – Report of Tenders Christ Church CE Primary School.

Agenda Item 13

CAPITAL SCHEME: CHRIST CHURCH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOOTLE

1. Background

- 1.1 Members will recall that approval was given on 10 July 2008 for a major scheme at Christ Church CE Primary School to be funded from the Primary Capital Programme. A tendering process was undertaken and an appropriate contractor was appointed to carry out the works.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 The Governors at the school have requested that three small schemes, with a total value of £176,701, be added to the existing contract in order that the works can continue immediately after the completion of the original major scheme.

These additional works will be fully funded from the school's DFC (£156,701) and the £20,000 Extended Schools Funding approved by Cabinet on 14 May 2009.

- 2.2 The proposed schemes will provide an extended schools suite within the ex-caretaker's house, extend the undersized ICT room and improve the storage facilities to the school hall. It is anticipated that by extending the existing contract, rather than re-tendering, that time can be saved and the disruption to the school can be minimised.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- (i) approve the extension of the contract at Christ Church CE Primary School as detailed in this report; and
 - (ii) increase the line in the Children, Schools & Families Capital Programme to include the additional works to be funded from the school's Devolved Formula Capital and Extended Schools Grant.

Agenda Item 14

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member (Health and Social Care)
Cabinet

DATE: 26 May 2010
10 June 2010

SUBJECT: Charging for the Specialist Transport Service

WARDS AFFECTED: None directly

REPORT OF: Robina Critchley – Adult Social Care Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Colin Speight
0151 934 3743

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To apprise Members of the outcomes of the review of the impact of the introduction of the flat rate charge on all service users who have transport arranged by the Council's Specialist Transport Service.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Cabinet on the 1 October 2009 requested a further report following three months of operating the charge.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Cabinet Member:-

- i. Notes the contents of this report..
- ii. Agrees to the treatment of expenditure in reaching the decision on a appeal, as outlined in paragraph 8 of the report.
- iii. Agrees to a further report on this matter in six months time,
- iv. Forwards the report to Cabinet.

KEY DECISION: Not applicable.

FORWARD PLAN: Not applicable.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Not applicable

Agenda Item 14

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: None.

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: None as a result of this report, however it should be noted that budgetary provision has been made in relation to the attainment of income from this charge.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	0	0	0	0
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	0	0	0	0
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: N/A

Risk Assessment: There is a danger that some service users will elect not to attend day care. This may expose the Adult Social Care Department to possible additional expenditure to meet the Statutory duties placed upon it.

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services – FD378 – The Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services has been consulted and his comments have been incorporated.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

Corporate Objective		Positive Impact	Neutral Impact	Negative Impact
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

Committee items entitled

Specialist Transport Service

- Cabinet Member, Health and Social Care 24th June 2009
- Cabinet 9th July 2009
- Cabinet 1st October 2009

Agenda Item 14

Introduction

1. Members will recall that the Cabinet Member, Health and Social Care and Cabinet, on the 24th June 2009 and 9th July 2009 respectively approved the implementation, from the 1st October 2009, of a flat rate charge of £3 per day (£1.50 per journey) on all service users who have transport arranged by the Councils Specialist Transport Service.
2. The Council then received a petition from the Sefton Carers Forum which was considered by Cabinet at its meeting on the 1st October 2009.
3. Cabinet on this date resolved under Minute 134: That
 - i. the petition and statement given by Mr. Corscaden be noted;
 - ii. the report be noted, and
 - iii. the Strategic Director of Adult Social Services (Health and Social Care) review the impact of the introduction of the flat rate charge on all service users who have transport arranged by the Council's Specialist Transport Service after three months of operation and submit a report thereon to the Cabinet.
4. This report seeks to address the request in 3iii above.
5. After the 9 July 2009 and prior to the implementation of the charge on the 1st October 2009 the Council received 31 communications by telephone, and 18 by letter objecting to the charge. 5 of these written communications were entered into the Directorate's Customer Complaints system and have been satisfactorily dealt with.
6. Service users are being invoiced based on information provided by the Specialist Transport Unit. There have been some minor hiccups, the main one relating to invoicing service users for trips which have not occurred due to carers arranging pick ups from day centres. This is a matter of communication between the Specialist Transport Unit, the day centre provider and the Adult Social Care department which we are working to improve on.
7. The charge agreed by Members is a flat rate charge. This does not come under the fairer charging policy and there is therefore no financial assessment to establish whether or not a service user can afford the charge. However, there will be genuine cases of hardship where a service user cannot afford to pay the charge. With this in mind the Adult Social Care Department has implemented a Transport Appeal Procedure and this is detailed in Annex A. At the time of drafting this report there were 34 service users who have appealed against the charge.
8. 30 of the 34 have had a visit by one of the Departments Finance Visiting Officers and have provided financial information in support of their appeal. Of the 30, 4 relate to older people, 5 relate to older people with mental illness and 21 adults with learning disabilities. Consideration has been given to 22 of these cases. In the main the expenditure being claimed relates to

Agenda Item 14

expenditure incurred when taking part in activities organised by day centres and general transport costs. If all of the costs claimed were allowed, 9 of the 22 would pay the full transport charge and 13 would be exempt. A matter for consideration is the level of allowance given against expenditure, over and above usual living costs, claimed. It is proposed that expenditure incurred by service users when taking part in activities organised by day centres should be allowed in full.

9. With regard to transport costs, based on appeals received it is difficult if not impossible to relate the costs directly to service users. At the same time, we do not want to operate a overly bureaucratic process. It is therefore suggested that we allow a percentage of travel costs, say 50%. If this were applied to service users who would be exempt from paying a charge if we allowed all expenditure claimed, 7 would still be exempt and 2 would pay the charge in full and 4 would pay a reduced charge.
10. So far there has been a handful of service users/carers who have said that they won't pay the charge. It is too early in the process to assess if this is the case or if this is to escalate into bigger numbers, however attached as Annex B is a brief outline of the Sefton debt recovery procedure. Included in the procedure is a liaison with the appropriate department prior to taking court action and officers would, of course, take the view of Members prior to approving such action.
11. In addition the Adult Social Care Department already has in place an established appeals mechanism in respect of charging and service users have the full right and prerogative to use this facility if they wish. There are details of this subject on the Sefton Website and a leaflet is given to all users at the point of assessment on how to access this facility.
12. At the time of writing this report the Council has received no indications of people electing not to go to their normal day care facility. The Strategic Manager for the Councils Specialist Transport Service also confirms there has been no reduction in the numbers of people using the Councils Specialist Transport Service.
13. It is proposed a further report on Charging for Specialist Transport Services is presented to Members in six months time.

TRANSPORT APPEAL PROCEDURE

Where service users make contact unhappy at the principle of having to pay a transport charge they will be sent a complaints form, these will be dealt with through the usual complaints procedure.

Where service users make contact stating that they cannot afford to pay a charge then further information will be sought in relation to the service user's finances.

Income-Expenditure visit

Although the transport charge is not part of the financial assessment process, all service users will be visited by a Finance Visiting Officer (FVO) to gather up-to-date financial information. The FVO will:

- Gather details of the service user's finances (ensuring that correct benefits are in place), and also maximising the income of household members.
- Confirm that the charge for home care or day care services are correct.
- Identify the actual costs of disability related expenditure.
- Identify any extenuating circumstances.

The financial information will be passed to the Welfare Rights Service (WRS) Manager who will then go through all the service user's income and allowable expenditure.

Income-Expenditure assessment

The Income-Expenditure assessment will detail all the income that the service user has available, and include allowances for some expenditure.

As the transport cost is not part of the Fairer Charging policy then all other income which is disregarded as part of the Fairer Charging calculation will be taken into account. This will include Pension Savings Credit, the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and the highest rate care component of DLA or Attendance Allowance:

E.g. if someone receives the highest rate care component of DLA or Attendance Allowance of £70.35 per week, then only a lower rate of £47.10 per week is taken into account as income under the Fairer Charging calculation. When considering the transport charge the £23.25 difference will be taken into account.

The following expenditure will be allowed:

- Rent/mortgage, service charges, council tax.
- Actual disability related expenditure.
- The charge paid for home care or day care services.
- An allowance for everyday living expenses equal to Pension Credit/Income Support plus 25%.
- Relevant transport related expenditure.
- Relevant expenditure in relation to day centre activities.

Agenda Item 14

The final figure will determine if the service user has income available to pay towards the transport charge.

Further appeal

Where service users are still unhappy with the decision of the WRS Manager then they have the right to appeal further to the Principal Manager (Finance, Contracts, Welfare Rights), a Service Manager and a representative from the Carer's Centre.

Example of how to deal with a non-payment care package case

The charge payer has been sent an invoice but fails to pay.



Reminder sent after 14 days and again no payment or contact has been received.



Final Notice sent after 28 days and again no payment or contact has been received.



The next monthly invoice will go out with the balance b/fwd on, again followed by the reminder and final notice.



If after 2 months there is no contact the Accounts Receivable Section will phone to find out what the problem is and to ask for payment. If contact can't be made, payment is refused or the person is confused or in ill health the case will be marked on Oracle as referred to Health & Social Care.



These cases will be referred each week and will be co-ordinated by the Accounts Receivable Section. They will check to see if there are any other invoices outstanding for the person and they will check Council Tax to get the full picture of the person's indebtedness to the Council.



The Accounts Receivable Section will then refer the cases to Health & Social Care.



Within 21 days the HSC will report back to the Accounts Receivable Section with the details of whether the invoice is to be cancelled, the invoice can be put on hold pending the appeal process or the debt should be pursued. This may result in further liaison between the teams.



If the person is refusing to make any arrangement and the charges are correct, Income will refer the case to Debt Recovery within 7 days for legal action to be taken.



Legal will send out a Letter of Claim and request all copy documents. These will be supplied by HSC within 14 days.

Agenda Item 15

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 10th June 2010

SUBJECT: Bus / Taxi - Framework Agreements

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: J G Black
Operational Services Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Garry Lewis
Head of Specialist Transport
0151 934 4601

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No.

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To obtain approval to extend the current Bus Route framework agreement for a period of 12 months.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To provide an ongoing contractual arrangement for the transportation of vulnerable residents by external bus companies until 31st August 2011.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet agree;

- 1) The extension of the current Bus Route framework agreement for a period of 12 months from 1st September 2010.
- 2) A formal procurement exercise is carried out to procure a new combined Bus and Taxi routes contract to operate from 1st September 2011 onwards.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

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

Agenda Item 15

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

None – carrying out a formal re-tendering procedure would not, at this time, incorporate new 'optimised routes' and may take up to 6 months to complete.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
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: An extension period of up to 24 months is allowed within the current Bus Route framework agreement.

Risk Assessment: Not Applicable

Asset Management: Not Applicable

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Central Purchasing

FD 407 - The Interim Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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

N/A

Agenda Item 15

Background

1. The current Bus Route framework agreement, which resulted from a Cabinet Member Report, dated 21st July 2005, by Tony Yates (then Finance Director) and Ashley Heller (then Head of Specialist Transport Services) is scheduled to end on 31st August 2010 but includes the option to extend the contractual arrangement for a up to a maximum of 2 years.
2. The Specialist Transportation Unit (STU) delayed the process of carrying out a formal re-procurement exercise for Bus Routes until the result of the Transport Software tender became known.
3. This information technology (IT) software is required in order to be able to produce the most efficient routes, via the 'route optimisation' aspect of this software, based on current service data.
4. Unfortunately the decision to procure new software, following the tender exercise, was delayed until the beginning of April. Therefore there is not enough time to carry out a formal procurement (tendering) process, to comply with Council Contracts Procedure Rules and European Procurement guidelines, for a new Bus Route agreement to be in place by the 1st September 2010.
5. In addition to the above the core period of the current Taxi Framework Contract expires on 31st August 2011. It is therefore deemed appropriate to complete 'route optimisation' prior to procuring a replacement combined Taxi and Bus Route agreement to commence from 1st September 2011.
6. The use of 'route optimisation' will enable more efficient routes to be created and included in tender documents. It is envisaged that this will achieve savings under future contractual arrangements.
7. The STU section will, subject to approval, conduct a formal procurement exercise for a combined routes contract over the coming months, incorporating fully optimised route information.
8. It is also envisaged that the STU section will be able to make use of new optimised routes towards the end of 2010, during the 12-month extension period, therefore achieving savings during this financial year. This may not be achievable if a new contract was established that was not based on optimised routes.
9. The STU section should also be able to make savings by using optimised route information and applying this to the current Taxi contract.

Tendering Process

10. The STU section is seeking approval to conduct a formal procurement process, advertised in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU), during the extension period. This will enable a new combined Bus and Taxi Routes contract to be awarded and to commence from 1st September 2011.

Financial implications

11. The current costs associated with the contract for 'bus routes' is ~£2.4m annually, therefore Cabinet approval is required to extend the existing contractual arrangement.
12. The implementation of the route optimisation process may enable the STU to reduce expenditure on existing Bus Route and Taxi contracts during the 2010/11 financial year.
13. Further efficiencies should be generated from September 2011 under a new contractual arrangement.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 16

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 10th June 2010

SUBJECT: Kew Housing and Employment Site, Southport – Progress update

WARDS AFFECTED: Kew

REPORT OF: Alan Moore - Strategic Director of Communities
Tel: 0151 934 4190
Peter Moore - Director of Environment and Technical Services
Tel: 0151 934 4018

CONTACT OFFICER: Nick Yates - Project Manager 0151 934 2767

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To update members on progress since the last report to Cabinet in October 2009.

In particular the progress on;

- Site Investigations
- The request to enter a further advanced legal agreement
- Recent Consultation with local residents
- Action on grazers occupying the site
- The requirement for further reports to update Cabinet and the Southport Area Committee in due course.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Members resolved to receive update reports.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- Authorise the Director of Legal Services to enter into a further advanced legal agreement with BDW
- Authorise the Director of Legal services to take proceedings as necessary against the grazers recently served with a Notice to Quit and note the loss of income to the Council of £3,394pa as a result of this.
- Note and approve the progress being made on other matters.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Following the call in period for the minutes of this meeting.

Agenda Item 16

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: The alternative is not to proceed with the project, which will mean the Council will not be able to deliver the market, extra care and affordable housing and employment space which are key objective for developing this site.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial:

- i) The Council currently receive a revenue income of £3,394 pa from the grazing licences. This would cease when the grazing licences terminate. The table below reflects this loss of income to the Council.
- ii) With regard to the Capital receipt for the site, the details are not quantifiable at this stage but will be presented in due course.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	3,394			
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources	3,394			
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N			When?	
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal:

- The Director of Legal Services is to be authorised to
- i) Enter into a further legal agreement with BDW
 - ii) Take proceedings if necessary against those grazers who fail to comply with the notice to quit served recently.

Risk Assessment:

N/A

Asset Management:

This proposal is a positive initiative which will release value from a non-operational Council asset.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
 PLANNING AND ECONOMIC REGENERATION
 TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
 HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
 LEGAL SERVICES
 THE SOUTHPORT PARTNERSHIP

FD 422 – The interim Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services has been consulted and his comments are incorporated in the 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

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The land at Town Lane, Kew is the largest available housing and business development site in the north of Sefton and has been identified by the Council as a unique opportunity to create a high quality environment in which to both live and work. The release of this land for housing and employment purposes by the Council will make a significant contribution to meeting the demand for both affordable and private housing in this part of the Borough. The initial developer appointment exercise identified the site as having capacity for approximately 674 homes. This is intended to be in the form of 437 private houses for sale and 237 affordable homes, although these figures are subject to the detailed planning process and economic viability appraisal. The site also represents an opportunity to include Extra Care Housing as part of the overall development and will help to increase the supply of new high quality commercial property within the use classes B1 designation.
- 1.2 With regard to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, Town Lane is identified as the Borough’s most important housing site, delivering a housing supply in the period from 2013 onwards.
- 1.3 At Cabinet on the 1st November 2007 Members approved the selection process for the appointment of a developer partner to assist in the creation of an extended Southport Business Park (Shown as sites B and C on Appendix 1) and as a

Agenda Item 16

partner for the development of the adjacent housing site (Shown as site D on Appendix 1)

- 1.4 On 2nd October 2008 Barratt Developments PLC (BDW), including their partner David Wilson Homes (DWH), was confirmed by Cabinet as the preferred developer partner for the Kew site. The resolution approved the appointment of Barratt Developments via an initial exclusivity agreement which also allowed DWH access onto the site to carry out site investigations.

2.0 Current Position

2.1 Site Investigations/ Remediation and Planning Application

- 2.1.1 The legal agreement and access licence has allowed DWH to commission intrusive site investigation works to take place across the site.

- 2.1.2 Since November of 2009 Hydrock, the environmental consultants acting for DWH have been undertaking these intrusive investigative works, the most recent phase having been completed in March of this year. The information from these investigations is expected to be presented back to the Council in June which will enable both the Council and the Environment Agency to determine any further work to be done on this matter. If no further investigative works are required a remediation options appraisal and remediation method statement will be prepared to determine the scope of work necessary to prepare the site for development.

- 2.1.3 The Planning Team of DWH is working closely with the officers to prepare the most appropriate proposals for the site. A Design Code is being developed to ensure that the scheme achieves the highest standards possible and to ensure that its appearance that of a quality development.

- 2.1.4 The first of a series of planned consultation events took place on the 20th of May at Kew Wood School. Whilst there were issues regarding the delivery of newsletters inviting residents to the event, some of which were delivered only on the day of the event itself, the event attracted in excess of 200 local residents

- 2.1.5 The event was designed specifically to present a “blank canvas” allowing issues to be identified before a scheme layout is prepared. Attendees were invited to discuss matters with local councillors who attended for part of the meeting, officers, and the DWH Planning Team together with Arena Housing who will be DWH’s Social Housing Partner. These matters are currently being drawn together and will be available as a brief report at the Cabinet meeting.

- 2.1.6 The intention is that with this information the DWH Planning Team will prepare a layout plan by July which will be the discussion document for a later series of consultations. The longer term objective being the submission of a Planning application by September 2010

2.2 Legal Position

- 2.2.1 As the Barratt/DWH Development Team have now completed the site investigations to their satisfaction they are, as is detailed above, in the position to commit to making a Planning Application for the site. The application will be a more detailed commitment to development of the site and it is considered appropriate now for the Council to enter into a further advanced legal agreement with the parent company of DWH namely BDW for the sites subsequent disposal.

2.2.2 The Kew site has for many years been occupied by horse grazers. However, as it is now necessary for the developer to advance their proposals it is important for the site to be clear and ready for works to commence. The term of the grazer's licences required the serving of a 3 months notice to quit. This was actioned in April and will expire on the 21st July 2010. Should there be any defaulting on the notice the Director of Legal Services has requested authority be granted to take legal proceedings against the defaulters.

2.2.3 Members are specifically asked to note and agree these legal matters.

2.3 Financial Matters

2.3.1 The Council currently receives a revenue income from the grazing licences of £3393.76 per annum. This income would cease when the grazers move from the site. Members may wish to note this loss of income to the Council and its budgetary impact,

2.3.2 The further financial implications arising from this report are related specifically to the securing of a Capital Receipt but the further advancement of the legal agreement and the impending Planning Application with DWH brings the Council closer to being able to determine what this Capital Receipt may be.

