

DECISIONS OF CABINET

21 October 2009

ITEM		RECOMMENDATION(S)	DECISION
1.	Medium Term Financial Strategy 2010/11 to 2014/15	<p>(a) To approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2010/11 to 2014/15.</p> <p>(b) That the report be referred to the Transformation and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment.</p>	<p>(a) That the Medium Financial Strategy for 2010/11 to 2014/15 be approved subject to an amendment to the key assumptions to include energy use costs.</p> <p>(b) As per recommendation</p>
2.	Half Yearly Monitoring Report on the Corporate Plan 2009/10 to 2011/12	<p>(a) To receive the progress report in respect of the Corporate Plan 2009/10.</p> <p>(b) To constructively challenge progress against the plan, exploring reasons behind delays and offering solutions and support to the delivery of the plan.</p>	<p>(a) As per recommendation.</p> <p>(b) That the thanks of the Cabinet be extended to the Head of Corporate Policy and Performance and her team for their contribution to the Council's improvement over the past three years.</p>
3.	Revenues and Benefits IT System Software	<p>(a) That the information contained in the report be noted.</p> <p>(b) That Cabinet endorse the co-operation with the named Councils in identifying a replacement revenues and benefits system.</p> <p>(c) That approval be given to proceed with requests to tender for a replacement revenues and benefits system from the companies identified in the pre qualification questionnaire.</p>	<p>As per recommendations.</p>
4.	Customer Contact Review	That the report be noted.	That the report be noted and referred to the Transformation and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment.

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5.	Customer Services Fees and Charges	<p>(a) That the Customer Services fees and charges be approved for incorporation into the Scales of Fees and Charges to be approved by Cabinet in early 2010</p> <p>(b) That this is followed up by a multi channel marketing campaign to generate further interest in the hire of these rooms.</p>	<p>As per recommendations.</p>
6.	Kidsgrove Customer Services Centre Progress Report	That progress on the project be noted.	As per recommendation.
7.	Locality Working	That the report be received and forwarded to the Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	As per recommendation.
8.	Appointment of Councillors to External Organisations and Partnerships 2009-10	<p>(a) That the views and proposed activity of the Transformation and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted.</p> <p>(b) That Cabinet appoint representatives to serve on the external organisations and partnerships referred to in the appended schedule.</p>	<p>(a) That the views and proposed activity of the Transformation and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee be noted and in particular that they shall undertake a review of the process of appointing councillor representatives to external organisations and Partnerships and the list of such bodies to be completed before the end of the Municipal year.</p> <p>(b) That Cabinet endorse the action of the Leader of the Council in appointing representatives to serve on the external organisations and partnerships referred to in the Schedule.</p>
9.	Homelessness, Housing Advice and Housing Register Contract Review	To acknowledge and approve the Contract Review report and the 'Service Improvement Plan' targets for the forthcoming year of the Homelessness, Housing Advice and Housing Register Contract with Aspire Housing.	As per recommendation.

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10.	Amendments to the Rent in Advance Homelessness Prevention Scheme	<p>(a) That the principle of recharging recipients of the rent in advance scheme be adopted.</p> <p>(b) That the officers be authorised to establish the relevant mechanisms to run the revised scheme for a 6 month pilot.</p>	As per recommendations.
11.	Report on the Empty Homes Match Funding Grant	<p>(a) That progress on tackling the number of empty homes within the Borough be noted.</p> <p>(b) That the Empty Homes Match Funded Repair Assistance Grant be added to the Housing Renewal Assistance Policy.</p>	As per recommendations.
12.	Group Repair Scheme 2009/10	<p>(a) That Members approve Church Street, Silverdale and Congleton Road, Butt Lane as locations for the next scheme.</p> <p>(b) That Members authorise the procurement necessary to operate the scheme.</p> <p>(c) That Members approve the revision of the Private Sector Renewal Assistance Policy so that property owners in Butt Lane (outside Renew) can benefit from the same conditions as those in Silverdale (within Renew).</p>	As per recommendations.
13.	Delivery of Affordable Housing With Aspire Housing		See item 18.
14.	Newcastle Town Centre – Investment Proposals		Defer to future meeting.
15.	Proposed Leisure Health and Wellbeing Centre		See item 17

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16.	Application to Exhume	<p><u>Decision Required</u></p> <p>That a decision be taken to grant or refuse lawful access to the cemetery having considered the merits of the application.</p>	<p>That having carefully considered all the representations made the application for lawful access to the cemetery be refused on the grounds that the arguments in favour of exhumation were not sufficient to overturn the arguments against. It was considered that the status quo should be maintained unless there are good reasons against that. Each case should be dealt with on its own merits and in this case the reasons supporting the disturbance of the remains (set out in the report and appendices to the report) were not sufficient when set against the reasons for refusal (also set out in the report and appendices).</p>
	SUPPLEMENTARY		
17.	Proposed Health and Wellbeing Centre	<p>(a) That the progress in the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Centre is noted.</p> <p>(b) That Officers proceed with the appointments and contracts of the identified specialist advisors and prepare/undertake appropriate stakeholder consultation.</p> <p>(c) To award contracts for Architectural and Design Services, Mechanical and Electrical Consultants' and Structural Engineers relating to this project.</p> <p>(d) To waive the Councils Standing orders and Financial Regulations as per section 2a(i) and 2b(viii) to procure additional planning services to support and drive forward the planning application for the Health and Wellbeing centre.</p>	<p>(a) & (b) As per recommendations.</p> <p>(c) That contracts be awarded for Architectural and Design Services, Mechanical and Electrical Consultants, Structural Engineers and Project Management relating to this project.</p> <p>(d) As per recommendation.</p>
18.	Delivery of Affordable Housing With Aspire Housing	<p>(a) That Members agree with the principle of the Council purchasing an equity share in affordable housing.</p>	<p>(a) That the principle of the Council purchasing an equity share in affordable housing be agreed.</p>

ITEM	RECOMMENDATION(S)	DECISION
	<p>(b) To approve the re-allocation of funding in the Housing Capital Programme from Ecohomes to affordable housing so that this scheme can be supported.</p>	<p>(b) That the reallocation of funding in the Housing Capital Programme from Echomes to affordable housing be approved in order to support the scheme.</p> <p>(c) That the officers, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, progress this matter.</p>

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ITEM	RECOMMENDATION(S)	DECISION
1.	Employees Consultative Committee	
2.	That the minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2009 be approved.	As per recommendation.
3.	Kidsgrove Customer Services Centre Contract Award	As per recommendation.
3.	Application to Purchase Land Off Wildgoose Avenue, Newchapel (770/09)	That notwithstanding the objections received, the land off Wildgoose Avenue, Newchapel be released.
	<u>Decision Required</u>	
4.	In light of the objection received, do you still wish to allow sale to proceed?	