

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL
AT THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2008
AT 6.00 PM AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE, DUDLEY**

PRESENT:-

Councillor Stanley (Mayor)
Councillor Burston (Deputy Mayor)
Councillors Adams, Ahmed, Ali, Mrs. Aston, Attwood, Banks, D. Blood, Mrs. E. Blood, Body, Ms. Boleyn, Caunt, Mrs. Collins, Cotterill, Mrs. Cowell, Crumpton, G.H. Davies, J. R. Davies, Mrs. Dunn, Evans, Mrs. Faulkner, J. Finch, K. Finch, Ms. Foster, Fraser-Macnamara, Hanif, Harley, Hill, Islam, Jackson, James, Jones, Mrs. Jordan, Kettle, Knowles, Lavender, J. Martin, Mrs. P. Martin, Miller, Mrs. Millward, Mottram, Ms. Nicholls, Nottingham, Ms. Partridge, Rahman, Mrs. Ridley, Roberts, Mrs. Rogers, Ryder, Mrs. Shakespeare, Simms, Southall, Sparks, Taylor, Tomkinson, A. Turner, Mrs. H. Turner, K. Turner, Tyler, Mrs. Walker, Waltho, While-Cooper, C. Wilson, Mrs. M. Wilson, Woodall and Wright; together with the Chief Executive and other Officers.

PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council in prayer.

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs. Ameson, Mrs. Coulter, Ms. Craigie, Ms. Harris and Lowe.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared interests, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, as follows:-

Councillor Mrs. Walker – Minute No. 49 of the Stourbridge Area Committee (Capital Allocations – Holy Trinity Church, Amblecote) – Prejudicial interest in view of her Chairmanship of the Holy Trinity Church Hall Committee.

Councillors Banks and Mrs. P. Martin – Minute No. 49 of the Stourbridge Area Committee (Capital Allocations – Holy Trinity Church, Amblecote) – Personal interests in view of their respective memberships of user groups at Holy Trinity Church Hall.

Councillors Adams, Attwood and Mrs. Rogers – Minute No. 64 of the Stourbridge Area Committee (Stevens Park and Recreation Ground Foundation Trusts – Applications for Grants) – Personal and Prejudicial interests in view of their membership, Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship respectively of the Friends of Mary Stevens Park Group.

Councillor Evans – Minute No. 54 (4) of the North Dudley Area Committee (Request to purchase land at Fereday's Croft, Sedgley) – Personal and Prejudicial interest in view of his friendship with the applicant.

Councillors Southall and Mrs. M. Wilson – Minute No. 43 (3) of the Brierley Hill Area Committee (Land Off Albion Street, Wordsley) – Personal interests in view of their membership of the Development Control Committee.

Councillors Southall and Mrs. M. Wilson – Minute No. 62 of the Brierley Hill Area Committee (Capital Allocations – Lions Boxing Club) – Personal interests in view of their membership of the Development Control Committee.

Councillor Southall – Minute No. 62 of the Brierley Hill Area Committee (Capital Allocations – Phoenix Youth Football Club) – Personal interest in view of his membership of the Birmingham County Football Association.

Councillors Miller and Tyler – Minute No. 62 of the Brierley Hill Area Committee (Capital Allocations – Kingswinford Village Association) – Personal interests in view of attending meetings and being known to the traders in Kingswinford.

Councillor Rahman – Minute No. 69 of the Central Dudley Area Committee (Capital Allocations – Netherton News Group) – Personal interest in view of the fact that he was acquainted with the applicant.

Councillor Southall – Minute No. 52 (iv) of the Development Control Committee (Planning Application P07/1785 - Bartley Green Football Club – Illey Lane, Halesowen) – Personal and Prejudicial Interest as a Council Member of Birmingham County Football Association.

Councillor C. Wilson – Minute No. 59 (viii) of the Development Control Committee (Planning Application P07/1831 – Oldswinford Hospital School, Hagley Road, Stourbridge) – Personal and Prejudicial interest as his wife was employed as a teacher at the school, and consequently he was acquainted with the Headteacher and Governors.

