

## **Cabinet**

**30 July 2018**

**Present:** Mrs N Redfearn (Elected Mayor) (in the Chair)  
Councillors G Bell, C Burdis, S Cox, S Day, R Glindon,  
M Hall, C Johnson and C B Pickard

**In Attendance:** Alma Caldwell (Age UK)  
D Bavaird (Business Sector)  
A Paridis (North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group)  
D McTiernan (Deputy Young Mayor)  
D Robinson (Voluntary and Community Sector  
Representative)

### **CAB19/07/18 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor P Earley, P Arnold (Young Mayor) and R Layton (North Tyneside Joint Trade Union Committee).

### **CAB20/07/18 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations reported.

### **CAB21/07/18 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### **CAB22/07/18 Report of the Deputy Young Mayor**

The Deputy Young Mayor, Daniel McTiernan, on behalf of the Young Mayor, reported on the following activities in which he, the Young Mayor and Young Cabinet Members and/or Youth Councillors had been involved:

- Attended the official opening of the Spanish City Dome.
- The Music festival Soundfest at Segedunum - the winners of the competition 'The Bolsheviks' had performed on the main stage at the Mouth of the Tyne Festival.
- Representatives from other North East Youth Councils and the Youth Parliament had attended the Youth Council meeting in July to share what they doing and they planned to visit other local authorities in the future.
- Anti-bullying working group launch of a creative writing and poetry competition with a positive response from schools and support from Libraries with offers to display the best of the writings and donations of book prizes for the winners.
- North Tyneside had hosted the Young People's Tyne and Wear Nexus Transport Forum with young people from the North East region to discuss public transport with Nexus including promotion of information on transport websites, safety on public transport and people's awareness for reporting incidents, with a further

meeting planned and a workshop at the North East British Youth Council Convention in October to explore the issues further.

- Attended the Wallsend primary schools swimming gala at Hadrian Leisure Centre and awards presentation.
- Visited primary schools that had entered the North Tyneside in Bloom competition with presentation of awards taking place later in the year.
- Attended Nottingham University for the UK Youth Parliament annual Conference, along with Newcastle and Northumberland Members of the Youth Parliament with a focus in coming month on the Make Your Mark ballots and ensuring all students in the borough had a say in issues that were important to them.
- Took part in recording a short film for SAFE week.
- The Children in Care Council had attended a residential weekend with other young people from the region during which they had spent time planning the regional conference.

The Young People's Health and Wellbeing group were planning a Mind Your Head social media campaign to raise awareness about mental health.

The Deputy Young Mayor also made reference to the Children and Young People's Participation, Advocacy and Engagement 2017-18 Annual Report which was available on request.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Young Mayor for his update and was commended on the work he and the Young Cabinet were doing.

### **CAB23/07/18 Business European Regional Development Fund Extension (All Wards)**

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the receipt of European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding totalling £0.825 million to deliver the business support programme between April 2019 and December 2021, once it had been approved by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), anticipated in Autumn 2018.

The Authority had delivered an ERDF funded enterprise support programme since 2009 and during this time, the self-employment rate in North Tyneside had risen from 4.3% of the population to 9.6% of the population and the number of business had increased from 3,790 to 5,060. The Authority had also been awarded the Enterprising Britain Award in November 2017 from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) for the best enterprise support programme in Great Britain.

The proposed programme would be delivered between 1 April 2019 and 31 December 2021 offering a comprehensive package of support to start-up and growing businesses, which included pre-start support, social enterprises, business planning, innovation and specialist consultancy.

The Authority would carry out a significant procurement exercise in order to deliver the pre-start up and business growth service.

The Elected Mayor congratulated the team who were involved in the funding exercise.

Cabinet considered the following options: to approve the recommendations set as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report to accept the offer of ERDF funding (once approved) and delegate authority to deliver the project as set out in the report; alternatively, to not accept offer of grant funding (if approved) and for the Authority to continue to invest in a reduced business start-up service without external funding.

