

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 22nd September 2015

Present: Councillor David Sheard (Chair)
Councillor Steve Hall
Councillor Erin Hill
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Cathy Scott
Councillor Graham Turner

Apologies: Councillor Jean Calvert

81 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Calvert.

82 Minutes of previous meeting held on 28 July 2015 and 25 August 2015

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 28 July and 25 August 2015 be approved as a correct record.

83 Interests

Councillor C Scott declared an 'other' interest in Agenda Item 16 on the grounds that she has family members attending faith based schools.

84 Admission of the Public

It was noted that Agenda Items 30 and 31 would be considered in private session (Minute Nos 110 and 111 refers).

85 Deputations/Petitions

Cabinet received deputations from;

- (i) Jenny Tomlinson Walsh in respect of Agenda Item 8 (Minute No. 80 refers)
- (ii) Martin Jones in respect of Agenda Item 8 (Minute No. 88 refers)
- (iii) Paul Scaife in respect of Agenda Item 8 (Minute No. 88 refers)
- (iv) Gerry McGinley in respect of Agenda Item 8 (Minute No. 88 refers)
- (v) Kevin Higgins in respect of Agenda Item 16 (a petition was also submitted) (Minute No. 96 refers)

86 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

87 Member Question Time

No questions were asked.

88 Future Library Provision

(Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors Smaje, J Taylor, N Turner, Wilkinson and Wilson)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out proposals to deliver library services within a reduced budget allocation. The report advised that for the period of the Medium Term Financial Plan, the libraries budget was reduced to £3,922k with reductions of £500k to be made in 2016/2017 and £1,354k in 2017/2018.

The report explained the criteria which had been used to determine the future of the library service and also advised that the Council had had regard to the outcome of the extensive consultation exercise that had been undertaken between January and April 2015.

Paragraph 3.1 of the report advised of the future library service proposal which was a model comprising 8 town libraries and 16 community supported libraries. The report explained that the Council would meet the costs for the provision of the town libraries and that, for community supported libraries there were instances where the asset could be transferred to a community group. For libraries designated as 'community support libraries', the service had been working with volunteers and helping 'Friends of the Library' groups to establish.

Paragraph 3.2 of the report indicated that, where library services were to continue they would do so at a reduction of opening hours and that there would be an overall reduction in opening hours of 40%. Appendix E of the report set out proposed staffing hours of both town and community supported libraries.

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given to the delivery of a library service from the eight town libraries and sixteen community supported libraries, within Council control, at the hours as set out in appendix E of the considered report.

(2) That a social inclusion offer be developed covering the Transcription Service, Kirklees Talking News and the Home Service.

(3) That the library and tourist information centre in Holmfirth be merged as soon as is practically possible.

(4) That by 1 April 2016 the libraries at Thornhill Lees and Lepton be closed and the Mobile Library Service ceases operation.

(5) That, should the volunteer levels fall below expectations in any of the Community Supported Libraries, where support for the paid member of staff does not attend

during the hours agreed for over 25% of the time in a quarterly period, that a report be submitted for Cabinet to consider the closure of the service point.

(6) That in regards to Community Supported Libraries where the asset is transferred, the Council will not pay a hosting fee to the group, for example for rent or utility costs.

89 Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing Performance

Cabinet received the Annual Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing Performance report for 2014-2015. The report provided Cabinet with an update on the services, outcomes and outputs for tenants that had been delivered by Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing. The report also examined achievements and progress towards (i) the Council's core housing management and maintenance contractual requirements of neighbourhood housing and (ii) Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing's contribution to the Council and other strategic priorities. It was noted that the report would be submitted to the next meeting of Council for information.

RESOLVED - That the Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing Performance Report be noted and submitted to the meeting of Council on 7 October 2015 for information.

90 Scrutiny Call-in Report - Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance Standards

Cabinet received a report which set out the decision of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 20 August 2015 following a consideration of the Call-in hearing in respect of the Cabinet decision on 28 July 2015 on 'Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance Standards'.

Paragraph 2.5 of the report set out the Scrutiny decision and the rationale for why the conclusion had been that the decision should be referred back to Cabinet.