Councillor K. Finch – Minute No. 64 (iv) of the Development Control Committee (Planning Application P07/1165 – Land at corner of Bryce Road and Commonside, Pensnett, Brierley Hill) – Personal Interest in view of the fact that a relative was employed by the company making the application.

Councillor Mrs. Faulkner – Minute No. 113 of the Taxis Committee (Submission of medical reports) – Personal interest as she knew some of the taxi drivers who would be affected by proposals.

Councillor A. Turner – Minute No. 113 of the Taxis Committee (Submission of medical reports) – Personal interest as he had been contacted by a number of drivers and had agreed to put their views forward.

Councillor Caunt – Minute No. 79 of the Cabinet (Capital Programme Monitoring – Reference to West Midlands Historic Buildings Trust) – Personal interest as he knew the Chairman of the organisation.

Councillor Knowles - Minute No. 79 of the Cabinet (Capital Programme Monitoring – Reference to West Midlands Historic Buildings Trust) – Personal interest as he knew members of the organisation and worked closely with them.

Councillor Caunt – Minute No. 85 of the Cabinet (Birmingham International Airport) – Personal interest as a Member of the Board of Directors.

Councillor Sparks – Minute No. 89 of the Cabinet (Revenue Budget Strategy 2008/09) – Personal interest in so far as it related to Dudley Zoo in view of his Chairmanship of the Board of that Body.

Councillors Evans and Tyler - Minute No. 89 of the Cabinet (Revenue Budget Strategy 2008/09) – Personal interests in so far as the item related to Dudley Zoo in view of their trusteeship of that body.

Councillor Body – Minute No. 65 of the Halesowen Area Committee (Disposal of High School and Cradley Leisure Centre Site) – Personal interest as the Chair of Homer Hill Friends of the Park.

Councillor Burston – Minute No. 72 of Halesowen Area Committee (Halesowen Town Centre Development) – Personal interest in view of being employed by CENTRO.

Councillors Burston, Hill and James – Minute No. 68 of Halesowen Area Committee (The Earls High School Foundation Final Accounts) – Personal interests as Governors of Earls High School.

Councillor Burston – Agenda item No. 5(a)(iii) (Transport Strategy – Proposed Transport Capital Programme for 2008/09 and Road Safety Grant – references to Bus Showcase Schemes in Dudley) – Personal interest on account of employment with CENTRO.

Councillor Burston – Minute No. 45 (b) of the Stourbridge Area Committee (Bus Services in the Wordsley Area) – Personal interest on account of employment with CENTRO.

Councillor Burston – Minutes Nos. 52 (ix) and 59 (v) of the Development Control Committee (references to Stourbridge Bus Station) – Personal interest on account of employment with CENTRO.

Councillor Harley – Minute No. 55 of the North Dudley Area Committee (Delegated Capital Budget) – Personal interest due to involvement in Gornal Athletic Football Club as both Trustee and involvement in Reserve and Youth team football.

Councillor Harley – Agenda Item No. 5 (v) (ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – reference to Floodlighting at the Dell Stadium) – Personal interest due to an offer from Dudley Town Football Club to manage and coach the reserve and youth team for 2008/09.

Councillor Southall – Agenda Item No. 5 (a) (ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – reference to Floodlighting at the Dell Stadium) – Personal interest as a Council Member of the Birmingham County Football Association.

Councillor K. Turner – Any reference to Groundwork Black Country and Groundwork UK, Castle Hill Development and Birmingham International Airport – Personal and Prejudicial interests as Director and Treasurer of Groundwork Black Country, Trustee of Dudley Zoological Gardens and Member of the Airport Passenger Consultative Committee.

Councillor Nottingham – Agenda Item Nos. 5 (i) (Update of Capital Strategy - references to schools) and 5 (ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – reference to Children’s Services and the Schools Flood Recovery Grant) – Personal interest in items relating to education as a Governor of The Crestwood School.

Councillor Nottingham - Minute No. 75 of the Cabinet (Investing in the Future – Transforming Secondary Education) - Personal interest in items relating to education as a Governor of The Crestwood School.

