

Decisions of the meeting of the CABINET held
at 9.30am on Tuesday 19 April 2011 at the
Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton

Present

Councillor N W Huxtable (In the Chair)

Councillor Mrs B S Fortune
R Kirk
B Phillips

Councillor T Swales
P R Wilkinson

Also in Attendance

Councillor D Blades
Mrs C S Cookman, MBE

Councillor M Rigby
Mrs M Skilbeck

(Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N D Clack, J Coulson and M J Prest)

CA.118

HAMBLETON SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2011 – 2016

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval for the new Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for the District.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

The 'duty' to produce a Sustainable Community Strategy was the responsibility of the Local Authority.

THE DECISION:

That Council be asked to approve and adopt the new Sustainable Community Strategy.

The meeting closed at 10.20 am.

Leader of the Council

AGENDA ITEM NO:

**(CA.119 to CA.126)
Decisions taken under Cabinet
authority to take effect on 2 May 2011)**

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CA.119

MINUTES

THE DECISION:

That the decisions of the meeting held on 22 March 2011 (CA.106 – CA.117), previously circulated, be signed as a correct record.

CA.120

POLICY REVIEW – ICT SERVICES – FINAL REPORT

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

Councillor M S Robson submitted a report setting out the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the People, Sustainable Communities and Excellence Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the conclusion of the policy review concerning ICT Services. The Chairman of Cabinet thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the work it had undertaken during the review.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the findings of the People, Sustainable Communities and Excellence Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the Committee supported the approach outlined in respect of the funding of both capital and revenue for ICT services from 2011/12 onwards;
- (2) the Committee supported the proposed transfer of budgets for specific software solutions to individual service teams;
- (3) the request for an Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be consulted prior to any major expenditure on ICT be noted;
- (4) more information on actual expenditure on ICT services should be provided through the Overview and Scrutiny Committee process on an ongoing basis.

CA.121

POLICY REVIEW – HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL GRANT FUNDING – FINAL REPORT

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

Councillor M J Prest submitted a report setting out the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Prosperity and Places Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the conclusion of the policy review concerning the Hambleton District Council Grant Funding. The Chairman of Cabinet thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the work it had undertaken during the review.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the findings of the Prosperity and Places Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) a single grants fund be introduced with an application criteria which meets the Councils Corporate objectives/priorities;
- (2) each application, regardless of what it is for, be measured against the same criteria and assessed on a scoring basis;
- (3) the grants budget be robustly reduced and that the remaining funding be targeted at the areas of greatest need;
- (4) Service Level Agreements (SLA's) be considered outside the proposed Community Grants Programme;
- (5) funding provided under SLA's be more robustly monitored and benchmarked on a quarterly basis;

- (6) the need for organisations to endeavour to improve efficiencies in core funding be stipulated;
- (7) the importance of being able to lever funding from other sources be recognised especially the development post within NDVSA which is widely recognised at being highly effective; and
- (8) the application criteria and process when established be considered by Members of the Committee.

CA.122

POLICY REVIEW – SHARED SERVICES WITH RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL – FINAL REPORT

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

Councillor J Coulson submitted a report setting out the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Safety and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the conclusion of the policy review concerning Shared Services with Richmondshire District Council. The Chairman thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the work it had undertaken during the review.

Alternative options considered:

Cabinet discussed the recommendation regarding the ongoing scrutiny of the Shared Services programme and concluded that this would not be appropriate at this time as a review of the Shared Services programme had been agreed and the results of which would be reported back to Cabinet within 12 months time.

Cabinet also discussed the recommendation regarding reinstating Member involvement in the Joint Consultative Committee and agreed with the comments of the Strategic Management Team that this was not appropriate.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the findings of the Safety and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the success of the implementation of the Shared Services programme in delivering savings and efficiencies across Hambleton and Richmondshire District Councils be acknowledged; and
- (2) the Council maintains its methods of communication regarding the Shared Services programme but continues to identify improvements for delivering information to both staff and the public.

CA.123

HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE ADOPTIONS PHASE 2 AND 3 LEEMING BAR INDUSTRIAL PARK

Leeming and Leeming Bar Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought authority for capital expenditure as identified in the 10 year capital programme to achieve highway infrastructure adoption at Phases 2 and 3 Leeming Bar Industrial Park, Leeming Bar.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

Approval of the expenditure was necessary for the highway infrastructure works at Phase 2 and 3 Leeming Bar Industrial Park to facilitate adoption by North Yorkshire County Council.

THE DECISION:

That the capital works show in paragraph 6.1 of the report to facilitate highway adoption at Phase 2 and 3 Leeming Bar Industrial Park be approved.

CA.124

ENERGY REDUCTION MEASURES FOR THE CIVIC CENTRE AND HAMBLETON LEISURE CENTRE

Northallerton Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval for capital expenditure of £17,500 to install a voltage optimiser at the Civic Centre to save 30 tonnes of carbon per annum and reduce revenue expenditure by £4,375 per annum with a payback period of less than 5 years and the capital expenditure of £24,000 to install a voltage optimiser at the Hambleton Leisure Centre to save 45 tonnes of carbon per annum and reduce revenue expenditure by £5,330 per annum with a payback period of less than 5 years.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To meet Government guidelines and legislation on energy usage reduction of 25% by 2015 with a further 15% by 2020.

THE DECISION:

That the installation of voltage optimisers at the Civic Centre and Hambleton Leisure Centre, at a combined cost of £41,500 be approved.

CA.125

INVESTMENT PROGRAMME TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS AND REPOSSESSION 2011/12

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

Homelessness Grant from Communities and Local Government was paid each year to assist local housing authorities with the prevention and relief of homelessness. It was not a ring fenced grant, but CLG advice was that Local Authorities were expected to invest the funds in the areas intended. The confirmed allocation for Hambleton for 2011/12 was £71,470.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with the statutory framework of the Housing Act 1996 as amended by the Homeslessness Act 2002.

THE DECISION:

That the proposed investment programme up to £65,500 set out at Annex A of the report be approved and financed from the Service Improvement Reserve.

CA.126

FORWARD PLAN

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval of a Forward Plan of items for the period from May – August 2011. The plan would be updated as further items arose or other amendments became necessary.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with the Council's constitution.

THE DECISION:

That the Forward Plan for the period May – August 2011 be endorsed.

The meeting closed at 10.20 am.

Leader of the Council