**Resolved** that (1) the Head of Finance be authorised to accept the offer of the grant of £0.825 million European Regional Development Fund f u n d i n g (subject to formal approval of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government); (2) the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor, Head of Finance and Head of Law and Governance, be authorised to:

- i. take all necessary steps to complete the grant funding agreement pursuant to the above;
- ii. undertake a procurement exercise for a contractor(s) to deliver pre-start up and business growth services; and
- iii. award contracts to the successful bidders, for the works set out in the report, who present the most economically advantageous tender to the Authority.

(Reasons for recommended option: Accepting the ERDF grant offer (if approved) would provide the resources needed to deliver a comprehensive business start-up programme. Significant progress has been made since the commencement of the project in 2009 to close the gaps in business start-ups between the borough of North Tyneside and the national average, but there is still some way to go.

The North East traditionally falls behind the rest of the UK in business creation rates and the project has already proven its value in closing the gap and creating record breaking numbers of new businesses and job opportunities, achieving national recognition from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (Enterprise and Skills Strategy competition).

### **CAB24/07/18 Partners in Practice (All Wards)**

Cabinet received a report detailing the positive developments of the Partners in Practice programme, and also sought authorisation to accept the funding from the Department for Education (DfE).

The Partners in Practice (PiP) programme was a national initiative developed and funded by the Department for Education. The programme aimed to increase joint working between central and local government, by working with the best performing local authorities in relation to children's social care, to improve the overall system.

The Authority in partnership with South Tyneside Council had successfully secured PiP status. and funding in March 2018. Acting as the Tyneside Alliance, the two Authorities would jointly deliver sector-led improvement activity to local authorities across the country that had been identified as, or had identified themselves as, requiring improvement to their children's services. Both authorities had received funding for two years from the DfE in order to deliver this work.

In addition, both authorities had been funded to invest in innovative new projects within their own organisations. In North Tyneside, this funding would support the development and implementation of a new Keeping Families Connected service.

The Sector Led Improvement support was committed to delivering improvement activity with up to ten local authorities over a period of two years. The improvement work would be a mixture of onsite and offsite activity, including review and analysis, collaborative improvement work, monitoring and evaluation. Funding across both authorities for the Sector Led Improvement work was £1,600,000 over two years: £860,000 in 2018/19 and £740,000 in 2019/20. Expenditure of the grant would cover:

- i. Funding to enable the Authority and South Tyneside Council respectively to resource sufficient capacity within their own organisation, enabling senior managers and practitioners to work with host authorities to help them improve.
- ii. Funding for 'Improvement Associates' – a pool of highly skilled and experienced sector experts that would work with the Tyneside Alliance to deliver improvement work.
- iii. Funding for a core team that would support the mobilisation and delivery of the programme through all phases.
- iv. Funding for travel, accommodation, supplies and services associated with delivery of work with individual authorities as well as hosting regional and national events to share best practice.

The Keeping Families Connected project would create a new, integrated service to support children to live safely at home. A new multi-professional model that integrated edge of care services with support for children in care would be designed and implemented.

The primary objective was to maximise the number of children and young people supported to remain at home, by having effective edge of care provision that reduced the number of Looked After Children and effectively enables those children that were looked after to return home safely.

The Authority had been awarded £1,086,760 over a period of two years; £538,380 in 2018/19 and £548,380 in 2019/20.

This funding would cover all costs of the project, with no additional expenditure incurred directly by the Authority to deliver the project during 2018/19 and 2019/20. A key element of the service design and project delivery was establishing an effective mechanism to monitor and track the outcomes of the children that the service works with. This would identify whether the project was delivering the desired quality and financial benefits and would, in turn, inform the business case for investment in the continuation of the model.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to accept the funding allocated from the DfE to deliver and resource the PiP sector-led improvement and innovation project in partnership with South Tyneside Council, or not accept the

funding allocated from the DfE to deliver and resource the PiP sector-led improvement and innovation project.

Members acknowledged that achieving the PiP status was further recognition that the Authority delivered high quality services for children and young people.