Councillor Tomkinson - Agenda Item No. 5(ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – relating to Pensnett Neighbourhood Learning Centre) - Personal interest as a member of the Management Committee.

Councillor Tomkinson - Agenda Item No. 5(v) (Future Configuration of Mental Health Services in Dudley and Walsall) - Personal interest in view of Associate Membership and service on Mental Health Tribunal at Bushey Fields Hospital.

Councillors Mrs. Aston, J. Finch and K. Finch - Agenda Item No. 5(iv) (Deployment of Resources: Housing Revenue Account and Public Sector Housing Capital - Proposed Revised Budget and all references to North Priory Regeneration) - Personal interests as ward members on the North Priory Project Board.

Councillor Mrs. Aston - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring - Schools Capital Investment) - Personal interest as a Governor at Cotwall End Primary School and Dormston School.

Councillor Mrs. Aston - Delegated Decision 71 (Reduce Waste Collection Charges for Charity Shops) - Personal interest as a Volunteer for the PDSA Charity Shop.

Councillor Mrs. Jordan - Agenda item 5(v) (Future Configuration of Mental Health Services in Dudley and Walsall) - Personal interest relating to a family member.

Councillor J. R. Davies - Agenda item No. 5(a)(iv) (Deployment of Resources, Housing Revenue Account and Public Sector Housing Capital) - Personal interest with reference to the rent increase in view of relatives living in Council property.

Councillor J. R. Davies - All references to the Revenue Budget Strategy 2008/09 (with particular reference to the funding for Dudley Citizens Advice Bureau) - Personal interest as colleagues work for that organisation.

Councillor Mrs. Faulkner - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – References to Schools and Learning Matters) - Personal interest as a Governor of Halesbury Special School and Leasowes School.

Councillor Mrs. Faulkner - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – References to Regeneration Matters) - Personal interest as the Vice-Chair of Shell Corner Partnership.

The Mayor (Councillor Stanley) - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(iv) (Deployment of Resources, Housing Revenue Account and Public Sector Housing Capital – all references to rents for Council garages) - Personal interest in view of him renting a garage from the local authority.

Councillor Mrs. M. Wilson - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(iv) (Deployment of Resources, Housing Revenue Account and Public Sector Housing Capital) - Personal interest as a Council tenant.

Councillor Waltho - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(iv) (Deployment of Resources: Housing Revenue Account and Public Sector Housing Capital - Proposed Revised Budget and all references to North Priory Regeneration) - Personal interest as a member of the North Priory Project Board.

Councillor Ali - Agenda Item No. 5(a)(ii) (Capital Programme Monitoring – reference to Liveability and grant allocations to the Friends of Buffery Park) – Prejudicial interest in view of his involvement with and the provision of support and advice to the Friends of Buffery Park.

Councillor Fraser-Macnamara – Agenda Item No. 5(a)(iv) (Question raised at the meeting in respect of Brierley Hill Regeneration) – Prejudicial interest in view of him having clients involved in the Brierley Hill Regeneration Project.

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MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3rd December, 2007 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(a) Comprehensive Performance Assessment

The Mayor reported on Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council's 2007 Comprehensive Performance Assessment rating as a "Four Star" authority according to the independent assessment undertaken by the Audit Commission. Thanks were expressed to everyone involved in this excellent achievement for Dudley.

(b) School Governance Team – Charter Mark

The Mayor announced that the School Governance Team, in the Directorate of Children's Services, had been awarded a Charter Mark. The Council congratulated all the employees concerned and the Mayor presented the Charter Mark Award to representatives of the School Governance Team.

(c) Street Cleansing Team – Association for Public Service Excellence Award

The Mayor announced that the Street Cleansing Team, in the Directorate of the Urban Environment, had received a national award from the Association for Public Service Excellence. The Council congratulated all the employees concerned and the Mayor presented the certificate to representatives of the Street Cleansing Team.

