

MEETING OF THE CABINET – 31ST OCTOBER, 2007

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Cabinet, at its meeting held on the 31st October, 2007, made the decisions indicated in respect of the items listed:

| <u>Issue</u> | <u>Decision</u> |
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| Minutes | That the minutes of the Meetings of the Cabinet held on 12 th September, 2007, be approved as a correct record and signed. |
| Regional Spatial Strategy Review Phase 1; The Black Country proposed changes by the Secretary of State | That the statement in appendix 1 to the report submitted to the meeting be approved as the response of the Council to the Secretary of State. |
| City strategy and implications for Dudley MBC | <p>(1) That Dudley's involvement in the City Strategy Initiative, with the aim of maximising the potential economic benefits to the Borough and residents of the most disadvantaged ward, be continued.</p> <p>(2) That approval, in principle, be given to the making of bids for resources necessary to establish effective delivery and mechanisms and interventions in the 5 target wards.</p> <p>(3) That consideration be given to holding a corporate/multi agency Conference to include elected members to discuss the formulation of a worklessness strategy.</p> |
| Review of Neighbourhood Management | <p>(1) That the restructure of Neighbourhood Management along the lines set out in paragraph 4 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.</p> <p>(2) That the Council be asked to increase its funding of a new Neighbourhood Management Team for 3 years from April, 2008, subject to seeking additional partnership funding if new external funding sources are allocated to the Dudley Community Partnership.</p> |
| Delivering the Master Plan for Dudley Town Centre | <p>(1) That the Director of the Urban Environment, in consultation with the Director of Law and Property and Director of Finance be authorised to:-</p> <p>(a) Enter into a tripartite agreement with English Partnership (EP) and Advantage West</p> |

Midlands (AWM) (Memorandum of Understanding);

- (b) submit applications to funding bodies for funding to acquire premises within opportunity areas in support of site assembly, to meet costs to set up the Arms Length Company and Joint Venture, to meet running costs of the Arms Length Company and to address any other funding gaps that may emerge;
 - (c) to submit outline and full funding applications, to accept funding, negotiate and sign funding agreements with EP, AWM and any other funders;
 - (d) establish the Dudley Town Centre Partnership following creation of the Arms Length Company; and
 - (e) identify a preferred development partner to deliver the Dudley Area Development Framework for future approval by Cabinet in accordance with the Council's Developer Selection Protocol.
- (2) That the Director of Law and Property be authorised to:
- (a) register the Arms Length Company;
 - (b) enter into negotiations to acquire premises on terms to be negotiated and agreed and to sign associated funding agreements with any funders; and
 - (c) negotiate and complete any relevant undertaking from the Joint Venture partner and any require development agreement(s) prior to the making of any Compulsory Purchase Order(s)
- (3) That the Director of Law and Property in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration be authorised to:
- (a) acquire and extinguish interests in land and new rights to support assembly of development sites within opportunity areas

either by agreements or compulsorily;

- (b) take all necessary steps to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of Compulsory Purchase Order(s) including the publication and service of all notices and the presentation of the Council's case at Public Inquiry, to be progressed in accordance with Section 266(1)(a) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1980 for the acquisition of the land within one or more of the areas shown on the Plan attached at appendix Fin the report submitted to the meeting, for the purpose of securing mixed use development in accordance with the Dudley Area Development Framework;
 - (c) approve agreements with land owners setting out the terms for the withdrawal of objections to any Compulsory Purchase Order, including where appropriate seeking exclusion of land or new rights from the Order and/or making arrangements for relocation of occupiers; and
 - (d) dispose of Council owned land and property to the Joint Venture private sector partner as required to facilitate delivery of the Dudley Area Development Framework.
- (4) That the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Director of Law and Property and Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to agree the Business Plan which will provide the basis for the working arrangements of the Arms Length Company.
 - (5) That the Cabinet consider the benefits of extending the role of the Arms Length Company in the future as a mechanism for bringing forward development and regeneration across the Borough.
 - (6) That the Council be recommended that any land or property acquisitions by the Council be included in Capital Programme.
 - (7) That the feasibility of the Town Centre Partnership being set up as soon as possible be explored.
- (1) That the contents of the report submitted to the

