

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 16 July 2008 at 6.00 p.m.

in Conference Room 2 at the Council House Walsall

Present

Councillor John O'Hare	Leader of the Council
Councillor Andrew	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Zahid Ali	Children's services
Councillor Perry	Communities and partnerships
Councillor Walker	Environment
Councillor Griffiths	Finance and personnel
Councillor Arif	Procurement, transformation and performance management
Councillor McCracken	Social care, health and inclusion
Councillor Harrison	Leisure and Culture

2007 Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2008 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meetings held on 18th June, 2008, copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as correct records.

2009 Declarations of interest

Councillor Andrew declared a personal interest in item 24 (b) as a discussion took place relating to the new location of the merry go round, in the town centre.

2010 Forward plan

The forward plan as at 7 July, 2008 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the forward plan be noted:

2011 Area Based Grant

Councillor O'Hare presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet;

- (1) Approve a further 3 months extension to the Moving Offenders from Crime into Employment programme, as set out in section 3.2;
- (2) Approve a further 12 months extension to the Youth Inclusion Support Panel programme, as set out in section 3.3;
- (3) Approve the split of Safer Stronger Communities Fund, as set out in section 3.4;
- (4) Approve the proposal that Neighbourhood Renewal Fund continues to be allocated by the WBSP Board, as set out in section 3.5;
- (5) Note the proposal that Local Area Agreement funds are aligned to the Area Based Grant, as set out in section 3.6;
- (6) Note the progress regarding Target Action Planning, as set out in section 3.7;
- (7) Approve the proposal to delegate authority to approve programme variances to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, as set out in section 3.8.

2012 Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership Constitution and Accountable Body Agreement

Councillor O'Hare presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet approve and adopt the Walsall Partnership's Constitution and Accountable Body Agreement.

2013 Property Procurement and Contracting Strategy

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet approve the delegation of authority to the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to accept tenders for the tenders shown on **Appendix A** of this report.

2014 Sale of Former Redhouse JMI School

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet approve a sale of the Council's freehold interest in the land shown edged in red on the attached plan EPMS 2975/1 (**Appendix A**) extending to 14,656 square metres (or thereabouts) to the highest bidder, with the purchaser being responsible for the Council's surveyor's fees and legal costs incurred in the transaction.

2015 Shelfield Sports and Community College

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Rose Martin addressed the Cabinet on this matter and raised a number of concerns appertaining to the consultation process and the admissions policy.

Resolved

That Cabinet approve the publication of a statutory proposal to close Sheffield Sports and Community College from 31 December, 2008. Closure would be subject to the agreement of the Secretary of State to approve the opening of the school as an academy from 1 January 2009.

2016 **Phase 3 Childrens Centres Locations and Funding**

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That cabinet approves:

- (1) The development for 3 new Children's Centres between 2008 and 2010 to reach the communities of:
 - Chuckery and Paddock
 - Pelsall
 - Streetly
- (2) The revised children's centre reach areas to ensure that all children and their families have access to local Children's Centre services by 2010;
- (3) The principle to devolve funding to centres based on formula approach that gives flexibility to Centre managers, whilst ensuring that sufficient funding is allocated to deliver the core offer of services;
- (4) Increased resources for additional outreach workers in the most disadvantaged areas from 2009; subject to confirmation of additional Sure Start Grant funding from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF);
- (5) Increased resources from 2010 for Children's Centres that provide greater reach to high impact services that are evidenced based and demonstrate better outcomes for children and their families; subject to confirmation of additional Sure Start Grant funding from the DCSF;
- (6) Continued central funding for complementary family support, health co-ordination support, pregnancy workers and father support workers, where these services can be shown to have high impact and provide better outcomes for children and their families.

2017 Structures of Secondary Schools

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet:

- (1) Supports the Governors of Willenhall (Community) Sports College in exploring Trust Status for the school; (section 3);
- (2) Notes Walsall's success in securing a place in wave 6a of the Building Schools for the Future Programme; (section 4);
- (3) Agrees the ongoing review of the structures and status of mainstream secondary schools within the Building Schools for the Future project continues (section 4) and;
- (4) Agreed that consultation, on the closure of Darlaston (Community Science College) on 31 August 2009 to enable it to open on 1 September 2009 as an Academy, takes place early in the Autumn Term (section 5).

2018 Proposal to Enlarge Birchills C of E Primary School

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet approve consultation on the proposal to significantly enlarge Birchills CE Primary School from 1.5 FE (Forms of Entry) to 2 FE by increasing the intake from 45 to 60 places from 1 September 2011.

2019 Education Capital Programme – Further Schemes

Councillor Zahid Ali presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the schemes and budgets set out in **Appendix B** of this report;
- (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services to accept tenders for schemes detailed in this report where tenders are within the budget figures detailed in **Appendix B**.

