

## **Cabinet**

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Thursday, 12th July, 2018.

**Present:** Cllr Robert Cook(Chair), Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Michael Smith and Cllr Norma Wilburn.

**Officers:** Neil Schneider (CE), Julie Danks, Margaret Waggott, Gary Woods, Peter Mennear, Peter Bell (DCE), Ged Morton (HR&L), Garry Cummings, Ian Miles (F&BS), Martin Gray (CHS), Jane Edmonds (ED&D), Ann Workman (AH), Jamie McCann (CS), Reuben Kench (C,L&E).

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Sonia Bailey (Vice Chair of Place Select Committee), Cllr Carol Clark (Chair of Children and Young People Select Committee), Cllr Jean O'Donnell (Chair of People Select Committee), Cllr Paul Rowling.  
Members of the Public.

**Apologies:** None.

### **CAB 32/18**      **Welcome and Evacuation Procedure**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the evacuation procedure was noted.

### **CAB 33/18**      **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Jim Beall declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 5 - People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm as his wife had gave evidence to the People Select Committee.

Councillor Jim Beall declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 5 - People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm as he was on the Board of Eastern Ravens who had given evidence to the People Select Committee.

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 5 - People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm as he was a member of Catalyst.

Councillor Ann McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 5 - People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm as she was Board of Governors of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys (TEWV) NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Nigel Cooke declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 5 - People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm as he was employed by Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys (TEWV) NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Ann McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6 - Children and Young People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Inclusion in Schools as she was Board of Governors of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys (TEWV) NHS Foundation Trust.

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6 - Children and Young People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Inclusion in Schools as he was on the Board of Governors Frederick Natrass School.

Councillor Bob Cook declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6 - Children and Young People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Inclusion in Schools as he was a governor at two schools within the Borough.

Councillor Steve Nelson declared a personal prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 7 - Place Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Management of Memorials as family members were affected by the recommendations contained within the report. Councillor Steve Nelson withdrew from the meeting and left the room during consideration of the item.

Councillor Nigel Cooke declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 9 - MTFP Outturn Report March 2018 as he was Board Member of Tees Music Alliance and the Georgian Theatre.

Councillor Bob Cook declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 11 – Minutes of Various Bodies as he was a member of TVCA Cabinet.

Councillor Ann McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 13 - Local Authority Governors on School Governing Bodies as she was named within the report.

Councillor Ann McCoy declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 14 - Affordable Warmth Outcomes as she was a member of SDAIS.

Councillor Nigel Cooke declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 16 – Economic Climate Update as he was Board Member of Tees Music Alliance and the Georgian Theatre.

**CAB  
34/18**      **Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2018**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2018 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**CAB  
35/18**      **People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm**

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the People Select Committee's review of Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide and Self-Harm.

RESOLVED that:-

The Council will:

1. Lobby government for increased mental health funding as a percentage of the total NHS budget, with more targeted towards universal services and lower-level support.
2. Adopt the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health, and encourage other local stakeholder organisations to also commit to this.
3. Ensure that existing service directories contain up-to-date and accurate information on local and national sources of support and the promotion of good mental health.
4. Arrange for the recommendations from this scrutiny review report to be shared with the Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee.

#### Health and Wellbeing

5. HaST CCG, Public Health and Catalyst (the strategic infrastructure organisation for the Borough committed to providing an effective voice, representation and support for the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector) work together to facilitate co-operation between Voluntary Sector providers of mental health services.
6. HaST CCG and Public Health use existing communication channels (e.g. Time Out sessions) to increase GP practice staff awareness of local mental health services in addition to those offered by TEWV CAMHS.
7. HaST CCG provide an update to the People Select Committee on the progress, and any subsequent outcomes, of the CAMHS service review to enable the impact on wider children and young people's services to be understood.
8. The development of a panel to plan for the transition of children and young people from CAMHS to Adult Mental Health Services be endorsed, and the People Select Committee receive an update from TEWV following initial roll-out.

#### Education

9. Every local school and college be strongly encouraged to have a designated lead in mental health in advance of the government target of 2025.
10. Further work be undertaken to understand the level of spend by schools on counselling and therapeutic services, as part of the Future in Mind transformation programme.
11. Good practice on mental health promotion and support be shared across and between educational establishments, including the learning from the recent secondary school emotional health and wellbeing pilot programme.
12. Results of the ongoing Safeguarding Pupil Survey 2018 be fed back to the People Select Committee, including comparisons to the 2016 survey results.