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| Economic Development and Regeneration | meeting, including the new responsibilities for economic development being proposed and placed on Local Authorities, be noted. |
| | (2) That the Director of the Urban Environment, and Chief Executive, prepare a detailed plan to determine the actions need by the Council to respond to the implications of the review. |
| Respect in Dudley | (1) That the contents of the report submitted to the meeting be noted. |
| | (2) That the priorities, as identified in paragraph 9 of the report submitted to the meeting be approved and that work plans as referred to in paragraph 16 of the report be monitored through the appropriate Select Committee. |
| | (3) That an update to evaluate progress be submitted to the Cabinet in twelve months' time. |
| Annual Review of Equality and Diversity 2007 | That the annual review of equality and diversity 2007, as attached to the report submitted to the meeting, be approved. |
| Capital Programme Monitoring | (1) That current progress with the 2007/08 Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix A to the report submitted to the meeting, be noted. |
| | (2) That the results of the Post Completion Review of capital projects, as set out in Appendix B to the report submitted in the meeting to noted. |
| | (3) That the Council be recommended: |
| | (a) That the contribution of £217,000 to Bromford Housing Group towards the provision of rented bungalows at Wrens Nest Road be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 5 of the report submitted to the meeting. |
| | (b) That the budget for the Wordsley High Street improvements, be increased, and £25,000 of the related capital receipt be earmarked, as set out in paragraph 6 of the report submitted to the meeting. |
| | (c) That the project to upgrade Saltwells Local Nature Reserve be approved and included in |

the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 7 of the report submitted to the meeting.

- (d) That the project to expand the mess-room and toilets and upgrade electrical services at the Stourbridge Civic Amenity Site be approved and include in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 8 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (e) That the Flood Damage grant funding be noted and related expenditure be included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (f) That the feasibility works at Cradley Forge Embankment be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (g) That the budget for the Council House (Mary Stevens Park) Security Improvements be increased by £8,000 as set out in paragraph 11 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (h) That the extra expenditure on the Children's Centres at Olive Hill and Highgate Primary Schools be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 12 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (i) That the allocation of a £46,000 grant to Aquarius towards the refurbishment of their premises at Cottage Street be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 13 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (j) That the urgent amendment to the capital programme, as set out in paragraph 14 of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.

Continuing Development of
Local Authority Residential
Homes and Day Care Services –
Next Step

That approval in principle be given to the service improvement and proposals contained in the report submitted to the meeting, subject to full consultation with residents, day centre attenders, staff and other interested parties such as Age Concern and The Alzheimer's Society.

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| Establishing a Framework for Information Sharing | That the framework indicated in the report submitted for the meeting be approved as an acceptable model for the Council to utilise in all of its information sharing initiatives and to promote with partners. |
| Issue arising from Select Committee | That the decision of the Select Committee on Regeneration, Culture and Adult Education, at its special meeting held on 24 th October, 2007, in respect of the call-in of the decision on library modernisation, be accepted |
| Exclusion of the Public | That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in part 1 of schedule 12(A) to the Local Government Act, 1972, as specified below, and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure. |

| <u>Description of Item</u> | <u>Relevant Paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A</u> |
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| Termination of contracts on grounds of redundancy. | 1 |
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| Termination of contracts on grounds of redundancy | That the proposal to terminate the contracts of employment of the staff referred to in the report submitted to the meeting, on the terms and conditions specified in the report, be approved. |
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The details of each of the above items are set out in the reports submitted to the meeting of the Cabinet held on 31st October, 2007. Copies of the public reports are available from Democratic Services in the Directorate of Law and Property (contact Richard Sanders, 01384 815236 or e-mail richard.sanders@dudley.gov.uk) or on the Council's Website www.dudley.gov.uk and follow the links Council Decisions/Committee Information.

Except where matters have been referred to full Council, the decisions will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days of 5th November, 2007 unless a Select Committee objects to a decision and calls it in.

J POLYCHRONAKIS
DIRECTOR OF LAW AND PROPERTY

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Dudley
West Midlands, DY1 1HF

Dated: 5th November, 2007