**Resolved** that (1) the Partners in Practice status awarded to the Authority, in partnership with South Tyneside Council be noted, and the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding, Director of Children's and Adult Services, in consultation with the Head of Finance, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, and the Head of Law and Governance, be authorised to:

- i. accept the funding from the Department for Education (DfE) from the joint allocation for Sector Led Improvement, in accordance with the level of activity undertaken and resource committed by the Authority, as set out in section 1.5.2 of the report, over the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years;
- ii. accept £1,086.760 funding, as set out in section 1.5.3 of the report, from the DfE over the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years; and
- iii. use the funding to resource the projects, as set out in sections 1.5.2 and 1.5.3 of the report over the 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial years, in line with the agreed financial plan for the Authority..

(Reasons for recommended option: the funding would enable the Authority, in partnership with South Tyneside Council, to meet its obligations to deliver sector-led improvement activity and to invest in a new, innovative "keeping families connected" service, which will help deliver the Elected Mayor and Cabinet's priorities for Our People and improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.

If the preferred option is not approved, the Authority would be unable to meet its obligations under the Partners in Practice programme).

### **CAB25/07/18 The Findings of the Ofsted Focused Visit (All Wards)**

Cabinet received a report detailing the findings of the Ofsted Focused Visit on 9 and 10 May 2018 of the Authority's arrangements for the receipt, response and assessment of referrals of safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people.

Ofsted had published their findings by way of a Letter to the Director of Children's Services on 4 June 2018. This letter had been made publically available by Ofsted.

Ofsted's findings were detailed in the Letter that had been circulated to Members; however the following strengths were highlighted in the report:

- Strong corporate leadership and ambition to improve services for children and their families;
- That Senior Leaders know the service well;
- Evidence and sound social work practice in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Social Work Assessment Teams;
- A strong commitment to safeguarding from a wide range of partner agencies;

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- Staff that value the leadership, support, supervision and training that is provided for them.

Three formal recommendations resulting from the Focused Visit had been as follows:

- Ensure that the key issues and rationale for decisions arising from designated officer meetings are clear, that support for the alleged perpetrator is identified and that actions have clear timescales for completion.
- Fine tuning of the new electronic system is required to introduce consistency of practice across the service. This includes improvement to the way that social workers are using contingency planning to be clear and meaningful to families.
- Ensure that manager guidance with clear timescales is provided at the outset of an assessment.

An Improvement Plan had been developed to address the recommendations made by Ofsted, which would be overseen by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning and the Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding.

The Elected Mayor congratulated officers and thanked them for their hard work in delivering the service.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to accept the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report, or not to accept the recommendations and provides an alternative response to the findings by Ofsted and the performance of North Tyneside in comparison with other local authorities both regionally and nationally.

**Resolved** that (1) the positive findings of the Ofsted Focused Visit, in particular that the Front Door arrangements effectively respond to safeguarding concerns in relation to children and young people, be noted;  
(2) the finding that there is a strong corporate leadership and ambition to improve services for children and their families, be noted; and  
(3) the plans to deal with the areas for development identified by Ofsted and the commitment by the Authority to address these, and to continue to improve and develop services for children and young people, parents and carers, be agreed.

(Reason for decision: the recommendations supported an acknowledgement by Cabinet of the positive findings by Ofsted and the performance of North Tyneside in comparison with other local authorities both regionally and nationally).

### **CAB26/07/18 Education for North Tyneside (All Wards)**

Before introducing the report the Deputy Mayor, on behalf of the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, acknowledged the contribution to the portfolio and leadership shown by his predecessor, former Councillor Ian Grayson.

Cabinet received a report on the progress of the recommendations of the Education for North Tyneside Review and the improved position between 2014 and 2018.

This report considered progress against the recommendations of that review, the current position of education for North Tyneside and asked Cabinet to consider the issues and the proposed approach in the context of national changes and local challenges. It paid particular attention to the need to continue to manage the impact of surplus places at secondary level and the consequence financial challenge for the Dedicated Schools Grant; and the approach to the North of Tyne Devolution Deal Education Challenge.