2.3.3 The process to be adopted in determining this Capital Receipt will be similar to that adopted by the HMRI programme in that the Development Appraisal to be submitted by DWH will be scrutinised by both Capita and the Council's retained advisors on affordable housing viability - Three Dragons.

3 Programme of Development

3.1 The current programme for the development of the site has been altered since last reported as a result of the requirement to have a planning approval in place to support the Council's application for the redevelopment of the Meols Cop School under the BSF programme.

3.2 With a Planning Application intended to be submitted by August/September 2010 and an approval in place by December 2010 this will support the Council's business case submission for BSF funding.

3.3 The programme is then likely to take the following course: -

Presentation to Consultation Panel	July 2010
Further Consultation on Draft Layout	July/August 2010
Planning Application	September 2010
Planning Approval	December 2010
Remediation	Jan 2011 – Oct 2011
Development Commencement	Nov 2011
Properties available for occupation	March 2012

4 Conclusions

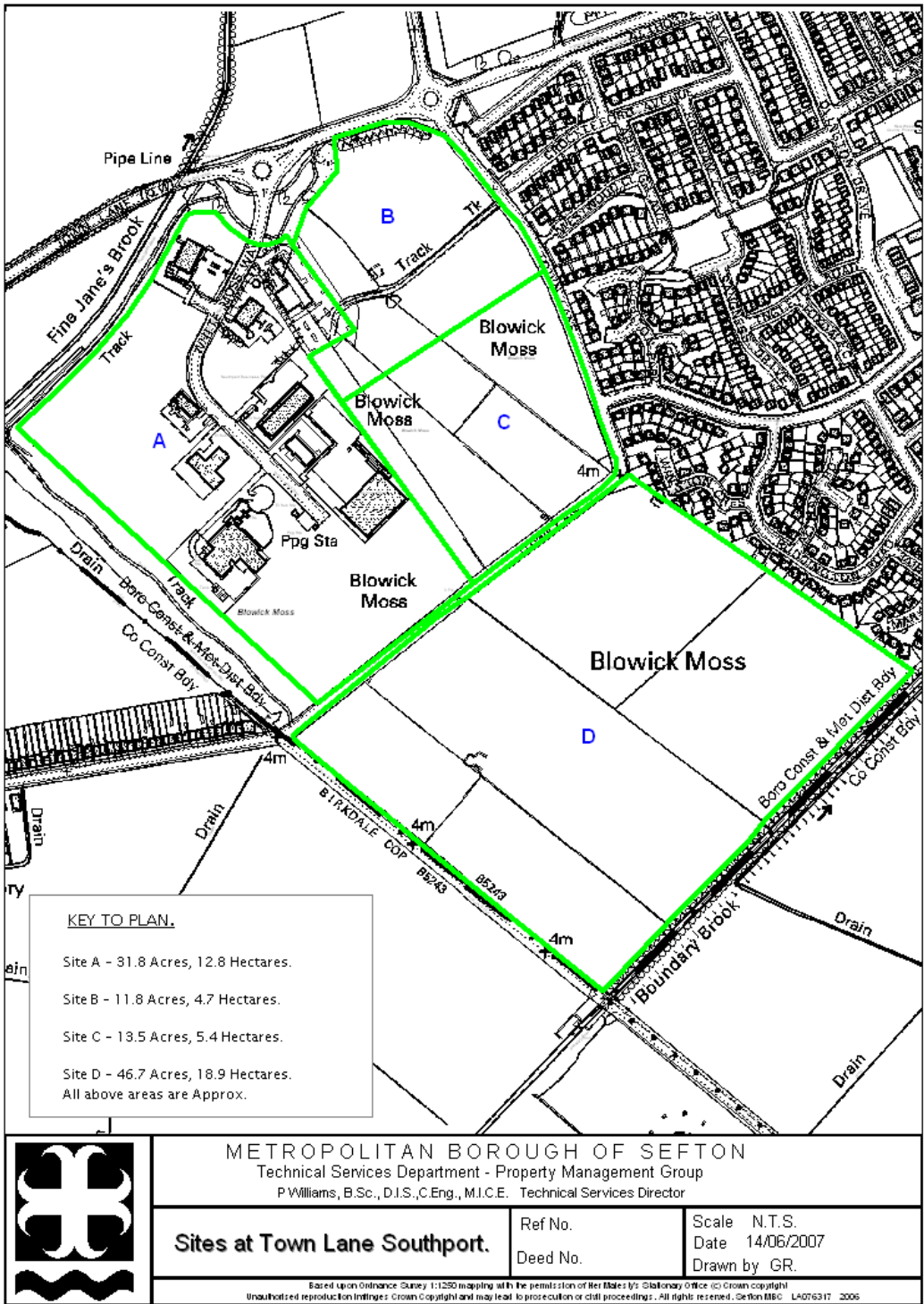
4.1 David Wilson Homes are now sufficiently confident in the information that they have been able to gather about the conditions on the site to proceed with the preparation of a scheme for the site. The processes that are being followed both by the Council and DWH themselves will result in successfully bringing forward

Agenda Item 16

the development of the Kew site for both residential and commercial development within the programme detailed above.

- 4.2 Cabinet and Members will be updated on further progress as it continues.

APPENDIX 1



This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 17

REPORT TO: LICENSING & REGULATORY COMMITTEE
CABINET
COUNCIL

DATE: 07/06/2010
10/06/2010
08/07/2010

SUBJECT: **SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE – SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE**

WARDS AFFECTED: All

REPORT OF: P.J. Moore,
Environmental & Technical Services Director
D. Mackey,
Interim Head Of Corporate Legal Services

CONTACT OFFICER: K.T. Coady,
Senior Licensing Officer,
0151 934 2946
Sue Cain
Senior Solicitor,
0151 934 2288

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To seek Members endorsement of the recommendations to the Council:

- (a) approving the adoption of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, as amended by S.27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009;
- (b) the giving of delegated powers to Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committees and to the Environmental & Technical Services Director in respect of certain functions under the Policing and Crime Act, 2009 and Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982; and
- (c) to seek the approval of Members for proposed conditions and fees in respect of this process.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

- 1. The Policing and Crime Act, 2009 amends Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, reclassifying lap dancing clubs as “sexual entertainment venues” and giving local authorities the power to regulate such venues as sex establishments under Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982. However the powers are not mandatory and will only apply where they have been adopted.
- 2. To enable the Council to prescribe standard conditions and to charge a fee for this new function.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Licensing and Regulatory Committee:

- (a) Endorses the adoption of Schedule 3 the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act,

Agenda Item 17

1982, as amended by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act, 2009; and,

- (b) Endorses the recommended delegation of functions to the Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committee; and,
- (c) Endorses the proposed conditions and fees; and,
- (d) Recommends that Cabinet approve the Recommendations, set out in paragraphs (a) – (c), above to Council.

That Cabinet:

- (a) Recommends the adoption of Schedule 3 the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, as amended by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act, 2009; and,
- (b) Recommends the approval of the recommended delegation of functions to the Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committee; and,
- (c) Approves the proposed conditions and fees as set out in paragraph 43 of the report in respect of Sexual Establishment Venues Licences; and,
- (d) Recommends that Council approve the Recommendations set out in paragraphs (a) – (b) above.

That the Council:

- (a) Approves the adoption of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, as amended by S.27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009;
- (b) Adopts the recommended delegation of functions relating to the establishment of a Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committee;
- (c) Authorises the Licensing and Regulatory Committee to delegate its functions under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, as amended by S.27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 to Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committees each consisting of three members of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee;
- (d) Authorises the Assistant Chief Executive to determine the composition (i.e. membership) of any Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committee from within the membership of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee for the purposes of convening meetings of the Licensing (Sexual Entertainment Venues) Sub-Committees;
- (e) Recommends that Part 3 of the Constitution - Responsibility for Functions (Delegations to Regulatory and Non-Executive Committees) be amended to take account of recommendations (b), (c) and (d) above.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 22/07/2010

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not to adopt Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act as amended by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009.

Agenda Item 17

Not to prescribe conditions or fees for this new function.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial:

The proposed fees will provide cost recovery for the services provided.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
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 N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

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		√	

Agenda Item 17

Legal: None

Risk Assessment: None

Asset Management: None

Consultation Undertaken/Views

- Merseyside Police.
- Legal.

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

- *Certain provisions of the Policing and Crime Bill* – Report to Licensing & Regulatory Committee, 19th January 2009.
- *Proposed response to Home Office consultation – “Regulation of Lap Dancing Clubs – Consultation on Transitional Arrangements”* – Report to Licensing & Regulatory Committee, 26th October 2009.
- Policing and Crime Act 2009.
- *Sexual Entertainment Venues - Guidance for England and Wales* – Home Office.
- *The Policing and Crime Act 2009 (Commencement No. 1 and Transitional and Saving Provisions) (England) Order 2010* – Statutory Instrument No. 722 / 2010.
- *The Policing and Crime Act 2009 (Consequential Provisions) (England) Order 2010* – Statutory Instrument No. 723 / 2010.
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

Background

1. Members will recall from previous Reports that Schedule 3 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 (“the 2009 Act”) inserted a new category of “sex establishment” called a “sexual entertainment venue” into Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982 (the “1982 Act”). Thus bringing the licensing of lap dancing and pole dancing clubs and other similar venues under the regime set out in the 1982 Act, which is currently used to regulate establishments such as sex shops and sex cinemas, rather than under the Licensing Act 2003 (“the LA03”).
2. A sexual entertainment venue is defined as “*any premises at which relevant entertainment is provided before a live audience for the financial gain of the organiser or the entertainer.*” The meaning of ‘relevant entertainment’ is defined as “*any live performance or live display of nudity which is of such a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of an audience (whether by verbal or other means).*” An audience can consist of just one person (e.g. where the entertainment takes place in private booths).

3. The Guidance issued by the Home Office over these matters indicates that whilst local authorities should judge each case on its own merits, it would be expected that the definition of relevant entertainment would apply to the following forms of entertainment as they are commonly understood:
 - Lap dancing
 - Pole dancing
 - Table dancing
 - Strip shows
 - Peep shows
 - Live sex shows
4. It should be noted that although the definition of relevant entertainment makes reference to a 'live display of nudity', the Guidance indicates that the mere fact that there is a display of nudity does not mean that a sex establishment licence will necessarily be required. For example, if the display forms part of a drama or dance performance in a theatre, in most cases it cannot reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience.
5. Paragraph 2A(14) of Schedule 3 sets out the definition of a 'display of nudity'. In the case of a woman, this means exposure of her nipples, pubic area, genitals or anus and, in the case of a man; this means exposure of his pubic area, genitals or anus.
6. The relevant entertainment must be provided for the financial gain of the 'organiser' or 'entertainer'. The 'organiser' means any person who is responsible for the organisation or management of the relevant entertainment or the premises at which the relevant entertainment is provided. The Guidance states that in most circumstances, this will refer to the manager of the premises, but could also refer to someone who is responsible for organising the relevant entertainment on behalf of the persons responsible for the management of the premises.
7. The Guidance indicates that the 'organiser' must be someone who is in a position of responsibility over the provision of the relevant entertainment and should not be interpreted to mean a member of staff who is merely employed to work during the provision of relevant entertainment. It is only necessary for one person to hold a sexual entertainment venue licence for the premises, even if there is more than one person who is responsible for the organisation or management of the relevant entertainment or the premises.
8. The following are not sexual entertainment venues for the purpose of the 1982 Act:
 - (a) sex shops and sex cinemas;
 - (b) any premises that at the time in question:
 - (i) has not provided relevant entertainment on more than 11 occasions within the previous 12 months;

Agenda Item 17

- (ii) no such occasion has begun within the period of one month beginning with the end of any previous occasion;
 - (iii) no such occasion has lasted for more than 24 hours; or,
 - (c) premises specified or described in an order made by the relevant national authority.
9. Premises which provide relevant entertainment on an infrequent basis will continue to be regulated under the LA03, insofar as they are providing regulated entertainment under that Act, either by virtue of a premises licence or club premises certificate issued under Part 3 or Part 4 or a temporary events notice issued under Part 5 of that Act. Any premises that provide relevant entertainment on more occasions, more frequently or for a longer period of time than is permitted under the exemption will be operating as a sexual entertainment venue and will have committed an offence under Schedule 3 unless they hold a sexual entertainment venue licence or the local authority has waived the requirement for such a licence.
10. With regard to the latter point, an applicant can apply for a waiver either as part of the application for a licence or separately. The local authority can grant a waiver if they consider that to require a licence would be unreasonable or inappropriate. Where a waiver is granted the appropriate authority should inform the applicant that a waiver has been granted. The waiver may last for such a period that the appropriate authority think fit, but can be terminated by the appropriate authority at any time with 28 days notice.

Adopting the Provisions

11. As outlined above, Section 27 of the 2009 Act allows local authorities to regulate lap dancing clubs and similar venues under Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act and gives local authorities powers to control the number and location of lap dancing clubs and similar venues in their area. However, these powers are not mandatory and will only apply where they have been adopted. Where adopted, the provisions of Schedule 3 will allow the Authority the power to refuse an application on potentially wider grounds than is permitted under the LA03 and will give local people a greater say over the regulation of lap dancing in pubs and similar venues in their area.
12. For the purposes of the 1982 Act the “appropriate authority” is responsible for determining applications for sex establishment licences. The “appropriate authority” means the local authority which has passed a resolution under Section 2 of the 1982 Act to adopt Schedule 3, as amended by the 2009 Act, in their area.

13. Functions under Schedule 3 are the responsibility of full Council. However, under Section 101 of the Local Government Act, 1972, local authorities may arrange for the discharge of these responsibilities by a Committee or Sub-Committee of the appropriate authority. An authority may delegate its functions to those who sit on the Licensing Committee set up to discharge licensing functions under the LA03. It is recommended that the functions are delegated to Sub-Committees. Members should note that when dealing with an application for a Sex Establishment Licence, the members of the Sub-Committee would not be acting as the Licensing Committee under the LA03 but would, instead be exercising their functions under Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act.
14. Section 27 of the 2009 Act which amends Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act came into force on 6 April 2010. By adopting Schedule 3 (as amended by the 2009 Act), the amendments will have effect in the Borough. Members will be aware that the Authority has already adopted Schedule 3 to the 1982 Act for the licensing of sex shops and sex cinemas. The adoption of Schedule 3 (as amended by the 2009 Act) will enhance the Authority's control of those venues operating as sex establishments, as defined in Schedule 3.
15. Should Schedule 3 (as amended by the 2009 Act) be adopted the Authority must publish notice that they have passed the resolution under Paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 3 of the 2009 Act for two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper. The first publication must not be later than 28 days before the day specified in the resolution as the date when the provisions come into force. The Notice should state the general effect of the adoption.
16. Should Members approve the recommendations set out in this report, it is anticipated that the provisions shall come into force on 22nd July 2010.

Applications

17. In general the Authority has discretion whether or not to grant a licence for the use of any premises, vehicle, vessel or stall to be used as a class of sex establishment.
18. A Licence cannot, however, be granted to:
 - a person under 18;
 - a person who has held a licence but has had it revoked within 12 months preceding the date of application;
 - to a person, other than a body corporate, who is not resident in an EEA State or was not so resident throughout the period of six months immediately preceding the date when the application was made;
 - to a body corporate which is not incorporated in an EEA State; or
 - a person who has within the last 12 months preceding the date of the application been refused a licence in respect of the same premises.

Agenda Item 17

19. When determining a licence application, the local authority must have regard to any rights the applicant may have under Article 10 (right to freedom of expression) and Article 1, Protocol 1 (protection of property) of the European Convention on Human Rights.
20. Paragraph 10 (15) of Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act gives a statutory right to any person to object to an application. However, only objections received within the statutory 28 days can be considered: *R v Birmingham City Council and others, ex parte Quietlynn Ltd and others* (1985) 83 LGR 461.
21. If objections are received then the Authority is under a duty to provide, in general terms, details of the objections to the applicant. However, without the consent of the objector the Authority cannot divulge their name and address.
22. The Authority must give the applicant an opportunity of appearing before the body making the decision before refusing an application.
23. The Authority may refuse an application for the grant or renewal of a licence on one or more of the grounds below:
 - (a) that the applicant is unsuitable to hold the licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;
 - (b) that if the licence were to be granted, renewed or transferred the business to which it relates would be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the applicant, who would be refused the grant, renewal or transfer of such a licence if he made the application himself;
 - (c) that the number of sex establishments, or of sex establishments of a particular kind, in the relevant locality at the time the application is determined is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality;
 - (d) that the grant or renewal of the licence would be inappropriate, having regard to:
 - (i) the character of the relevant locality; or
 - (ii) the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put; or
 - (iii) the layout, character or condition of the premises, vehicle, vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made.
24. An applicant whose application for the grant or renewal of a licence is refused, or whose licence is revoked, on any ground specified in Paragraph 18 above does not have a right to appeal unless the applicant seeks to show that the ground did not apply to him.
25. Similarly, an applicant whose application for the grant or renewal of a licence is refused on either ground specified in Paragraph 23 (c) or (d) above does not have the right to appeal the decision. In such cases the applicant can only challenge the refusal by way of judicial review.

26. The following may at any time, before the expiration of the period of 21 days following receipt of the application's determination, appeal to the magistrates' court acting for the relevant area:
- (i) an applicant for the variation of the terms, conditions or restrictions on or subject to which any such licence is held whose application is refused;
 - (ii) a holder of any such licence who is aggrieved by any term, condition or restriction on or subject to which the licence is held; or,
 - (iii) a holder of any such licence whose licence is revoked.

Power to prescribe standard conditions

27. The Authority may make regulations prescribing Standard Conditions to be applicable to licences for sex establishments, i.e terms, conditions and restrictions on or subject to which the licences are in general to be granted, renewed or transferred.
28. These Conditions may regulate:
- the hours of opening and closing of the sex establishment;
 - displays or advertisements on or in such establishments;
 - the visibility of the interior of sex establishments to passers-by; and,
 - any change from one kind of sex establishment to another kind of sex establishment.
29. These regulations may make different provision for sexual entertainment venues, sex cinemas and sex shops, and as well as for different kinds of sexual entertainment venues, sex cinemas and sex shops.
30. Where these Conditions have been made every Licence granted, renewed or transferred by the Authority will be presumed to have been done so subject to the Standard Conditions being applicable.
31. This Authority already have Standard Conditions prescribed in respect of sex shops (these being approved by the Licensing and Committee on 22nd March 2004), however these are inappropriate for use with regard to sexual entertainment venues.
32. Under the old Public Entertainment Licence regime there were prescribed certain conditions relating to those premises which conducted striptease, lap dancing or similar entertainment under the 1982 Act.
33. These conditions have been updated and adapted in consultation with Merseyside Police and are included in the Annex to this Report.

Agenda Item 17

Transitional arrangements

34. The 'transitional period' will last for 12-months beginning with the date that the local authority resolves that Schedule 3 as amended by the 2009 Act will come into force in their area ('the 1st appointed day'). Six months following the 1st appointed day will be known as the '2nd appointed day' and the day on which the transitional period ends will be known as the '3rd appointed day'.
35. The appointed days will therefore vary across local authority areas depending on when individual local authorities resolve that the provisions will come into force in their area.
36. For Sefton, therefore, the proposed 1st appointed day would be 22nd July 2010; the 2nd appointed day would be 22nd January 2011; with 22nd July 2011 being the 3rd appointed day.
37. Under these arrangements any existing lap dancing clubs or similar venues who wish to continue to provide "relevant entertainment" will be required to apply for a new sex establishment licence without the benefit of 'grandfather rights'.
38. It should be noted that there are currently no premises within the Borough providing "relevant entertainment" that would need to "convert" under the transitional arrangements set out by the Home Office.
39. Between the 1st and 2nd appointed day applicants would be able to submit applications to be considered by the local authority. At the end of this period, local authorities would consider all applications received during this period together and would not grant any licences until all the applications have been considered. Consequently applications received after the 2nd appointed day would be considered individually.
40. Licences granted to new applicants would take effect immediately while licences granted to existing operators would take effect on the 3rd appointed day which would be 6 months after the 2nd appointed day, or, if longer, when their application is determined. Existing operators who do not apply for or are not granted a sex establishment licence would be able to provide relevant entertainment under the terms of their premises licence or club premises certificate until the 3rd appointed day.

Fees

41. The 1982 Act states, with regard to fees for this function, that the "*applicant for the grant, renewal or transfer of a licence under this Schedule shall pay a reasonable fee determined by the appropriate authority*".

Agenda Item 17

42. In setting the fees in respect of Sex Establishment (Sex Shop) Licences, under the 1982 Act, the Committee limited Sefton's fees to those that recover the costs of carrying out the function under the Act; in other words that the service would be cost neutral to the Authority. Costs covering administration (including any hearings and appeals), inspection, and enforcement and will include direct costs and indirect costs, including a full proportional share of overhead costs, insurance, depreciation and cost of capital charge. Under the Act the process for the Renewal of a Licence is the same as that followed for the Grant of a Licence hence the fees for both functions are identical.
43. The above process is the same as the new function and consequently it is recommended that the fees be the same, as below:

Grant £1206.00	Renewal £1206.00	Transfer £605.00
--------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------------

Sexual Entertainment Venue Standard Conditions

1. Premises licensed as a Sexual Entertainment Venue under the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, shall be used only for the purpose of a Sexual Entertainment Venue as defined in Paragraph 2A of the said Schedule 3 and shall not be used, wholly or in part, for any other purpose during the period the premises are licensed as a Sexual Entertainment Venue.
2. An appropriate room, to be agreed in writing with Sefton Council, shall be set aside to provide a changing and rest area for entertainers. Arrangements shall be made to ensure that there is restricted access to this room which shall be maintained at all times whilst the licensable activities are taking place and until such time as all performers using the dressing room have finished.
3. No person under the age of 18 years of age shall be admitted to or allowed on the premises whilst licensable activities are taking place.
4. No lewd or indecent conduct or conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace shall be permitted on the premises.
5. Door Supervisors, registered in accordance with the Security Industry Authority, shall be on duty at all times when licensable activities are taking place.
6. The Licence Holder shall provide at least one female Door Supervisor during the same period.
7. Patrolling attendants, registered as Door Supervisors, shall continually monitor all entrances/exits/toilets.
8. Performers shall be aged not less than 18 years.
9. Only the performers shall provide the entertainment, no audience participation shall be permitted.
10. During any lap dancing performance, performers may not:
 - a) touch customers in any way;
 - b) approach closer than 30cms (12") from any part of a patron;
 - c) part their legs;
 - d) climb onto furniture provided for patrons; or,
 - e) simulate sex acts.
11. No performance shall involve the use of sex articles (as defined in the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982).

Agenda Item 17

12. Any person who can be observed from the outside of the premises must be properly and decently dressed. Scantily clad individuals shall not exhibit in the entranceway or in the area surrounding the premises.
13. The Licence Holder shall not display outside the premises, or on any advertising material, photographs or other images which indicate and suggest that striptease or similar dancing takes place on the premises and which may be offensive.
14. CCTV shall be provided in the form of a recordable system, capable of providing pictures of evidential quality in all lighting conditions particularly facial recognition.
15. CCTV cameras shall encompass all ingress and egress to the premises and all areas where the licensable activity occurs.
16. CCTV equipment shall be maintained in good working order and recordings kept in date order, numbered sequentially and kept for a period of 31 days and handed to Police on request.
17. The CCTV recording equipment and tapes/discs shall be kept in a secure environment under the control of the Licence Holder or other responsible named individual.
18. Appropriate signage representative in respect of the use of CCTV at the premises shall be displayed in conspicuous positions.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 18

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 10th June 2010

SUBJECT: Thornton to Switch Island Link – Current Situation

WARDS AFFECTED: Park, St Oswald, Netherton & Orrell, Molyneux, Manor, Sudell

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis Planning & Economic Regeneration Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Stuart Waldron Assistant Director Transport & Spatial Planning
0151 934 4006
Stephen Birch Team Leader STPU
0151 934 4225

EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL: N/A

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

In line with the new Government's intention to reconsider all spending plans, the Council has been informed of a review of highway schemes. This review will include the proposed new Thornton to Switch Island Link Road. This report sets out the implications of this and considers possible options for Members consideration.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The previously provided statements by the Department for Transport with regard to the funding of the scheme have now changed and hence Cabinet approval is required for future expenditure.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

It is recommended that:

- i) The Cabinet Member Technical Services resolution of the 10th March 2010 to authorise the Assistant Director (Transportation and Spatial Planning) to submit the planning application for the Thornton to Switch Island Link and provide appropriate support through consideration by Sefton, be reaffirmed;
- ii) Further to the outcome of the Planning Application a report be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting on progress of the Department for Transport Major Transport Scheme Funding review;
- iii) Drafting of the Compulsory Purchase Order/Side Roads Order be completed but not submitted to Cabinet
- iv) The voluntary acquisition of land already undergoing legal procedures be completed. Further progress on land acquisition be placed on hold subject to the outcome of the planning application and funding review.

Agenda Item 18

KEY DECISION: Yes

FORWARD PLAN: No - Rule 15 authorised by the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services).

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

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

None

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Cabinet approved the spend profile for the scheme for 2009/10 – 2012/13, totalling £5.912m on the 1st October 2009. The allocations were included in the Capital Programme 2010/11 – 11/12 approved by Cabinet on the 4th March 2010.

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?				

Agenda Item 18

Legal: Issues identified in the report

Risk Assessment: The letter from the Department for Transport advising of the Spending Programme Review alters the level of commitment previously advised regarding the scheme funding. Should the scheme not proceed, any costs incurred by the Council may be classed as abortive capital. Accounting rules require that abortive costs are charged to revenue which would require them to be funded from General Fund Balances.

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 418 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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

Agenda Item 18

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Cabinet at its meeting on the 1st October 2009, approved the progression of the Thornton to Switch Island Link Scheme including a revised Scheme Programme and Cost Profile.
- 1.2 The revised cost profile has subsequently been included in the 2010/11 – 2011/12 Capital Programme approved by Cabinet on the 4th March 2010.
- 1.3 In accordance with Project Management arrangements, approved by Cabinet on the 1st October 2009, Cabinet Member Technical Services on the 10th March 2010 authorised the Assistant Director (Transportation & Spatial Planning) to submit the planning application for the scheme.

2.0 Background

2.1 Objective of Scheme

The scheme has been identified in Sub Regional priorities and was prioritised for funding at a Regional level through the Regional Funding Allocation process.

The Business Case developed for the scheme demonstrates the clear benefits of the scheme:

- Reduced congestion and improved journey times between the A565 in Thornton and the motorway network at Switch Island.
- Improved access to Southport
- Improved access to the Port of Liverpool and local regeneration areas
- Environmental and Well-being benefits by removing through traffic from local roads thereby improving local environmental conditions and improving access by public transport, cycling and walking.

The Business Case also demonstrates very high value for money and very strong public support for the scheme that was confirmed during a recent public consultation exercise in February 2010.

2.2 Brief History

Long-standing public concerns over traffic congestion, safety and environmental conditions relating to high volumes of through traffic on the A5207 Northern Perimeter Road/ Lydiate Lane route through Netherton and Thornton. Resulted in:

Late 1980's New dual carriageway highway link proposals developed.

Mid 1995 Secretary of State decision not to approve the funding for the scheme despite positive Public Inquiry Inspector's report.

Early 2000's	Local Transport Plan process re-introduced potential for highway schemes to be progressed. Public consultation on a range of options identified a single carriageway scheme as the preferred scheme.
2006	Thornton to Switch Island Link single carriageway scheme included in the 2 nd Merseyside Local Transport Plan for Merseyside.
Summer 2006	Regional Funding Allocation – TSIL identified as a Regional priority for Department for Transport Major Scheme Funding.
November 2007	Major Scheme Business Case submitted to the Department for Transport
September 2008	Business Case accepted and Programme Entry granted.
June 2009	Appointment of Balfour Beatty and design partner Jacobs under Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) contract

2.3 Department for Transport (DfT) Approval Process

In 2006 the Department for Transport established a three stage process for authorities to secure Major Scheme funding:

Stage 1	Programme Entry	Approval of Business Case with indication of intention to provide funding towards scheme.
Stage 2	Conditional Approval	After completion of statutory processes.
Stage 3	Full Approval	After receipt of Tenders, land purchase etc. Note: if have Early Contractor Involvement Stage 2 & 3 can be combined.

DfT will fund up to 90% of the cost of the scheme with the promoter funding the remaining 10%.

Scheme preparation costs are at the promoter's risk up to Full Approval, when 50% can be included in the 10% promoter's contribution and claims submitted for eligible costs to date

3.0 Current Position – Scheme Progress to Date

- 3.1 Programme Entry was granted by DfT in September 2008, based on the spending profile in the North West Region's RFA priorities.

Agenda Item 18

- 3.2 Subsequently, the detailed route alignment has been agreed, and a contract awarded to a Contractor/Consultant partnership to develop and deliver the scheme (Early Contractor Involvement process). The statutory processes are being progressed with regard to the required Planning Application, Side Roads Order and Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO).
- 3.3 The Planning Application preparation is now in the final stages of completion, having been slightly delayed in submission while legal advice has been sought on the complex issues relating to how the proposal is presented with regard to decisions on the previous scheme.
- 3.4 Collation of information and drafting for the Side Roads Order and CPO is in progress.
- 3.5 The Council's funding contribution of £5.912m has been approved as follows:

	Approved at Programme Entry £'m	<i>Spend to March 2010</i> Proposed April 2010 Onwards £'m
2008/09	0.830	0.114
2009/10	0.958	1.098
2010/11	0.512	0.736
2011/12	1.597	1.949
2012/13	2.015	2.015
Total	£5.912m	£5.912m

4.0 Current DfT Funding Position – 11 May 2010 – Copy Attached Annex A

- 4.1 The letter from the DfT indicates that a review will take place of Regional Funding Programmes and hence at this stage they are unable to confirm any continued intention to funding profiles for any schemes with Programme Entry seeking Conditional or Full Approval. If the scheme promoter chooses to continue with work on the scheme, it will be at their own risk.

No information on timescales or processes for the review has been given.

- 4.2 Members will note that at present Department for Transport, Sefton & Liverpool Councils and Highways Agency are funding a study to determine the need for and potential for sustainable transport interventions to accommodate improved access to the Port of Liverpool in Sefton and North Liverpool in support of the continued development of the Port as a Regional economic asset.

Funding for improvements was also prioritised in the Regional Funding Programme from 2015/16 onwards. The continuation of this study and future funding will similarly be in the current funding review.

5.0 Options for consideration

5.1 The Programme Entry approval indicates progress up to Full Approval is at promoter's risk with regard to completing the necessary statutory processes. Cabinet accepted this risk when approving the submission of the Business Case and funding profile.

5.2 Issues for consideration:

Financial Risk The latest letter adds additional risk in that funding for the programme is under review, and schemes may have to be taken out the programme to address budget reductions and Minister's priorities.

Contractual Risk Contract awarded to Contractor/Consultant consortium to develop and construct Scheme. Under terms of contract:

If notice given to stop works at a specific stage with a valid reason, such as a funding review, there will not be any additional financial cost to the Authority

If the contract is terminated without such notice, the contractor may be able to claim for certain costs that would have been expected to be recovered over the full life span of the scheme.

Statutory Procedures Planning Application:

If the Planning Application is submitted it should be determined within 16 weeks by Sefton. However, as the scheme is a development within Green Belt it will have to be referred to Government Office. GONW may decide to 'call in' the application, which almost certainly leads to a Public Inquiry being held. At that stage the Authority could make the decision to withdraw the scheme, due to the high costs involved with a Public Inquiry and no clear funding commitment from DfT.

Compulsory Purchase and Side Road Orders:

The next formal stage is to finalise the Orders and submit to Cabinet for approval. Once made the Orders would have to be submitted to the appropriate Government Department for confirmation and possible public inquiry. Making the Compulsory Purchase Order would increase the possibility of the Council being served with blight notices.

Land Acquisitions In preliminary discussions with Land Owners a small area required for this scheme has become available as part of a land swap and was approved by Cabinet on 14th January 2010. As the legal processes have commenced it is proposed this be completed to avoid abortive legal costs.

Agenda Item 18

5.3 Therefore options at this stage are:

Option 1 Cease Progress Immediately

Put on hold preparation of Planning Application, Orders etc.

ECl Contractor costs to be met in accordance with the contract.

If no further expenditure in 2010/11, this may save approximately £536k from the existing 2010/11 capital budget.

Option 2 Submit Planning Application and provide necessary technical support through the process of consideration by the Planning Committee. Continue drafting of CPO/Side Roads Order, but do not submit to Cabinet. Complete land acquisition already in progress but suspend any further land acquisition.

Review funding position after referral to Government Office before Sefton Council become committed to costs of potential public inquiry.

This would require approximately £30k from the existing budget but will leave an unexpended balance in 2010/11 of £506k if there are no costs incurred in respect of a potential Public Inquiry.

6.0 Recommendation:

6.1 Due to the potential contractual issues with the ECl contractor and also to demonstrate continued support for the scheme it is recommended that Option 2 be adopted and the ECl contractor given notice that work is to stop when defined elements have been completed to achieve this.

The current 'land swap' be completed, but further discussion on land availability be put on hold.

6.2 Review the funding position after these stages have been completed.

6.3 It is recommended that:

i) The Cabinet Member Technical Services resolution of the 10th March 2010 to authorise the Assistant Director (Transportation and Spatial Planning) to submit the planning application for the Thornton Switch Island Link and provide appropriate support through consideration by Sefton, be reaffirmed;

ii) Further to the outcome of the Planning Application a report be submitted to a future Cabinet meeting on progress of the Department for Transport

Agenda Item 18

Major Transport Scheme Funding;

- iii) Drafting of the CPO/Side Roads Order be completed but not submitted to Cabinet
- iv) The voluntary acquisition of land already undergoing legal procedures be completed. Further progress on land acquisition be placed on hold subject to the outcome of the planning application and funding review.

Agenda Item 18

Department for **Transport**

Mr Stephen Birch
Sefton Council

by e-mail
Stephen.Birch@technical.sefton.gov.uk

Charlie Sunderland
Regional and Local Major Projects
Division
Zone 3/19
Great Minster House
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR

Direct line: 020 7944 8810

charlie.sunderland@dft.gsi.gov.uk
Web site: www.dft.gov.uk

11 MAY 2010

Dear Mr Birch

Thornton to Switch Island Link Scheme

I thought I would write to set out the current situation as regards the Regional Funding Programme given the uncertainty over future funding following the election.

In recent months DfT has, along with HM Treasury, undertaken a stock take of the financial commitments of transport. The main emphasis of that analysis centred on 2010/11 expenditure and the pipeline spend effect in subsequent years. DfT now has a clear spend profile for the coming financial year in place which allowed Ministers to announce a number of new Programme Entry and Full Approval schemes in recent weeks. This stock take was vital in demonstrating affordability and timing of delivery.

The RFA funding position and priorities remain uncertain until Ministers have set out their spending priorities. This means that at this stage we are unable to confirm funding profiles for any new schemes seeking approvals or for existing schemes seeking Conditional or Full Approval. Given this position, it would be prudent for us to take stock of all business cases seeking approval in order to feed into wider considerations for Ministers over the next few months.

Your scheme will form part of this stock take. The Department is unlikely to be involved in any discussions with you over the coming months as you work up detailed designs and seek any statutory permissions. However I thought it prudent to write so that you are aware of the current position and could decide whether to continue work on the scheme. If you choose to continue work on your major scheme, it will have to be at your own risk.

I realise that this may come as a disappointment and builds some uncertainty into your planning process. Through the review we hope to start building greater certainty which will hopefully enable us to restart discussions with promoters in due course.

Agenda Item 18

At this stage I cannot confirm how long it will take to complete the stock take as it will be dependent on Ministerial decisions and discussions about wider Government spending over the coming months. I shall hopefully be able to update you again in due course when the position is clearer.

I am copying this letter to Jo Lappin and colleagues in the Government Office for the North West, Dave Colbert at 4NW and Roy Newton at GM Joint Transport Policy Team.

Yours faithfully
Charlie Sunderland

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 19

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 10th June 2010

SUBJECT: Hawthorne Road Corridor Improvements Marsh Lane To Province Road - Acceptance Of Tender

WARDS AFFECTED: Derby, Litherland

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Regeneration Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Keith Davies (Sefton Council) Ext 4260
Geoff Rydill (Capita Symonds) Ext 2808

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To seek approval to accept a Tender for the Hawthorne Road Corridor Improvements - Marsh Lane to Province Road

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The decision is required in order to allow the construction of the proposed works.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. That approval is given to accept the lowest compliant tender for the Hawthorne Road Corridor Improvements - Marsh Lane to Province Road
2. The the Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be requested to prepare a formal contract with the successful tenderer.
3. That approval is given to the Hawthorne Road scheme being increased by £307K which shall be funded from Section 106 contributions.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

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

Agenda Item 19

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not to construct the works. However, the works are considered necessary to increase the traffic capacity of the junction and improve pedestrian safety

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

The costs associated with the acceptance of the tender can be accommodated within the budget already allocated for the scheme.

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
	£	£	£	£
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure		307K		
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources – Section 106 contributions		307K		
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	All within the 5 year timescales set out in the various S106 Agreements			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal:

None

Risk Assessment:

The tenders have been selected from Constructionline and have either undertaken contracts successfully for Sefton Council or have been subject to a Quality assessment for similar tendered contracts. All tenderers have been assessed as being suitably experienced for carrying out these works.

Asset Management:

None

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

On-street parking for residents of Nos 508 – 556 will be affected by the proposed lay-by. Consultation will be carried out with each of the property occupants to seek their views and comments.

All businesses and residents in the immediate area will be notified of the proposed improvement works in writing prior to commencement in July 2010.

