

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

THE EARL BALDWIN SUITE, DUKE HOUSE, CLENSMORE STREET,
KIDDERMINSTER

19TH JULY 2011 (6.00 PM)

Present:

Councillors: J-P Campion, N J Desmond, M J Hart, T L Onslow and J Phillips.

Observers:

There were no members present as observers.

CAB.14 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

CAB.15 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

CAB.16 Minutes

Decision: The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 21st June 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CAB.17 Call Ins

No decisions had been called in since the last Cabinet meeting.

CAB.18 Items Requiring Urgent Attention

There were no items requiring urgent attention.

CAB.19 Leader's Announcements

Members were advised that the political balance had changed due to the Independent Member on the Council joining the Labour Group. The revised political balance had been circulated but this would not be presented to Council as the overall percentage had not changed.

CAB.20 St. Georges Hall, Bewdley

A report was considered from the Director of Planning and Regulatory Services which recommended to Council that the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2011/12 and Annual Investment Strategy 2011/12 be amended to enable cash flow support of up to £50k be made available to support the refurbishment/extension of St. George's Hall, Bewdley.

Agenda Item No. 3

An amended recommendation was circulated to Members which asked for approval of a scheme that would provide cash flow support for capital projects.

Members perceived that the project was worthwhile and if the recommendations were agreed at Council, it would speed up the process of supporting cash flow.

Decision:

Recommended to Council:

- 1. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2011/12 and Annual Investment Strategy 2011/12 be amended to enable cash flow support of up to £50k to be made available to support the refurbishment/extension of St George's Hall, Bewdley.**
- 2. Approval be given to establish a scheme to provide cash flow support for similar local community capital projects in line with the localism agenda. The broad parameters of the scheme being;**
 - Total limit of scheme £250,000 at any one time;**
 - No more than £100,000 to support to any one community group;**
 - Viable business case required to be provided to support any proposal;**
 - Cabinet to determine any such applications following consideration by the Treasury Management Review Panel.**

CAB.21 Options Appraisal – Revenues and Benefits Service

A report was considered from the Director of Resources which asked for approval of the results of the Revenues and Benefits Service: Options Appraisal and to consider the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 7th July 2011.

Members were informed that as part of the budget proposals agreed in February 2011, £150,000 had to be saved from the revenues and benefits service from April 2012. There were a couple of options available to the Council and it was considered that to keep the service in-house was the best option to the Council. It was felt that this option would also keep redundancies to a minimum and cause the least disruption to users across the Wyre Forest area. All staff had been consulted on the options and it was believed that option 1 was their preferred choice.

Members were happy to approve option 1 and were pleased that staff had shown commitment to the role they played in the revenues and benefits service. Staff were thanked for their involvement and the positive feedback they had made.

Members perceived that Shared Services would continue to part of service delivery but it was something the Council should embrace.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee added that a full discussion had taken place at the Scrutiny Committee on 7th July 2011 and Members had agreed that the in-house option was the right way to proceed.

Decision: Approval be given to the Revenues and Benefits Service to remain in-house, whilst transforming the service through “System Thinking” and homeworking to become more effective and efficient.

CAB.22 Contract for the Provision of 4 x Tipper Trucks and 2 x Small Vans

A report was considered from the Director of Resources that sought approval to enter into a procurement exercise to purchase 4 tipper trucks and 2 small vans.

Decision:

- 1. The procurement exercise for the purchase of 4 tipper trucks and 2 small vans using the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation’s (YPO) Vehicle Framework Agreement should be entered into.**
- 2. The evaluation model set out at paragraph 4.3 of the report to Cabinet should be used in evaluating responses to the mini-competition exercise conducted through the Framework.**
- 3. Delegated authority be granted to the Director of Resources to award the Contract to the highest scoring supplier following the evaluation model agreed at 2 above.**

The meeting closed at 6.22 pm.