RESOLVED - That the recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel be accepted and that Cabinet amend its decision accordingly in-line with the recommendations as detailed in paragraph 2.7 of the considered report.

91 Parks and open Spaces Maintenance Standards - Part 1

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representations from Councillors J Taylor and Smaje)

Cabinet received a report which provided an update on the progress of delivering new service standards to the Parks and Open Spaces sites, reflecting the recommendations of the Scrutiny process.

The report sought agreement of recommendations to adopt the new service standards subject to regular review and for District Committees to annually influence local changes within the resource allocation.

Information relating to service standards and to service standard variations was set out at paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 of the report.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the methodology and analysis applied to determine the operational standards be noted.

(2) That Officers provide District Committees with an update on the implementation of the standards for 2016, in February 2016.

(3) That Officers be tasked with, where possible within the budget allocated, accommodating suggestions from District Committees or Friends of Groups.

(4) That Officers be permitted the flexibility to change standards to meet seasonal and operational needs.

(5) That responsibility be delegated to the Assistant Director (Physical Resources and Procurement) to find the most cost effective solution for the future provision of seasonal plants to ensure best value is achieved and that Officers be asked to brief Cabinet on potential options.

92 Parks and open Spaces Maintenance Standards - Part 2

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representation from Councillor Smaje)

Cabinet considered a report which sought agreement on the planned engagement strategy regarding the application of the revised service standards for grounds maintenance by District Committees.

The report advised that plans would be produced for all of the sites which would be effected by the changes, including proposed service standards and maintenance schedules.

Cabinet noted that each District Committee would be presented with plans and would be invited to create a working group to produce an agreed application of service standards across the respective Districts. The report advised that applications would be revisited annually by the District Committees to allow for any changes. It was noted that the operated model was budgeted within the current financial resource allocation.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the Parks and Open Spaces Engagement Strategy be approved in order to allow District Committees to make informed comment on the application of grounds maintenance standards of their districts on an annual basis.

(2) That approval be given to Officers to investigate the Council managing some resources in partnership with third party organisations.

93 Statement of Community Involvement

Cabinet received a report which set out details of the responses received during the consultation period on the draft Statement of Community Involvement, and sought approval for the adoption of the Statement of Community Involvement which was attached at Appendix 2 of the report. The Statement of Community Involvement set

out how the Council would consult and work with communities and stakeholders to develop planning policy documents such as the Kirklees Local Plan.

Cabinet noted that the production of a Statement of Community Involvement was a Government requirement and that the Council had adopted its first Statement of Community Involvement in September 2006. This has subsequently been reviewed to take account of (i) changes to planning legislation regulations, (ii) changes to the way the Council operates and (iii) advances in technology and digital communication.

Responses to the consultation was set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the Statement of Community Involvement as outlined at Appendix 2 of the report be adopted and that authority be delegated to the Director of Place to agree minor amendments.

(2) That the document be published on the Council's website and all contacts on the Local Plan database be notified of its adoption.

94

Primary Pupil Places in the Huddersfield South West area

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which advised on the outcome of the statutory processes for the related statutory proposals by Kirklees Council and the Leeds Diocese Board for Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to establish an all through Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School for pupils aged 2 to 11 years, with early learning and child care provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The report also advised of the conclusions and recommendations of the School Organisation advisory group regarding the statutory process followed for the proposal.

The report advised that, if approved then officers would support and work with the Governing Bodies of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to finalise arrangements for pupils, parents, staff and other stakeholders in order to ensure that effective plans are in place to implement the proposals from 1 May 2016.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the advice of Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group that the proposals are valid and that the required statutory processes have been carried out be noted.

(2) That it be agreed that the decision making regarding the proposals will be undertaken within the statutory time period.

(3) That the outcomes and recommendations of the Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group, and associated officer recommendations, be noted.

(4) That the human resource and financial implications of the proposals be noted.

(5) That it be confirmed that, in meeting the obligations of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Duty 2011, full regard has been given to the Equalities Impact Assessment throughout the statutory process.

(6) That the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales be authorised to make an application to the DfE to designate the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11, with early learning and childcare provision as a school with religious character.