2020 **Corporate Financial Performance 2008/09**

Councillor Griffiths presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the following currently predicted year end forecasts be noted:

- a net revised revenue overspend of up to £0.794m (0.12% of the current gross budget).
- a surplus of c £3.57m on the capital programme which is partly expected to be carried forward into 2009/10.
- To note that action continues to be taken to improve the current forecast outturn.

2021 **Annual Health and Safety Performance Report 2007/08**

Councillor Griffiths presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the report and its appendices be noted;
- (2) That Cabinet approves and endorses:
 - a) the corporate health and safety plan 2008/9; and
 - b) the corporate governance arrangements for occupational safety and health.

2022 **Communities for Health Funding**

Councillor Harrison presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet agrees the continuation of the projects that have been instigated already.
- (2) That Cabinet requests officers to develop a programme of community based health projects for 2008/9 in consultation with the relevant Portfolio holders to include:
 - Support for the development of the Walsall Food Cooperative
 - Projects delivered around the Borough by the Community Playbus.
 - Preplanning for the delivery of the NHS Lifecheck scheme being developed by the Youth Service.
 - Marketing the use of unused allotments in the Borough to encourage more community involvement in the production of local food.

2023 Oracle Finance and Procurement Transformation Project

Councillor Arif presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That cabinet endorse the proposed Target Operating Model for financial and procurement transactions;
- (2) That cabinet approve the business process reengineering and business change required to implement the Target Operating Model;
- (3) That cabinet approve the upgrade of the Oracle Financials and iProcurement systems to support the Target Operating Model and enable the benefits in terms of efficiency and quality of service to be achieved;
- (4) That cabinet approve the project costs of £4.12m;
- (5) That cabinet approve the funding of the £4m capital element of the total £4.12m project cost from the existing £5.5m ICT and Oracle modernisation capital programme provision approved by cabinet in 2007/8 and rolled forward to the 2008/9 programme.

2024 **Best Value Performance Indicators**

Councillor Arif presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) To note the final position regarding BVPI out-turn data for 2007/08.
- (2) To note the improvement in overall performance since 2006/07.

2025 **Beacon Index Outturn 2007/08**

Councillor Arif presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet note the delivery of the Beacon Index performance targets and pledges, as detailed in **Appendix 1**.

2026 **Corporate Project Management Strategic Project Monitoring**

Councillor Arif presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet:

- (1) Note the report and the strategic project register at **Appendix 1**;
- (2) Note the progress on the implementation of the programme and project management software;
- (3) Continue to work with relevant executive directors to implement any necessary corrective action to ensure successful delivery of strategic projects;
- (4) Continue to endorse the use of the council's programme and project management methodologies and practices ensuring that they are applied without exception.

2027 Re-tender of Residential Nursing Care Services

Councillor McCracken presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That Cabinet approves the re-tender of the Residential and Nursing Home Care service as detailed above;
- (2) That Cabinet delegates the award of contracts to the Executive Director of Social Care and Inclusion in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder.

2028 Walsall/Dudley Mental Health Partnership

Councillor McCracken presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet supports and endorses the formal arrangements for the proposed Dudley and Walsall Mental Health NHS Partnership Trust.

2029 Appointment of Framework Contractor for Transport Capital Programme

Councillor Harris presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That authority be given to tender for several framework contractors to be appointed for a four year period (the maximum term under European law) on the basis of Cost, Quality and Sustainability which would allow Walsall's Transportation team to pursue with Early Contractor Involvement.
- (2) To include a cumulative value of work to be specified up to £40m, which includes major schemes for Darlaston, M6 J10 and Bradford Place as part of the contract, in addition to the current

Red Route and Bus Showcase Schemes where external funding has been committed to the Council over the next 4 years.

- (3) Once the tendering process is completed that a further report is submitted for cabinet to approve the appointment of the preferred contractors towards the end of 2008.

2030 **Markets**

(a) Report of Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel

The report was submitted:

(See annexed)

Resolved

That the report be noted.

(b) Report of Portfolio Holder

Councillor Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet agree the recommendations of the Regeneration Scrutiny and Performance Panel in respect of the temporary relocation of Walsall Market, as set out in the report of the Scrutiny Panel.

2031 **Private Session**

Exclusion of public

Resolved

That during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, the Cabinet considers that the items for consideration are exempt information by virtue of the appropriate paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, and accordingly resolves to consider those items in private.

Part II – summary

2032 Barcroft Primary School

The Cabinet considered and approved arrangements to enable the construction of a replacement school building for Barcroft Primary School.

2033 Residual Waste Treatment Plant Facility with Staffs County Council.

The Cabinet considered a report in respect of the progress made towards securing a residual waste treatment facility with Staffordshire County Council. Cabinet approved the Heads of terms, noted the revised PFI Guide Gate Fee and approved the revised affordability range.