Cabinet was assured that the absolute focus of everyone involved was what mattered most to children, young people, their families and carers as detailed in section 1.5.4 of the report. The current system was one to be proud of, performance was strong, external inspection said the Authority kept children safe and most families got a much better choice of schools than elsewhere.

The report provided detailed progress on the work that had been overseen by Cabinet since 2013 as set out in Section 1.5.5 of the report. Appendix 1 contained the original rich picture (based on April 2014) presented to Cabinet as part of the review and an updated version (based on June 2018), drawing out some of the changes.

Four major projects had been delivered to improve the education estate at Whitehouse Primary School, Longbenton Community High School, John Spence Community High School, and Marden High School.

In total, over 2500 North Tyneside students had moved into four new school buildings between April and October 2016. The last year had seen work with each school and the EFA to resolve snagging and finishing touches to the externals of each site.

Two more projects were in progress: i) Backworth Park Primary School, a £4.9 million new build project due to be handed over for occupation in September this year; and ii) Cullercoats Primary School, a c. £5.5 million extensive refurbishment on site now and due to complete in February 2020.

Work had continued on the development and delivery of Ready for School Services; a very similar approach had been taken with Ready for Work and Life as set out in section 1.5.9 of the report.

A summary of the issues for North Tyneside implied by the current position and some national context which informed the Authority's work was set out in section 1.5.15 of the report. The report also outlined how the Authority had worked with head teachers and governing bodies to agree and plan that work.

In terms of the next set of priorities, the proposed approach was to focus on areas that made the most difference for children and young people and were therefore a priority for head teachers and their teams, governing bodies and the Authority; but also represented those areas where the Authority had most influence on the system; i.e. finance, school improvement, alternative provision and additional needs plus a model for a high performing local authority in the emerging landscape. Working with head teachers, the specific work had been described as:

- Financial review and analysis

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- Planning and modelling
- Tools for schools
- Keeping children and young people in school; and
- Closing the gap in attainment between the most and least deprived children and young people.

These were being managed as individual workstreams with direct head teacher involvement. Progress was regularly reported to head teacher briefings. The work being done to progress the priorities was set out in the report.

As part of the “Minded To” Devolution Deal a work stream had been created to develop a north of Tyne Education Challenge, which was being led by North Tyneside. Learning from the London and Manchester Challenge, this was a programme of co-operative working across North Tyneside, Newcastle and Northumberland with the expectation that further powers and delegated funding would be available.

It was noted that there was a strong overlap with the issues and priorities identified for North Tyneside. The 5 priority areas that had been agreed were:

- Ready for school
- Educational achievement for all
- Closing the gap
- Career pathways; and
- Leadership recruitment and retention.

At this stage, Cabinet was asked to support the priorities and receive further reports as required.

The Deputy Mayor paid tribute to all involved in working to provide the best possible education for North Tyneside.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: to either to approve the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report, or alternatively, to not approve the recommendations.

**Resolved** that (1) progress on the recommendations of the Education Review be noted;  
(2) the improved position between April 2014 and June 2018 be noted;  
(3) the continued financial challenges faced by schools and the joint work to deal with those challenges be noted;  
(4) the next set of priorities which will be important to the Authority and schools be agreed;  
(5) the approach being taken to work with schools be agreed;  
(6) the support for the work of the North of Tyne Education Challenge be agreed; and  
(7) further reports be received as required.

(Reason for decision: It reflects the recommendations agreed by Cabinet as part of the Education Review and the work done with the Elected Mayor, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Learning, Head Teachers and Chairs of Governing Bodies.

## **CAB27/07/18 Tackling Deprivation in North Tyneside (Chirton, Riverside, Howdon and Wallsend Wards)**

Cabinet received a report on the approach to tackling deprivation in North Tyneside beginning with a pilot in Chirton and Riverside Wards and sought approval to a revised set of policy priorities and actions to steer the next phase of this effort.

The report to Cabinet on 14 December 2015 had explained the policy context for focussing on deprivation and for taking a different approach. It had described the process led by the Deputy Mayor and the Deputy Chief Executive to arrive at a set of guiding priorities and an associated Action Plan. Those priorities were:

- Secondary Education was not good enough at Norham High School
- Too many people were out of work
- Environmental concerns focused on housing; and
- As a consequence of the education, employment and housing issues, health was not good enough.

Following Cabinet's agreement to the approach officers from the Authority had led a partnership of community and voluntary organisations, statutory partners and other partnerships linked to the priorities. That partnership had met regularly over the last two years to develop relationships, work together and to report progress. Over the summer and autumn of 2017 the work done to date had been evaluated to support the regular monitoring by Cabinet of the Our North Tyneside Plan.

Over a two-year period, significant action had been taken against each priority, as detailed in the report.

The headlines from the evaluation covering Education, Employment, Housing and the Environment, and Health, were detailed in section 1.5.9 of the report. In addition to the performance data, partners in the pilot had a consistently positive view of the work done together. A summary of the outcomes for each of those priorities as evaluated by the partnership who had delivered the work, including leadership at Norham High School, community and voluntary sector organisations and statutory partners working in the wards was summarised in section 1.5.7 of the report.

Over the last few months the evaluation had been considered by the Deputy Mayor and the officer team with support from Cabinet Members. Given the evidence and support from Ward Councillors and partners, the recommendation was that Cabinet agree to continue and expand the work: Specifically, to Howdon and Wallsend Wards which included the areas of most concentrated deprivation after Chirton and Riverside Wards. However, within the broad headlines of education, employment, housing and health analysis of the data suggested a sharpening of those priorities was required. Recent resident surveys, performance data, national policy changes and the refresh of the Our North Tyneside Plan meant that greater focus could be applied beneath those broader issues.

Before suggesting the policy priorities for the next phase of this work, since starting in 2015, there had been three important pieces of work which set a national context. Together, all three made it clear that poverty and deprivation had a cost; that

deprivation in the North East and North Tyneside put a significant break on social mobility; and that, while education had been strong in North Tyneside, there was still a gap in attainment for young people from deprived homes.

Having worked with the Officers to look at the evaluation, the lessons learned and the most recent data, the Deputy Mayor recommended to Cabinet the next phase of work focuses on the following priorities:

- For education, children and young people; accessing child care for the most deprived families and closing the gap in attainment.
- For employment; how to improve the employment and skills of people and families who were in poverty yet in work.
- For housing and the environment; improving the quality of privately rented housing and fostering a sense of place.
- For health; continue to encourage healthy lifestyles among young people supporting positive physical and mental health, find ways to tackle loneliness and isolation among older residents (particularly those who were out of work, had a disability or poor health or were older) and help those over 50 to make the best choices to secure a healthy older age.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: to agree the recommendations as set out in section 1.2 of the report; alternatively, to ask for more work to be done to evaluate the pilot and shape the priorities.

**Resolved** that (1) it be agreed that the evaluation of the pilot supports a decision to continue and expand the work to tackle deprivation in the borough;  
(2) the policy priorities for the next phase of work outlined at paragraph 1.5.16 of the report be agreed; and  
(3) the specific action summarised at paragraph 1.5.5 of the report be agreed.

(Reason for decision: a full evaluation of the pilot has been completed and those findings have shaped the proposal. Examination of a range of data local engagement and the stated policy priorities of the Mayor and Cabinet have shaped the proposed priorities for the next phase of this work.)

### **CAB28/07/18 2018/19 Financial Management Report to 31 May 2018 (All Wards)**

Cabinet considered the first monitoring report outlining the 2018/19 financial position. It provided an early indication of the potential revenue and capital financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2019.

The report covered the forecast outturn of the Authority's General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue budget including management mitigations where issues had been identified; the delivery of 2018/19 approved budget savings plans; an update on the Capital Investment Plan including details of variations and reprogramming that were recommended for approval.