(7) That the following related statutory proposals by Kirklees Local Authority, without modification or condition, be approved;

- (i) To discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School on 30 April 2016
- (ii) To discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School on 30 April 2016
- (iii) To discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School on 30 April 2016

(8) That the following related statutory proposal by the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales, without modification or condition, be approved;
The proposal by The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision on 1 May 2016.

95 Update on the current position following the publication of the invitation to seek proposals to run a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West.

Cabinet received a report which provided an update following the publications of the invitation to seek proposals to establish a new 630 place all through Primary Free Academy (School) for pupils aged 4 to 11 years to serve the Huddersfield South West area. It advised that the proposal would enable sufficient primary school places to be available in order to meet the basic need in the Huddersfield South West area.

Cabinet noted that the period for the invitation to seek proposals ended on 24 August 2015 and that 1 proposal had been received which had been reviewed against the Council's assessment criteria, and that a recommendation had been sent to the Department of Education. The report advised that proposals for new (free) academy schools would be determined by the Regional Schools Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education.

It was noted that, if successful, the proposer would be required to carry out further consultation with key stakeholders on the new primary free (academy) school to establish whether the proposed should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State.

RESOLVED -

(1) That it be noted that one proposal has been received which has been reviewed in accordance with the Council's published assessment criteria and that a recommendation has been made to the DfE.

(2) That it be acknowledged that new free (academy) school proposals are decided by the Regional Schools Commissioner on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education.

(3) That, subject to the approval of the proposal by the Regional Schools Commissioner, authorisation be given for Officers to work on the required capital project and to report back to Cabinet with detailed proposals in 2016.

96 Home to School Transport Review - Policy Changes

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out a revised policy for home to school transport arrangements from September 2016.

The report advised that the Council currently provided transport assistance for 456 pupils who travelled to a school based on religion or belief, costing a total of £116k per annum.

Cabinet noted that the school transport budget had a savings target of £455k in 2015/2016 and that the withdrawal of discretionary transport to faith schools would result in an indicative saving of £111k per annum from implementation in September. It was also noted that families who had a statutory entitlement to free transport if they wished to attend a school on grounds of religion or belief would be unaffected by the policy.

RESOLVED - That the Home to School Transport Policies for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017, be approved, and that consequently assistance for Home to School transport is no longer automatically provided for travel to faith schools with effect from September 2016.

97 Council Budget Strategy Update 2016-17 to 2018-19

(Under provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor J Taylor)

Cabinet received a report which set out a framework for the development of draft spending plans for future years. Under financial procedure rules, it is a requirement that Cabinet submits to Council a provisional budget strategy for the following 3 years, no later than October each year.

The report advised that the provisional budget strategy starting point was to roll forward existing years 2 and 3 Medium Term Financial Plan savings as years 1 and 2 of the 2016-2019 medium term financial plan update, with an exception of the £300k savings associated with the payroll review deferred from 2016-2017 to 2018-2019.

Cabinet noted that there was uncertainty over whether the scale of national funding reductions would continue in line with the February forecast and that, given this uncertainty, it was intended to set overall spending control allocations as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, for budget planning purposes. It was also noted that the Government Autumn Statement would clarify overall Council funding allocation for 2016-2017.

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given to the provisional budget strategy that informs the Medium term Financial Plan update, as set out in Section 2.2 of the report, as a basis for consideration at Council.

(2) That the early high level review of cost and income assumptions, and resultant spending control allocations and funding gap update, as incorporated into Appendix 1, be noted.

(3) That the proposed budget engagement and consultation approach and timetable be noted.

(4) That it be noted that the Director of Resources will provide an update later in the year on any material changes to high level cost and income assumptions as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan update, particularly as a result of the Autumn Statement announcement planned for 25 November 2015, and the 2016 Local Government Finance Settlement.

98 Corporate Performance Report - Quarter 1 2015/16

Cabinet received a report setting out an overview of the Council's Performance at the end of Quarter 1 2015/2016. The report advised that a new approach to performance management had been adopted for 2015/2016 which provided a stronger focus on outcomes in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and the Kirklees Economic Strategy.

