

## Cabinet

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Thursday, 19th March, 2020.

**Present:** Cllr Robert Cook (Chair), Cllr Jim Beall, , Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Lisa Evans , Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson, Cllr Michael Smith

**Officers:** Julie Danks (MD), Beccy Brown, Ged Morton (HR&L), Garry Cummings (F&BS), Martin Gray (CHS), Reuben Kench (CL&E), Richard McGuckin (ED&D), Jamie McCann (CS), Ann Workman (AH).

**Also in attendance:** Councillors Baldock Gamble, and N.Stephenson O.B.E.

**Apologies:** N/A

### **CAB Evacuation Procedure**

**113/19**

The evacuation procedure was noted.

### **CAB Declarations of Interest**

**114/19**

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

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Cllr Bob Cook declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item Scrutiny Review of Careers Provision due to being a portfolio holder on the Tees Valley Combined Authority.

Councillor Nelson declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item Supplementary Planning Document Adoption as he was a Director of Thirteen Group and therefore in a position of general control or management of an organisation with an interest in land allocated for affordable housing within the Local Plan. Councillor Nelson withdrew from the meeting and left the room during consideration of the item.

### **CAB Minutes of the Special meeting held on 20th February and the meeting held on 27th February 2020**

**115/19**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings held on 20th and 27th February 2020.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 20th and 27th February 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

### **CAB Minutes of Various Bodies**

**116/19**

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

RESOLVED that the minutes detailed in the appendices of the report be received.

**CAB 117/19 The Communities Strategy 2020-2023**

The Council recognised the great value and impact of our strong and vibrant communities and wished to continue its support to community activity and engagement. Consideration was given as to how it planned to do this through a new proposed Communities Strategy.

The strategy would replace the Brighter Borough For All Strategy and would be underpinned by a framework of seven new Community Forums, detailed as follows, which would replace the existing Locality Forums:-

- Billingham Communities
- Norton Communities
- Ingleby Barwick Communities
- Yarm & Parishes Communities\*
- Stockton West Communities
- Stockton Central Communities
- Thornaby Communities

\*Following consultation responses from key stakeholders involved, it had now been requested that this Forum be named the 'Yarm & Eaglescliffe Parishes Communities.

Details of the proposed membership of each Forum was detailed at Appendix 3 to the report. Their work would continue to be facilitated, coordinated and supported by the Community Engagement Team.

The new approach proposed by the Strategy would retain a focus on activity to tackle poverty but would also support and encourage the community activity that we see in the strong, cohesive communities we have across the borough. The Community Forums would also provide a valuable vehicle to support the work to tackle loneliness across the Borough.

RESOLVED that Cabinet endorse the 2020-2023 Communities Strategy and the formation of the seven Community Forums, as amended and as outlined.

**CAB 118/19 Teesside International Airport (TIAL) - Joint Venture Consent**

Cabinet noted progress made in relation to the delivery of the Tees Valley Combined Authority business case for Teesside International Airport (TIAL) along with request for shareholder consent to enable TIAL to progress a joint venture for the development of land identified as Southside in line with the proposed business case.

Southside formed a significant area land lying to the southern side of the main

airport complex and the operational areas including the main runways and airport taxiing routes. The land lay partly within Darlington Borough but predominantly within Stockton Borough and extended to approximately 109 hectares.

The land had been granted outline planning permission by the Secretary of State in 1999 for freight handling, distribution and packaging, freight forwarding and light industrial / commercial assembly and in 2007 approval was granted for the land to be made available for general industrial use as employment land. Southside remained allocated within Stockton and Darlington's respective Local Plans to provide sufficient specialist land to support the expansion of airport related uses, but supported by a proportion of general employment land.

The local authority shareholders, including Stockton, owned 11% of TIAL in total and each had long recognised the importance of a successful Southside development to underpin a viable airport and the issue had been a consistent theme and was always envisaged as part of the development of the airport business.

In January 2019, the Tees Valley Combined Authority approved investment proposals for the acquisition and development of TIAL and had engaged with consultants to provide advice on the purchase, valuation and development potential of land as well as outline options assessment. The final recommendations to the TVCA Cabinet was supported by the Full Business Case: "Securing the Future of Our Airport". The business case included reference to the airport's land development opportunities, noting that the Southside presented the most significant opportunity and that maximising the wider property assets was key to improving the financial viability of the airport.

The TVCA Cabinet and the airport board of directors had now taken decisions that would provide for the Southside land to be unlocked taking the development of the Southside into a new stage. The upfront infrastructure had been costed at £23.6 million, this to provide road access, utilities and flood mitigation works. Additional information provided to the Airport Board was included with this agenda as an exempt appendix (Appendix A).

The specifics of the investment by TVCA was that TIAL would draw down a loan of £23.6m from the TVCA to fund the upfront infrastructure requirement. This was to be repaid throughout the period of development. Ultimately through the period of development TIAL would still continue be underwritten as a going concern by TVCA.

Cabinet noted that TIAL would enter into a joint venture partnership with the private sector to deliver construction of the infrastructure and development of the business park and the TIAL board had ultimately decided to enter into a joint venture partnership with the Theakston Land and Wynyard Business Park to deliver construction of the infrastructure and development of the business park through the establishment of a joint venture subsidiary.

RESOLVED that Cabinet:-

1. Note the decision of the TVCA Cabinet to support the development of the

Southside through a loan of £23.6m to TIAL for enabling infrastructure.

2. Note the decision of the TIAL Board to enter into a joint venture and establish a subsidiary company with their selected developers Theakston Land and Wynyard Business Park to undertake the development of the Southside.

3. Provide consent to TIAL to pursue the Southside development including consent to the establishment of the subsidiary and the grant of a 125 year lease.

**CAB  
119/19**      **Scrutiny Review of Careers Provision**

Consideration was given to the final report that presented the outcomes of the Children & Young People Select Committee review examining Careers Provision.

RESOLVED that::

1. Recognising that a strong careers programme leads to better outcomes for young people and benefits the economy, all schools be encouraged to work towards achieving all Gatsby Benchmarks for all students.
2. All schools and colleges be encouraged to ensure they access independent and impartial Careers Guidance for all of their students.
3. Governing bodies be encouraged to identify a lead from senior management teams and a governor lead to champion careers provision and support the school to work towards meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks.
4. The Careers and Enterprise Company establish a framework for independent scrutiny and challenge of school's self-evaluation of their performance against the Gatsby Benchmarks, including a requirement for schools and colleges to evidence their self-assessments.
5. Recognising the lack of consistent quality of careers guidance across schools and colleges, the Council takes a lead role in working alongside stakeholders to establish more opportunities for schools and colleges to share best practice.
6. The Council works with stakeholders to promote opportunities for apprenticeships and work experience across the Borough.
7. Recognising that the effectiveness of the Council's targeted model in reducing NEET in Stockton (through improving Y12 starts in EET and in reducing drop-out of students from local colleges), there should be a continued focus upon targeted support for Stockton young people as they choose and progress through their individual learning pathways.

**CAB  
120/19**      **Single Use Materials Policy 2020-2025**

As part of the Council's commitment to environmental improvement and sustainability, consideration was given to a proposed new Council Single Use

## Materials Policy 2020-2025.

The Council had previously demonstrated its environmental commitment through a variety of strategic and operational commitments ranging from the significant investment and performance in areas such as energy reduction in street lighting, to reducing the Council's greenhouse gas emissions.

Previous Environment Policy, adopted in December 2017, included the priority of managing resources sustainably. This was consistent with the Governments 'Resources and Waste Strategy for England' 2018 which set out how the UK would double resource productivity and eliminate avoidable waste of all kinds (including plastic waste) by 2050, with a focus on minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy.