(d) Environment Zone – Roberts Primary School

The Mayor announced that the Environment Zone at Roberts Primary School had received a national "Green Apple" award for environmental best practice. The Council congratulated all those connected with this achievement and the Mayor presented the award to representatives of the Environment Zone.

(e) Proposed Cricket Match – 20th June, 2008 at Stourbridge Memorial Ground

The Mayor reported that a proposed cricket match was being organised between the second team of Stourbridge Cricket Club and a Councillors' Team on Friday, 20th June, 2008 at Stourbridge Memorial Ground, starting at 6.00pm. Any Member interested in participating was asked to contact Councillor Hanif.

(f) Mayor's Ball – 11th April, 2008

The Mayor reminded the Council that the Mayor's Ball would be held on Friday, 11th April, 2008 at the Copthorne Hotel, Merry Hill.

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UPDATE OF THE COUNCIL'S CAPITAL STRATEGY

A report of the Cabinet was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

That the Capital Strategy, as attached to the report now submitted, be approved and adopted.

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CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 TO 2010/11

A report of the Cabinet was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That each Supported Capital Expenditure (SCE) be earmarked to the relevant service, but with a particular emphasis on demonstrating appropriate prioritisation within service programmes, and within spend headings, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report now submitted.
- (2) That Housing capital receipts be earmarked to be spent on Housing capital schemes as set out in paragraph 10 of the report now submitted.

- (3) That the Private Sector Housing Investment Programme for 2008/09 - 2010/11 be approved, and amended in respect of the extra £128,000 for Disabled Facilities Grants in 2007/08 as set out in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the report now submitted.
- (4) That the Children's Services capital resources and related schemes be included in the Capital Programme as appropriate, and that the grants identified as non-ring fenced be earmarked to the relevant initiatives, as set out in paragraphs 16 to 19 of the report now submitted.
- (5) That the allocation of Adult Social Care capital resources be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 21 of the report now submitted.
- (6) That the Waste Infrastructure grant allocation be allocated as set out in paragraph 22 of the report now submitted.
- (7) That, subject to the relevant element of the Revenue Budget Strategy being agreed, the expenditure to be funded from prudential borrowing be approved, as set out in paragraphs 23 and 24 of the report now submitted.
- (8) That the Capital Programme be amended in respect of any capitalisation directions received, as set out in paragraph 25 of the report now submitted.
- (9) That the HIV/AIDS Grant 2007/08 be used for improvements at Summit House as set out in paragraph 28 of the report now submitted.
- (10) That the additions to the Liveability project be approved and included in the Capital Programme, and the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to accept the relevant grants, as set out in paragraph 29 of the report now submitted.
- (11) That the budget for improvements to Saltwells Nature Reserve be increased by £7,000, as set out in paragraph 30 of the report now submitted.
- (12) That the Big Lottery funding award in respect of Stevens Park, Wollescote be noted, and the associated expenditure included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 31 of the report now submitted.
- (13) That the Disabled Crossing Programme budget be increased by £40,000, as set out in paragraph 32 of the report now submitted.

- (14) That, subject to the necessary external funding being forthcoming, the South Black Country Innovation Campus project be included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 33 of the report now submitted.
- (15) That the Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd. (WREN) grant allocation for Cotwall End Valley Local Nature Reserve be noted, and the associated expenditure included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 34 of the report now submitted.
- (16) That, subject to a satisfactory feasibility study, the relocation of the Home and Hospital Education service to the current Rosewood School site be approved, and the project to adapt the site be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 35 of the report now submitted.
- (17) That the Council's Short Break Pathfinder status and funding allocation be noted, and the related Capital spend be included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 36 of the report now submitted.
- (18) That the Schools Flood Recovery grant be used to improve the drainage of the school field at Crestwood High School, as set out in paragraph 37 of the report now submitted.
- (19) That the project to install a standby generator at Himley Hall be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 38 of the report now submitted.
- (20) That the allocation of the Pooled Treatment Budget funding be noted and that if the funding is to be managed by the Council, the related expenditure be included in the Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 39 of the report now submitted.
- (21) That, subject to funding being found from internal resources, the project to relocate the Benefits Shop to the former banking hall be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 40 of the report now submitted.
- (22) That the urgent amendments to the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraphs 41 to 47 of the report now submitted, be noted.