The forecast overall pressure for the General Fund Revenue Account was estimated at £5.593 million against an approved net budget of £154.742 million. This was driven mainly by continued pressure in Children's Services of £3.915 million and Adult

Services of £3.206 million, partly mitigated by the contingency balances that had been created as part of the 2018/19 Budget setting process and were held centrally to reflect the on-going pressures in social care being felt locally and nationally.

Included in this projection was £3.644 million of pressures in Corporate Parenting and Placements and £2.523 million in Wellbeing and Assessment and £1.483 million in Disability and Mental Health. The drivers for these pressures continued from 2017/18, as outlined in the report.

Service areas had held sessions over the course of May and June 2018 in order to develop further actions to mitigate identified financial pressures. It was anticipated that the out-turn forecast would improve over the course of the financial year as planned remedial actions began to impact on both expenditure and income.

The HRA was forecast to have year-end balances at 31 March 2019 of £4.407 million, which was £1.737 million higher than budget which was set at £2.670 million. The higher than forecast balances were mainly as a result of higher opening balances due to the impact of the previous year's financial performance (£1.443) million but there was also an in-year estimated underspend of £0.294 million, against an in-year budget of £1.970 million, due to additional pressure on income of £0.339 million offset, in the main, by additional HRA management costs of £0.043 million.

Universal Credit had been fully implemented across North Tyneside on 2 May 2018. As of May 2018, 208 North Tyneside Homes tenants had moved on to Universal Credit and a team was working proactively with tenants to minimise arrears. This position would be closely monitored as the year progressed to identify any adverse impacts on the budget position.

The Annex to the report included an update in respect of work in progress with regard to school funding. 10 schools were requesting deficit approval for 2018/19 (10 in 2017/18).

The 2018-2021 Investment Plan, as adjusted for proposed reprogramming, totalled £174.256m (£78.285m 2018/19) and was detailed in Appendix 1. The Annex to the report also set out the delivery progress to date, planned delivery for 2018/19, reprogramming and other variations identified through the Investment Programme Governance process.

The report outlined the revenue grants which had been received during April and May 2018.

The report also outlined progress against the 2018-2020 Our North Tyneside Plan (Council Plan) which set out the overall vision and policy context within which the Financial Plan and Budget were set.

The Authority had plans in place to deliver all elements of the Council Plan and performance against these plans was carefully monitored. The area under most financial pressure was Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding.

In Adult Social Care, the focus remained on providing support which allowed people to

live independent lives by providing preventative services and keeping people living at home for as long as possible. There was an increase in short term placements to residential care and Reablement in-house provision as a result of a lack of capacity in the local domiciliary care market and this was driving some of the cost pressure within Adult Social Care.

In Children's Services, good progress continued to be made on engaging with children in the early years of life to ensure that they were ready for school. Safeguarding vulnerable children and maximising their educational attainment remained key priorities. The recently published Ofsted report following the review of Children's services put the service as joint 8<sup>th</sup> nationwide of the 136 authorities inspected under the new regime with a "good" rating overall and recognition of an excellent focus on seeking the views of children to shape services.

The levels of looked after children (LAC) and children who required supervision after leaving care continued to generate a significant financial pressure. In year data suggested that LAC levels, whilst fluctuating, were on average, remaining constant as indicated in the report but there were a wide range of levels of care provided, with more complex cases now being faced. Current demand continued to drive financial pressure in 2018/19. The new model for children had been designed in part to address the financial pressures and more details were set out in the Annex to the report.

In terms of the impact of empty homes on the financial picture to date, rates were below 2017/18 levels overall so far this year and this continued the trend over the last couple of years for empty home rates following the completion of the North Tyneside Living Schemes. Numbers of empty homes continued to reduce both in sheltered and General Needs stock.

An officer led review of the Investment plan had resulted in proposals for reprogramming of £20.349 million and variations of £5.736 million more details of which were set out in the Annex to the report. The revised Investment plan stood at £78.285 million for 2018/19 and to the end of May 2018 spend of £4.246 million had been incurred which represented 5.4% of the revised plan. This was the highest percentage and the second highest actual spend reported in May Budget Monitoring reports for the last 5 years and reflected an improvement in delivery against the phased plan.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in Section 1.2 of the report, or alternatively to disagree with the proposals.