The Quarter 1 Performance report, which was appended to the considered report, set out progress made in relation to the Council's key strategies and the Corporate Plan for 2015/2016.

RESOLVED - That the Quarter 1 2015/2016 Corporate performance Report be received and noted.

99 Housing Delivery plan - Small Sites Project (POS Objection)

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor Stewart-Turner)

Cabinet received a report which explained that further to the decision to approve the disposal of a list of sites at Cabinet on 25 August 2015, during the consultation period the Council had received 1 objection in relation to land at Elm Street, Newsome. Details of the objection were attached at Appendix A of the report.

The report explained that the sites identified, including land at Elm Street, were considered to be key to supporting the economic resilience of the district through the delivery of new additional housing stock and to stimulate the local house building industry, supporting the growth of the local economy. It advised that the site at Elm Street had been assessed in terms of strategic value and had been considered suitable for potential development.

Cabinet noted that removing the site would impact upon the final number of sites for disposal and therefore the anticipated capital receipt. As the site had encored

preparatory costs, Cabinet noted that removing it at this stage would require the cost to be off-set against the capital receipts generated from other sites.

RESOLVED - That the consideration of the item be deferred and re-submitted to a future Cabinet meeting, once Cabinet have received further details of the site.

100 Kirklees Excellent Homes for Life project - Potential Refinance of Senior Debt

Cabinet received a report which set out the potential to refinance the senior debt finance support in the Excellent Homes for Life project in order to produce significant financial benefit. The report provided the background to a refinancing exercise in relation to the senior debt of the project, following the withdrawal of the Co-Op Bank from the investment banking sector.

Cabinet noted that scoping studies had been carried out which indicated that a substantial financial benefit would be secured by the Council from a refinancing exercise, and that this would benefit the housing revenue account which funds the Excellent Homes for Life project.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the potential financial benefits from refinancing the senior debt funding within the Excellent Homes for Life PFI project, be noted.

(2) That authority be delegated to the Director of Resources to agree the terms of any refinance, and the Assistant Director (Legal and Governance), to enter into any documentation required to secure this, on the basis that the negotiated terms demonstrate a financial benefit to the Council and do not amend the current balance of risk between the parties.

101 Future Options for the Delivery of Housing Functions and Services (including repairs and maintenance)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which set out options of delivery models for the future of Council housing management and maintenance services. It advised that the aims of the review were to (i) provide a better service for tenants and residents, (ii) provide improved value for money and efficiencies and the opportunity to be innovative in generating income (iii) provide a medium to long term asset management strategy to ensure that houses are fit for purpose to meet the needs of the community and maximise the value for Council housing and (iv) provide flexibility for the organisation to grow.

The report explained that the Housing Quality Network (HQN) had been commissioned to undertake a first stage high level evidence based review and evaluation of future options for the delivery of housing functions and services, including repairs and maintenance in Kirklees. Paragraph 6 of the report set out a summary of the HQN's conclusions and appraisal of the following options; (i) maintain the status quo (ii) large scale stock transfer (iii) return current KNH contract and services to the Council (iv) merge KHN and Kirklees Building Services and (v) merge Strategic Housing Services, KNH and Kirklees Building Services.

Cabinet noted that the next stage of the process would be to commission stage 2 of the option appraisal to take forward the necessary detailed analysis of the preferred

option/s and to produce a report and implementation plan outlining the key issues and implications of the preferred option which would inform the final decision on the future delivery model for housing management and maintenance services.

RESOLVED -

(1) That Officers be asked to produce a detailed analysis of the option to merge Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing and Kirklees Building Services and a longer term management agreement, as detailed in paragraph 11 of the report.

(2) That a report be submitted to Cabinet in January 2016 to enable a final decision on the future delivery of housing management and maintenance services to be made.

102 Kirklees Council support of the Friends of the Earth 'Run on Sun' Solar Schools Strategy

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which gave details of the Friends of the Earth 'Run on Sun' campaign for schools to promote clean energy and investment in solar energy. The report advised that the campaign called for Government support for schools that wished to install solar energies including ensuring that all new schools had renewables and high levels of energy efficiency as standard.