**Children and Young People Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of  
Inclusion in Schools**

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the Children and Young People Select Committee's review of Inclusion in Schools.

The aim of the review was to consider the Council's role in promoting inclusion in education, and understanding the range of approaches taken in local schools. This was in the context of rising numbers of exclusions and managed moves. The Review also considered the issues around Elective Home Education.

RESOLVED that:-

The Committee recommend that the Council takes action in six main areas:

Make representation locally, regionally and nationally about the implications of the increase in school exclusions and challenge policies we feel are inappropriate.

1. Submit a copy of the Committee's final report to local schools and Academy Trusts, the National School's Commissioner, and Secretary of State for Education.
2. Continue to emphasise our concerns locally to schools and Multi Academy Trusts.
3. Continues to write to the Regional School Commissioner and escalate concerns where necessary.
4. Works with our MPs to exert pressure on the National Schools Commissioner.
5. Uses the Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Children's Services networks to advocate for a more inclusive approach, make representations for increased financial support to Local Authorities, and push for more up to date information to be used by Department for Education and Ofsted.

Make it more challenging for schools to pursue exclusion by providing additional guidance on alternative approaches, and being more proactive in our approach to pupils at risk of exclusion. We will be proactive in our approach to challenging schools with high numbers of FTEs.

6. Suggest an approach to schools to assess what other support has been or could be provided to pupils, with an emphasis on ensuring enough time is allowed for interventions to work. This will include:

- a) We will publish and circulate to all schools a statement of the Local Authority's preferred approach to behaviour management, to include: details of the support available via the Pupil Inclusion Panel (PIP), and examples of

positive practice/multi-agency working that has reduced exclusions and improved outcomes for children.

b) We will promote an approach whereby schools assess what support has been arranged in each case where there are repeated fixed term exclusions. We will continue to raise concerns about individual pupils directly with schools.

7. Continues to promote attachment training to local schools and monitor the take up.

8. Works to enhance the role of Governors in supporting inclusive practice. This will include promotion of training opportunities, awareness of SEND duties, and promotion of the role of PIP within their school.

Make schools more accountable for their actions on exclusion

9. Publishes an annual report from the Pupil Inclusion Panel (PIP). This will include trends in the exclusion data, and school engagement with the PIP.

10. Publishes exclusion data on our website each School Term.

Make it easier for parents to challenge exclusions

11. Develops a guide for parents, highlighting their rights to appeal, and publish this on the SBC website.

12. Supports and advocates for parents who wish to challenge decisions, including where exclusions are potentially in breach of the Equality Act 2010.

Make the alternatives clearer, realistic and of high quality

13. Provides guidance on alternative approaches to behaviour management and best practice.

14. Ensures schools are engaged with Early Help, and review the offer.

15. Reviews the Alternative Provision offer, including the role of the PRU and its greater focus on early intervention and prevention, and if possible, development of a free school.

16. Improves the SEND offer, including the development of a free school.

17. Explores development of an Elective Home Education Multi-agency Group for Stockton to better understand any gaps in services.

In relation to elective home education

18. Continues to engage with schools and families to prevent EHE wherever possible, and monitor individual cases of children in EHE using the full extent of

Local Authority powers.

19. Highlights our concerns regarding EHE with local MPs and Secretary of State for Education.

**CAB  
37/18**

**Place Select Committee - Scrutiny Review of Management of Memorials**

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the Place Select Committee's review of Management of Memorials.