- (23) That the Prudential Indicators as required to be determined by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and the Local Government Act 2003, as set out in Appendix A to the report now submitted, be agreed.
- (24) That, subject to the anticipated legislative changes being enacted, the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy for 2008/09 be as set out in paragraph 54 of the report now submitted.

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TRANSPORT STRATEGY – PROPOSED TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR 2008/09 AND ROAD SAFETY GRANT

A report of the Cabinet was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Transport Capital Settlement for the three-year period 2008/09 to 2010/11 be noted.
- (2) That the contents of the report and the allocation of Transport Capital Funding for 2008/09, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted, be approved.
- (3) That the 2009/10 and 2010/11 block allocations be included in the Capital Programme as set out in paragraph 25 - Table 1 of the report now submitted, and that the Cabinet Member for Transportation, in consultation with the Director of the Urban Environment, be authorised to approve the distribution of block allocations to headings.
- (4) That the approval of schemes within the funding block headings for 2009/10 and 2010/11 be agreed by the Director of the Urban Environment in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation.
- (5) That the Cabinet Member for Transportation, in consultation with the Director of the Urban Environment, be authorised to agree budget virements as required between headings contained within block allocations for 2008/09 - 2010/11.

- (6) That the Director of the Urban Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation, be authorised to approve programmes associated with the Road Safety Grant 2008/09 - 2010/11.
- (7) That the following be approved:-
- (a) The Transport Strategy for Dudley.
 - (b) The schemes and programming identified in Appendix 2 of the report now submitted - Bridge Strengthening.
 - (c) The schemes and programming identified in Appendix 3 of the report now submitted – Retaining Walls; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to bring construction work forward as risk assessment dictates and funding permits.
 - (d) The schemes identified in Appendix 4 of the report now submitted – Railway Road Vehicle Incursion; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to bring forward construction as funding permits.
 - (e) The schemes identified in Appendix 5 of the report now submitted – Upgrading of Parapets; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to bring forward construction as funding permits.
 - (f) The schemes identified in Appendix 6 of the report now submitted – Bus Showcase; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to undertake work as funding is made available.
 - (g) The schemes and programming identified in Appendix 7 of the report now submitted – Local Safety Schemes; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to undertake work from the reserve programme as funding permits.
 - (h) The schemes and programming identified in Appendix 8 of the report now submitted – Proposed Safer Routes To School Measures; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to undertake work from the reserve programme as funding permits.

- (i) The schemes and programming identified in Appendix 9 of the report now submitted – Pedestrian Crossing Programme; and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to undertake work from reserve programme as funding permits.
- (j) The Director of the Urban Environment continue to initiate studies into future minor improvement schemes identified in Appendices 1 and 10 of the report now submitted.
- (k) The Director of the Urban Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation, be authorised to identify and, where appropriate, implement any remedial works to local safety schemes of a minor nature, the introduction of antiskid material and provision of variable speed message signs and mobile speed camera sites to be funded from the Local Safety Scheme Heading.
- (l) The Director of Law and Property, in conjunction with the Director Urban Environment, commence property acquisition by negotiation for schemes identified in Appendices 1 and 6 of the report now submitted, as required.
- (m) Any scheme within the Local Safety Schemes, Safer Routes to School or Pedestrian Crossing programmes of work, including reserve schemes, which can not be implemented within the relevant timescale or financial resources available for that particular programme of works be deferred and submitted for re-assessment for possible inclusion in a future programme of works.
- (n) The Director of the Urban Environment continue to progress the highway improvement programme associated with outcomes from the Black Country Study and regeneration initiatives as set out in Appendices 1 and 10 of the report now submitted.
- (o) The Director of the Urban Environment, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation, be authorised to approve the programme of Street Lighting improvement and the programme of Highway Maintenance.

