

DECISIONS OF CABINET

13 January 2010

ITEM	RECOMMENDATION(S)	DECISION																						
1.	<p>Calculation of the Council Tax Base 2010/11</p> <p>That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amounts calculated as the Council Tax Base for 2010/11 shall be as follows:-</p> <p><u>Band D equivalent properties</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Newcastle Borough Council</td> <td align="right">38,448</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kidsgrove Town Council</td> <td align="right">7,179</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Audley</td> <td align="right">2,651</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loggerheads</td> <td align="right">1,944</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balterley, Betley and Wrinehill</td> <td align="right">583</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chapel and Hill Chorlton</td> <td align="right">197</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Keele</td> <td align="right">337</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Madeley</td> <td align="right">1,510</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maer</td> <td align="right">249</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Silverdale</td> <td align="right">1,389</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whitmore</td> <td align="right">797</td> </tr> </table>	Newcastle Borough Council	38,448	Kidsgrove Town Council	7,179	Audley	2,651	Loggerheads	1,944	Balterley, Betley and Wrinehill	583	Chapel and Hill Chorlton	197	Keele	337	Madeley	1,510	Maer	249	Silverdale	1,389	Whitmore	797	<p>As per recommendation.</p>
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2.	<p>Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief</p> <p>That in accordance with Section 47 of The Local Government Finance Act 1988, discretionary rate relief be granted in respect of the organisations and premises detailed in Appendix 'B' (gold paper) of this report.</p>	<p>As per recommendation.</p>																						
3.	<p>Communications Review</p>	<p>See item 14.</p>																						
4.	<p>Proposed Replacement Play Area, Marsh Way, Wolstanton</p> <p>(a) That the preferred option to provide a replacement play area at Marsh Way is approved subject to the approval of the Duchy of Lancaster.</p> <p>(b) That, subject to the above, a detailed scheme be prepared and that the Executive Director – Operational Services be authorised to seek tenders</p>	<p>As per recommendations.</p>																						

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	<p>for the work and, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture and Active Communities, accept the lowest suitable tender.</p> <p>(c) That the potential to extend/improve the existing play area on the Marsh be explored and a report on the outcome be brought to a future meeting of the Cabinet.</p>	<p>As per recommendations.</p> <p>(d) That the play equipment to be installed be subject to consultation with interested parties.</p> <p>(e) That ongoing monitoring of the site be undertaken when it is established and residents advised of the appropriate persons to contact in the event of any problems with misuse of the site.</p>
5.	Proposed Leisure, Health and Wellbeing Centre	See item 19.
6.	Corporate Environmental Sustainability Policy 2009	That Cabinet adopts the Environmental Sustainability Policy.
7.	Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Strategy	As per recommendation.
8.	Third Sector Commissioning Framework	See item 18
9.	CAA - Feedback	See item 13.
10.	Newcastle Town Centre - SIF	See item 20.
11.	Street Markets – Upgrading	See item 15.
12.	Town Centre Business Improvement District	See item 16.
		See item 17.

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	SUPPLEMENTARY	
13.	<p>Review of the Third Sector Commissioning Framework</p> <p>(a) That Cabinet receive the Overview and Scrutiny Report in respect of the Third Sector Commissioning Framework.</p> <p>(b) That the responses to the recommendations, as outlined in the 'Schedule', be agreed.</p> <p>(c) That Cabinet also agree the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the Commissioning Board comprise of six elected members, and be politically balanced (ii) That two members of Staffordshire Consortium of Infrastructure Organisations be invited as observers through the bid evaluation process (iii) That Cabinet will act as the Commissioning Board until new arrangements are in place. (iv) That all property related peppercorn rents be reviewed to provide commercial rents matched by an equal grant for the period remaining on the existing lease or sooner. <p>(d) That the Cabinet's response be forwarded to the Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>(a) As per recommendation.</p> <p>(b) That the Cabinet act as Commissioning Board until new arrangements are in place.</p> <p>(c) That any further decisions including responses to the recommendations of the Active and Cohesive Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee be deferred to the February Cabinet meeting.</p>
14.	Communications Review	That Cabinet notes the report.
15.	Newcastle Town Centre Strategic Investment Framework (SIF)	<p>As per recommendation.</p> <p>} As per recommendations,</p>

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	projects identified in this report.	
16. Upgrading of the Street Market and Associated Public Realm Improvements	<p>(a) That your Officers are authorised to proceed with like for like replacement market stalls for the market as soon as is practical.</p> <p>(b) That market stalls are removed from lower High Street up to the junction with Hick Street at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>(c) That stalls are re-introduced into the Guildhall area to produce the desired 'clustering' effect for the market at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>(d) That your Officers are authorised to work with Staffordshire County Council to pursue the daytime closure of Hassell Street (between its junction with Market Lane and Friars Street) to through traffic.</p> <p>(e) That The Borough Council commits to re-paving Hassell Street in a manner to reinforce its pedestrian focus.</p> <p>(f) That market stalls are introduced to Hassell Street following its daytime closure to through traffic.</p> <p>(g) That use of the Ironmarket for market trading purposes is reserved for future expansion room should this become necessary.</p> <p>(h) That a separate promotion budget is maintained for the market that is retained at the 2009/10 budget allocation level.</p>	As per recommendations.

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17.	Proposed Newcastle Town Centre Business Improvement District (Bid)	<p>(a) That the funding from the New Initiatives Fund to support the development of a Business Improvement District (BID) for Newcastle Town Centre be confirmed.</p> <p>(b) That the current contract with Urban8 be extended to develop the BID.</p>	<p>As per recommendation.</p>
18.	Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Strategy	That the Energy Efficiency and Climate Change Strategy be approved for consultation.	As per recommendation.
19.	Proposed Health and Wellbeing Centre	<p>(a) That the progress in the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Centre is noted.</p> <p>(b) To extend the presently commissioned Legal Practice's scope of work without seeking alternative quotations and waive the Council's Standing orders and financial regulations (as per Section 2a(i) and 2(bvii) at a capped fee of £10,000 for the reasons identified in section 2.1 of this report.</p>	<p>As per recommendations.</p>
20.	2008/09 Comprehensive Area Assessment	That Cabinet note the Organisational Assessment report of the Audit Commission.	That Cabinet notes the Organisational Assessment report of the Audit Commission and endorses the decision of Full Council to thank all staff for their efforts in the continued improvement of the Council both in terms of 'use of resources' and 'managing performance'.