The report proposed support for the initiative and sought approval for officers to proceed to register the Council's support for the scheme and encourage all Kirklees schools to make a commercial decision on the benefits of installing solar energies a priority.

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given to supporting the Friends of the Earth 'Run on Sun' Solar Schools Strategy Initiative, highlighting the need for further assistance for schools to maximise the installation of solar technologies and can reduce costs for schools and reduce carbon emissions.

(2) That contact be made with Kirklees Schools in order to encourage them to consider the use of solar technologies, and that action be taken promptly in advance of proposed reductions to the Feed-in Tariff.

103 Highway Asset Management

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought commitment to the implementation of Highway Asset Management and the endorsement of the Highway Asset Management policy and strategy.

Cabinet noted that the purpose of the policy was to provide strategic direction and communicate the purpose in applying asset management to the authority's objectives. The strategy set out long term objectives for managing the Kirklees highway infrastructure in the context of the Authority's long term goals and objectives.

Cabinet noted that, in November, Highway Authorities were required to submit a self-assessment questionnaire with supporting evidence to demonstrate that they are delivering value for money in providing a cost effective maintenance service,

and that an essential part of this assessment was to have published an asset management policy and strategy.

RESOLVED -

(1) That the approach to highways asset management as detailed within the report be endorsed and that the Policy and Strategy for Highway Maintenance, as set out in Appendix One, be approved.

(2) That authority be delegated to the Director of Place to keep policy under review and update as required, in consultation with relevant Cabinet Members, if any change in policy or approach is required.

104 A638 Bradford Road, Littletown - Principal Road Reconstruction and Resurfacing

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for a scheme to reconstruct a section of the A638 Bradford Road, Littletown, between Leeds Road to Manor Park Road.

The report explained that the scheme to reconstruct a 1.78 section of road was estimated to cost £840k with funding from the Principal Road Programme within the approved Highways Capital Plan. Subject to approval, the works would be programmed to coincide with the October 2015 half term.

RESOLVED - That the scheme for the reconstruction of A638 Bradford Road, Littletown, as detailed in the report, be approved.

105 Thornhill Road, Marsh - Road Reconstruction and Resurfacing

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received representation from Councillor Sokhal)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval for a scheme to reconstruct a section of Thornhill Road, Marsh, between the A640 New Hey Road to Occupation Road.

The report explained that the scheme to reconstruct the section of road was estimated to cost £350k with funding from the Unclassified Roads Programme within the Highways Capital Plan. It advised that, subject to approval, the works were programmed to commence in February or March 2016.

RESOLVED - That the scheme for the reconstruction of Thornhill Road, Edgerton, as detailed in the report, be approved.

106 Huddersfield Connectivity Project - Trial Contra-flow Cycle Lane Proposal

Cabinet received a report which set out details of options to incorporate a Contra-flow cycle lane into the Huddersfield Connectivity project on High Street and Ramsden Street. It advised that the new cycle facility would provide a missing key link for cyclists to access the Town Centre in an east to west direction at the southern end of the town.

Paragraph 2.5 of the report set out the timeline that had occurred and advised that, as there was currently ongoing work within the Town Centre, consideration needed to be given to what practical implications the additional work may have on the connectivity project, and alternatively, if the Contra-flow was omitted, what abortive work could have been done. Cabinet gave consideration to 3 options to incorporate the Contra-flow cycle lane as detailed in paragraph 2.6 of the report.

It was noted that officers recommended option 1 as the preferred method, ie. to incorporate the Contra-flow proposals with a contingency plan in place in the event that the cycle infrastructure needed to be removed at a future date.

The report explained that the implementation of this option would enable the delivery of a key cycling infrastructure within the Town Centre and would also reduce the risk of any abortive works, provide fulfilment of the Huddersfield Town Centre Connectivity project, provide the most cost effective option to implement the works and reduce disruption to the public transport network.

RESOLVED - That approval be given to option 1 as detailed as set out in the report; to incorporate contra-flow proposals into the Huddersfield Connectivity Project with a contingency plan in place if the cycle infrastructure needed to be removed at a future date.

