CABINET

MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT ON THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 2011

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

53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Maher reported that Councillor P. Dowd had been delayed in his arrival for the meeting and he took the Chair. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Robertson.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were received:

Member/Officer	Minute No.	Reason	Action
Councillor Moncur	58 - Transformation Programme 2011-2014	Personal - His spouse is employed by Connexions who may be affected by the options set out in the report	Stayed in the room and took part in the consideration of the item
Councillor Shaw	58 - Transformation Programme 2011-2014	Personal - His son is employed by Sefton Library Service who may be affected by the options set out in the report	Stayed in the room and took part in the consideration of the item

Peter Morgan - Strategic Director - People	58 - Transformation Programme 2011-2014	Personal - He is a Director of the Greater Merseyside Connexions Partnership who may be affected by the options set out in the report	Stayed in the room during the consideration of the item
Margaret Carney - Chief Executive	61 - Sefton New Directions Update	Personal - She is a Non- Executive Director of Sefton New Directions	Stayed in the room during the consideration of the item

55. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held on 13 October 2011 be confirmed as a correct record.

56. PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2011

The Cabinet received a presentation by Dr. Janet Atherton, Director of Public Health for NHS Sefton and Sefton Council on the 2011 Public Health Report entitled Solid Foundations: Building for the Future - Sefton's Health 2011".

A copy of the full report had been circulated with the agenda and Dr. Atherton responded to Members' questions and comments in relation to life expectancy across the electoral Wards in the Borough.

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Report of the Director of Public Health be noted.

57. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 49 of the meeting held on 13 October 2011, the Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on the progress made under the Transformation Programme in the delivery of budgetary savings for 2011/12 previously approved by the Council.

This was not a Key Decision but it had been included in the Council's Forward Plan of Key Decisions.

RESOLVED:

That the progress to date on approved savings proposals, reviews and cessation of external funding as set out in the report be noted.

58. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME 2011-2014

Further to Minute No. 50 of the meeting held on 13 October 2011, the Cabinet considered the report of the Chief Executive which provided an update on the progress of the Transformation Programme in the establishment of the 2012/13 budget, reviews of service and consultation processes being undertaken on the budget savings options. The report also set out a package of savings proposals relating to internal consultation options.

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

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the work programme timetable set out in Annex A of the report be noted;
- (2) the Council be requested to note that the Cabinet considers that the first stage of consultation on the change proposals set out in Annex B of the report is complete;
- (3) the Council be recommended to approve the change proposals in Annex B of the report and Officers be authorised to prepare for implementation immediately, pending final decisions of the Council, including the issue of relevant statutory and contractual notifications, if appropriate to achieve change;
- (4) the risks and mitigating actions outlined in Annex B of the report be noted; and
- (5) it be noted that further options may be subsequently developed and submitted to Council for approval. However any such options will require appropriate consultation prior to their approval and implementation.

59. CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATE

This item was withdrawn from the agenda and will be included on the agenda for the Cabinet meeting to be held on 8 December 2011.

60. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2011/12 - HALF-YEARLY UPDATE

The Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT which provided details of the Treasury Management Activities undertaken in the first half of 2011/12 and the recent activity of credit rating agencies. The report also sought approval to an amendment to the credit criteria set out in the Treasury Management Strategy document.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Treasury Management update be noted; and
- (2) the Council be recommended to give approval to the credit criteria for investing with institutions set out in Paragraph 2.8.9 of the Treasury Management Strategy document being revised from "Fitch rating F1 + AA to Fitch rating F1 A-".

61. SEFTON NEW DIRECTIONS UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 41 of the meeting held on 18 August 2011, the Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Legal Services which provided an update on the current operation and future development of Sefton New Directions, as part of the Council's shareholding interest in the company.

RESOLVED:

That the Board of Sefton New Directions be requested to consider and come forward with proposals on the future strategic direction and structure of the company and to provide a progress report to the Cabinet meeting on 8 December 2011, to include any relevant issues for consideration by the shareholder.

62. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That

- (1) under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 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;
- (2) the representatives of the Trade Unions be permitted to remain in the meeting during the consideration of Minute No. 63.

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(Councillor P. Dowd arrived at this point in the meeting and Councillor Maher remained in the Chair)

63. REDUNDANCY PAY SURVEY

Further to Minute No. 33 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) held on 6 September 2011, the Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Personnel in relation to a survey of the redundancy payments in other Councils.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the Director of Corporate Support Services be requested to raise the issue of redundancy pay policy across the region at the next meeting of the North West Employers Organisation Human Resources Committee and report back to Cabinet.

(Councillor Parry arrived at this point in the meeting)

64. MARINE DRIVE, SOUTHPORT

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Built Environment on the tender received as a result of the marketing exercise for the disposal of the Council's leasehold interest in the site at Marine Drive, Southport.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the receipt of planning permission, approval be given to the disposal of the Council's leasehold interest in the site at Marine Drive, Southport, to the tenderer, for the figure detailed in the report, on terms and conditions to be agreed.