

## **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CABINET**

Tuesday, 12th July, 2005 at 6.00 pm  
In Committee Room 2 at the Council House, Dudley

### **PRESENT:-**

Councillor Caunt (Leader of the Council) (Chairman)  
Councillors Adams, Evans, Fraser-Macnamara, Jones, Mrs Martin, Miller, Mrs Millward, Mrs Shakespeare and Vickers together with the following Minority Group Members nominated to attend meetings of the Cabinet: Councillors G H Davies, Ms Foster, Mrs Ridney, Sparks and C L Woodall (Labour Group) and Councillors Mrs Patrick and Tyler (Liberal Democrat Group)

### **Officers**

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Law and Property, Director of Social Services, Director of the Urban Environment, Mr Pattinson (General Manager, Planning, Directorate of the Urban Environment) and Mr Sanders (Directorate of Law and Property)

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### **MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No member declared a personal or prejudicial interest, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, in respect of any item to be considered at this meeting.

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### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence from the meeting was received on behalf of Councillor Ali.

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### **CHANGES IN REPRESENTATION OF MINORITY GROUP MEMBERS**

It was reported that Councillor Mrs Ridney was serving in place of Councillor Ali as a representative of the Labour Group for this meeting of the Cabinet only.

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REVISED DEPOSIT UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN –  
RESPONSES TO THE OBJECTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS TO  
THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS OCTOBER 2004

A report of the Director of the Urban Environment was submitted seeking consideration of the responses to objections received into the Proposed Modifications made with respect to the Revised Deposit Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and seeking approval to proceed to the next stage in the Development Plan process.

Specific consideration was given to the situation relating to the Coopers Bank site referred to in Appendix 2 to the report now submitted. Contrary to the wishes of the Council and the company that occupied the site, the independent Government Inspector who had heard the Public Local Inquiry into the UDP had recommended that the land be designated as a strategic housing allocation. Representations for the retention of the site for employment use had been received from the company currently occupying the site.

RESOLVED

That the Council be recommended:-

- (1) That the responses to the objections made to the proposed modifications to the Revised Deposit Unitary Development Plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report now submitted, be approved and that the subsequent publication of the Council's Notice of Intention to Adopt the Dudley Unitary Development Plan after 28 days publication notice be also approved.
- (2) That, with regard to the Coopers Bank site situation, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report, it be confirmed that the Council, as Planning Authority, would not view favourably a planning application for residential development on the Gibbons Refractory site prior to the second phase of housing development commencing in March 2007 and that, therefore, Housing Phasing Policy (Policy H2 as modified) in the Revised Deposit Plan be invoked should a planning application for such residential development be received.

CORPORATE FORMAT OF REPORTS

A report of the Director of Law and Property was submitted seeking consideration of a revised corporate format for Committee reports.

In presenting this item, the Director of Law and Property also drew attention to the need for an amendment to the Constitution to provide for Committee responsibility for the risk management function.

## RESOLVED

That the Council be recommended:

- (1) That the revised corporate Committee report format, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted, be adopted with effect from the September/October cycle of meetings, and that the Director of Law and Property be authorised to make any consequential amendments to the Council's Constitution.
- (2) That the Council's Constitution be amended by the addition of the following clause in the terms of reference of the Audit Committee and that the Director of Law and Property be authorised to amend the Constitution accordingly:  
  
"Determination of appropriate action regarding the arrangements for the corporate risk management process".
- (3) That, in relation to resolution (1) above, all Directorates be reminded of the requirement to consider key corporate issues in the production of Committee Reports and Decision Sheets.

The meeting ended at 6.25 pm.

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL