

**THE "CALL IN" PERIOD FOR THIS SET OF MINUTES ENDS AT 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2014. MINUTE NO. 31 (1) IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL – IN."**

## **CABINET**

### **MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT ON THURSDAY 9TH OCTOBER, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Peter Dowd (in the Chair)  
Councillors Fairclough, Hardy, Maher, Moncur and  
Tweed

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Welsh

#### **25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cummins.

#### **26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

#### **27. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

##### **Decision Made:**

That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 11 September 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### **28. PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CHARTER FOR SEFTON**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services which provided details of the updated Parish and Town Council Charter for Sefton, which set out a series of principles on how officers within Sefton Council and the Town and Parish Councils would work together. The review and update of the Charter had been done in partnership with relevant officers of Council and representatives of Sefton's Town and Parish Councils and the Sefton Area Partnership of Local Councils.

Mr M. Cole, Chair of the Sefton Area Partnership of Local Councils expressed his thanks for the review of the Charter being undertaken and indicated that all of the Town and Parish Councils supported the content of the revised Charter unanimously.

**Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) the updated Parish and Town Council Charter for Sefton, be endorsed and adopted on behalf of the Council; and
- (2) the Charter be considered a living document and be updated as and when necessary.

**Reason for Decision:**

The existing Charter had been updated to ensure it reflected current circumstances and supported the existing partnership working between Sefton Council and the ten Town and Parish Councils in the Borough.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

None.

**29. COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2015-16**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT which provided details of a revised Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2015/16 which uprated the applicable amounts and personal allowances for non-pensioner claimants and set out other changes following the introduction of Universal Credit.

**Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT be authorised to publish and consult upon the draft revised Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2015/16 and submit a report on the outcome of the consultation to the meeting of the Cabinet on 4 December 2014;
- (2) the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT include the proposal to automate the uprating of allowances in future years in the consultation draft of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme; and
- (3) the Head of Corporate Finance and ICT in consultation with Cabinet Member - Performance and Corporate Services be given delegated authority to make amendments to the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2015/16 as a result of any minor changes in legislation/guidance and that any significant changes in such legislation/guidance and any further recommendations to the Scheme be reported to the to the meeting of the Cabinet on 4 December 2014.

**Reason for Decision:**

Each financial year the Council must consider whether to revise or replace its Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Any revision must be made by 31 January in the preceding financial year to that which it is to take effect.

The local scheme continues to be monitored and evaluated on its objectives and its impact. The scheme has been running from April 2013 and has successfully supported working age and pensioner households. Any decision to revise or replace the scheme would require compliance with statutory provisions in accordance with The Local Government Finance Act 2012 (Chapter 17), Schedule 4.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Not to revise the 2015/16 Council Tax Reduction Scheme in line with Department for Work and Pensions annual uprating for state benefits, applicable amounts and personal allowances. This would mean non-pensioner claimants would see a reduction in the amount of means-tested Council Tax Reduction and will not match the applicable amounts and personal allowances for Housing Benefit and Universal Credit calculation.

**30. THE IMPACT OF WELFARE REFORM IN SEFTON**

Further to Minute No. 14 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Performance and Corporate Services) held on 9 September 2014, the Cabinet considered the report of the Members Reference Group for Welfare Reform which incorporated the joint report of the Members Reference Group for Welfare Reform and the Welfare Reform Partners Group which provided a summary of the impact on people, services, housing and the economy for the first eighteen months of Welfare Reform in Sefton.

**Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) the report of the Members Reference Group and the Welfare Reform Partners Group be received and submitted to the next meeting of the Council for consideration.
- (2) the future priorities of the Members Reference Group and the Welfare Reform Partnership Action Plan in the context of reducing resources as set out in paragraph 1.9 of the report, be noted; and
- (3) the Cabinet wishes to record its deep appreciation to the public sector partners and the Borough's community, voluntary and faith organisations and especially the volunteers, who have worked so tirelessly to support those in need in Sefton.

**Reason for Decision:**

To reflect the priorities identified by the Members Reference Group and the Welfare Reform Partners Group in the context of reducing resources.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

None.

**31. REFRESH OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING STRATEGY, THE SEFTON STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND PUBLICATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Head of Business Intelligence and Performance which provided details of the refreshed versions of the Sefton Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Sefton Strategic Needs Assessment following comments made by the Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2014; and the draft Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report.

**Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) the Council be recommended to approve the revised draft iteration of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
- (2) the content of the report and the context within which the refresh of the Strategy and the Strategic Needs Assessment took place, be noted;
- (3) the process for further refreshing the Strategic Needs Assessment, as described in the report be endorsed, and approval be given to the publication of the full review of the Sefton Strategic Needs Assessment by December 2014; and
- (4) the final version of the Health and Wellbeing Board Annual Report be approved for publication during Autumn 2014 alongside the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

**Reason for Decision:**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is a formal Committee of the Council and has responsibility for publishing a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and a Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the Borough as approved by Cabinet and Council.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

None.

