

# Cabinet

A meeting of Cabinet was held on Thursday, 13th October, 2022.

**Present:** Cllr Robert Cook (Chair), Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Lisa Evans, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson and Cllr Norma Stephenson O.B.E.

**Officers:** Julie Danks (MD), Beccy Brown, Julie Butcher, Jonathan Nertney, Michael Henderson (CS), Garry Cummings (F,D&R&DMD), Reuben Kench (CS,E&C), Ann Workman (A&H), Martin Gray (ChS).

**Also in attendance:** Members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllr Mike Smith.

## **CAB Welcome and Evacuation Procedure**

**28/22**

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

## **CAB Declarations of Interest**

**29/22**

With regard to agenda item 6 - An Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years - Update Councillor Bob Cook declared an 'Other Registerable Interest' in this item, as he was a governor of Billingham South Primary School. Councillor Bob Cook left the meeting room during the voting process. Councillor Lisa Evans was in the Chair during consideration of the item.

With regard to agenda item 9 - School Performance 2021-2022 Councillor Bob Cook highlighted that, for reasons of transparency, he was a Governor of two of the schools referred to in that report.

## **CAB Minutes**

**30/22**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2022.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2022 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

## **CAB Council Plan 2022-25 update**

**31/22**

Consideration was given to a report that updated Cabinet on the progress in implementing the Council Plan Priorities 2022/25.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

## **CAB An Investment Strategy for Schools, SEN and Early Years - Update**

**32/22**

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on works delivered to date, through the investment strategy for schools. The report also recommended proposals to address priorities and proposed the allocation of additional available resources, for incorporation into the Capital Programme.

Members noted that £11,773m was available for investment. This resources

was made up of the following:

- . Basic Need Funding for Primary School Development - £5.355m
- . Section 106 contributions - £2.158m
- . Remaining SEND Capital Grant - £4.26m

Cabinet received details of proposed planned investments and necessary changes to schemes already approved, together with associated costs. Those costs total the available investment of £11,773m and are detailed below:

- . Ash Trees Satellite at Billingham South - £1m
- . Abbey Hill Satellite at Northshore expansion - £185k
- . Oxbridge - £7,538m
- . PRU - £300k
- . Outwood Bishopsgarth - £1.2m
- . Eggescliffe - £1.35m
- . Early Years capital grants - £200k

RESOLVED that :

1. The revised programme, outlined in this report, and above, be approved.
2. Approval of variations, caused by cost movements, within the approved Programme, be delegated to the Director of Finance, Development and Regeneration and Deputy MD and the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Children's and Young People.

**CAB 33/22 Minutes of Various Bodies**

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

Safer Stockton Partnership – 8 June 2022

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

**CAB 34/22 Recruitment and Retention in the Care Sector**

Members considered a report that summarised the outcomes of a 6 month pilot programme relating to the challenges of recruitment and retention in the care sector.

It was explained that the pilot had supported the transformation agenda for Care Home and Home Care services, together with the objectives set out for inclusive growth in the Council Plan.

The pilot had a number of priorities:

- Support the recruitment and training of new employees to the sector
- Promote retention of the existing workforce

- Support progression and career development
- Raise the profile of Social Care careers
- Promote the health and wellbeing of those who work in care
- Encourage and support care providers to plan for their future workforce and training needs.

The pilot's work included the establishment of a Sector-Based Work Academy Programme (SWAP), which helped prepare those receiving out of work benefits to apply for jobs in a different area of work and in this case prepares candidates to work in the care sector. Following the SWAP and through direct recruitment, via the Employment and Training Hub, 35 residents have been recruited into roles across Health and Social Care. Of the 35 people securing employment 16 were directly recruited via the E&T Hub and 19 were recruited via the SWAP.

In addition a variety of projects had been developed, and existing projects drawn on to increase knowledge and skills including:

- Well Led Programme
- A Management Skills Development Programme
- North Tees and Hartlepool Education Alliance – the Alliance has trained 40 people working within the older persons sector between April and August.
- Two Pilot Providers secured a place on Skills for Care “Valuable People: Finders Keepers” pilot programme supporting recruitment and retention into the sector.
- Teesside University placements offered to providers – 4 x Physio and 3 x Nursing placements taken up by Roseville, White House, Church View and Woodside Grange care homes.

Communications and marketing resources had been allocated to the project and support resources such as leaflets, display banners and social media campaigns were developed.

The Employment and Training (E&T) Hub continued to host workshops on a regular basis for the National Careers Service (NCS) which supported candidates seeking employment who are already engaged with Job Centre Plus. Providers had also committed time for weekly drop-in sessions at the E&T Hub to promote careers in Care.

Work had been undertaken in conjunction with Tees Valley Combined Authority's Skills for Growth team around completing Skills Needs Assessments with the wider Adult Social Care Sector.

RESOLVED that the introduction and delivery of a focussed approach to recruitment and retention within the care sector in Stockton-on-Tees be supported.

**CAB**  
**35/22**      **School Performance 2021-2022**

Consideration was given to a report that provided a summary of provisional

headline performance data for the academic year 2021-2022 in all Key Stages for all providers across the Borough. This was the first official data set since the pandemic.

Members noted that Primary schools continued to perform well. 93% of schools were good or better (including previous judgements of schools not inspected since academy conversion). This was above average for the region and for England. This reflected the sustained impact of the work of the Education Improvement Service in monitoring, challenging, intervening and supporting the sector, including work with a significant proportion of academies who buy these services. Although the pandemic has led to fewer pupils achieving age-related expectations, outcomes for Stockton-on-Tees pupils in the primary sector were above provisional national average for 2022, on every measure.

Secondary outcomes had improved overall from 2019 to 2022 and were above 2022 national averages in all areas. This was the first time formal exams had taken place since 2019. These results had been self-reported by the schools and academies themselves.

Post-16 outcomes had been even further strengthened in school sixth forms whilst the two Stockton-on-Tees colleges had maintained improvements on many measures.

**RESOLVED** that the report and strong overall performance of Stockton-on-Tees schools at both primary and secondary phases, be noted.