FD415 – The Head of Corporate Services and IT Strategy has been consulted and has no comments

The Legal Department has been consulted and have no comments

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

Cabinet Member – Technical Services report, dated 7 April 2010, entitled “2010/11 Local Transport Plan – Technical Services Capital Programme”

Agenda Item 19

1.0 BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 At its meeting on 7 April 2010, Cabinet Member – Technical Services approved the Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme of works for 2010/11.
- 1.2 Contained within the programme was the next phase of the Hawthorne Road Supplementary scheme, which relates to the section of Hawthorne Road between Harris Drive and Marsh Lane. Completion of the whole of the Exceptional Maintenance scheme will not be possible this current financial year, and will be subject to Council funding in future years and the replacement from the LTP Capital Programme of £100k previously utilised for highway drainage in 2005/06.
- 1.3 The programme also detailed proposals to allocate £450k from the Integrated Transport Block, to carry out safety and capacity improvements at the junction of Hawthorne Road and Linacre Lane. The availability of an additional £307K from Section 106 contributions has now enabled a major junction improvement scheme to be developed at this location
- 1.4 Utilisation of £242,119 from the Exceptional Maintenance allocation will enable maintenance work to be carried out on the section of Hawthorne Road between Province Road and Marsh Lane as part of the same project.
- 1.5 In order to increase capacity, and provide dedicated push button facilities for pedestrians, it is proposed to widen Hawthorne Road on both approaches to the junction, to enable additional 'straight ahead' lanes to be created, thus increasing the capacity of the junction.
- 1.6 In conjunction with the main junction works, the opportunity has been taken to further reduce congestion on the south bound approach to the junction by the creation of a parking lay-by fronting houses 508 – 556. This will create a parking lay-by within the wide footway, thus allowing two lanes of traffic to start forming further back from the new traffic signals.
- 1.7 There will also be resurfacing of the carriageway between Province Road and Marsh Lane.
- 1.8 Tenders for the work have recently been invited from the following Contractors who are registered for this type of work on Construction Line and are due for return on 28th May 2010.

Dowhigh Ltd, Netherton
Wrenco Ltd, Maghull
Westshield Ltd, Oldham
Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering, Northwich
DCT Ltd, Oldham
Eric Wright Civil Engineering, Preston

2.0 PROPOSALS:

- 2.1 At the time of preparing this report, the tenders had not been received; consequently the results will be reported verbally at this meeting

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

- 1 That approval is given to accept the lowest compliant tender for the Hawthorne Road Corridor Improvements - Marsh Lane to Province Road
- 2 The Interim Head of Corporate Legal Services be requested to prepare a formal contract with the successful tenderer.
- 3 That approval is given to the Hawthorne Road scheme being increased by £307K, which shall be funded from Section 106 contributions.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 20

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet
Cabinet Member – Technical
Cabinet Member – Environmental

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010
16th June 2010
30th June 2010

SUBJECT: Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas

WARDS AFFECTED: Litherland, Netherton & Orrell, and Kew

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Development Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Mo Kundi X3447

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To provide an update on the recent developments with regard to JESSICA, and the proposals for a Merseyside Urban Development Fund that are being developed by a private sector led consortium.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

To comply with Council's reporting procedures.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet:-

- 1 Note the report, and the proposed sub-regional working level arrangements outlined in the report to progress the development of an Urban Development Fund Business Plan and preferred UDF model.
- 2 Note the Sefton projects submitted in Annex A, which could be included in the programme for funding opportunities
- 3 Request further progress reports, including where there are any financial and legal implications as a result of JESSICA/UDF proposals.

That Cabinet Members for Technical, Environmental and Regeneration:-

- 4 Note the report

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: No

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: After the call in period

Agenda Item 20

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

JESSICA provides a potential funding opportunity for projects within Sefton that would not now attract any European ERDF grant. With the exception of Southport Business Park, all other sites are in the ownership of private developers, and along the Dunnings Bridge Corridor, which is classified as Strategic sites requiring re-development. Not to participate in the JESSICA Programme could adversely impact on Council's ability to assist the re-development of these key sites, and job creation opportunities.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS				
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: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Environmental Technical Services

Legal

FD420 – The Head of Corporate Finance & IS has been consulted and has no comments to make 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
North West Operational Programme

Agenda Item 20

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In December last year the Northwest Urban Investment Fund (NWUIF), launched a new £100m fund to help support urban development projects in the North West. The fund is a Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas (JESSICA) initiative. This is a new financial instrument created by the European Commission in conjunction with the European Investment Bank. The basic principle of JESSICA is to take a more commercial approach to the use of public funds in delivering regeneration and economic development. JESSICA enables ERDF and match funding to be invested by Urban Development Funds (UDFs) in Urban Projects via loans, equity and/or guarantees. Returns from these investments can then be used to make new investments in new projects, thereby creating a revolving fund for investment in the region.

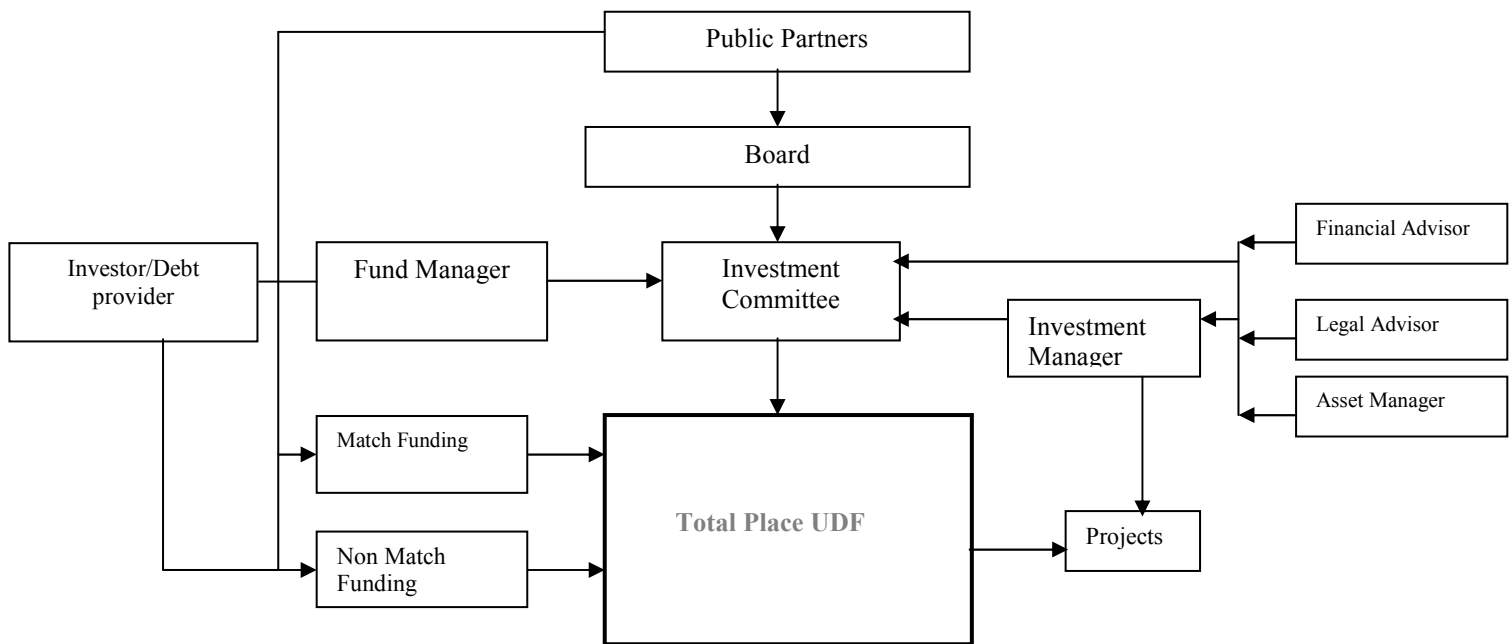
2.0 Holding Fund.

- 2.1 The regional arrangements for establishing the Holding Fund, managed by European Investment Bank (EIB) have now been established. Its proposals include establishing an Urban Development Fund for Merseyside, which will receive £30m of ERDF.
- 2.3 The Investment Strategy sets out the eligible activities for investment - defined by the Northwest Operation Programme for ERDF as the Investment Frameworks for Action Areas 3.2 (Regional Strategic Sites) and 4.3 (Local Employment Sites). . Project investments will include the development of employment sites, creation of new commercial floor space, reclamation of derelict or contaminated land, and provision of site servicing and infrastructure.

3.0 Current Position

- 3.1 The European Investment Bank has confirmed key elements of the UDF structure, including the need for a strong private sector fund management component -which will be FSA regulated and compliant.
- 3.2 A sub regional working group comprising TMP, Liverpool Vision, Wirral MBC and Liverpool City Council has been set up and is currently progressing the work on developing the UDF Business Plan.
- 3.3 In response to North West Development Agency's OJEU invitation notice in March 2010 the short listed bidder for Merseyside is a consortium comprising Igloo Regeneration Ltd, Aviva Investors Global Services, GVA Grimley Ltd, and Royal Bank of Canada Europe Ltd, (henceforth referred to as the Consortium).
- 3.4 The Consortium's aim is the – 'Creation of Merseyside UDF (the Merseyside Revolving Urban Investment Fund - MRUIF) to be a 'Sustainable Total Place' Fund covering a mix of uses and flexible investment approaches (Jessica eligible funding plus other funding for non eligible investments)'

3.5 The proposed Urban Develop Fund structure is as follows: _



3.6 The Consortium is proposing that the Total Place UDF would be a company limited by guarantee with local authorities as members alongside the Consortium. The final bid needs to be submitted by 18th June 2010, containing the following information:-

- Requirements of Business Plan
- Fund Business Plan
- Investment Strategy
- Financial Model (including Match Funding)
- Management & Fees
- Project Portfolio
- Ownership, Governance, Risk and Control

3.7 In response to the above tight deadline, the Consortium has been seeking information from sub-regional local authorities on potential projects. Without prejudice Sefton has provided information relating to sites that could attract funding under this programme. With the exception of Southport Business Park, all other sites are in the ownership of private developers, and are along the Dunnings Bridge Corridor, which is classified as Strategic sites requiring re-development. The information provided is included in Annex A to this report.

Agenda Item 20

4.0 Next Steps

4.1 The Consortium would be under taking an appraisal of projects submitted by local authorities and other partner organisations to ensure that these projects are:-

- Viable
- Eligible
- Ability to attract match funding (There are issues to be resolved related to the process of match funding, both at project level and UDF level.
- Proposed by competent, solvent sponsors
- Needing capital not available from the private sector
- State aid compliant

4.2 The UDF will clearly need to secure projects that will commit the ring fenced JESSICA ERDF and spend it by 2015 in order avoid de-commitment, and to generate the returns, which will create the revolving funds that can then be reinvested in projects which are free of the ERDF eligibility criteria.

5.0 Recommendation

That Cabinet:-

- 1 Note the report, and the proposed sub-regional working level arrangements outlined in the report to progress the development of an Urban Development Fund Business Plan and preferred UDF model.
- 2 Note the Sefton projects submitted in Annex A, which could be included in the programme for funding opportunities
- 3 Request further progress reports, including where there are any financial and legal implications as a result of JESSICA/UDF proposals.

That Cabinet Members for Technical, Environmental and Regeneration:-

- 4 Note the report

ANNEX A

Merseyside UDF JESSICA Project Review Requirements							
<i>Investment and Project Terms - example, subject to change and for illustration purposes only</i>							
1. Development loan finance for viable, sustainable Urban Regeneration and Infrastructure schemes							
2. Mezzanine loan of 30% offered							
3. Competitive commercial interest rates offered							
4. Investment to be paid over two to five years							
5. Equity reinvestment requirements for future phases							
		Project 1	Project 2	Project 3	Project 4	Project 5	
Q	1	Strategic Objectives	Atlantic Park - Developers, Royal London Asset Management	Senate Business Park, Bridle Road	Peerless, Dunnings Bridge Corridor	Southport Business Park, Kew	Heysham Road / Switch Car, Dunnings Bridge Corridor
		Broad ERDF OP alignment	Is within OP's priority strategic site of Dunnings Bridge Corridor	Within priority strategic sites of Dunning Bridge Corridor	Withn priority strategic sites of the Corridor	NWDA supported development	Priority strategic site within OP
		Strategic imperatives	Significant aspect of major redevelopment of whole corridor				
		Sustainable integrated regeneration plan	Usual documents in place				
	2	Knowledge Focus					
		Key Sectors	Commercial and light industrial	Commercial & light industrial	light industrial / commercial	commercial/industrial	industrial / light industrial / commercial
		Project ERDF Outputs	Units, jobs,	Units, jobs	Unit, developers don't want to divulge job numbers yet	Units, approx 250 jobs.	
		Project ERDF Outcomes	Increased private sector investment; improved land quality; vibrant and successful business location.				
Q	3	Planning Considerations					
		Planning Status	EDT3 Strategic employment Site	EDT4 Strategic Employment Site	EDT3 Strategic Employment Site	Strategic Employment Site	Primarily Industrial Area
		Enviornmental Conditions and Constraints	Was the site of Rolls Royce engineering	no issue	some contamination on site - owner in process of negotiating a de-	remediation of former landfill site	some remediation

					contamination strategy		
		Utility Considerations	potential electricity supply issue	potential electricity supply issue	potential electricity supply issue	no issue	
		Amenity Considerations	No issue	no issue	no issue	no issue	
		Eco-credentials	No issue	no issue	no issue	no issue	
		Site Acquisition and Assembly	No issue	no issue	no issue	no issue	
Q	4	Project Readiness					
		Scheme Defintion	Further development of 19 ha site. One new commercial building completed. Current £14.6 mil infrastructure & refurbishment development due to be completed by March 2011. Developers will then consider further development and/or sell off parcels of land for others to develop. Developers keen to incorporate low carbon features such as carbon neutral design and district heat & power schemes, and meetings to take place to discuss these with developers soon. JESSICA funding could be used to buy-in to supporting further site development.	Mixed development of B1 & B2 premises of approx 230k ft2. Littlewoods purchased part of site to relocate call centre activity on 150kft2 and has planning approval for this activity. Likely not to go forward and SMBC has option of buy-back at original selling price if this situation formalised, and would be used to develop whole site for mixed use. SMBC owns remainder of site that Priority Sites Ltd want to purchase for mixed commercial / light industrial premises for which planning approval is close to completion.	The developers want to build an industrial unit on a 4 acre section to the rear of the site away from the main Dunning Bridge Road. There are tentative plans for the developers to use the front of the site for a hotel / commercial development.	Previous phases of the business park have been funded by NWDA and GONW, supporting the remediation of 6 acres of brownfield site, 80,000 ft2 offices and approx 300 jobs. Berkeley James want to build two more grade A office buildings of 32,200 ft2 each with associated external works and car parking on a 12,000 m2 former landfill site. The drawings/plans are in place. Santander Bank was prepared to fund the remainder of the £11 mil development costs over and above a £1.65 mil ERDF grant, but only if 50% pre-lets was achieved. JESSICA loans could	These sites are some way off from being oven-ready schemes for round 1 JESSICA funding, although Switch Car site is well defined, whereas Heysham Road is a more sprawling area with many small parcels in multiple ownership. However, they represent longer term potential in terms of locations for post 2015 JESSICA funds that will be relieved of ERDF restrictions on, for example, equity investment and energy schemes. The whole of the Dunnings Bridge Corridor as an integrated development in terms of design, energy usage etc represents the overall objective.

						de-risk the Santander input. Also, close to the business park a proposal for a district heating scheme involving David Wilson Homes, a hospital and others has emerged, and there is interest to spread it to the business park using Wilson Bowden Developments. The scalability of CHP means that the 2 new office developments could be CHPed and linked to homes/hospital CHP, or they might be regarded as a phase 1 and phase 2 development.	
		Scheme Status (Planning)	Planning approval for developers overall masterplan	Planning approval for old call centre plan. Planning application ready for Priority Sites.	Planning application in the system for 4 acre development	Planning permission needed	planning needed
		Ownership	Developers - Royal London Asset Management	Sefton MBC own part of site. Littlewoods own the rest	Chancerygate Business Centres	Sefton Council	multiple / Carcraft
		Phasing and Implementation					
		SPV in place (details)					
		Project Readiness / timetable	April 2011 - 2014	2011-13	2011-13	Phase 1 Spring 2011; Phase 2 2012	
		Market Demand and Failure				There is a demand in Southport for high quality new commercial floorspace and there are no readily available alternative sites to meet such	

							demand.
Q 5	ERDF Eligibility						
	Regulation Compliancy	Compliant	compliant	compliant	compliant		
Q 6	Single Programme Eligibility						
	Regulation Compliancy						
Q 7	Project Viability						
	GDV						
	Cashflows						
	IRR						
	Valuation Evidence						
	Existing Funding	Current £14.6 mil development has £1.3mil NWDA, £3.4mil ERDF and remainder Royal London. JESSICA funding could de-risk some aspects of future development. The JESSICA funding required is very speculative.	Priority Sites Ltd, land sale.				Currently in discussions with Berleley James over the best way to move forward.
8	Risk Profile						
	Substantial Pre-lets or Pre-sales	No	no	no	no	no	
	Project Company - agreements, exit etc						
	Investee reputation - covenant/track-record etc	Excellent	Priority Sites Ltd works in partnership with both RBS and the HCA				
	Construction contracts						
	Exit Agreement						
	Minimum Investment required	£2.5 mil	£1 mil	£1 mil	£1 mil	Phase 1, £4.5 mil; Phase 2, £1 mil	£1.5 mil

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 21

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member - Regeneration
Cabinet
Cabinet Member – Technical
Cabinet Member – Environmental

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010
16th June 2010
30th June 2010

SUBJECT: REECH (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Housing)
Programme

WARDS AFFECTED: Linacre, Derby, Litherland, Netherton & Orrell, Church,

REPORT OF: Alan Moore, Strategic Director - Communities
Andy Wallis – Planning and Economic Development Director
Alan Lunt – Neighbourhood & Investment Programmes Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Mo Kundi X3447

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To update Members on the REECH Programme bid submitted to the North West Development Agency, and to seek Members approval to the setting up of structures and procedures for the delivery of the REECH Programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Cabinet approval is required in order to :-

- Establish the REECH Steering Group
- Appoint Cabinet Member for Regeneration as the Chair of the REECH Steering Group
- Include the REECH Programme within the Council's Capital Programme for 2010/11

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet note the submission of the REECH Programme bid, and:-

1. Approve the establishment of a REECH Steering Group as outlined in paragraph 3.0 of this report,
2. Agree that Cabinet Member for Regeneration be appointed Chair of the REECH Steering Group, and that
3. Subject to the REECH Programme bid being successful and a final offer having been made by the Regional Development Agency, a further report be submitted with a view to accepting that offer, such report to include any financial and operational implications, and
4. Subject to 3 above agree to the inclusion of the REECH Programme in the Capital Programme for 2010/11

That Cabinet Members for Technical, Environmental and Regeneration:-

1. Note the report

KEY DECISION: Yes

Agenda Item 21

FORWARD PLAN: Yes – Published on 12th May 2010

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: After the call in period

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Statutory duties are being imposed on local authorities to take action to address the adverse impact of climate change. A successful bid will provide a unique opportunity to progress both the climate change, and the low carbon economy agenda, particularly during this financially constrained period.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: Whilst there are no cash calls on Council’s resources in terms of Capital and Revenue monies, a significant amount of ‘in-kind’ contributions in the form of officer time will be required in order to deliver the programme. This is outlined in paragraph 4.0 of this report.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £	2013/ 2014 £
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: N/A

Risk Assessment: Council has already accepted that in taking on responsibility as the Accountable Body for this scheme, the Council would potentially be liable if specific conditions are not met in the spending of this grant.