RESOLVED that:-

1. There be a continuation of the current Grave Personalisation Policy (GPP) (incorporating the 'soft' enforcement approach) in the five existing Borough cemeteries.
2. Further work with memorial masons be undertaken to emphasise the problems with unauthorised professionally-fixed kerb sets and the impact of these on all cemetery-users, and for appropriate action to be taken against masons who knowingly sell items which are not approved or permitted in the Borough's cemeteries.
3. A separate, distinct policy be adopted for the offer of different grave types, initially in the new Durham Road cemetery extension (to operate in tandem with the current GPP), and for this to be effectively communicated to all cemetery-users before, and robustly enforced following, implementation. This would require:
  - a) a thorough programme of awareness-raising across the Borough to inform relevant organisations within the funeral industry (e.g. funeral directors, memorial masons, North Tees Mortuary & Bereavement Team) and the public of these plans.
  - b) the Registrars of Births and Deaths to work in partnership with the Bereavement Team. Registrars, following the registration of the death, to advise an informant who is choosing burial of the burial options available to them, thus allowing the family to be aware of what options are available to them prior to meeting with their chosen funeral director / funeral organiser.
  - c) exploring the potential of widening the colour choice for the grave collars.
  - d) an evaluation of the grave collar concept to be provided to the Place Select Committee prior to any potential further roll-out in other extensions to existing or new Borough cemeteries.
4. Communication takes place with relevant local media outlets regarding the GPP (current and for the new concept), and the challenges to the Council around grave personalisation, in order to avoid future misrepresentation of situations.

**CAB 38/18**      **Revised Asbestos Management Policy**

Consideration was given to a report on the Revised Asbestos Management Policy.

The Council as a Local Authority had responsibility for the management of asbestos. An Asbestos Management Policy was approved by Cabinet in January 2011 which set out the responsibility, accountability and measures to reduce the risks associated with asbestos in Council buildings to ensure all legislative requirements were fully met. The report revised the previously approved Asbestos Management Policy to reflect current legislation and the changes to management structures and revisions to responsibilities for assets following various reviews.

The main aim of the Asbestos policy was to ensure that any asbestos located within Council buildings was managed in accordance with relevant legislation. There would also be a requirement on contactors to demonstrate that all staff had sufficient knowledge to recognise asbestos if they encounter it.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The revised policy for Asbestos Management as shown in Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
2. The responsible officers within the policies be noted.
3. Delegate corporate responsibility for the implementation of the revised policy for Asbestos Management to the Director of Economic Growth & Development.

**CAB 39/18**      **MTFP Outturn Report March 2018**

Consideration was given to a report that on the financial performance and position at the end of the 2017/18 financial year and updates the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) as at 31 March 2018.

A table within the report set out the final financial position for each Directorate as at 31 March 2018. The reasons for any significant movements were summarised within the report.

The position regarding managed surplus funds was detailed within the report. This had been updated to reflect the position at year end.

The Capital budget up to 2021 was attached to the report and summarised within a table in the report.

Members noted that the programme had been updated to reflect the approvals contained within the 2018/19 Budget Report and to reflect changes to the programme resulting from the sourcing of external funding. The changes were summarised within an attachment to the report. The Programme had also been updated to reflect schemes which had completed in 2017/18.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The MTFP and the current level of General Fund balances be noted.
2. The revised Capital Programme attached at Appendix A of the report be noted.

**CAB  
40/18**      **Xentrall Annual Report**

Consideration was given to a report on the progress and performance of Xentrall Shared Services, the Stockton and Darlington partnership, which had just celebrated its tenth anniversary.

Xentrall Shared Services, the Stockton and Darlington partnership, was established in May 2008. The Xentrall services were:

- ICT (strategy and operations)
- Transactional HR (payroll, recruitment, sickness absence)
- Transactional Finance (creditors, debtors, banking, schools finance)
- Design & Print (professional buyer, in-house design and print)

The original business case identified a number of efficiencies and benefits to be delivered resulting in initial savings of £7.4m over the original ten year period. The successful partnership had delivered all of these plus additional efficiencies and benefits and had made almost double the original targeted savings over the same ten year period. At the same time the quality and performance of services had improved, with both customer and staff satisfaction increasing over the same period.

Xentrall had continued to explore new opportunities for external business in-line with the partnership's objective of tactically growing the business. The successes were detailed within the report.

As well as new activities, existing external customers had been retained and had signed up to new service level agreements for 2018. This was a significant achievement and a reflection of the value of Xentrall services.

As well as providing services to external customers and generating income, Xentrall had continued to be busy delivering projects across Stockton and Darlington Councils.

The year would continue to be a busy one for all four of the Xentrall services. The "day job" involved delivering ICT systems to and supporting 4,500 ICT users, managing a payroll of 15,000, processing thousands of invoices and managing a very busy design and print studio. On top of this, amongst there were many projects to be undertaken and these were listed within the report.