107 Southgate Huddersfield: Site preparation

(Under provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1) Cabinet received a representation from Councillor J Taylor)

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval of an outline specification for, and expenditure on, works and fees for demolition and associated activities in order to prepare the site at Southgate for development. Cabinet noted the detail of the report which explained site preparation at Old Leeds Road, now referred to as 'Southgate Huddersfield', following the withdrawal by Tesco of its plans to redevelop the site. The report explained the proposed demolition, an outline specification for the works, the estimated costs including expenditure and other activities prior to any disposal and development of this site, and an outline programme for the works.

The report indicated that the estimated timeframe for the completed works was September 2016. It was noted that the site preparation would contribute to priority 4 of the Draft Kirklees Economic Strategy 2014-2020.

(Cabinet gave consideration to exempt information at Agenda Item 30 (Minute No. 110) refers prior to the determination of this item)

RESOLVED -

(1) That approval be given to the outline specification for site clearance works, as set out in paragraphs 2.15 to 2.19 of the considered report.

(2) That approval be given to expenditure not exceeding £1.75 million in total on site clearance, development brief, and any site disposal activities, asset out in paragraphs 2.20, 2.21, and Appendix 2 of the report.

(3) That the outline programme for site clearance works, as set out in paragraph 2.22, be noted.

(4) That the Assistant Director (Physical Resources and Procurement), in consultation with the Acting Assistant Director (Investment and Regeneration) and the Assistant Director (Legal, Governance and Monitoring), be authorised to apply for all necessary statutory and other consents required for site clearance.

(5) That the Assistant Director (Physical Resources and Procurement), in consultation with the Acting Assistant Director (Investment and Regeneration) and the Assistant Director (Legal, Governance and Monitoring), be authorised to procure and appoint contractors and consultants for site clearance, development brief, and any site disposal activities.

(6) That a report be submitted to a future meeting to consider a draft development brief, an assessment of any Council use(s) for the site, and any proposals for marketing the site for disposal to other parties.

108 Proposed Demolition of Nos 172 - 184 Wakefield Road, Moldgreen and in Principle Approval for a Compulsory Purchase Order for No. 184

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval for the demolition of 7 empty residential properties on Wakefield Road, Moldgreen (No's 172 - 184) 6 of which were Council owned. The report sought authority to acquire the other property by a Compulsory Purchase Order prior to demolition works, if it was not possible to acquire the property by negotiation.

The report advised that the properties were in a poor state and deteriorating condition and that they were unsightly and having a negative impact upon the appearance of Wakefield Road and detracting from the amenity of the adjacent Yorkshire Housing Development.

Cabinet noted that the proposed demolition aimed to achieve several benefits including the reduction in maintenance liabilities and costs as well as safety concerns. A breakdown of costs was appended as exempt information.

(Cabinet gave consideration to exempt information at Agenda Item 31 (Minute No. 111 refers) prior to the determination of this item.)

RESOLVED -

(1) That the content of the report and condition of the properties be noted.

(2) That approval be given to the demolition of No.s 172 and 184 Wakefield Road.

(3) That the Assistant Director (Physical Resources and Procurement) be authorised to negotiate the acquisition of No. 184 Wakefield Road if it is possible to make contact with the property owner.

(4) That, pursuant to (3) above, approval be given to the principle of acquiring No. 184 Wakefield Road by Compulsory Purchase Order should it not be possible to acquire the property by negotiation.

(5) That the Assistant Director (Physical Resources and Procurement) be authorised to proceed with site disposal following the completion of the project.

109 Exclusion of the Public

RESOLVED - That acting under Section 100(A)(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 involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as specifically stated in the undermentioned Minutes.

110 Southgate Huddersfield - Site Preparation

(Exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information))

Cabinet received exempt information relating to costings of the site preparation.

RESOLVED - Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information prior to the determination of Agenda Item 27 (Minute No. 107 refers).

111 Proposed Demolition of Nos 172 - 184 Wakefield Road, Moldgreen and in Principle Approval for a Compulsory Purchase Order for No. 184

(Exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information))

Cabinet received exempt information relating to costings of the demolition works.

RESOLVED - Cabinet gave consideration to the exempt information prior to the determination of Agenda Item 28 (Minute No. 108 refers).