

## **CABINET**

**TUESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2012**

### **DECISIONS**

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday, 4 December 2012. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in a decision, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group no later than 4.00pm on Thursday 6 December 2012.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Jill Pickering (01904) 552061.

#### **5. MINUTES OF WORKING GROUP**

RESOLVED: (i) That the minutes at Annexes A, B and C to the report be noted.

(ii) That Cabinet approves the 'Subdivision of Dwellings' and 'House Extensions and Alterations' Supplementary Planning Guidance documents as interim planning guidance, incorporating the changes suggested by the LPWG at their meeting held on 3 September 2012.

REASON: (i) To fulfil the requirements of the council's Constitution in relation to the role of Working Groups.

(ii) To allow the documents to be used to consider planning applications for subdivision of dwellings house extensions and alterations.

#### **6. FINAL REPORT OF THE E-PLANNING FACILITIES REVIEW**

RESOLVED: i) That Cabinet note the contents of the final report of the E-Planning

Facilities Review.

- ii) That the Cabinet Member for Transport, Planning and Sustainability will examine, in more detail, the recommendations of the Review as set out at paragraphs 5 and 6 of the cover report, with the Cabinet Member providing an early response to the key issues raised at the meeting and report back to his Decision Session.

REASON: To fully inform the Cabinet of the outcome of the review.

## **7. COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT DECISION PAPER**

RECOMMENDED: That Council be recommended to approve Option 1, capping council tax benefits at a figure of 70% (as set out in detail in the report), as the Council Tax Support Scheme.

REASON: To ensure that a Council scheme is in place before the Governments statutory deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.

## **8. REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet approves the proposed increase in fees and charges as from 1 January 2013 as set out in the Annexes to the report.

REASON: To enable the council to effectively manage its budget.

## **9. ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND – PROPOSALS**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agrees to:

- Approve the EIF allocation of £25k for CYC to be

represented at MIPIM 2013, along with private sector partners

- Approve the EIF allocation of £25k required by the Arts Barge project to secure a boat and to delegate responsibility to the Director of CBSS to make 3 further stage payments of £25k pending a due diligence review of Arts Barge Project Business Plan ;
- Approve the EIF allocation of £34.5k required to fund the City Centre Holiday Footfall Measures.

REASON: To support the Council Plan priorities of creating jobs, growing the economy and investing in the city's economic future.

## **10. IMPLEMENTING THE LIVING WAGE**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agree to the following for implementing a Living Wage for staff employed within the council:

- i) To adopt an approach for paying a Living Wage for employees with council contracts (excluding apprentices and casual staff), based initially on a discretionary supplement, commencing from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.
- ii) The draw-down of £338k from the Economic Infrastructure Fund to support the Living Wage proposals in the first year for staff with council contracts, including helping schools work towards implementing the Living Wage.
- iii) To develop plans and actions which seek to embed the Living Wage in job design and pay structures by April 2014.
- iv) To agree, as part of the budget process each year, to review the uplift the Living Wage rate annually where possible, informed by information available from national pay negotiations.

- v) To agree ongoing work on the apprentices scheme to establish a Living Wage for apprentices and eventual employment at grades above the Living Wage.
- vi) To embed the Living Wage in procurement activity by April 2014.

REASON: To deliver a commitment to address low pay for council employees, tackle in-work poverty and as a step towards reducing income inequality which, with the support of other employers in York, will deliver benefits to the whole community.

#### **11. TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY OF SOCIAL FUND TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE YORK FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agree to:

- i) Approve the approach to establishing an initial York Financial Assistance Scheme from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 with the detail of the scheme delegated to the Director of CBSS to finalise, subject to the approval of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services.
- ii) Approve the approach to reviewing the initial scheme in 2013 with a view to implementing a revised localised partnership based scheme from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 (as set out in paragraphs 18, 19 and 28 of the report).
- iii) Consider as part of the 2013/15 budget setting process, any opportunities to add council funds to the base budget of York Financial

Assistance Scheme to give greater scope to assist individual residents, families and communities in financial difficulty.

REASON: To ensure there is no gap in provision of urgent financial resources available to our most vulnerable residents at times of crisis or other difficulty. To mitigate the impacts of wide ranging welfare benefits changes. To meet the priorities set down in the Council Plan and Financial Inclusion Strategy.

## **12. TETHERED HORSES - PROPOSED POLICY FRAMEWORK**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agree to:

- i) The proposals set out at Para 21 of the report and agree that a joint protocol be established and brought back to the Cabinet Member for approval in February 2013.
- ii) Consider the costs associated with the proposal as part of the 2013/14 budget setting process.

REASON: To ensure that the council has a robust, yet balanced approach to dealing with tethered horses.

## **13. PROPOSALS REGARDING THE INTRODUCTION OF A VOLUNTARY LANDLORD ACCREDITATION SCHEME IN YORK**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agree to:

- i) Approving the implementation of a locally developed Landlord accreditation scheme, as detailed in Option 4 of the report and authorise further consultation and partnership work with local landlords, agents and other stakeholders, to agree the final details of the Scheme, with a view

to it being operational by June 2013.

- ii) Authorising the Director of Communities and Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Health, Housing and Adult Social Services, to take forward and implement the Landlord Accreditation Scheme as appropriate when the development process is complete.

- REASON:
- i) To ensure the support and improvement of the Private Rented Sector in York.
  - ii) To ensure the Scheme is developed in consultation with potential members; is fit for purpose and appeals to as wide a number of landlords and agents as possible to enable a positive start and that it complements any other proposals for supporting the Private Rented Sector.

#### **14. APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF YORK COUNCIL SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT REPORT**

RESOLVED: That Cabinet agrees to:

- i) Approve the Surface Water Management Plan as attached at Annexe A of the report.
- ii) Approve a review of the Council's highway drainage maintenance service based on the principles of flood risk management, and to ensure that it is suitably funded. This will be the subject of a further report in due course.
- iii) Ensure that the current resources in the Flood Risk Management team are maintained, subject to the budget process, to enable effective involvement in the development control and highway design procedures.

REASON: i) To ensure that the Council has an action plan

for managing surface water flood risk, and to influence the development of future strategies for maintenance, investment, planning and engagement.

- ii) To ensure that surface water drainage infrastructure operates effectively to reduce surface water flood risk in vulnerable areas.
- iii) To ensure that development does not increase flood risk.

## **15. LORD MAYORALTY 2013-14**

**RESOLVED:** That Cabinet invite the Labour group to nominate the Lord Mayor for the 2013/2014 municipal year, in line with the existing accumulated points system.

**REASON:** To ensure that the Council secures the necessary leadership to undertake its civic functions and provides continuity for future selection.