The Elected Mayor thanked the officers for the report and for their efforts in helping to achieve savings of some £120 million since 2011. She referred to the move to alternate weekly waste collections which would commence in August 2018 and, in response to residents' requests, requested that the feasibility of expanding the garden waste collection service to those properties that were not included in the current scheme be investigated and implemented if it could be achieved within existing budgets.

**Resolved** that (1) the forecast budget monitoring position for the General Fund, Schools' Finances and Housing Revenue Account as at 31 May 2018, as set out in the Annex to the report, be noted;

(2) the receipt of £0.010 million new revenue grants be approved;

(3) the Authority's Investment Plan spend of £4.246 million to 31 May 2018 and the financing of the Plan to the end of the year, as set out in the Annex to the report, be noted;

(4) the variations of £5.736 million and reprogramming of £20.349 million for 2018-19 within the 2018 - 2021 Investment Plan, as set out in the Annex to the report, be approved; and

(5) the Head of Environment, Housing and Leisure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, the Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport and the Deputy Mayor, explore the possible expansion of the garden waste collection service as outlined above and implement such a scheme if it can be contained within existing resources.

(Reason for decision - it is important that Cabinet continued to monitor performance against the Budget, especially given the current level of financial pressures faced by the public sector. The potential expansion of the garden waste collection service is in response to residents' requests)

#### **CAB29/07/18 Exclusion Resolution**

**Resolved** that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and having applied a public interest test as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item 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.

#### **CAB30/07/18 Land Adjacent to the A187, Howdon (Howdon Ward)**

Cabinet received a report which sought approval on a proposal for the Authority to enter into a private treaty sale to Nexus in respect of 4.7 hectares of land that was owned by the Authority and situated adjacent to the A187 in Howdon.

This land had previously been identified as the site of a new build depot proposal to meet the Authority's service needs. However, Cabinet had subsequently authorised the retention of the Killingworth Site as the main location for its future depot operations.

The Authority had since received interest in the land from Nexus as a potential site for a new satellite rail depot, the detail of which was given in Section 1.5 of the report.

Following the decision made by Cabinet in respect of the Authority's future depot operations, the Authority no longer had an immediate use for the land.

Cabinet considered following decision options: i) to agree to declare the land surplus to the Authority's requirements and to make it available for sale by private treaty to Nexus; alternatively ii) not to agree to declare the land surplus to requirements and retain it within the ownership of the Authority.

**Resolved** that (1) the land adjacent to the A187, Howdon, as shown by the dark outline on the plan attached as an Appendix to the report, be declared surplus to the Authority's requirements and be made available for sale by private treaty to Nexus; (2) the basis of the offer from Nexus for the Land as detailed in Section 1.5 of the report, be agreed; (3) the Head of Commissioning and Investment be authorised to agree the final detailed terms of the freehold transfer of the land to Nexus together with the full financial implications, in consultation with the Chief Executive, the Head of Law and Governance, the Head of Finance (as Section 151 Officer) and the Elected Mayor; (4) the Head of Law and Governance be authorised to complete the freehold transfer of the land in accordance with all relevant legal requirements, the Authority's Constitution and Financial Regulations; and (5) the Head of Commissioning and Investment be authorised to deal with all ancillary matters arising that are consistent with the preceding resolutions.

(Reason for decision – option i) is considered to be the best way in which to achieve an acceptable form of development on the land together with a capital receipt.)

### **CAB31/07/18 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday 10 September 2018 at 6.00pm.

### **Minutes published on Thursday 2 August 2018.**

**The decisions contained within these Minutes may be implemented (unless called in by 3 Non-Executive Members for consideration by the Overview, Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee) immediately following the expiry of the call-in period; i.e. 5.00pm on Thursday 9 August 2018.**