As with previous years, the continual service improvement mentality within Xentrall would be applied to leverage any further service improvements and/or savings for both Councils. Xentrall would also continue to assess new partnering and business opportunities as and when these arise, which fits in with its business plan of tactically growing the business and in turn help to



support both Council's Medium Term Financial Plans.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The report be noted.
2. The success of Xentrall be acknowledged reaching its tenth anniversary and achieving £13.6m savings which is almost double its original target and this public/public partnership continues to outperform the private sector.

**CAB  
41/18**      **Minutes of Outside Bodies**

Consideration was given to a report on the minutes of various bodies.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution or previous practice the minutes of the meeting of the bodies indicated below were submitted for consideration:-

TVCA Cabinet – 14 May 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings detailed in the appendices be approved / received, as appropriate.

**CAB  
42/18**      **Children's Services Progress Update: 2017/18 - Year End and Quarter 4**

Consideration was given to a report that provided a summary of performance across Children's Services. It included both a quarter 4 update and an annual update. It was based on the Children's Strategy priorities agreed by Cabinet in June 2017.

The report summarised performance information in relation to the Children's Services Strategy 2017-20. This strategy, agreed by Cabinet in June 2017, sets out the key priorities for Children's Services and the key performance indicators associated with delivery.

The update report was in three parts:

- a. Update on 2017/18 priorities.
- b. Update on other actions and progress against the wider strategy
- c. A summary of priorities for 2018/19.

With regard to giving children the best start in life in addition to the commissioning process for 0-19 services, there were a number of other outcomes and updates to report on:

- a. Take up of the existing free entitlement to 15 hours of education was at 100%.
- b. There had been a significant and sustained increase in the take up of the disadvantaged 2 old places, from 54% take up in 2015 to 94% take up in 2018.
- c. In relation to the roll out of the 30 hours of support overall, the Council remained on track to deliver the required numbers of places, and to support a gradual increase in uptake. There were around 45% of parents registered from

those eligible. Provision included capacity for around 1600 places, and demand was forecast to rise further. This would be monitored on a regular basis to ensure a supply of places.

With regard to focusing on schools and learning outcomes key areas of update for this priority included:

- a. For both primary and secondary schools with an Ofsted judgement as of 31 March. 2018: 92% of those schools with a judgment were judged outstanding or good.
- b. The % of pupils in good or outstanding schools as of March 2018 was 92.2% (of the 74 schools with a judgement).
- c. The Review of School Inclusion being undertaken by the Children and Young People Select Committee was nearing completion and had gained significant local profile.
- d. Officers had commenced new termly meetings with the Regional Schools Commissioner on the progress and issues across Stockton-on-Tees. These were designed to enhance the process for any schools causing concern.
- e. Officers were working with the Tees Valley Combined Authority to ensure Stockton issues were considered as part of the Education, Employment and Skills strategy for the Tees Valley, as the details of the careers and the education improvement priorities were finalised.
- f. The School Improvement Board for the Tees Valley had been established and Tees Valley was successful in a number of proposals to the second round, including a project led by the Council, one of the few nationally to be led by a local authority.
- g. A project was being developed to work with Thornaby Academy on improving its perception in the local community. This was being delivered as part of the Talent Network

With regard to safeguarding and protecting vulnerable children and young people, backed by outstanding social work practice the overall summary position was:

- a. The Council continued to maintain high performance around timeliness and efficiency of our processes;
- b. The reductions in levels of referrals, and assessments was evidence that the rising levels of demand experienced in the past 2 years may be slowing down;
- c. The Council had been successful in reducing the numbers of children on child protection plans, but it needed to be monitoring the rate at which children required additional child protection plans – as this can be evidence of over optimistic decision making;
- d. The Council continued to have high rates of children in need – the Council was working to step down cases to early help wherever possible.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The continued performance in respect of early years and schools be noted.
2. The continued performance and outcomes from inspection for children's homes be noted.

3. The outcomes from peer challenge and inspection be noted.
4. The key priorities for 2018/19 be noted.

**CAB  
43/18**     **LA Nominations**

In accordance with the procedure for the appointment of school / academy governors, approved as Minute CAB 27/13 of the Cabinet (13 June 2013), Cabinet was invited to consider the following nominations to school / academy Governing Bodies.

