

Cabinet

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Thursday, 15th May, 2014.

Present: Cllr Robert Cook (Chair); Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr David Coleman, Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr David Harrington, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson and Cllr Michael Smith.

Officers: N Schneider (CE), J Danks, B Brown, L King, D Hurwood (R); P Dobson (DNS); J Humphreys (CESC); P Kelly (PH) P J Mennear, P K Bell (LD).

Also in attendance: Cllr Mohammed Javed (Chair of Adult Services and Health Select Committee)

Apologies: Cllr David Rose.

CAB 15/14 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Javed declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 4 - Scrutiny Review of Access to GP, Urgent and Emergency Care as he was employed by Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Smith declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 4 - Scrutiny Review of Access to GP, Urgent and Emergency Care as his wife was employed by a local GP Service.

Councillor Mrs McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 5 - Local Authority Representatives on School / Academy Governing Bodies as she was a named nominee within the report.

Councillor Mrs McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6 - Flood Support – Repair and Renewal Grant Scheme as a house owned by her son was flooded on 5th December 2013.

Councillor Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6 - Flood Support – Repair and Renewal Grant Scheme as he was a member of Tristar Board.

Councillor Cook declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 7 – Local Growth Fund as he was on the ERDF Board.

Councillor Harrington declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 8 – Economic Climate Update Report as his employer was part of the Tees Valley Enterprising Libraries project.

CAB 16/14 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

CAB 17/14 **Scrutiny Review of Access to GP, Urgent and Emergency Care**

Consideration was given to a report that outlined the findings of the review of access to GP, urgent and emergency care. The review was undertaken by Adult Services and Health Select Committee. The review considered local GP services, urgent services including NHS111 and out of hours GP care, local A

and E performance, and ambulance services. The majority of the recommendations were for relevant NHS bodies.

In addition to the report's recommendations, Executive Scrutiny Committee recommended that the report be widely publicised.

RESOLVED that:-

1. all GP Practices in the Borough should consider using the 'Doctor 1st' appointment system, particularly as a method of reducing non-attendance at appointments;
2. practices should clearly publish whether they are currently accepting patients both on their websites and on practice premises;
3. Healthwatch Stockton be requested to encourage patients to make GP registration applications in writing (to ensure a written reason/response to any refusal is provided), and to encourage patients to report any ongoing issues to Healthwatch;
4. the Area Team should review the current status of GP patient registration in Stockton Borough;
5. the Area Team should provide an update on its plans to ensure sufficient coverage of primary care services in Stockton Borough given the population growth;
6. the CCG considers broadening the role of local pharmacy and undertaking further publicity of pharmacy's role in collaboration with NHS England and the Council, and this be further considered as part of the next Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment;
7. the Council and NHS partners should consider the role of education and communications to ensure that the local population gains a better understanding of what constitutes an emergency versus more minor ailments;
8. that the CCG and partners should increase publicity for NHS111 and when to use it;
9. as part of the monitoring of the results of this review, the Adult Services and Health Committee be provided with an update on the roll out and usage of Summary Care Records in Stockton Borough;
10. the CCG considers:
 - a) revised commissioning of ambulance services to formally monitor responses to non-life threatening but still serious incidents;
 - b) monitoring ambulance response performance at the Local Authority area-level in addition to CCG-level reporting;
 - c) whether the current non-recurrent funding of demand over and above the contracted amount remains appropriate given the continuing pressures on ambulance services;

11.a) Healthwatch Stockton be requested to encourage feedback on individual experiences of the ambulance service and to report its findings to the Committee, and;

b) the Committee and regional health scrutiny committees undertake more regular monitoring of ambulance services;

12. North East Ambulance Service and CCGs consider how they can improve the proportion of ambulance call outs appropriately dealt with in the community ('at the scene');

13. as part of the monitoring of the results of this review, NEAS and Cleveland Police should report back to the Committee on operational relationships and partnership working.

14. the report be widely circulated to the public for their information, as well as partners.

**CAB
18/14** **LA Nominations for Cabinet**

In accordance with the procedure for the appointment of school / academy governors, approved as Minute CAB 27/13 of the meeting of Cabinet held on 13th June 2013, Cabinet was invited to consider the nominations to school / academy Governing Bodies attached to the report.

RESOLVED that appointments be made to the vacant Governorship subject to successful List 99 check and Personal Disclosure, as follows:-

High Clarence Primary School - Cllr A McCoy (Lab)

Mill Lane Primary School - Mrs J Coombs (Lab)

Preston Primary School - Mr M Cherrett (LD)

Tilery Primary School - Ms K Sainsbury (Lab) Mrs E Miller

William Cassidi CE Primary School - Mrs V Fletcher (Lab)

**CAB
19/14** **Flood Support - Repair & Renew Grant Scheme**

Consideration was given to a report on the Flood Support – Repair and Renewal Grant Scheme.

