

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting26th November 2009

1. Title of Item/Report

New Executive Arrangements

2. Record of the Decision

Further to the meeting held on 6th August 2009, consideration was given to the outcome of the consultation held regarding the specific executive models put forward for the future governance of this authority, as required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

It was noted that only 425 replies had been received and that of these, opinion was fairly evenly split with regards to which of the following models was preferred:-

- Council Leader and Cabinet Model;
- Directly Elected Mayor and Cabinet Model

Whilst Council, at its meeting held on 9th September 2009, had originally resolved that a referendum was to be held on a preferred or chosen executive model identified via the consultation, members expressed concern at the lack of public interest shown both here, and in other areas of the country which cast doubt as to whether the cost of holding a full scale referendum was justified in the current financial climate.

Cabinet was also advised of the requirements involved in submitting any proposals for change to the Secretary of State.

RECOMMENDED to Council that:-

(i) The decision to hold a referendum regarding the chosen executive model and related proposals for change be rescinded.

(ii) Further consultation takes place as follows:-

Information regarding the two executive models will be provided to all local government electors, who will be asked to indicate which of the executive models they would prefer to see introduced by the Council.

(iii) A report be submitted to Cabinet regarding the outcome of this further consultation, with a view to one of the executive models and the related proposals for change being recommended to Council for approval.

(iv) The Chief Executive, in consultation with Cabinet Members and Group Leaders, be authorised to finalise:-

- the details of and arrangements relating to the further consultation outlined at recommendation (ii), including the timescale for replies;
- a communications programme regarding the outcome of Council's consideration of these recommendations; and subject to that the reporting of the results of the further consultation to Cabinet and Council.

(v) The costs of the further consultation process be met from corporate balances.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To agree the procedure for complying with the requirements of the legislation following the consultation which has taken place.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not applicable

Proper Officer
30 November 2009