

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL  
CABINET  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, WYRE FOREST HOUSE, FINEPOINT WAY, KIDDERMINSTER  
22ND APRIL 2014 (6.00 PM)**

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**Present:**

Councillors: J-P Champion, N J Desmond, I Hardiman, M J Hart (Chairman) and A T Hingley.

**Observers:**

Councillors: G W Ballinger, E Davies and M Price.

**CAB.65 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies for absence.

**CAB.66 Declarations of Interests by Members**

No declarations of interest were made.

**CAB.67 Minutes**

**Decision: The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**CAB.68 Call Ins**

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

**CAB.69 Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There were no items requiring urgent attention.

**CAB.70 Leader's Announcements**

Members were informed that the Boundary Commission were carrying out a consultation on their initial draft recommendations on their proposals for new ward boundaries in the Wyre Forest District. Any submissions had to be in by June 2014. The Council's working group would now reconvene and make a recommendation to Council.

In response to a Member question, it was confirmed that the Boundary Commission had made it clear they would listen to any proposals put forward.

**CAB.71 Recommendation from the Audit Committee, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

- **Corporate Procurement Strategy**

The Chairman of the Audit Committee drew Members' attention to paragraph 4.3 of the strategy and advised that this would be kept under review. Members were informed that it had been 6 years since the strategy had been refreshed and it had been done so in line the Council's corporate objectives.

The Audit Committee were thanked for their work.

**Decision: The updated Corporate Procurement Strategy, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report to the Audit Committee, be approved.**

**CAB.72 Recommendation from the Strategic Review Committee, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

The Vice Chairman of the Strategic Review Committee presented the recommendations and thanked the Officers for their help.

**Cabinet noted the Committee's recommendations on Organisational Development and Cultural Change**

1. **Setting the Standard for Consultation – the work delivered for the service and spending priorities consultation should be the minimum standard for all future consultation exercises.**
2. **Skills Audit – to roll out a skills audit in the form of a pen portrait across service teams and Councillors. The information will be used to better utilise the skills, knowledge and expertise of Councillors and officers across all areas of council activity.**
3. **Income Generation – to produce a clear plan of how the council intends to bring in new money and secure other funding streams and to regularly review and monitor the plan.**
4. **Implementation of Systems Thinking – to only implement those principles of Systems Thinking which are appropriate to the work being undertaken and to share the learning of delivering this methodology across all council activity.**
5. **Communication Issues**
  - a) **To ensure the style and language used in publications we produce is positive and embraces our target audience e.g. Grow, Save, Charge Business Plan (Wychavon Council).**
  - b) **Minimise the use of emails for making important announcements and, where possible, get staff or Councillors together even if the notice is very short to make the announcement.**

c) **Produce a monthly roundup of news for Parishes as per the Wychavon Model.**

6. **Engagement - ensure that all staff and Councillors are engaged and understand their role in the organisational development and cultural change journey.**

**CAB.73 Exclusion of Press and Public**

**Decision: "Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of "exempt information" as defined in paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.**

**CAB.74 Disposal of Land**

The Cabinet considered a report from Director of Economic Prosperity and Place which proposed the sale of the freehold of a plot of land to the existing leaseholder at the price mentioned in the report.

In response to a question from a Member, it was confirmed that the proposed sale price was in line with the market valuation of the land.

**Decision: The freehold sale of the land as mentioned in the exempt section of the report to Cabinet be agreed.**

The meeting closed at 6.20 pm.