



South Tyneside Council

item 2

Cabinet Minutes 28 March 2012

Present: Councillors: I Malcolm (*in the Chair*), Brady, Dixon, Foreman, Kerr and E Malcolm.

Patrick Melia (Corporate Director Business and Area Management), Mike Harding (Head of Legal Services), Helen Watson (Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families), David Cramond (Corporate Director Economic Regeneration), Hayley Johnson (Corporate Lead Officer, Strategy and Performance), Gavin Monument (Strategic Finance Manager), Peter Cutts (Head of Education Learning and Skills), Amanda Healy (Interim Director of Public Health), George Mansbridge (Head of Housing Strategy and Regulatory Services), Dave Owen (Neighbourhood Crime and Justice Co-ordinator) and Karen Connolly (Senior Democratic Support Officer).

1. **Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

2. **Minutes of 29 February 2012**

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 29 February 2012 be confirmed as a true record.

3. **Public Health Transition to the Local Authority**

Submitted: Joint Report of the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families and Interim Director of Public Health

The report, which was presented by Councillor Foreman, Lead Member Children, Young People and Families, sought approval of

the process being undertaken for the transfer of the public health function, from South Tyneside Primary Care Trust (PCT) to the Council, due to take place by 1 April 2013.

Resolved: That (a) the transition of public health responsibility to the local authority and the existing arrangements to manage this be supported, and (b) Members receive an update report in June 2012 on the progress being made.

Reason for Decisions: Members views and support for this process are essential to ensure that the Council fulfils its duty, under the Health and Social Care Bill, to take responsibility for public health and to further drive improved outcomes for local communities.

4. Proposal to Freeze the Price of a School Meal for the Academic Year 2012/13

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families

The report, which was presented by Councillor Foreman, Lead Member Children, Young People and Families, outlined a proposal to freeze the price of a school meal at the current price of £2 in the academic year 2012/13.

Resolved: That the proposal to freeze the price of a school meal at the current price of £2 in the academic year 2012/13, be approved.

Reason for Decision: To support families, promote health and add value to the school meals service.

5. Pupil Admission Arrangements for Primary and Secondary Schools – September 2013

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families

The report, which was presented by Councillor Foreman, Lead Member Children, Young People and Families, reported that the statutory consultation exercise in respect of pupil admission arrangements for 2013 had now been completed. In the light of this

consultation, which had involved the boards of governors in LA schools, diocesan boards, parents, local groups and neighbouring authorities, the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families, had brought forward the following recommendations:

Publication of Admission Numbers

- (i) That the request by the Governors of South Shields Community Schools, to reduce their admission number be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis;
- (ii) That the proposed reduced admission number for Jarrow School be confirmed as 164 to match the latest capacity assessment; and
- (iii) That, in the case of other schools, the Admission Numbers be determined as proposed to the individual Governing Bodies during the consultation exercise.

Oversubscription Criteria

That the criteria to be utilised in the event of oversubscription at Community and Voluntary Controlled schools be as follows:-

In determining admissions where there is pressure on places, account will be taken of the following factors, which are listed in descending priority order:-

- (a) As defined by the authority, a 'Looked After Child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an "adoption order", "residence order", or "special guardianship order";
- (b) Parental home residence within the defined catchment area of the school;
- (c) Concurrent sibling link (an older brother or sister attending the school at the same time and residing at the same address, to include adoptive siblings, half siblings, step siblings and long term fostered children);
- (d) Shortest distance measured as a straight line, from the Ordnance Survey coordinates for the parental home residence (including flats) to the school main entrance, using South Tyneside Council's Geographic Information System (GIS), with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority

A distance measurement will also be used as a 'tie breaker' within each criterion, if necessary.

In determining admissions, priority will be given to those applications where the parental application form is received by the published deadline date.

If a pupil qualifies for a place at more than one school, the parent's highest ranked preference will be offered and any lower ranking offers will be disregarded. If it becomes necessary to decide between applicants within the same criterion, the distance tie breaker described above will be used.

Co-ordinated Admissions Schemes

That the Co-ordinated Admissions Schemes (Primary and Secondary) be agreed.

That the existing Admissions Forum continues to be the mechanism to co-ordinate admissions but that the composition, membership and remit be reviewed to ensure it meets local requirements.

Delegated Authority

That the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families, in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader and Lead Member Children, Young People and Families, be authorised to take whatever decisions are required to determine fully the admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools and any related matters for pupil admissions in September 2013.

Resolved: That the recommendations of the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families, as set out above, be approved.