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Environmental and Technical Services Director

Agenda Item 21

Interim Head of Legal Services

Finance – FD 419 The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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

Report to Cabinet dated 17th December 2009 entitled 'Potential Funding Opportunity 1- Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies in Social & Low Income Housing'

Agenda Item 21

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Cabinet at its meeting on 17th December 2009 considered a report entitled 'Potential Funding Opportunity 1- Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energies in Social & Low Income Housing'. The report highlighted that as part of the European Economic Recovery Plan, the European Commission had agreed to allow up to 4% (£29 million) of ERDF Programme resources to be devoted to domestic energy efficiency and renewable actions.
- 1.2 In response to the above, the Regional Development Agency, issued a call for the submission of a sub-regional bid that seeks to directly stimulate the market for low carbon and environmental technologies and renewable energies via their application within existing social and low income housing.
- 1.3 Members at their meeting noted the Expression of Interest submitted to the North West Regional Development Agency, and agreed to support the principle of 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, and Cabinet approval.

2.0 Current Position

- 2.1 Members may be aware that the Expression of Interest submitted was successful, but during the Concept Stage, the Regional Development Agency indicated in April 2010 that the original allocation of £11m ERDF grant for the Merseyside sub-region had been reduced to £8.23m. However the ask for Halton, which is coming from the allocation made to the remainder of the north west was not affected.
- 2.2 In light of the above, the first draft bid submitted on 21st May 2010 is now requesting £8.23m ERDF grant from the ring fenced Merseyside allocation and £500,000 for Halton from the rest of the North West ERDF allocation.
- 2.3 The aim of the bid is to provide impetus to a new emergent local market for green energy technologies by developing interconnected demonstration projects. This is to be achieved by driving up demand for environmental technologies, build capacity in local supply chains and target those areas most affected by the market failure, namely Lower Super Output Areas, which are suffering the highest levels of deprivation in Merseyside and Halton.
- 2.4 The bid timetable is as follows:-

▪ First draft to NWDA	21 st May 2010
▪ RDA Project Advisory Group meeting	4 th June 2010
▪ Submission goes to ERDF Appraiser	18 th June 2010
▪ NWDA evaluate and feedback	(5 weeks)
▪ Final revised bid to NWDA	23 rd July 2010
▪ Programme Monitoring Sub Committee	2 nd August 2010
▪ Project Review Group	16 th August 2010
▪ NWDA Board	22 nd or 23 rd September 2010
▪ Offer Letter/Contract issued	October 2010

3.0 REECH Programme Delivery Structure

3.1 Whilst it is recognised that there is no guarantee that the submitted bid will be successful, but given that there is only one submission from the sub-region, and that the region has its dedicated ring fenced ERDF allocation it is highly unlikely that the bid in its entirety would be rejected. In addition, a successful bid needs to be delivered by March 2013, with all expenditure committed by December 2013.

3.2 It is therefore imperative that necessary delivery structures and procedures are established as soon as possible, which would enable the REECH Programme to be delivered effectively and efficiently by the strict deadlines that will be imposed by the Regional Development Agency.

REECH Steering Group

3.3 An informal REECH Steering Group comprising officers from other local authorities, and representatives from RSLs, and the TMP was set up early this year in order to progress the bid. It is now proposed that this Steering Group is now formally established with defined remit and membership. It is also proposed that the Cabinet Member for Regeneration be the chair of the Steering Group. The proposed membership of the Steering Group is as follows:-

- Chair – Cabinet Member for Regeneration – Sefton Council
- 6 LAs Officers representing Sefton, Liverpool, Knowsley, St. Helens, Wirral, and Halton
- 1 representative from Fusion 21
- 1 representative from other RSLs
- 1 representative from TMP (Current Chair of informal REECH Steering Group)
- 1 representative from the RDA (Possibly Sarah Carling – CCT)
- 1 representative from the sub-region Community organisation (Possibly Andy Churchill)
- 1 representative from Energy Saving Trust or Enviro-link

3.4 It is anticipated that the Steering Group would consist of some 14 to 15 members. A draft remit of the Steering Group, together with a flow chart showing the decision making process is attached as Annex A to this report. It should be noted that this would need to be refreshed in light of any conditions attached to the offer letter.

Programme Delivery Team

3.5 The REECH Programme Delivery Team will be based in The Sefton Investment Centre, and whilst the structure of the team will be determined in more detail once the outcome of the bid is known. It is anticipated that the majority of the team will comprised of officers from the Planning and Economic Development Department, and from the Energy Division of Neighbourhood and Investment Programmes Department, with input from Legal and Finance Departments.

3.6 A draft remit of the Programme Delivery Team is also included in Annex A of this report. Again as indicated in 3.4 above this is subject to change.

Agenda Item 21

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The Regional Development Agency has indicated that the total amount of ERDF grant money ring fenced for the Merseyside sub-region is £8.32m with £500,000 for Halton. As with all European Programmes, this money can only be accessed provided there is match funding available from the private and public sector. With an overall intervention rate of 50% the total value of the REECH Programme is therefore approximately £17.64m.

4.2 With regard to management delivery costs, the Regional Development Agency has indicated that this should be no more than 5 to 10 percent of the total Programme cost, which equates (at 50% match) to £0.882m at the maximum value of the project at £17.64m. However, as indicated above, in order to draw down this money, there has to be an equivalent match in the form of either cash contribution or/and 'in-kind' contribution. The in-kind contribution can take the form of eligible officers' time and overheads.

4.4 Based on an estimate of officers' time required to deliver the Programme together with other associated costs, tables below provide an indication of the total revenue and capital costs for the life of the REECH Programme. As may be seen below, the estimated administration costs over the life of the project would fall well below the maximum of 10% of the total scheme value indicated in 4.2 above.

Revenue

Element	Total Cost	ERDF 50%	In-kind Contribution 50%					
			Sefton	Liverpool	Knowsley	St. Helens	Wirral	Halton
Staff	950,470	475,235	414,735	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Office	54,000	27,000						
Operational	225,000	112,500						
Total	1,229,470	614,735	414,735	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000

Element	Total cost	2010*	2011	2012	2013
Staff	950,470	77,003	312,353	318,258	242,856
Accommodation	54,000	4,500	18,000	18,000	13,500
Operational	225,000	37,500	70,000	70,000	47,500
Total	1,229,470	119,003	400,353	406,258	303,856

Note * = ERDF operates its financial programmes on calendar years

Capital

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014***	ERDF	Match	Total
Capital Spend**	2,779,952	7,018,926	5,323,020	1,288,632	8,205,265	8,205,265	16,410,530

Note** = Please note that there is an element of over programming in the capital works. In addition this is still an indicative exercise, undertaken with the involvement of RSLs. The final shape of capital works can only be fully developed once the RDA has decided on the ERDF capital allocation and the subsequent tendering exercise that will be need to be undertake. It should also be noted that whilst the capital element of the Programme will appear in Council's Capital programme in 2010/11 there will not be any call on Sefton Council or local authorities capital resources. The ERDF capital match will be from organisations bidding for capital works such as RSLs.

Note*** = Whilst all eligible works need to be completed, and ERDF expenditure committed by December 2013, as with all capital works, a minimum of 10% retention has to be kept, and this will fall into year 2014.

5.0 Risk Assessment

5.1 An exercise has been carried out to identify potential risks involved in undertaking this Programme; the likelihood of something going wrong; the impact that could have both financially and operationally, and critically the processes and procedures that need to be introduced and implemented to minimise these risks. It should be noted that whilst Annex B shows risks identified to date, this is an on going exercise, which needs to be undertaken regularly as the Programme is being developed and delivered.

6.0 Establishing a New Partnership

6.1 In accordance with recently adopted Corporate policy, a further report will be submitted to Cabinet via the Council's Senior Leadership Team, in order to seek the formalisation of the partnership arrangements between participating Local Authorities and other partners.

7.0 Comments

7.1 This is the first time that Sefton Council would be acting the accountable body for a sub-regional project. It is also the first time that the European Commission has allowed the use of ERDF grant for housing related activities that were excluded in previous Objective 1 Programmes. Therefore, there is clearly a steep learning curve for officers involved with this REECH Programme, and the paramount need to minimise any inherent financial and operational risks involved.

7.2 Whilst recognising that there is no guarantee that the submitted bid would be successful, should the bid be approved in October, it is important that necessary structures and procedures are put in place before the decision on the bid is announced so that the transition to operational delivery is quick, effective and efficient.

REECH PROGRAMME **Draft Delivery Structure**

European Commission – Funding Organisation

North West Development Agency – Responsible for the delivery of the North West Operational Programme, of which REECH is one project.

Sefton Council – Accountable Body for the REECH Programme

REECH Steering Group – Responsible for the overall management and delivery of the REECH Programme. The Steering Group will comprise of:-

- Chair – Cabinet Member for Regeneration – Sefton Council
- 6 LAs Officers representing Sefton, Liverpool, Knowsley, St. Helens, Wirral, and Halton
- 1 representative from Fusion 21
- 1 representative from other RSLs
- 1 representative from TMP (Current Chair of informal REECH Steering Group)
- 1 representative from the RDA (Possibly Sarah Carling – CCT)
- 1 representative from the sub-region Community organisation (Possibly Andy Churchill)
- 1 representative from Energy Saving Trust or Enviro-link

Remit of the Group would include:-

- Overall Management and Delivery of the Programme
- Ensuring that the decision making process is open, transparent, and beyond approach
- Ensure that appropriate measures are in place to manage any conflicts of interest so as to mitigate the risk of their influencing decision making.
- Conditions attached to the Offer Letter are complied with it
- Outputs and Outcomes are achieved
- Approves the criteria and methodology for project selection
- Ensures a full appraisal has been undertaken and the recommendations have been considered at the appropriate level and by the normal process
- To establish and maintain an inventory of assets.
- To work with other Partnership bodies to ensure the monitoring, evaluation and audit of projects and the wider programme procedures and protocols

Programme Delivery Team – Responsible for the day to day delivery of the REECH Programme, and for servicing the Steering Group. The core delivery

Agenda Item 21

will comprise of officers of officers from the Planning and Economic Development Department, and from the Energy Team (Neighbourhood and Investment Programmes Department), with input from Legal and Finance Departments. The overall lead officer for the REECH Programme will be Mo. Kundi

Duties would include:-

- Responsible for ERDF Contract Management;
- Day-to-day project management and co-ordination;
- Servicing Steering Group;
- Liaison with Local Authority Representatives;
- Project commissioning;
- Project appraisal;
- Co-ordination with peripheral activity (Business, HE, Private Landlords, Employment & Skills etc.) Legacy etc.
- Compilation and submission of ERDF claims;
- Financial eligibility testing/ compliance;
- Performance Monitoring;
- Project grant payments.

Remit of the Delivery Group would include:-

1. Manage the overall Programme, including staffing and budget management functions. (Lead Officer)
2. Ensure effective and adequate appraisal, approval; project monitoring and financial systems are in place that meets RDA's requirements for devolved funding and the financial and legal requirements of the Accountable Body.
3. Ensure that appraisal of projects seeking support from RDA's funding are undertaken by suitably trained and where necessary by independent appraisers.
4. Make recommendations on project approval (following completed appraisal reports) to the Steering Group (and Sefton Council).
5. Lead on the work of producing any monitoring reports and additional information.
6. Ensure there is full partnership involvement in each of those areas of work outlined above.
7. Ensure the smooth running of the any Project Teams and Task Groups.
8. Provide strategic guidance to the development of projects and to provide support to projects being developed in accordance with priorities.

Agenda Item 21

9. Work with partners towards full engagement of key agencies within the Steering Group and to ensure tangible commitment is shown by the agencies to the priorities within the Programme.
10. To oversee the evaluation of the use of funding to meet Programme objectives.
11. To manage and review the communications strategy for the Steering Group
12. Recruit any specialist co-ordinators as proposed through individual projects and/or manage consultants as required.

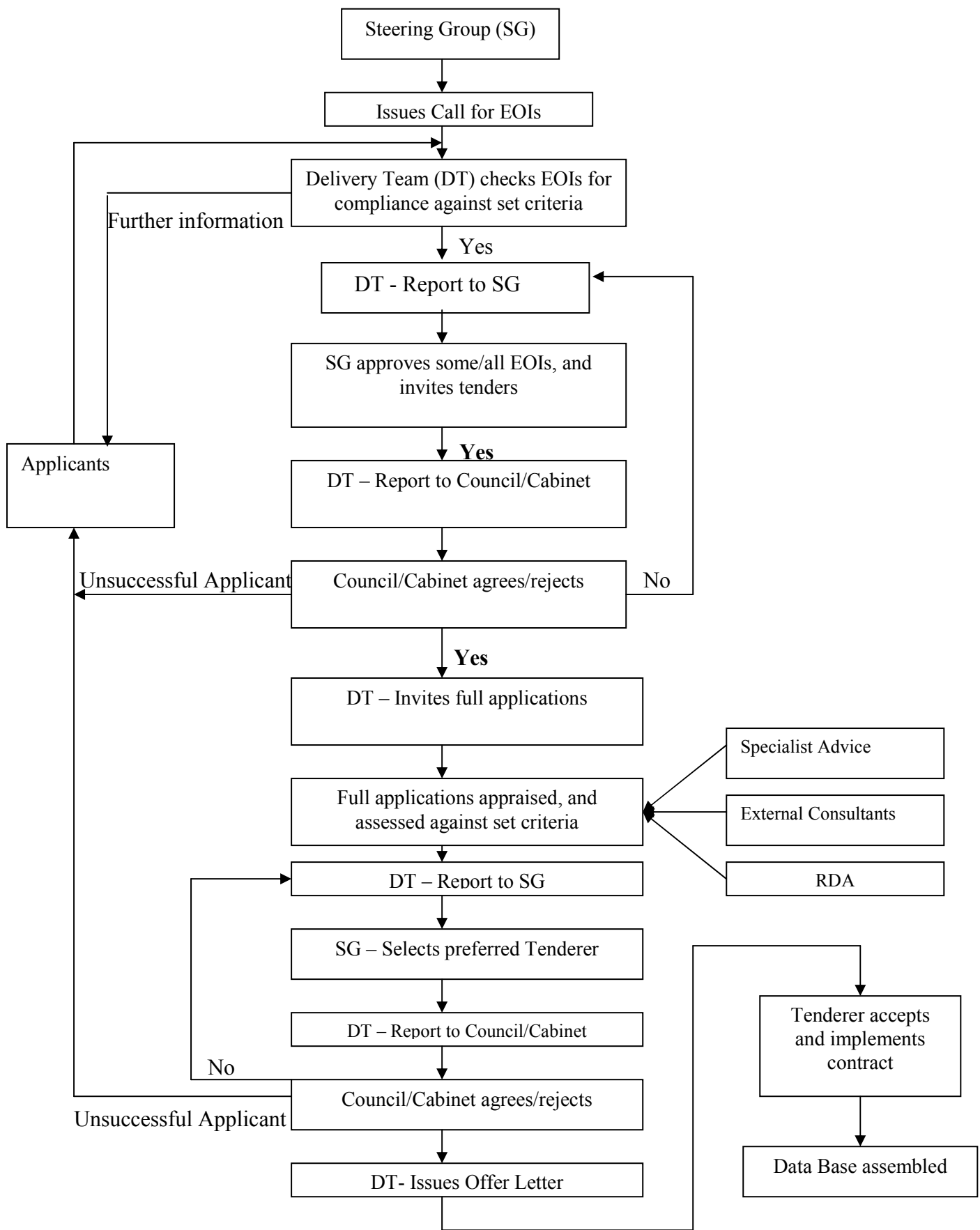
Role of Local Authority Representatives would to include:-

- Responsible for providing local authority support, commitment and liaison;
- Providing technical appraisal advice, (if required);
- Liaising with projects on the ground in their local authority area.
- Pro-actively participating in Steering Group and it's decision making role and responsibilities
- Avoiding conflict of interest
- Ensuring that the sponsoring authority is kept up to date, and provides continues pro-active support for the Programme

Role of RSL Representatives would to include:-

- Responsible for providing wider RSL support, commitment and liaison;
- Providing technical appraisal advice, (if required);
- Providing collective feed back from projects being undertaken by RSLs on the ground.
- Pro-actively participating in Steering Group and it's decision making role and responsibilities
- Avoiding conflict of interest
- Acting as a liaison between the Steering Group, and individual RSLs

REECH PROGRAMME
DRAFT APPRISAL PROCESS
14th May 2010



Agenda Item 21

RISK ASSESMENT

Risk Description	(a) Probability (Score 1-5)	(b)Impact (Score 1-5)	(c) Overall Risk (a x b)	Review Date	Risk Owner	Mitigation: What can be done to reduce risk or what contingency plans will be in place?
Financial and Legal risk	1	5	5	On going	Sefton Council	Sefton would be undertaking the role of Programme management. Tendering exercise will be undertaken in accordance with ERDF regulations and successful tenderer will be legally and financially duty-bound to deliver the agreed out puts and out comes. Also payments will only be made on defrayed eligible expenditure.
Project not approved by the RDA	2	1	2	On going	Sefton Council	In the event the project is not approved, there are no cost implications to Sefton or to other delivery partners involved in the programme.
Project approved but ERDF grant reduced	3	2	6	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	In the event the ERDF allocation is reduced, the works programme will also be reduced accordingly. Depending on the reduction in the allocation, the delivery team may need to be reduced, and the nature and geographical spread of activity may also be curtailed.
Contractor goes into Administration	2	2	4	On going	RSL Delivery Partners/Sefton Council	Successful delivery contracts would be with the RSLs, who will then engage contractors to undertake the work. It will be the RSL who having signed the conditional offer letter legally and contractually obliged to complete agreed works. Failure to do so mean that they will not get paid, and Sefton would be in a position to claw back any money for non achievement of out puts.

RSL goes into Administration	1	5	5	On going	Sefton Council	Sefton Council will undertake financial credit rating of RSLs during the tendering exercise.
Individual Project cost overruns	3	2	6	On going	Delivery Partners & Sefton Council	Sefton Council will monitor RSLs, and their contracts very closely, and where necessary will ask RSLs to take corrective actions. Council will have no legal or contractual agreement to pay for any cost overruns incurred by the RSL or their contractors. This risk will lie entirely with the relevant RSL
Overall Programme cost overruns	1	5	5	On going	Sefton Council	Regular monitoring of contracts with delivery partners, and Management delivery costs will be undertaken, and reported both to the Steering Group and the Cabinet.
Delays/time constraints	3	2	6	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	At the start of the project, a reserve list of schemes would be produced and if some projects do not materialise, schemes could be brought forward from the reserve list
Local Supply Capacity problems	2	2	4	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	The Sefton Delivery Team is already engaging organisations such as Fusion 21(local supply chain company set up to work with RSLs) and Envirolink NW in order to raise awareness of the opportunities arising from this programme and help to find solutions for capacity development.
Skilled labour constraints	2	2	4	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	Working with other partners in the sub region/region in order to anticipate labour constraints and jointly work with them in order to address them
Funding problems	3	2	6	On going	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	Increase the contribution from alternative sources of funding or seek extended timescales on the delivery of the project. As part of this development stage Sefton has sourced and collated Expressions Of Interest for more than double the bid amount so we have many potential projects in reserve

Technical barriers	3	1	3	Approval Stage and start of works	Sefton Council & Delivery Partners	This is will be addressed as part of the tendering exercise, where detailed appraisal and assessment will be undertaken of each tenderer.