Harewood Primary School – Mr R Jordinson  
High Clarence Primary School – Councillor Ann McCoy  
Northfield School and Sports College - Mrs M Stanton

RESOLVED that the above appointments be made to the vacant Governorships subject to successful List 99 check and Personal Disclosure.

**CAB  
44/18**     **Affordable Warmth Outcomes**

Consideration was given to a report on the Affordable Warmth Outcomes 2017/18.

Levels of fuel poverty had been increasing across the UK as energy prices rise and household incomes were squeezed. It was an issue that still affected 9,907 (12.3%) of households across Stockton-on-Tees and there were also persistent inequalities between wards and Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs).

The inability to keep warm at home was more than just a comfort issue; it had a real measurable impact on health and wellbeing. Promoting affordable warmth and tackling fuel poverty remained at the top of the agenda in Stockton-on-Tees and the Affordable Warmth Strategy directed an approach to prioritising key issues, and delivering interventions to address them.

During the winter 2017/18 the Council had:

- supported 287 households through the Warm Homes Healthy People Programme
- assisted 206 households through Energy Champions
- have saved an estimated £41,000 for 231 households through the Big Community Switch
- brought in £616,499 of additional income for 354 vulnerable households through various programmes
- Began delivery under a £1.6 m consortium scheme to bring first time central heating systems to fuel poor households

RESOLVED that the report on outcomes to tackle fuel poverty in vulnerable households be noted.

**CAB  
45/18**

## **Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Report 2018**

Consideration was given to a report on the Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) Report 2018.

The Council had a strong track record and had demonstrated significant performance in reducing net emissions of greenhouse gases since Local Authority reporting began in 2009, and had been recognised nationally for work on energy efficiency and carbon reduction. The Council was required to submit a Greenhouse Gas Emissions report detailing all direct and indirect emissions from Council activity to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) in July each year, under a Memorandum of Understanding between BEIS and the Local Government Association (LGA).

The report highlighted that in 2017/18 the Council had performed extremely well once more, reducing net emissions by 32.4% since 2014/15 against a challenging target of 15.3%, to a total of 17,879 tonnes per annum. Since 2012/13 the Council had reduced the emissions from sources that were owned or controlled directly by 45%, and this was the third year in a row that all seven areas of emissions activity had shown a decrease in a 12 month period.

Subsequently the Council had also made significant financial savings as a result, with combined financial savings / cost of avoidance of £553k in the last financial year, compared to £399k saved in 2016/17. As projects such as the LED street lighting replacement programme continued deliver real benefits and savings, and the adopted Climate Change Strategy was being delivered, it was anticipated that the Council would achieve a challenging target of a 21% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from Council activity by March 2020.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The positive performance in reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases from Council activity in 2017/18, and associated financial savings be supported.
2. The continued efforts of the Council to reduce emissions via a range of activities be supported.

**CAB  
46/18**

## **Economic Climate Update Report**

Consideration was given to a report on the Economic Climate.

The report, and subsequent quarterly updates, provided Members with an update on information published in Stockton's Local Economic Assessment 2017 as well as key recent economic announcements.

The report specifically includes a position statement on the first year of delivery of the Economic Strategy 2017-2032 and Growth Plan 2017-2020.

The report was presented to Cabinet on a quarterly basis. The emphasis of each report focuses on a particular theme as follows:

- People – labour supply

- Place – key economic development locations
- Business – key sectors and businesses
- Economic Performance Summary Report and Economic Growth Plan monitoring

Each thematic report was presented in four sections:

- Economic Dashboard – presented a number of key indicators which were monitored at least quarterly, and included a position statement against the two indicators of growth relevant to the ‘People’ chapter
- Updates – summarising key announcements and developments:
  - updates – announcements with implications across key sectors, the region and nationally
  - business announcements – announcements from some of the key businesses within the Borough
  - strategic locations – a brief update on any new development at strategic employment locations across the Borough
  - training & skills – provides an update on emerging news relating to skills needs and provision

Internet links had been included, where possible, to provide digital viewers of the report with more information on each announcement.

- Theme Review – An in depth focus, and the substantive part of the report, on key statistics affecting business, people or place. Most of the referenced statistics in the review are produced annually and cannot be updated quarterly.
- Case Study – A relevant case study for the theme. For example, the ‘Business’ case study in the report focuses on the Chemical Industry in the Borough.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The report be noted.
2. The work being undertaken be supported.