- (p) The actions of the Director of the Urban Environment in the de-trunking of the A449 be endorsed.
- (q) The Director of the Urban Environment be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transportation, to negotiate the terms associated with the de-trunking of the A456 and the A4123.
- (r) The Director of the Urban Environment seek approval to an application to the Highways Agency in the sum of £750,000 towards delivering safety improvements at the Grange roundabout on the A456, and that the Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to accept the aforementioned grant.
- (s) The Director of the Urban Environment be authorised to enter into a Section 8 agreement with Sandwell MBC regarding future maintenance responsibilities on the A4123.
- (t) The re-profiling of the Brierley Hill Sustainable Access Network grant expenditure as shown in paragraph 17 of the report now submitted.

DEPLOYMENT OF RESOURCES – HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT AND PUBLIC SECTOR HOUSING CAPITAL

A report of the Cabinet was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the revised Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2007/08 and the HRA budget for 2008/09, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted, be approved.
- (2) That the revised budget for the North Priory regeneration project, as outlined in Appendix 2 to the report now submitted, be approved.
- (3) That the public sector housing revised capital budget for 2007/08 and capital budget for 2008/09 to 2010/11, as attached as Appendix 3 to the report now submitted, be approved.

- (4) That the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, be authorised to manage and allocate resources to the capital programme as outlined in paragraph 31 of the report now submitted.
 - (5) That the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services be authorised to procure and enter into contracts for the delivery of the capital programme, as outlined in paragraph 32 of the report now submitted.
 - (6) That the medium-term financial strategy, as set out in Appendix 5 to the report now submitted, be approved.
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FUTURE CONFIGURATION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN DUDLEY AND WALSALL

A report of the Cabinet was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the Council join the new Dudley - Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust subject to:
 - (a) Approval by the Secretary of State.
 - (b) Agreement by the Primary Care Trusts to the appointment of a Director at Board level with lead responsibility for social care and for ensuring that the Councils' statutory duties in Mental Health, including the Approved Social Worker service, are discharged.
 - (c) The appointment of an elected Member from the Council to the new Commissioning Body.
 - (d) The new Trust remaining accountable to the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services and to the Cabinet for the social care agenda and performance of social care services in Mental Health. (Arrangements must be in place to ensure that the new Trust can provide the data on Mental Health Services which the Council needs to report to the Commission for Social Care Inspection for the annual performance assessment).

- (2) That it be noted that when the Secretary of State's decision is received, a Shadow Partnership Trust Board, with a Chairman and Chief Executive, will be established in advance of a new Trust being formed, this being expected to be in place on 1st July, 2008.
- (3) That the assumptions made in the report now submitted regarding the transfer of staff, the drawing up of partnership agreements and the financial implications be accepted.
- (4) That the Council endorse the objection, as reported orally at the Cabinet meeting, with regard to the proposed designation of 'Black Country Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust' to describe the new Foundation Trust for Sandwell Mental Health Services.

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NOTICE OF MOTION UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 12
West Midlands Regional Members of the European Parliament

Pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 12, Councillor Caunt had given notice of a motion in respect of the above.

The motion was moved by Councillor Caunt, seconded by Councillor Sparks and it was unanimously

RESOLVED

That, given the number of electors represented by the West Midlands Regional Members of the European Parliament, any allocation of an extra seat to the United Kingdom should be allocated to this Region to retain its existing seven seats.

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MEMBERS' PLANNING CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE

A report of the Development Control Committee was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Wright, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

That the revised Members' Planning Code of Good Practice be approved and adopted.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT

A report of the Audit Committee was submitted.

It was moved by Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Fraser-Macnamara and

RESOLVED

- (1) That the treasury management activities in 2007/08, as set out in the report, be approved.
- (2) That the Treasury Strategy 2008/09, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.
- (3) That the Director of Finance be authorised to effect such borrowings, repayments and investments as are appropriate and consistent with the approved Treasury Strategy and relevant guidance.

QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11

During questions under Council Procedure Rule 11, there were no decisions that the Leader, Cabinet Members or Chairmen agreed to have reconsidered.

The meeting ended at 8.16 p.m.

MAYOR