Agenda Item 21

Agenda Item 22

REPORT TO: Planning Committee
Cabinet
Council

DATE: 2nd June 2010
10th June 2010
8th July 2010

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

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** Manor

REPORT OF: Planning and Economic Development Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Dorothy Bradwell

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

Following public consultation to seek confirmation of the Moor Park Article 4(2) Direction, making its effects permanent.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

Pursuant to the Council's duty under sections 69 and 71 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- a) That Planning Committee recommend to Cabinet that the Moor Park Article 4(2) Direction be confirmed without modification.
- b) That Cabinet recommend to Council that the Moor Park Article 4(2) Direction be confirmed without modification.
- c) That Council confirm the Moor Park Article 4(2) Direction without modification

KEY DECISION: no

FORWARD PLAN: no

Agenda Item 22

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: With immediate effect

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

There are two alternative options available;

- a) The first is to confirm the direction in a modified state. Any of the householder's permitted development rights that are currently removed could at this stage be reinstated.
- b) Alternatively members could elect not to confirm the direction. The effect of this would be that the restrictions currently in place would lapse and permitted development rights would be reinstated to householders.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial:

<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:

Risk Assessment:

Asset Management:

N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

EXTERNAL

1.1 A questionnaire was sent to all properties (copy attached) The questionnaire sought to establish whether there is local support for the measures to remain in place.

1.2 Of the 90 questionnaires sent out, the conservation team received 33 responses - a response rate of 37%

Headline statistics

- **94% of respondents thought that it was important to preserve the character and appearance of the conservation area.**
- **73% were generally in favour of an article 4(2).**

1.3 Turning to the specific restrictions the greatest levels of support were for removal of permitted development rights over alterations to roofs and hard surfaces.

- **82% over alterations to roof slopes,**
- **82% on hard surfaces**

1.4 Strong support was also shown for the removal of permitted development rights for other alterations:

- **73% on alterations and removals of chimneys; and,**
- **76% new porches**
- **76% painting (other than maintenance)**
- **61% architectural features, such as windows and doors.**

1.5 Some respondents wanted greater removals of rights than the article 4(2) provides for:

- **50% wanted greater regulation than the article 4(2) provides for alterations at the side.**
- **20% wanted greater regulation than the article 4(2) provides over rear alterations and extensions**

INTERNAL

Finance – No need for re-consultation

Agenda Item 22

Legal – The Legal Department have confirmed that the prescribed procedures for the making of the direction have been correctly followed.

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 Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment

'Heritage at Risk' English Heritage, 2009.

Moor Park Conservation Area Appraisal, Sefton MBC, March 2008

Agenda Item 22

Background

- 1.1 Despite living in a conservation area householders have rights to make quite a number of changes to their properties, which though relatively minor individually, can have a significant cumulative effect on the character of the building and the wider area.
- 1.2 Changes that can be permitted without there being an Article 4(2) direction in place include changes to roof materials, addition of porches, erection of walls and gates, replacement windows and creation of hardstandings.
- 1.3 The residents association have written letters to the Council requesting an Article 4(2) Direction be implemented
- 1.4 On 13th January 2010 Council agreed to the making of an Article 4(2) Direction within the Moor Park Conservation Area, to restrict the range of permitted development rights, pending public consultation. A copy of the report is at appendix 1.
- 1.5 The range of rights which have been removed by the Direction are listed in the attached notice (appendix 2). The Direction is now in force, but to remain so it needs to be confirmed by the Council. Without confirmation the Direction will expire on 13th July 2010.
- 1.6 The aim of the Direction is not to prevent alteration, but to control development through requiring planning permission to ensure that alterations to properties are in keeping with the character of the area.
- 1.7 The results of the public consultation have now been received and are as detailed above. It was stated in the covering letter that a non-response would be taken to mean that householders were happy with the measures. Consequently the actual rate of support may be higher than can be proven numerically.

Summary

- There is a demonstrably good level of support from people living in the area for the introduction of the Article 4(2) Direction
- The measures will prevent further harmful alterations from taking place within the Moor Park conservation area
- In determining planning applications received as a result of the direction, individual proposals will be assessed on their own merits, taking into account the contents of the Moor Park Conservation Area Appraisal

Appendix 1 Copy of report authorised by Council 13th January 2010

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:

Agenda Item 22

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.

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

Agenda Item 22

'Heritage at Risk' English Heritage, 2009.

Moor Park Conservation Area Appraisal, Sefton MBC, March 2008

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.

Appendix 2- 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

Agenda Item 22

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 14th July 2010 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 .

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.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 23

REPORT TO: Cabinet

DATE: 10th June 2010

SUBJECT: Urgent Works Notice 40 Lancaster Road, Birkdale

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** Dukes Ward

REPORT OF: Andy Wallis
Planning and Economic Development Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Daniel Byron (Tel: 0151 934 3584)

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

Following recent severe fire damage caused to 40 Lancaster Road (the former Birkdale School for Hearing Impaired Children) to include provision within the Capital Programme in the event of the Council undertaking works in default.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

As this is a Grade II Listed Building Planning Committee is recommended to serve an Urgent Works Notice to secure the building from further decline. Currently the newly exposed condition of the building is of such risk that should the owner fail to comply with the Notice, the Council will be required to carry out works in default.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That subject to the views of the Strategic Asset Management Group Cabinet agrees to include provision within the Capital Programme in the event that the Council be required to carry out works in default subsequent to the serving of an Urgent Works Notice.

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: N/A

Agenda Item 23

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Current

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: A failure to secure this Listed Building against from further decline may result in additional irreparable damage to an important local landmark.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework:

Financial: The Council will serve notice of its intention to carry out the works after a prescribed time, (to give the owner an opportunity to carry out the works themselves). Once this has passed the Council would then be in a position to carry out these works in default.

The Council would seek to recoup the cost of the works by way of a Section 55 Notice and a land charge. In the meantime the costs would be funded via prudential borrowing and would attract revenue borrowing costs of approximately £6,300 in a full year.

Further work and investigation is being carried out in order to obtain a more accurate cost for these urgent works.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure		70k		
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources		70k		
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:

Risk Assessment:

Asset Management:

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

FD 427 - The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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		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

'Stopping the Rot', English Heritage, 1998

Agenda Item 23

Background

1. On 16th May 2010, this Grade II Listed Building was subject to a suspected arson attack and as a result has sustained considerable damage and has now had to be partially demolished. This now leaves the building in an increased perilous state and more open to the elements. It is therefore essential that the remainder of the building is secured and made weather tight in order to halt further deterioration. Planning Committee is to be recommended to serve an Urgent Works Notice to facilitate this and the views of the Strategic Asset Management Team will be reported to the meeting.
2. Due to the severity of the damage caused by the fire if the schedule of works in the Notice is not complied with in full the Council would have no option but to carry out the works in default. The cost of works in default will be placed as legal charge against the land.
3. At the time of writing because of the severity of the fire it is has not been possible to be precise as to the extent or nature of the works required – it is understood for instance that there is exposed asbestos within the building. It is however anticipated these will include robust closure to all openings at ground floor level plus works to stop water ingress and general site security. Based on advice previously provided by Contractors, the costs of this work could be significant, perhaps up to £70,000. Notwithstanding the urgency following the recent fire, the owner will be given every opportunity to safeguard the building and site at his cost.
4. In the event of default by the owner to carry out the prescribed works, any subsequent costs of repairs undertaken by the Council would be borne by the Capital Programme via prudential borrowing. This would result in revenue borrowing costs of approximately £6,300 per annum until the costs are recovered. Therefore the action described is to be reported to Strategic Asset Management Group before any work can commence
5. Given recent passed history, I am concerned about the owner's intention to properly preserve the listed building. In these circumstances it remains open to the Council to serve, in addition to the above, a Repairs Notice under Section 48 of the Listed Buildings Act. This would require the owner to carry out the necessary repairs and failure to do so could lead to the compulsory purchase of the building under Section 47 of that Act. Significantly this provides for payment of minimum compensation where it is established that the building has been allowed to fall into disrepair. This course of action can potentially be time consuming but officers will keep this option under review and report back following the serving of the Urgent Works Notice to immediately and properly preserve it.

Recommendation

6. That, subject to the views of the Strategic Asset Management Group, Cabinet agrees to include provision within the Capital Programme in the event that the Council be required to carry out works in default subsequent to the serving of an Urgent Works Notice.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 24

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member Regeneration
Cabinet

DATE: 9th June 2010
10th June 2010.

SUBJECT: Provision of grant funding for Capping Layer and Gas
Protection at Tannery site.

**WARDS
AFFECTED:** Litherland

REPORT OF: Alan Lunt - Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes
Director

**CONTACT
OFFICER:** Tom Clay, HMR Programme Manager
0151-934 4849

**EXEMPT/
CONFIDENTIAL:** No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To request approval to provide 'gap' funding for a capping layer and gas protection measures to Bellway Homes Ltd. for the development of new housing for sale and rent at the Tannery site, Bootle, using funding from the Council's Housing Market Renewal Programme.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The scheme will be unable to proceed without 'Gap' funding in current market conditions, and the Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director does not have delegated authority to make decisions relating to such matters.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Cabinet Member Regeneration notes and Cabinet approves making available a Grant of £225,334 to Bellway Homes Limited subject to completion of the necessary grant agreement and Building licence for a capping layer and associated works at the Tannery site, Hawthorne Road, Bootle.

KEY DECISION:

N/A

FORWARD PLAN:

N/A

Agenda Item 24

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

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS: The Council could decide not to make the gap funding available. This would mean the scheme being unable to proceed and the loss of £1.9million of HCA funding for 17units of affordable social housing for rent, 12 units for shared ownership (Homebuy) and 27 units for sale.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Funding is available from the approved HMRI budget for 2010/11

Financial:

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure			0	0
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	When? March 2011			
How will the service be funded post expiry?	N/A			

Legal: Legal advice has been taken in relation to State Aid matters, and the gap funding proposed is covered by current EU exemptions to State Aid rules.

Risk Assessment: A risk assessment has been carried out as part of the scheme appraisal.

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

Interim Head of Legal Services
 FD425 - ∴ The Head of Corporate Finance & Information Services 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		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

Agenda Item 24

1.0 Background

- 1.1 This project involves the next phase of new housing development on land assembled as part of the Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council (Klondyke and Hawthorne Road, Bootle) Compulsory Purchase Order 2005 (The CPO).
- 1.2 Following the confirmation of the CPO, the intention was that Bellway Homes Limited, the Council's selected developer, and Adactus Housing Association), the Council's lead RSL for the area, would then be able to proceed to develop out the new housing on the site.
- 1.3 Delays incurred as a result of prolonged legal challenges to the legality of the Compulsory Purchase process, followed by the impact of the credit crisis, required the scheme to be delayed and re-designed. This primarily involved omitting apartments, and increasing the proportion of family houses with off-street parking. The revised scheme was granted full planning approval on the 12th February 2010 A Social Housing Grant has been approved by the Homes and Communities Agency towards the costs of the Social Housing dwellings forming part of the scheme.
- 1.4 Re-appraisal of the financial aspects of the scheme by the developer has shown that there is still a significant gap between the cost of provision and the values to be obtained. These figures – both of costs and values - have been verified by Capita Symonds for the Council. The only way, therefore, for the scheme to proceed at the present time is if gap funding is provided by the Council. The alternative would be to delay the scheme until market conditions improve substantially, and even then gap funding would still be needed for the affordable housing.
- 1.5 It is proposed therefore that 'gap' funding is provided to fund the provision of the capping layer and gas protection measures which are works preparatory to the construction of the houses.

2.0 State Aid Rules

- 2.1 The Council is able to provide 'Gap' funding to Bellway Homes Limited under a current exemption granted by the European Commission from European State Aid rules, namely: *N221/06 – United Kingdom Support for Land Remediation (In Assisted Areas)*.

2.2 The objective of this Scheme is to bring contaminated land, brownfield land and derelict land back into productive use by addressing the detrimental effects of previous usage. In turn, this enables subsequent development whilst “simultaneously reducing the pressure for development on greenfield land, thus promoting EC objectives such as environmental protection and sustainable economic development”. This is the provision that has already enabled the Council to fund remediation of the site within State Aid Rules.

2.3 It is proposed that the final capping layer and gas protection measures to be carried out by Bellway Homes Ltd which will cover the gap needed to enable the scheme to proceed.

3.0 Funding

3.1 The required level of gap funding has been assessed, following a rigorous financial appraisal process, as being £225,334. The appraisal has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Overarching Development Agreement with Bellway Homes Ltd which in itself was procured through European Procurement procedures.

3.2 This also allows that, in the event that the actual Income from Sales exceeds that contained within the appraisal, the Council shares this ‘overage’ on a 50/50 basis with the developer.

3.3 The gap funding requirement is contained within the HMRI budget for remediation of the Tannery site that was approved by Cabinet on the 15th April 2010.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 The provision of gap funding is essential in order to ensure the delivery of the next phase of high quality housing in the Klondyke neighbourhood, on a formerly derelict industrial site. Development with a range of high quality housing represent a major uplift for the neighbourhood and enables remaining residents of the Klondyke estate to be re-housed.

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET MEMBER'S REPORT

<i>COUNCILLOR</i>	<i>COMMITTEE</i>	<i>DATE</i>
Ian Moncur	Cabinet Member for Children, Schools & Families	10 th June 2010

Welcome, I am delighted to bring you this first report as Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families. I am also pleased to be joined by Councillor Gill Cuthbertson and Councillor Haydn Preece, in the Children, Schools and Families Team.

Governors Conference

On Saturday 22nd May I had the pleasure of opening and attending the Inaugural Sefton Governors Conference. Over 100 Governors attended from schools across Sefton and gave up our sunniest day of the year so far to attend this important Conference. Our thinking was stimulated by the input of two national speakers – Kate Champion of the National College for Leadership of Schools and Children's Services and John Chowcat, General Secretary of ASPECT. In addition there were eight workshops over the day covering a range of issues for Governors and schools development, which all the attendees found extremely thought provoking. From the evaluation feedback it is clear that all the participants really enjoyed the Conference and reported the quality of the speakers and workshops as very good. The Conference was hosted by Formby High School, and can I express my thanks to the school for hosting the Conference and especially to all their young people who were not only real ambassadors for the school, but wonderful ambassadors for Sefton.

Children's Trust Workshop

On the 19th May we held a second Workshop of the Trust as we develop our next Children and Young Peoples Plan. Over seventy colleagues from partner organisations across the Trust attended the Workshop, which was focused on determining the key priorities for the forthcoming three years. These will be grouped around the following strategic priorities:-

- Safeguarding
- Narrowing the Gap
- Think Family, Think Community
- Resourcing the future

A further event will be held in mid September, as we move to complete this role and again it will continue to be guided by the views and participation by children and young people across the Borough.

School Inspections

The following schools have received successful reports following their recent Ofsted Inspections:-

St. Ambrose Barlow High School	-	Good
St. Michael's High School	-	Good
St. George's Primary School	-	Good
Our Lady Star of the Sea Primary School	-	Good
St. Philip's Primary School, Litherland	-	Good

These positive reports continue to reflect the strong quality of our school provision across Sefton.

16 – 19 Commissioning

The smooth transfer of staff from the Learning & Skills Council took place on 1st April 2010 when the commissioning and funding of 16 – 19 education transferred to the Local Authority and Children's Trust. It is planned to hold a Sefton 14 – 19 Conference in Autumn involving schools with Sixth Forms, Further Education Colleges, work based learning priorities, regional and national agencies. It is expected by then that the new Government's proposals for 14 – 16 vocational education and national arrangements for 16 – 19 provision will become clearer

CABINET – 10 JUNE 2010

CORPORATE SERVICES – CABINET MEMBERS' REPORT

LEGAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1. The Planning, Environmental and Property Team

Recent/Current contracts that we are dealing with include:-

- Recycling Contract; Southport Food and Drink Festival; Lander Road Primary School alterations and extension; Insurance Broker Services; Rimrose Hope Primary School landscape works.

We are involved in a number of projects including:-

- Independent Learning Centre; Warranties for the Tannery Site; Southport Cultural Centre; the Thornton-Switch Island Link Road Planning Application; the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Housing Programme bid and the Carbon Reduction Scheme.

We have recently taken 10+ prosecutions for benefit fraud including:-

- 2 for Food Safety [Hot Food Takeaways] and 5 for taxi licensing offences.

We have also obtained a Control of Dogs Order.

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

A. Pay & Grading Review/Equal Pay

1. The process of implementing the outcome of the Pay and Grading Review for NJC employees is on target and grading notification letters were issued on 28th May. If it proves impossible to reach agreement with the Trade Unions over the new pay structure by mid June then it will become necessary to impose the new arrangements by serving the appropriate notice on employees. These letters are due to be issued on 18th June.
2. Consultation with the Trade Unions is continuing relative to proposed amendments to allowances and mitigation arrangements.
3. Witness statements have now been exchanged in readiness for the equal pay Tribunal hearings that start on 10th June.

Agenda Item 25b

B. Establishment Control, Pensions, Payroll & HR Transactional Services

4. The weekly Client meetings continue and we are progressing in several areas including the introduction of new process and improving data quality. Protocols continue to be developed as and when required.
5. The Establishment Control Panel has now become embedded and is working well. The Panel deal with everything which concerns the engagement of people to work within the Council. New processes/forms are being developed to streamline the process.
6. The Transformation Team have been mapping the organisation and Establishment Control will be amending the Establishment held in ResourceLink accordingly. Once this exercise is complete Establishment Control will be sending Workforce Data to all Service Directors on a regular basis. Staffing Data is currently sent to all schools on a termly basis.
7. The Pensions Officer is currently working closely with the policy team to develop pension policies.

C. Health Unit

8. The Corporate H&S Manager retired at the end of March and has not as yet been replaced.
9. Management of sickness absence will continue to be monitored by the Sickness Absence Panel which meets quarterly and is chaired by the Chief Executive. It was agreed at the last meeting on 17th May that all Service Directors whose Department's sickness absence levels rose above the Council's target level for short and long term absence will be invited to the next panel meeting.
10. The Corporate H&S forum reviewed the Health Unit's work plan for the year ahead. Amendments have been made to the time scales and the items prioritised to ensure significant risks are addressed and any slippage properly accounted for.

FINANCE & INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Budget Issues

The closure of the Accounts process for 2009/10 is continuing; the outturn position compared to the budget will be finalised in June.

The project to integrate financial services across all Departments is now underway. The subsequent introduction of the new structure will enable a more efficient provision of services and the achievement of the financial savings identified in the budget.

Client Unit (comments by LP)

ICT – The relocation of the Data Centre from Balliol House to St. Peter's House has now completed except for 2 remaining transfers to be undertaken by 3rd party suppliers. The relocation exercise was complex in the extreme and the council lost only 1 hour of

business as a result. Arvato are to be congratulated on the success of this key project. The conversion from Novell Groupwise to Microsoft

Customer Services – An Operational Group to develop the Customer Access strategy has been put in place and will meet on a regular basis.