Reasons for Decisions:

- *The recommendations on the publication of admission numbers will allow the proposed admission numbers for individual schools to be reviewed and determined accordingly in time for the commencement of the September 2013 admission round.*
 - *The oversubscription criteria will support the most vulnerable pupils while ensuring that admission to schools is based on equitable, objective and transparent criteria. The proposed oversubscription criteria show proper regard to the new School Admissions Code 2012 and the outcome of the consultation exercise.*
 - *Each LA is under a statutory duty to formulate and publish the Co-ordinated Admission Schemes. These schemes have been drawn up collaboratively with our neighbouring LA's to assist in inter-authority*
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arrangements whereby all pupils will receive the offer of a school place simultaneously and parents are dealing with consistently managed sets of admission arrangements irrespective of municipal boundaries which must not restrict parental choice.

- *Giving delegated authority to the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families, in consultation with the Leader, Deputy Leader and the Lead Member Children, Young People and Families where indicated, will allow any outstanding or unforeseen minor issues to be resolved speedily.*

6. Westoe Education Charity – Annual Report and Audit of Accounts for the Year Ending 2010/11

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families

The report, which was presented by Councillor Foreman, Lead Member Children, Young People and Families, detailed the Westoe Educational Charity's annual report and audit of accounts for 2010/11.

Resolved: That (a) the accounts for the financial year 2010/11 be approved; (b) the proposed Medium Term Financial Plan for 2012/13 to 2014/15 be agreed; (c) the subsidy for schools visiting Thurston in 2012/13 for a week course be set at £146 per school visit; (d) that a sum of £500 be ring-fenced to meet requests from individuals for financial assistance; and (e) that the Corporate Director Children, Adults and Families, in consultation with the Lead Member for Children, Young People and Families, be authorised to determine requests from individuals requesting financial assistance.

Reason for Decisions: As Trustee, the Council needs to consider the annual report and financial statement for the last financial year and agree how funding will be spent in 2012/13.

7. 'Making Communities Safer' – South Tyneside's Community Safety Partnership Plan

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director Business and Area Management

The report, which was presented by Councillor Dixon, Lead Member Leisure and Community Safety, detailed the Community Safety Partnership Plan. The Plan described the strategic approach that the partnership would adopt to tackle crime and disorder in the Borough.

Resolved: That the Community Safety Partnership Plan be approved and submitted to Council for its approval.

Reason for Decisions:

Endorsement of the plan ensures that the Council effectively discharges its statutory duty, whilst also providing a full and considered response to complaints of crime and disorder, through the collective allocation of partnership resources.

8. Warm Up North – Project Update

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director Economic Regeneration

The report, which was presented by Councillor Brady, Lead Member for Housing, detailed the progress to date on the Housing Retrofit project being led by Newcastle City Council which was now titled Warm Up North.

Newcastle City Council had requested that participating authorities sign a Memorandum of Understanding which sets out the broad principles of collaboration and the risks associated with the upcoming procurement process.

Resolved: That the Council formally commit to the Warm Up North Project and sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Newcastle City Council and key partner authorities.

Reasons for Decisions:

- *The business case proposed by Newcastle City Council highlights the need for collaboration and the region has much to lose in not engaging early. There is also little evidence at this stage to suggest that the private sector will be willing or are able to deliver at such large scale. There is therefore a need for local authorities to demonstrate leadership in this area.*
 - *All 12 local authorities in the North East are signatories to the Covenant of Mayors. There*
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is a risk that Carbon reduction commitments made through the Covenant of Mayors may not be achieved unless innovative schemes such as this are progressed.

- *The project could bring considerable and strategic advantages to the residents of the borough.*

9. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved: That the public be excluded from the meeting for the remainder of the agenda items as they involve exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972.

Minute no.	Item	Exempt category nos.	"public interest" test - reason for exempting
10	10	3	The reports contain information which if published could affect the business affairs of persons named in the report."

10. Trinity South – Joint Venture with Homes and Communities Agency

Submitted: Report of the Corporate Director Economic Regeneration

The report, which was presented by Councillor E Malcolm, Lead Member Resources and Innovation, sought approval for the Council to enter into a Joint Venture Agreement with the Homes and Communities Agency in respect of the development of land at Trinity South, South Shields.

Resolved: That the Council enter into a Joint Venture Agreement as described in the report with the Homes and Communities Agency in respect of the land at Trinity South.

Reason for decisions: The Joint Venture Agreement will provide a legally binding mechanism for securing the Council's regeneration objectives in respect of Trinity South and for the division of any receipts from the disposal of land.