The Government had made available "Repair and Renew" grants of up to £5,000 for the owners of premises that were affected by the December 2013 tidal surge floods. The grants were to establish flood resilience measures to reduce the risk of future flooding and/or minimise the impact of future flooding. The grants were intended to fund measures over and above repairs that would normally be covered by insurance. Local authorities wishing to award grants were required to develop and administer their own schemes within government guidance. The report outlined a framework for the Council's Repair and Renew Grant (RRG) scheme, including the general eligibility criteria and arrangements for awarding the grants. The scheme must be implemented quickly, as the grants must be paid and claimed back from Government within the 2014/2015 financial year.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The general eligibility conditions and arrangements for administering the Council's Repair and Renew Grant scheme, which are in line with the Government's criteria and described in the report be approved.
2. The final approval of the scheme be delegated to the Corporate Director of Resources in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment.

**CAB
20/14**

Local Growth Fund

Consideration was given to a report that provided a position statement on the Tees Valley Local Growth Fund and associated areas of work.

Provided below is a position statement on the Local Growth Fund and associated work taking place across the sub-region:-

CITY DEAL – The City Deal was a bespoke agreement between Government and the LEP on how best to ensure the area's growth and prosperity.

- The Tees Valley City Deal was announced by the Prime Minister in December 2013
- Supports the creation of 3,500 jobs
- £28 million of private sector investment
- Particular focus upon the low carbon economy with the ambition for Tees Valley to become a global pioneer in carbon capture and storage (CCS) (Government pledged £1m for Tees Valley to explore CCS technology and undertake a pre-Front End Engineering and Design study
- City Deal enabled Tees Valley to secure £7m for the Tees Valley Jobs and Skills Investment Scheme and £2.4m towards a Business Growth Hub

TEES VALLEY STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PLAN (SEP) - The Strategic Economic Plan would be used to help the LEP identify the area's main economic opportunities and how barriers can be addressed with greater freedoms and flexibilities through the allocation of the Government's new Local Growth Fund and through the new negotiation of a Growth Deal.

- Final SEP submitted to Government on 31st March 2014
- An update on the aims, priorities and Growth Deal 'Asks' of the SEP were included as part of the Economic Climate Report in April 2014
- Feedback from Government is expected in July 2014 and negotiations are taking place with Government working up and agreeing Growth Deal 'Asks'.

LOCAL GROWTH FUND (LGF) BID – The bid details the projects and programmes that the LEP sought funding support from Government in 2015-2016 (and 2016-2017 for Skills Capital Projects).

- Tees Valley bid submitted to Government on 31st March 2014
- 'Ask' from Government of £71.5m for projects across the Tees Valley (£66.5m for LGF for 2015/16, £5m for LGF Skills Capital for 2016/17)

- Discussions have been on-going about prioritisation of projects
- Allocations are expected to be announced by Government in July 2014

EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL INVESTMENT FUNDS – The funds had been designed by the European Union (EU) to promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and cohesion across different areas of the EU.

- Final Tees Valley European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy (ESIFS) was submitted to Government in January 2014
- A notional allocation of £173m for Tees Valley (for ERDF, ESF, EAFRD and Youth Employment Initiative)
- TVU is currently responding to Government feedback and an implementation plan is being developed over the coming months, with a number of Task and Finish Groups currently underway working up the scope of activities under each theme of the Structural Funds and how these can be procured and delivered
- UK Partnership Agreement between UK Government and European Commission currently being negotiated
- Funds expected to be available from early 2015

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

**CAB
21/14** **ECONOMIC CLIMATE UPDATE REPORT**

Consideration was given to an update report on the Economic Climate. The report provided Members with an overview of the economic climate, outlining the effects that this was having on Stockton Borough, and the mitigations already in place and those being developed in response to this.

A report was submitted to Cabinet in December 2008, which set the scene of the economic downturn, and the effects that the global recession and economic climate were having on businesses, rising unemployment, and mortgage repossessions.

The monthly update report would enable a focussed account to be made of any recent changes to economic circumstances (both positive and negative), the direct impact that this may be having on the Borough, and the responses and mitigations either in place or being developed to support businesses and residents. Attached to the report was a summary of those changes and responses.

RESOLVED that the content of the report be noted and the work undertaken to date be supported.