HR and Payroll – Work continues in partnership with the Council to ensure our CRB checks are current. Electronic payslips will be introduced on a phased basis with the Finance and IS Department as phase 1 in July 2010.

Revenues & Benefits – Implementation work for the new Revenues and Benefits system is ongoing with the live operational date planned as October 2010. The contract with Northgate Information Solutions is now signed and the project is fully underway.

Council tax and Business Rates collection targets have been achieved.

Procurement

Recent work has concentrated on ensuring as much supplier spend as possible is processed through the councils internal electronic I-Procurement system, to ensure access to best value corporate contracts and achieve transparency of spend corporately. Further, a series of meetings have taken place with senior officers within Adult Health and Social Care and Childrens Services departments to agree implementation of robust processes, which will ensure corporate support is provided by the procurement unit to support contracting activity in these key areas. Further work in these areas will continue to progress over the next few months. The Procurement Project board, established in January 2010, has identified key areas of spend to target future efficiencies. Discussions will take place with relevant service directors over the next month on how these actions are taken forward. Discussions are also scheduled to take place imminently with the council's service partner, arvato, to agree a strategy to ensure that the most efficient use is made of existing procurement software solutions.

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE AND MEMBER SERVICES

In addition to the administrative support provided for various Cabinet / Committee meetings, the Section has supported the following:

School Admission Appeals

During the period from 1 April to 25 May 2010, 5 School Admission appeal hearings were held over 7 days (5 High Schools and 2 Primary Schools) involving 42 applications and 7 late withdrawals of applications. The hearings were clerked by the Section.

Members' ICT Issues

During the period from 1 April 2010 to 25 May 2010, the Members' ICT Support Officer has provided training on 7 IT issues to 1 Councillor and dealt with 83 requests for IT support from Councillors, including the newly Members.

Members Induction 2010

For the first time, letters were sent on 27 April 2010 to all of the Candidates standing in the Local Government Elections 2010, advising them of the arrangements for signing the

Agenda Item 25b

Declaration of Acceptance of Office if they were elected to office and the details of the Member Induction Programme for 2010.

The candidates were requested upon election to office, to contact the Members Information Officer to make arrangements for a one-to-one session during the first week after the Elections, in order to receive their own Induction Pack, complete some of the routine paperwork and discuss their participation in the Induction Programme.

Eight new Councillors were elected and they have all had a one-to-one session with the Members Information Officer or Head of Committee and Member Services.

Appointment of Cabinet and Committees' / Outside Bodies Representation

Following the Count for Local Government Elections held on 7 May, the Section liaised with the three Political Group Leaders on the revised proportionality for the allocation of committee seats for 2010/11 and the proposed membership of the Cabinet and Committees etc prior to the Council Meeting on 13 May 2010.

The details of the nominations for the Council's representation on Outside Bodies was compiled and submitted to the Cabinet on 20 May

The revised memberships of the Cabinet and Committees, representation on Outside Bodies and the contact details for the eight new Members have been updated on the 'Modern.gov' Committee Management System and published on the Council website / Intranet.

CIVIC & MAYORAL SERVICES

Civic Operations

In April, the main desk at Bootle Town Hall was replaced with a more substantial reception desk. The desk was obtained from Southport Arts Centre. The desk has now allowed for a more customer focused approach to visitors and staff.

Security has also been improved at Bootle Town Hall with the introduction of Visitor Badges to all visitors attending meetings and offices and staff visiting Bootle Town Hall without SMBC Badges. The scheme has been launched to improve security so visitors can be identified and a more effective fire evacuation can take place.

May was a busy time with the Elections as Civic & Mayoral Services staff were drafted in on the day of the election for set ups and then on the evening and over night, with the addition of the count on Friday. This created a challenge for staffing as cover had to be provided over a two day period, but our staff responded to the challenge and gave operational cover at Bootle and Southport Town Hall.

Room Bookings has also started to promote itself at Bootle and Southport Town Hall by producing eye catching "pop up" banners that advertise our facilities to potential external users.

Further work has also taken place on the civic and Mayoral Services web pages with the addition of more Twinning information, Flag Protocol and more updated images. Visit www.sefton.gov.uk/civicanmayoralservices

Mayoral

May has been a busy time with the change over of the Mayoral Year from Councillor Doran to Councillor Fearn. The Mayoral Installation Ceremony and Installation Dinner

took place in May and is a substantial planning exercise. Work now begins on the Mayoral Theme and the major Civic Engagements we arrange on behalf of the Mayor.

Civic & Mayoral Services (Head of Civic & Mayoral Services) attended a Polish Community event, organised by Sefton Equalities Partnership at the Plaza Cinema in May, which saw the showcase of Polish Childrens art work and stories and the showing of short animation films taken from the art work.

Twining

A delegation for our Twin Town Mons attended Sefton in April. The event was a success, which saw the delegation visit Bootle Town Hall, attend a Twining Business Plan meeting, which saw a plan being drawn up for the next five years. The plan looks at how the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Mons will be celebrated along with the 50th Anniversary of Twining between Sefton and Mons in 2014, the facilitation of visits, Web coverage and Capital of Culture 2015. The delegation also visited the new Lakeside Watersports Centre and attended a meeting to look at how Sefton worked alongside events for the Liverpool Capital of Culture.

The end of the visit also saw the visit to the Cenotaph at Bootle and the laying of wreaths at the Cenotaph in Southport and short wreath laying ceremony at a short memorial service for the death of the Polish President.

Overview and Scrutiny

Invitations have been circulated to all Members of the Council to attend an Overview & Scrutiny Away Day on Monday 21st June. This event will provide Members with an update of the Council's prioritisation exercise and discuss the impact this will have upon how the function of overview & scrutiny currently operates. Members will also be provided with an update of how the Member Working Group is progressing with the review of Health Inequalities as part of the national programme. Sefton was one of nine successful bids selected across the country to participate in this national programme and the Working Group is receiving support from advisors from the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

The Annual Report 2009-10 for Overview & Scrutiny will be available in a few weeks and published on the website for information.

Electoral Services

The Electoral Services Team is in the process of clearing up after the elections and preparing for future elections. Many issues have come to light as a result of problems around the country on election day. These matters are being dealt with at various election de-briefing sessions with Electoral Administrators, The Electoral Commission and the Ministry of Justice. A full report on the elections in Sefton will go to Overview and Scrutiny in the Autumn.

Coroner's support

The Coroner's has recently presided over 2 weeks of Jury Inquests where 5 Inquests were heard.

Land Charges

There are still unresolved legal issues around land charges and further advice is awaited. The suspension of HIPs may lead to an increase in land search enquiries.

This page is intentionally left blank

Sefton Equalities Partnership

Equality Act 2010 and Equality Framework for Local Government

The Council is assessed as being at 67% of the Equality Framework. The Bill was passed in April and this requires a review of the framework, with more emphasis on outcomes and equality impact assessments. Work is underway through the corporate equalities group to ensure that the Council and its Departments are compliant.

Public Engagement and Consultation

The work of the public engagement and consultation panel continues to become embedded within departments of the Council with more buy in to publishing proposed plans for future engagement and consultation.

Work Ability

The Equalities Partnership has been successful in securing funding from the Equality and Human Rights Commission to develop the above project to assist people with disabilities or limiting long term illness to access and retain employment and training in the borough.

Mystery Shopping

Members of the Ability Network have commenced the mystery shopping of the Council services as part of improving access for people with disabilities or limiting long term illness. The outcomes of this work will form the basis of an action plan to remove barriers to access.

Values Statement

The Seaforth Values Statement was launched in April at Sing Plus with all key providers of services and local residents coming to together to tackle hate crime within their local communities.

Polska Tails

The book Polska Tails was formally launched at the Plaza cinema with children and families from our Polish Community who have worked to write and publish the bi-lingual children's book. The books have been distributed to all libraries and primary schools taking part in the project.

Show Racism the Red Card

Two primary schools attended Liverpool Football Club to meet with footballers, old and new, as part of the campaign to kick racism out of football. The focus this year was the World Cup and what we can all do to address racism in football and our daily lives.

IDAHO (International Day Against Homophobia)

The EMBRACE and In Trust networks held an open event focusing on removing barriers to housing.

Community Safety Department

Crime Performance (current performance and emerging risks)

- BCS-crime (10 categories of recorded crime) decreased 12.8% March-April 2010. In addition BCS-crime fell by 13.2% when comparing April 2010 with April 2009.
- Within BCS crime criminal damage represents 43% of all recorded crime, and recent performance suggests that between March –April 2010 criminal damage decreased by 2.6% (comparing April 2009 with April 2010 it decreased by 9.4%).
- Burglary dwelling decreased by 40% March 2010 to April 2010 and between April 2009 to April 2010 it decreased by 11%
- Robbery (personal) decreased by 40% between March 2010 and April 2010, and between April 2009 to April 2010 it decreased by 73% (note: the percentage reductions are based on small actual numbers of offences).
- Serious Violent Crime: National Indicator 15 (this is an aggregate measurement of 'violent crimes') decreased by 50% when comparing April 2009 with April 2010.
- Serious Acquisitive Crime: National Indicator 16 (this is an aggregate of associated 'property based crimes' such as burglary) increased between April 2009 and April 2010 by 11.2% despite a reduction in burglary dwelling during the same period.
- Knife Crime: National Indicator 28 decreased by 41% from April 2009 to April 2010.

Performance Related Risks

- Comparator performance as assessed against Most Similar Groups (LSP/ CDRP) has shown that whilst improvements continue to be made in terms of crime reduction within Sefton, that in comparison with other areas our comparator performance has slipped.
- Sefton are 11th in its LSP family of 23 (Jan –March 2010). The principle risk areas associated with this are, in relation to performance, criminal damage and burglary dwelling. Action Plans to address these risks have been implemented and performance has improved.

Anti-Social Behaviour

There was a 2.2% reduction in reports made to the Police with respect to incidents of anti-social behaviour (April 2009- April 2010). Detailed ASB profiles have been constructed with colleagues in the Police and are used extensively by partners within the Council to target resources.

Domestic Violence

From March 2010- May 2010 the Domestic Violence MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) has had 124 'high risk' referrals from a wide range of agencies. All these clients receive a detailed risk assessment and a tailored package of support.

Hate Crime

The final stages of the hate crime CD-rom are now in place. The CD-rom will be available to all Reporting Centres and to all victims of hate crime. It will also be on the Sefton Safer Communities Web-site.

Word Cup: Social Marketing Model

Images have been designed to make people aware of the associated health and community safety risks predicted to occur during this period. The images (already market tested) will be displayed in areas of predictive risk within Sefton.

Local Strategic Intelligence Assessments (Community Safety)

Seven local SIAs (profiles associated with community safety) have been produced that describe the known prevalence, perception and predictive risks within each Area Committee.

Victims/Witnesses Confidence CD-rom

This is a product that we have produced with Corporate Communications that will be available to all people who will be going to be witnesses in court. It will be available as a CD-rom and on the Internet. The product will be available to victims support and to Witness services that will (if the victim has not got a computer or a DVD at home) make suitable arrangements for the witness to see the product. The product shows the court process in Sefton with local services telling the audience about the services they provide.

Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Department

Area Management

- Currently developing a proposal for how Area Committees could take on more power and influence.
- Initial discussions have taken place to look at how we could develop a new area based governance structure for the Sefton Borough Partnership.

Participatory Budgeting

- Two Pilots in Church and Manor ward are progressing well. Ideas for Church ward include: dog fouling project, works to Chaffers Field, Seaforth in Bloom. Manor ward are focussing on the four main housing estates.

Councillor P.Dowd
Cabinet Member - Communities

This page is intentionally left blank

<p align="center">Food Champion Award</p>	<p>Sefton Council working in partnership with NHS Sefton has been short listed for a national award by the Food Standards Agency for its “Appetite for Life project”. The project addresses improving food hygiene, nutrition quality and oral health in child nurseries by adapting statutory food standards inspection programme to health related subjects. The project is a successful example of joint working that brings wider community health benefits from the delivery of a core statutory service and is being promoted by the FSA as an example of best practice.</p>
<p align="center">Love Food Hate Waste</p>	<p>“Love Food Hate Waste” a nationally funded joint Merseyside food waste prevention campaign, lead by Sefton, was the main sponsor of the Southport food and drinks festival held between 13 and 16 May. Thousands of visitors received the Love Food Hate Waste message at the regional show based around common tips to help the food we buy go further. Over one third of food bought is thrown away costing the average family £50 per month with serious consequences for the environment and significant public costs through waste disposal – 20% of Merseyside’s 800,000 tonnes of household waste in Merseyside is food. The Love Food Hate Waste campaign will continue until March 2010 and aims to divert 10,000 tonnes of food waste from landfill disposal each year.</p>
<p align="center">Air Pollution Low Emission Strategies</p>	<p>After being awarded National Beacon Status for our Air Quality work Sefton has been given additional funding from DEFRA to develop Low Emission Strategy guidance on a regional basis. LES in Sefton is exploring the development of a formal planning policy document, based on a carbon reduction approach that adopts measures to mitigate the amount of transport generated emissions resulting from development. Other work associated with the development of LES considers taxis, building and construction emissions and procurement to minimise emissions. A key work area is the inclusion of LES within Local Transportation Plan for Merseyside, which is currently being reviewed. Poor air quality is a significant cause of respiratory ill health nationally. Sefton has declared three Air Quality Management Areas where the levels of air pollution are of concern.</p>
<p align="center">Pontins Primary Authority Scheme</p>	<p>A provisional agreement has been reached with Pontins to act as their National Primary Authority for food hygiene. The Councils responsibility will be to advise Pontins on compliance with the law in relation to food safety. There are currently five Holiday Parks nationwide. The arrangement will mean ensuring their systems, if followed, will assure food safety across their entire estate. Inspection of individual Pontins’ sites remains the responsibility of the local authority where the holiday park is situated. However, the local authority in question must be guided by any inspection plan we determine and must refer to us before taking any formal enforcement action in relation to food safety. The arrangement also gives the Council the opportunity to work more closely with and assist an organisation that propose to invest millions of pounds into the local economy.</p>
<p align="center">Revision of Street Cleansing Schedules</p>	<p>Since the completion of Alternate Week Collection in late 2008, Cleansing Services have been grappling with the 'out of sync', street cleansing schedules. Allied to the need to update and refresh the operations (especially mechanical) on trunk roads, and coordinating with the current WNF resources the service is pump priming the whole mechanical operation (from existing resources) to provide a better all round mechanical cleansing operation. After long and detailed talks with the TU's phase 1 of the 3 phases, is almost ready to begin, this is a change to cleansing arterial (trunk roads), dealing with accidents and incidents, collection of fly tipped materials and re-organising the rear entry cleansing system to achieve greater flexibility.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

Health and Social Care Cabinet Member Report

Cabinet - 10th June 2010

Transforming Social Care – End of Year Report

The Adult Social Care Director recently presented a report in which it was reported that the Adult Social Care Department had exceeded for 2009/10 5 out of 7 performance targets, agreed with the Care Quality Commission.

Targets in relation to Direct Payments/Individual Budgets, Engagement with the Third Sector, Engagement with Carers, Number of Learning Disability Service Users moving into tenancies and users of Assistive Technology, were all exceeded.

With regard to the two targets that were not met that relating to Assisted Assessment was underachieved due to Service Users not returning their completed assessments and not engaging with the Department, and that relating to efficiency savings through improved procedures has been carried forward to 2010/11 and is already on target to achieve.

Stretch targets for 2010/11, are in the process of being finalised.

Helping to Facilitate the Market

We are now in Year 3 of the Transforming Social Care Agenda and to support this process the Adult Social Care Department has recently launched a Market Facilitation Strategy. The Strategy was launched at a special event attended by Margaret Carney, Chief Executive, Sefton Council.

The Strategy has been produced as part of the Transforming Social Care Agenda to support personalisation and local providers within Sefton.

During the event there was an opportunity for innovative providers to set up exhibition stands to showcase the work they are doing. There was also an exhibition stand set up to promote the new electronic directory of services to service providers. HS Sefton also attended the event with an exhibition of the 'Looking Local' information.

During the event there was an opportunity for providers to see what other providers are doing as well for the department to promote development work being undertaken in response to feedback about what they feel will assist them to deliver the Transforming Social Care Agenda.

The event was well attended and positive feedback was received from all who attended.

A copy of the Strategy can be found on the Sefton Council website.

Agenda Item 25e

New Learning Disability Partnership Board

Following an Equality Impact Assessment and the New Valuing People Now Paper the Learning Disability Partnership Board has been transformed.

The Board, which now meets four times a year, held its first meeting in the new format on 4th February 2010. Over half the members on the Board are people with Learning Disabilities with the remaining members made up of family carers and professionals from Adult Social Care, NHS Sefton, Leisure Services and transitions service.

The themes for the first meeting was Personalisation and Direct Payments.

Early feedback following the first meeting has been excellent. The Get Involved Group have also given positive feedback with people feeling they could be more involved in the meeting.

Memory Matters Roadshow

Special roadshows are taking place across Sefton to raise awareness of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. The 'Memory Matters' roadshows are being launched by Sefton Council and NHS Sefton during May and June.

More than 5,000 people in Sefton are estimated to be suffering from some form of dementia, a condition that affects 1 in 14 people over the age of 65. The Memory Matters roadshows aim to raise awareness of the condition and highlight the support available for patients and carers.

They will offer educational information about Alzheimer's disease and dementia and practice advice on the local support service available to both patients and carers. Advisers will be available to offer advice or answer questions or concerns the public may have.

They run from 10am to 3pm and will be held at:

- Waitrose, Formby Village on May 13
- Sainsbury's in Crosby village on June 3
- Bootle New Strand on June 10
- Chapel Street, Southport on June 24 & July 29

Information will also be available at the Carers Week event at Bootle Town Hall on June 15, hosted by Sefton Carers Centre.

Charlie Barker, Sefton Council's Strategic Director of Social and Well-Being, said: 'Dementia can affect adults of any age, but is more common in older people. The Memory matters roadshows will play an important role in raising awareness of alzheimer's disease and dementia helping people to identify signs for early diagnosis. They will also help alleviate some of the stigma associated with the illness and ensure that people are treated with dignity and respect.'

Research shows Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia accounting for 62 per cent of all dementia cases. One in three people over 65 will die with dementia, yet up to two thirds of all people with dementia never receive a formal diagnosis.

Sefton's Director of Public Health and Deputy Chief Executive for NHS Sefton, Dr Janet Atherton, said "A great deal of work is going on across Sefton to improve the quality of care and support that people with conditions like dementia can expect.

The roadshows are also supported by Sefton Alzheimer's Society, Merseycare NHS Trust, The Princess Royal Trust, Sefton Carers Centre, Sefton Pensioner's Advocacy, Sefton Pensioner's Advocacy, Sefton Council for Voluntary Services and Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens.

Carers Week 14th-20th June

2010 is the tenth year that Carers Week has been held in its current format. Organised by a consortium of seven national charities, over 100,000 carers take part in the thousands of activities held in every part of the UK.

8,000+ events and activities already planned for 2010
Momentum continues to build for Carers Week with over 8,000 events and activities already notified by local partners.