There was now a drive for a more circular economy, maximising the value of resources and minimising waste and its impact on the environment. The Council, as the largest local authority in the region, had a key role to play in single use material waste, particularly plastic. Single use materials such as plastics, were products designed for a single use after which they were recycled or disposed as solid waste, often implying cheapness and short-term convenience rather than medium to long-term durability. Plastic was the most prominent and high profile material with 79% of the plastic waste ever produced now residing in landfills or in the environment and only 9% ever having been recycled.

The Council, in recognising the importance of its role and enhancing the Environment Policy, was therefore proposing to commit to:

- Minimising the dependence on single use materials across the Council
- Increasing the amount of recycling and reducing the amount of general waste to Energy from Waste
- Separating out materials via collection facilities in all main buildings
- Phasing out all single use materials by 2025 from Council activity
- Leading by example, influencing partners, suppliers and contractors, and increasing public awareness of the issue.

By adopting the Single Use Materials Policy, it would seek to ensure that we minimise and phase out the use of single materials across the Council by 2025 and:

- Audit all current internal arrangements, adopt an 'action plan to zero' on single use materials in the next 12 months, and agree targets for annual improvements
- Implement a phased approach to new internal waste and recycling collection facilities in all operational assets, beginning with our six main administrative buildings in 2020/21
- Implement awareness campaigns, engage with suppliers, contractors and stakeholders to phase out the removal of all single use materials from Council processes
- Engage with partners in joint ventures and innovative projects to raise awareness, reduce and phase out single use material waste
- Measure and publically report the impacts of the Policy and actions on reducing waste and our pathway to Zero Single Use Materials
- Deliver communications campaigns on single use materials and recycling

RESOLVED that Cabinet note the report and the rationale for a new Single Use Materials Policy and approve the attached policy.

**CAB 121/19 Supplementary Planning Document Adoption – SPD No.1 - Housing Supplementary Planning Document and SPD No.2 - Householder Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document**

Cabinet noted that Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) provided guidance on how Local Plan policies were applied and would be a material consideration when determining applications for planning permission within the Borough. Consideration was given to two SPDs, the Housing SPD and Householder Extensions and Alterations SPD, which had been published for public consultation and now reflected comments raised during the consultation, with amendments made where appropriate. Full copies of the documents were available on the Council's website, and in the Members Library.

The SPDs were presented to the Council's Planning Committee on 11th March 2020 and their comments were circulated for Cabinet to consider.

Cabinet Members were recommended to note the contents of the documents and recommend to Council approval of the adoption of these documents as Council policy, subject to minor editing and changes that are be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing and the Director of Economic Growth and Development.

Following adoption, the guidance in the documents would be used in the determination of planning applications. Cabinet also noted that there was a need for clarity around the application of the new Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) to existing current, valid planning applications. This was to reassure those applicants who have submitted information to support those applications, or who are currently in negotiation in light of the guidance in an existing SPD, that they will not face a different approach upon adoption of the new SPDs. This would in effect mean that for a short period of time there will be two sets of guidance covering the matters in SPD 1 and SPD 2, until such time as the last of the current, valid applications had been determined.

Therefore, in the interests of fairness and openness, Members were asked to note an amendment to recommendation No.4 to make it clear that the guidance in the new SPDs would only apply to those planning applications received after the date of adoption.

RESOLVED that:-

- 1.Cabinet note the content of the report
- 2.Cabinet endorse SPD No 1 Housing Supplementary Planning Document and SPD No 2 Householder Extensions and Alterations Supplementary Planning Document and recommend that Council approve these documents for adoption; and

3. Cabinet recommend that Council delegates the authority to approve non-material and minor alterations to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing, and the Director of Economic Growth and Development, prior to publication.

4. Cabinet note that if the new SPDs are adopted that the existing SPD2 Householder Extension Guide, SPG 4 High Density Development: Flats and Apartments and SPD 8 Affordable Housing will apply to those planning applications current and valid on the date of adoption and once those applications had been determined, those SPDs would be superseded and replaced and the new SPD 1 and 2 would immediately apply to those planning applications received after the date of adoption.

**CAB 122/19 Teesside International Airport (TIAL) - Joint Venture Consent - Exempt Information**

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