**CAB  
47/18**

### **Selective Licensing of Private Rented Accommodation**

Consideration was given to a report on Selective Licensing of Private Rented Accommodation.

Approval had been granted to implement an area based, targeted intervention approach which would provide a visible, neighbourhood management presence to some of the more vulnerable local communities, specifically those areas which tend to experience high levels of low value private rented accommodation (the central Stockton area and the Victoria area in Thornaby). As part of this proposal Cabinet granted approval (November 2017) to explore Selective Licensing as a tool to address low housing demand and tackle irresponsible landlords.

Following a detailed assessment of selective licensing, approval was sought to undertake formal consultation on the proposed implementation of a Selective Licensing designation. Selective Licensing would provide an additional 'tool' which would work alongside other existing activities undertaken by the Council to provide a period of 'intensive care' for areas of the Borough (specifically 'Central Stockton' and 'North Thornaby'). It was proposed that Selective Licensing was required within each of the two proposed locations on the basis that the areas were, or are likely to become areas of low housing demand, had high concentrations of private rented properties (well above the national average) and were experiencing high levels of deprivation.

The proposal was further underpinned by evidence that these areas also experience significant and persistent anti-social behaviour and levels of crime. The Council would charge a fee to cover the cost of operating a Selective Licensing scheme, this would be a ring-fenced account solely in connection with the scheme. As the Council sought to support responsible landlords, it was proposed to offer a £100 per property discount for landlords who were members of the Council's Voluntary Accreditation Scheme and/or those who were members of nationally recognised landlords associations.

With regard to the next steps, should Cabinet support 'in principle' the Selective Licensing proposal then a period of detailed consultation would commence and following this a further report would be presented back to Cabinet. Members were asked to note that running in parallel with the 10-week selective licensing consultation, work would also be ongoing on the wider Targeted Action Area project which was aimed at supporting the broader central Stockton and Victoria area in Thornaby.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The evidence base to support the introduction of Selective Licensing designation of private rented accommodation within two distinct areas of the Borough, Central Stockton and North Thornaby be noted (as detailed in the attached Selective Licensing Scheme Proposal and supporting appendices and paragraphs 11-12 of the report).
2. Approval 'in principle' be granted to pursue a scheme of Selective Licensing in both Central Stockton and North Thornaby as detailed within the attached Selective Licensing Scheme Proposal Report.
3. Subject to the above, Officers commence a detailed programme of public consultation to ensure that the Council takes "reasonable steps to consult with persons who are likely to be affected by the designation" as required Part 3 of the Housing Act 2004 Section 80 (9) and in accordance with relevant Government guidance.
4. A further report be presented back to Cabinet following the conclusion of the above public consultation exercise. The report will inform Cabinet of the outcomes of the consultation and allow Cabinet to decide whether to make a Selective Licensing designation (covering Central Stockton and North Thornaby).

**CAB  
48/18**      **Southern Gateway**

Consideration was given to a report that sought approval to dispose of the Southern Gateway site in Stockton Town Centre to support delivery of a new food retail outlet in Stockton Town Centre.

Previous reports to Cabinet had identified the long term aspiration to redevelop the site known as the Southern Gateway.

For a number of years, the Council had acquired various interest across the site with a view to gaining full control to enable a high quality development on the site.

Following an approach from a major food retailer, the Council had been in discussions regarding a potential Town Centre site for a foodstore. Their requirements could not be met by existing space given the specific specialist requirements and agreement had been reached on terms regarding the disposal of the land outlined in an attachment to the report. The proposal for a foodstore, would be in line with planning guidelines and would be an asset to the Town Centre and would generate a capital receipt for the Council.

The details of the disposal terms were shown as a confidential attachment to the report.

Under paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 members of the press and public left the meeting while Members considered the exempt information.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The disposal be agreed of the Southern Gateway site (Appendix A of the report) with the terms agreed at Appendix B of the report.
2. The detailed terms of disposal be delegated to the Director of Finance and Business Services in consultation with the Leader of the Council.

**CAB  
49/18**      **Exclusion of the Public**

RESOLVED that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

**CAB  
50/18**      **Southern Gateway - Appendix B**

This is the exempt information that was considered with regard to the above item. Please see the above item for the decision of Cabinet.