## **32. ADULT SOCIAL CARE CHANGE PROGRAMME**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Older People which provided an update on the Care Act 2014 and Adult Social Care Change Programme and sought approval for planned activity.

### **Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) approval be given to the waiver of Part 3 of the Contract Procedure Rules for the planned changes associated with the introduction of self-assessment as set out in paragraphs 2.3-4 of the report;
- (2) the approach to the pilot of pre-paid cards be noted; and
- (3) the financial and other risks to the Council for 2016/2017 and beyond, be noted.

### **Reason for Decision:**

The Council had significant existing responsibilities for Adult Social Care and invests considerable resources (£92 million per annum) into this service. The Adult Social Care Change Programme's overall aim is to develop a model for Sefton Council's Adult Social Care that is sustainable, modern and flexible, delivering the four strategic priorities as set out in the ASC Strategic plan 2013-20 as approved in November 2013, and the delivery of the changes associated with the Care Act 2014.

The successful implementation of the Care Act 2014 and the achievement of the identifiable benefits for service users, carers and the community are dependent on ensuring that all aspects of the Care Act 2014 are fully funded. There are real concerns locally and nationally about the potential additional funding pressures which the Care Act 2014 implementation will generate (in addition to existing funding pressures in adult social care). The Act must be considered in the context of key financial and demand risk factors already known concerning social care. These are demographic growth, particularly among older people and younger adults with complex disabilities; and increasing complexity of need among adult social care service users.

### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Maintaining the status quo is not an option due to demographic and budgetary pressures and new legislation.

### **33. TENDER FOR PROVISION OF PAY AND DISPLAY MACHINES**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Built Environment on proposals to invite tenders through the appropriate procurement route for the delivery of new Pay and Display Machines and associated management systems

#### **Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) approval be given to the invitation of tenders for the Contract for the provision of new 'pay and display' machines on the basis of a 40% Cost / 60% Quality ratio; and
- (2) the Director of Built Environment be authorised to award the Contract to the highest scoring Tenderer subject to the appropriate Cost and Quality evaluations being completed on tender return.

#### **Reason for Decision:**

The existing pay and display machines are life expired and in need of urgent replacement. Provision has been made within the 2014/15 and 2015/16 Capital programme along with a contribution from "spend to save" for the machines to be replaced.

#### **Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

Alternative means of car parking control had been considered and rejected as they were not cost efficient.

### **34. SEFTON SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY TRIGGER**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services which provided details of the draft Sefton Safer Communities Partnership Community Trigger document which had been produced in accordance with the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 to provide victims and communities with a greater level of authority to be able to effectively 'demand' agencies to respond to and deal with anti-social behaviour issues that are not being addressed appropriately within their local area.

#### **Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) approval in principle be given to the draft Sefton Safer Communities Partnership Community Trigger document for implementation on 20 October 2014; and

- (2) the Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member - Communities and Environment, be authorised to make slight modifications to the document between now and its implementation on 20 October 2014.

**Reason for Decision:**

The Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 received Royal Assent on 13 March 2014 and sets out how the Government intend to reform the tools and powers available to professionals to tackle anti-social behaviour with the aim of providing better protection for vulnerable victims and communities.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

None.

**35. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Cabinet considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services on the proposed appointment of Council representatives to serve on the Outside Bodies referred to in this report.

**Decision Made:**

That:

- (1) the following Members be appointed on to the Outside Bodies listed below for the time period indicated, in place of Councillor Papworth:

Body	New Representative	Appointment Expires
Merseyside Strategic Flood and Coastal Risk Management Partnership	Councillor McKinley  Substitute: Councillor Atkinson	31.5.2017
St. Mary's College, Crosby – Governing Body	Labour Group nomination to be submitted to the Director of Corporate Services	31.5.2016
Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education (SACRE)	Councillor D. Barton	31.5.2015

- (2) Councillor Keith be appointed on to the Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education (SACRE) in place of Councillor Hands and Councillor Maureen Fearn be appointed on to the Sefton Education Business Partnership in place of Councillor Keith; and
- (3) it be noted that the Chief Executive, Margaret Carney had been appointed to the Southport Business Improvement District as a Director of the Board for a period of 5 years and the Head of Economy and Tourism, Mark Long had been appointed as a Board Member to the Liverpool and Sefton Chamber of Commerce for a period of 3 years. These appointments are not personal appointments and are by virtue of the position that the staff member holds in the Council.

**Reason for Decision:**

The Cabinet has delegated powers set out in Chapter 5, Paragraph 41 of the Council Constitution to appoint the Council's representatives on Outside Bodies.

**Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:**

None.