Carers Week 2010 will highlight:

- Why supporting carers is crucial
- How carers miss out on things we all take for granted
- What needs to be changed

The theme ***A life of my own*** will enable carers to talk about many parts of life that most of us take for granted eg family occasions, going on holiday, a meal out, even just chilling out for an evening with no worries or responsibilities. Carers will speak about what they need to have a life of their own, including:

- Access to relevant and practical information, to help them with their caring role
- The opportunity to take a break when they need it
- Support at times of crisis
- Financial support

Councillor Brenda Porter
Health and Social Care Cabinet Member

This page is intentionally left blank

**CABINET BRIEFING
CABINET MEMBER LEISURE AND TOURISM
10th JUNE 2010**

Park Ranger Service

A review has been carried out recently into the performance of Sefton's Park Ranger Service, which started in November 2008. The results indicate that the team is performing very well in their aims of engendering community ownership, pride and involvement, making the parks better used and increasing the perception of safety. User satisfaction has increased, incidents of vandalism have decreased, and thousands of local residents of all ages have engaged in park activities.

Silver Surfers Day

Libraries across Sefton took part in UK Online Centre' "Face your online fears" publicity campaign leading up to Silver Surfers' Day at the end of Adult Learners' Week. The campaign was aimed at over 55s who are uneasy about getting online, and library staff were on hand to offer reassurance and give basic assistance in logging on the "myguide" website. This provides simple IT self-help courses, email facilities and access to searching the Internet. The idea was to demonstrate that computers are not as intimidating as they might at first appear, and to encourage people to go on to learn more at their own pace. The day was a success, with more details to follow.

Southport Library

The library closed in April. The local history service is now operating from Southport Library. The mobile library is parked in Tulketh Street for three half days per week. Work is beginning on the temporary premises at the Visitor Office, with an expected date of completion at the end of June.

Arts and Cultural Services

As part of the process of stripping out Southport Arts Centre prior to its redevelopment, the removal of the foyer carpet has revealed the original highly decorative tiled floor. Officers are now investigating the possibility of restoring it to its original 1878 condition.

The interim arts service is well under way with events happening in alternative venues in Southport, Maghull, Bootle, Crosby and Formby. These include exhibitions, youth drama, courses and workshops and a full professional programme at Crosby Civic Hall.

Dementia sufferers are one of the groups now benefiting from the provision of specialist arts based courses and classes. This is working alongside the Creative Alternatives programme which uses arts activities to help those with mild to moderate depression.

Active Workforce

Continuing to get the workforce active, the Active Workforce team have recently added two new partners to the portfolio of organisations running the programme and now include Autism Initiatives and Mersey Care NHS Trust.

Agenda Item 25f

Aiming to meet the needs of people with Autism, their families and carers, Autism Initiatives is a charity organisation while Mersey Care NHS Trust is a major employer within Sefton, which aims to provide specialist mental health and learning disability services for the people of Liverpool, Sefton and Kirkby.

Positive Futures

Positive Futures have continued to provide positive activities for disabled children and young people most recently running an “Ability Counts” football programme for disabled young people to play football. After following a course of games the team were entered into a Disability Football league at Greenbank Academy by Liverpool County FA where they competed against a range of teams, including Everton and Liverpool, to achieve second place.

Tackling hard hitting issues which are relevant to today’s youth market a range of “Breaking Cultures” workshops have been run by the Positive Futures team including gun and knife crime. Proving popular with young people, more than sixty young people have attended the Behaviour & Attendance programme meeting ex offenders, family victims and participating in role-plays, presentations and workshops.

Meadows Leisure Centre and Library

Meadows continues to impact on the local community and held its official opening ceremony this month with the Mayors of Sefton and Maghull officially opening the centre. With children in attendance from a local school a time capsule containing articles from the day was buried in the courtyard of the facility with a plaque denoting that it would be opened again on the same date in fifty years time. Since the opening of Meadows the usage of the library has increased significantly. There is an increase of 190% for visits, 400% for new members, and 40% for stock issues

Quality Coast Awards

The Department has been successful in its application for the Keep Britain Tidy Quality Coast Award with all four of our main beaches entered now being able to fly the award flag during summer 2010. The beaches are Crosby, Southport, Formby and Ainsdale

The Quality Coast Award was introduced in 2007 with its main focus being on raising standards at the coast. The Award reflects the great achievements of England’s beach managers and significantly helps them in future planning for beach improvements and developments. Although beaches that fly the Quality Coast Award can often be very different, the flag is a symbol of quality which guarantees that the beach that you are visiting is one of the highest standard.

Tourism Award

Sefton has won a national award for its work with the travel trade industry. We were acknowledged as being the UK’s ‘Most Coach Friendly Local Authority’ at an awards ceremony in Manchester on 28 April.

Travel Trade

Work we have done with the industry (exhibitions attended, travel trade newsletter, new travel trade guide etc.) continues to produce results. Coach figures have shown a substantial increase during the first 4 months of 2010 – over 25% up on the same period last year.

Events

Southport Food and Drink Festival took place 13 – 16 May and attracted approximately 40,000 visitors. New Gala Awards ceremony took place with over 6,000 nominations received for the various categories attended by 140 people from local businesses.

Southport Summer Classics now programmed – Friday 30 July, Magic of Soul and Motown, Saturday 31 July is traditional proms style concert with the Northern Chamber Orchestra Sinfonia.

Business Tourism

Following the bumper last quarter of 2009/10, when 17 conferences confirmed with an estimated economic impact of almost £13m, the team has got off to an excellent start for the new financial year. So far this quarter they have secured 11 conferences worth an estimated £5m to the borough.

Building on the success of collaborative exhibiting earlier this year plans are being drawn up to once again partner with Liverpool Convention Bureau and ACC Liverpool at Event UK in September and International Confex in Feb 2011.

This page is intentionally left blank

REPORT TO CABINET – 10th June 2010

COUNCILLOR IAIN BRODIE-BROWN **Cabinet Member for Performance and Governance**

1. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT

The Audit Commission has announced all work surrounding the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) should stop immediately. The CAA was the previous Government's performance assessment regime for public agencies and its Partners. The CAA system had two components – the Organisational Assessment and the Area Assessment.

NEXT STEPS:

As a Local Authority we need to consider the options available to ensure we maintain:

- Standards and validation of service delivery and/or services
- Value for money and efficiency
- Challenge to Performance Improvement
- Identification of Risk

2. GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The key milestones in the Governance Review have been met including:

- Review of Thematics and other Boards being undertaken, and draft transition plans in process of being prepared to implement new framework for Area Management. Work underway with Political Groups to plan implementation as the first stage of an 'influence' model for a range of Council Services in the new municipal year;
- Partnership mapping exercise conducted, new database of partnerships goes live in new municipal year, pilot begins 17th June, database should go live July 2010;
- Review of Outside Bodies underway – linked to partnership mapping exercise and a refresh of the Cabinet Member Portfolios following local elections;
- Overview and Scrutiny Away Day is in the process of being planned, to review the current arrangements and determine how O and S can meet its wider responsibilities relative to partners and to take account of the emerging roles of Area Committees and the Area Partnership model;
- Cabinet Member Portfolios will need to be refreshed in 2010/11 to ensure that they reflect priorities and to provide clarity of links to the new organisational structure.

The new arrangements will need to be monitored and developed over the next 12 months. The review of the Overview and Scrutiny Function, quite appropriately, will take place in the new Municipal Year as the SBP and area management develops. The emerging arrangements for area management will impact on the O and S role as Area Committees will be well placed to performance manage what is being achieved at a local level by area partnerships.

3. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT & INTELLIGENCE

3.1 Performance Management Framework

A new performance management framework has been approved by Council for implementation during the 2010/11 municipal year. The new framework follows extensive

Agenda Item 25g

consultation with Members, council officers and partners; and represents a new approach to managing, improving & reporting performance and risk.

3.2 Core Evidence Update

In October 2009 Mott MacDonald published a report which was commissioned by the Performance & Partnerships team entitled Sefton “State of the Borough Core Evidence Report”.

The report contained primary & secondary data on population, deprivation, crime and disorder, economy employment & worklessness, housing, health & wellbeing, children’s & young people, environment, transportation and cross cutting themes to produce a holistic report.

An officer has been seconded to refresh the Core Evidence Base and report, as several new data sets have been published since the original report was produced. Ongoing work:

- Compilation of a spread sheet of data sets and documents used in 2009 version of the report, along with there next refresh date and refresh frequency.
- Compilation of a list of additional data sets not used in the original document but containing valuable data to help provide an up to date picture of Sefton. Where possible the data is being obtained at Ward / Lower Output area as the original report contained data primarily at a borough level.
- Additional data will be added to the evidence base as well as that from colleagues in partner organisations.
- Analysis of data sets has started to update the report which will focus on the SBP areas of
 - Our People
 - Our Older People having the best quality of life
 - Our Children, families and adults reaching their full potential
 - Our Places
 - Our most deprived neighbourhoods are regenerated
 - All our neighbourhoods are attractive, safe and connected

3.3 Partnership Intelligence / Data Observatory

On 21st May 2010, the partnership intelligence group (“Sefton Understood”) held its sixth meeting. The group identified a number of council workstreams where it will be able to support either immediately or in the near future:

- *New performance management framework* – Sefton Understood will assist in mapping partner contributions and resources to community outcomes, performance indicators and projects/programmes
- The Health Inequalities pilot will involve Year 1 pupils from 3 schools and their parents, guardians and grandparents. The pilot aims to establish how the families go about their daily life, looking at issues such as “What they eat, where they go, what they do, what works well in their community, what could be better and what their hopes for the future are”. As well as identifying what, if any, differences exist between the North and South of the borough.

Kings Meadow Primary in Ainsdale, Lander Rd Primary in Litherland and St Elizabeth’s Primary in Litherland have been selected and agreed to take part in the pilot.

Rev Roger Driver is carrying out a “Walk About” with Cabinet Members in the communities surrounding each school and an observation session will take place within each school.

The pilot will involve six half day creative work shops in each school entitled “Me, My Life & My Community” followed by a celebration event for family members.

The timescales for the pilot are that the workshops will take place between June & September and the findings will be report in November.

3.4 Quarter Four 2009/10 Performance Reporting

Quarter Four monitoring has been completed, including updates against the Corporate Plan, Departmental Service Plans and National Indicators.

Using Sefton’s latest performance, officers will compare our performance with that published regionally and nationally to determine Sefton’s direction of travel.

3.5 Service Planning

Now the Cabinet is in place for 2010/11, Members will take the lead in determining priorities going forward, which will inform the development of the Corporate Plan.

It is anticipated that following this, service plans and new corporate plan will be in place by early June for approval. A fuller approach to service planning is under development for 2011/12, but a lighter touch approach will assist the Council determine its priorities in the light of evidence. Supporting information such as value for money assessments, using the Audit Commission data, will be used to appraise services.

The Sefton Borough Partnership will be undertaking a similar exercise using the core evidence base, JSNA etc, to determine the priorities within the Sustainable Community Strategy. The challenge to partners will be to demonstrate how they are meeting, through planning and delivery, the aspirations within that strategy.

3.6 Value for Money

The Audit Commission developed the value for money (VfM) profile tools to help auditors and assessors carry out assessments.

Sefton and partners can also use the profiles to help them evaluate how well they deliver VfM. The tools use comparative information about an organisation’s performance in managing costs and delivering services and outcomes. The profiles also track performance over time. This helps to assess the impact of improvements and whether performance is moving in the right direction. They can also look more closely at a particular service area if they want more information about costs and performance.

The tool uses the most recent nationally available data. Organisations may also have more recent data of their own which they can use to supplement it. Sefton’s Value for Money Report is available on the Intranet and Partners reports can be accessed via the Performance & Partnerships Team.

Agenda Item 25g

3.7 Other Developments

- The final SPRINT Enhancements version 3.2 has been uploaded Mid May after testing.
- Data Quality - National Indicator responsibilities have been amended to include change of officer responsibilities

4. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The Performance and Partnership Team are currently preparing the next joint report of performance both Council and Partnership which will be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in July (as outlined above). This incorporated LAA performance the Corporate Plan and National Indicators Overview and Scrutiny Management Board requested a one-page summary to be produced which will be updated quarterly.

5. CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Work on the Communications PID is being carried out at a significant pace with a number of separate workstreams focussing on:

- Public Relations / Media Handling and Reputation Management
- Internal Communications
- Brand Identity / Design and Print
- Advertising, Marketing and Sponsorship
- Web Communications
- Social Marketing and Access Channels
- Public Information (agendas, leaflets, plans and strategies)
- Consultation and Engagement
- Event Management

Departments are in the process of identifying spend, which will lead to streamlined activity across the council and a more corporate approach to communications for the authority. This activity will lead to a Communications Strategy which will be produced for approval by members. This approach will reduce expenditure to achieve the £250k saving in the current year, and contribute to the £1M integration/rationalisation saving next year.

All departments are in the process of identifying what they 'must do' in terms of the communications Workstreams. The Communications Board will continue to challenge activity to ensure that what goes forward as a proposal to members is what is deemed necessary and affordable for the Council.

Alongside this activity the day-to-day work of the Corporate Communications team continues. There have been a number of high priority enquiries in the last month mainly centring around safeguarding issues and government spending.

The Corporate Communications team led the media liaison and accreditation of journalists for the borough at all election counts and also ensured the Council's internet site was uploaded with live results as they came in for the local election. Display screens were also set up at all the counts to allow guests to see results as they were uploaded.

Agenda Item 25g

Main success secured by Corporate Communications in recent weeks include Sefton being highlighted on BBC North West Tonight for an aviation event in Formby, good press coverage of the recent Cabinet decision to move ahead with the Southport Cultural Centre and also the setting of the new Council/Cabinet and installation of the Mayor. Good positive press has been secured for the consultation on the Kew housing scheme and the recent activity to raise awareness of Alzheimer's by Health and Social Care.

A lot of work has also been carried out in conjunction with the organisers of the Cycle Tour of Britain to ensure Sefton is presented in the best light when the tour visits Southport in June.

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET MEMBER'S REPORT		
Councillor	Committee	Date
Ian Maher	Cabinet Member Regeneration	10 June 2010

Planning and Economic Regeneration update

Offshore Wind

A significant investment opportunity has arisen with the announcement of Centrica as a license holder for windfarms energy generation in the Irish Sea. The Mersey Partnership, with the full support of the Merseyside local authorities, is preparing a prospectus from public and private sector partners selling the merits of the Port of Liverpool and Liverpool City Region as an onshore construction hub and an inward investment destination. Arup Consultants have been engaged to identify landholdings suitable to turbine assembly and associated supply chains, as land availability is the critical deciding factor. Sites within Sefton feature strongly within the report. A national offshore wind energy conference in the BT Convention Centre in June provides the next opportunity to promote the City Region to the industry.

JESSICA

There is a report elsewhere on this agenda regards JESSICA. The Northwest Urban Investment Fund (NWUIF), launched on 11 December 2009, is a new £100m fund to help support urban development projects in the North West. The fund is a Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas (JESSICA) initiative. The regional arrangements for establishing the Holding Fund, managed by European Investment Bank (EIB), have now been established. This includes a Regional Investment Board, which will oversee the implementation of the Holding Fund and associated investment strategy. The Liverpool City Region representative on the Investment Board is Cllr Phil Davies (Wirral). In response to North West Development Agency's OJEU invitation notice in March 2010 the short listed bidder for Merseyside is a consortium of Igloo Regeneration Ltd, Aviva Investors Global Services, GVA Grimley Ltd, and Royal Bank of Canada Europe Ltd. In response to the above tight deadline, the Consortium has been seeking information from sub-regional local authorities on potential projects. Without prejudice Sefton has provided information relating to sites that could attract funding under this programme.

Comprehensive Area Assessment

Meetings have been taking place with Audit Commission Inspectors to initiate the Comprehensive Area Assessment 2010. Worklessness and responding to the recession had been provisionally identified as issues by the Audit Commission. However, as part of the Government's budget reduction measures, CAA 2010 has been cancelled with immediate effect, and no further work will be undertaken.

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET MEMBER TECHNICAL SERVICES REPORT TO CABINET – 10 JUNE 2010

1. Third Local Transport Plan for Merseyside

Development of the 3rd Local Transport Plan for Merseyside is progressing for submission later this year, and to become operational in April 2011. It will be in two sections, a longer term strategy/policy document with supporting shorter term implementation plans. LTP3 is now the responsibility of the Integrated Transport Authority (formerly the PTA), but the ITA must reflect the views of the Local District Authorities and a wide range of stakeholders and the public.

Consequently, an initial phase of wide consultation on the “Challenges and Opportunities for Future Transport Provision in Merseyside” has been completed and consideration of priorities is underway.

A report on the process and a review of Sefton’s Transport Priorities will be considered over the coming weeks.

2. Pear Tree Junction Improvement

A major junction improvement scheme of the Prescott Road/Bank Lane junction in Melling known locally as the Pear Tree junction, to address long standing road safety issues, will be completed in the coming weeks. The scheme will provide a conventional roundabout slowing traffic on A506 and improve vehicular movements at the junction.

3. Hawthorne Road/Linacre Road Junction, Bootle

A major improvement of this junction is planned to progress in June 2010. This will provide major capacity and pedestrian road safety benefits and is funded through LTP and Section 106 monies.

4. SMBC/Capita Symonds Technical Services Partnership

The Highway Maintenance programme for the financial year 2010/11 was approved by Cabinet Member on the 7th April 2010 and is currently being acted upon as is the revised Grounds Maintenance contract which now incorporates the grass cutting of most of the sites that had become problematic since the Housing Stock Transfer.

Following the impacts of the frost damage due to consecutive years of severe winter weather, the initial addition of £900,000 funding has been further supplemented by £248,400 of ring fenced revenue funding with Section 31 Grant direct from the Department of Transport.

A programme of additional schemes utilising thin asphaltic treatments has been produced with geographic equity in mind.

This programme is currently being reviewed by elected members on a Ward by Ward basis prior to acceptance at Cabinet on 10th June 2010 this programme has been produced rather quickly in order to meet the narrow window of opportunity for such weather sensitive treatments in order to commence applications in late June when the temperatures are at their best.

Agenda Item 25i

The Capita Symonds Architects Group provides a comprehensive service for the delivery of all major capital projects.

The Maghull Leisure Centre (The Meadows) was completed recently; it is now open to the public and operating well. The St Peters House refurbishment contract has also been completed, the building is now fully occupied by Arvato staff and the move of the relocation of the data centre will be concluded this week. These projects were both completed on time and within budget.

Works are progressing on site for a number of projects on behalf of Children's Services, in particular the delivery of the Primary Capital and 14-19 World of Work Diploma programmes. The Litherland High School replacement project is well advanced with works due to complete on programme in the spring of 2011.

Preparation works are underway for the demolition of the now vacant Balliol House. Tenders for this and the refurbishment of Southport Market will be received shortly. The Preferred contractor has been selected for the Netherton Activity Centre Project and they will now work in co-operative partnership to complete the design and agree a target cost for the works to commence in the autumn. The Southport Cultural Centre project has received authority to proceed and works will commence on site during June.

The Capita Symonds Building Maintenance team continue to provide a day-to-day responsive and planned maintenance service. Particular emphasis is currently being placed upon ensuring that the statutory requirements in terms of property related testing and inspections are met.

Capita Symonds will be moving to St Hugh's House as per the contract.

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank