

Minutes

**For Presentation to the Council
At the meeting to be held on**

Wednesday, 15 July 2015

Minutes

For Presentation to the Council
At the meeting to be held on
Wednesday, 15 July 2015

Committee/Board	Page Ref
COUNCIL MINUTES	1 – 6
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD	
9 April 2015	7 - 12
19 May 2015	13 - 14
4 June 2015	15 - 20
2 July 2015	21 – 34
MINUTES OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD	35 - 38
MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARDS AND THE BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD	
Children, Young People and Families	39 - 48
Employment, Learning, Skills and Community	49 - 54
Health	55 - 64
Safer	65 - 78
Environment and Urban Renewal	79 - 98
Corporate Services	99 - 104
Business Efficiency Board	105 - 114
COMMITTEE MINUTES	
Development Control	115 - 130
Regulatory	131 - 136
Appeals Panel	137 - 140

COUNCIL

At the Annual meeting of the Council on Friday, 22 May 2015 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors E. Cargill, S. Baker, M. Bradshaw, J. Bradshaw, D. Cargill, Cassidy, Cole, Dennett, Edge, C. Gerrard, J. Gerrard, Gilligan, P. Hignett, R. Hignett, S. Hill, V. Hill, Horabin, Jones, M. Lloyd Jones, P. Lloyd Jones, C. Loftus, K. Loftus, Logan, A. Lowe, J. Lowe, MacManus, McDermott, A. McInerney, T. McInerney, Nelson, Nolan, Osborne, Parker, Philbin, Polhill, C. Plumpton Walsh, N. Plumpton Walsh, Joe Roberts, June Roberts, Rowe, Sinnott, G. Stockton, Wainwright, Wall, Wallace, Wharton, Woolfall, Wright and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Fry, Harris, Howard, Lea, Morley, J. Stockton and Thompson

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, A. Scott, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, D. Parr and T. Coffey

Also in attendance: Thirty invited guests and members of the public

	<i>Action</i>
<p>COU1 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Cole and seconded by Councillor Peter Lloyd Jones-</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Ellen Cargill be elected Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2015/16.</p> <p>Moved by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Tom McInerney –</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Councillor Ged Philbin be elected Deputy Mayor of the Borough for the Municipal Year 2015/16.</p> <p>THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR ELLEN CARGILL IN THE CHAIR</p>	
<p>COU2 COUNCIL MINUTES</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 15 April 2015, having been circulated, were taken as read and</p>	

signed as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be confirmed and adopted.

COU3 THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:-

1) That the Charities she would support during her term of office would be:-

- Victoria Music Ltd;
- The HCPT- The Pilgrimage Trust, Widnes; and
- Widnes Fellowship Centre.

2) The Mayor's Chaplain for 2015/16 would be Father Peter Wright.

COU4 BOROUGH COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS 7 MAY 2015

Details of the Borough Council elections held on 7 May 2015 were submitted for information.

The Mayor congratulated all returning Members and welcomed newly- elected Councillor Charlotte Gerrard to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the election results be noted.

COU5 EXECUTIVE BOARD (SELECTION COMMITTEE) 19 MAY 2015

The following recommendations of the Executive Board (Selection Committee) were moved by the Mayor and seconded by the Deputy Mayor.

COU6 DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL 2015/16

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mike Wharton be appointed as Deputy Leader for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

COU7 BOARDS, COMMITTEES, APPEALS PANEL AND WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED: That the Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel and Working Party be constituted with the membership as shown for the Municipal Year 2015/16:

Health & Wellbeing Board

Councillors Polhill, Philbin, Woolfall and Wright.

Corporate Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Gilligan (Chairman), A Lowe (Vice Chair), Dennett, C.Gerrard, C.Loftus, A McInerney, Osborne, N.Plumpton Walsh, Joe Roberts, Rowe and Wainwright.

Health Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors J. Lowe (Chairman), S Hill (Vice Chair), Baker, Dennett, C.Gerrard, Horabin, M. Lloyd Jones, Osborne, C.Plumpton Walsh, Sinnott and Wallace.

Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Woolfall (Chairman), Fry (Vice Chair), P Hignett, V.Hill, C.Loftus, MacManus, Morley, Sinnott, G.Stockton, Wall and Zygadlo.

Employment, Learning, Skills and Community Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Edge (Chairman), MacManus (Vice Chair), Baker, Cassidy, Howard, P.Lloyd Jones, Logan, Parker, C.Plumpton Walsh, Joe Roberts and Rowe.

Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Dennett (Chairman), Logan (Vice Chairman), Cassidy, P.Hignett, Horabin, K.Loftus, A.McInerney, June Roberts, J Stockton, Wall and Woolfall.

Safer Policy and Performance Board (11)

Councillors Thompson (Chairman), Lea (Vice Chair), M.Bradshaw, Edge, J.Gerrard, Gilligan, V.Hill, M Lloyd Jones, Nolan, Sinnott and Zygadlo.

Development Control Committee (13)

Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Morley (Vice Chairman), J.Bradshaw, Cole, R.Hignett, S.Hill, C.Plumpton Walsh, June Roberts, J.Stockton, Thompson,Wainwright, Woolfall, and Zygadlo.

Business Efficiency Board (11)

Councillors Joe Roberts (Chairman), M.Lloyd Jones (Vice Chair), J.Bradsahw, Cole, Fry, Lea, A.Lowe, MacManus, McDermott, N.Plumpton Walsh, and J.Stockton.

Standards Committee (9)

Councillors P.Lloyd Jones (Chairman), M.Bradshaw, Cassidy, Cole, J.Lowe, McDermott, T.McInerney, Parker

and Wainwright.

Appeals Panel (20)

Councillors Wainwright (Chairman), A. McInerney (Vice Chairman), Baker, M.Bradshaw, Edge, C.Gerrard, J.Gerrard, Gilligan, S.Hill, V.Hill, Howard, P.Lloyd Jones, K.Loftus, J Lowe, Morley, Parker, N.Plumpton Walsh, June Roberts, G.Stockton and Wallace.

Regulatory Committee (11)

Councillors K Loftus (Chairman), Wallace (Vice-Chairman), Fry, P.Hignett, Howard, Lea, A. Lowe, McDermott, Nelson, G.Stockton and Wall.

Local Development Framework Working Party (15)

Councillors R.Hignett (Chairman), J.Bradshaw, Cole, Gerrard, MacManus, Morley, Nolan, Parker, C Plumpton Walsh, Roberts, G.Stockton, Thompson, Wainwright, Woolfall and Zygadlo.

Mayoral Committee (5)

The incumbent Mayor (Councillor E Cargill) and Councillors Gilligan, R.Hignett, Morley, and Wright .

Appointments Committee (6)

Councillors Polhill, and Wharton (plus relevant PPB Chairs x 2) and Opposition Group Leaders (Rowe and J.Bradshaw).

COU8 APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR

RESOLVED: That Councillor Tony McDermott be appointed Scrutiny Co-ordinator for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

COU9 APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEE TO THE HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Mr Tom Baker as the Healthwatch Halton non-voting Co-optee to the Health Policy and Performance Board for the Municipal Year 2015/16, be confirmed.

COU10 APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCIL CO-OPTEEES TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the appointment of Reverend David Felix and Mr Stephen Cluff as non-voting Parish Council Co-optees to the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/16, be confirmed.

COU11 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, regarding the appointment of Members to serve on various outside bodies. A document was tabled showing the recommendations put forward.

RESOLVED: That representatives be appointed to outside bodies in accordance with the tabled report.

COU12 EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIOS

The Leader confirmed that the Executive Board would consist of the following Portfolio holders for the Municipal Year 2015/16:

Leader's – Councillor Polhill
Children, Young People and Families– Councillor Philbin
Health and Wellbeing – Councillor Wright
Transportation– Councillor Tom McInerney
Community Safety– Councillor Dave Cargill
Economic Development – Councillor Jones
Resources – Councillor Wharton
Environmental Services– Councillor Nelson
Community and Sport – Councillor Harris
Physical Environment – Councillor Ron Hignett

RESOLVED: That the Portfolios be noted.

COU13 CIVIC SUNDAY

The Mayor announced her intention to attend a Civic Service at Our Lady's Catholic Church, Lapwing Grove, Palacefields, Runcorn, WA7 2TP on Sunday 28 June 2015 starting at 11.am.

Meeting ended at 7.15 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 9 April 2015 in The Boardroom, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, R. Hignett, Jones, T. McInerney, Nelson, Philbin, Wharton and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Scott, M. Reaney, G. Cook, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, G. Meehan and E. Dawson

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

EXB167 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB168 2015/16 INSURANCE RENEWALS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, regarding the renewal of insurance premiums for 2015/16.

The Board was advised that emerging trends within the insurance market were putting pressure on rates, with many insurers looking for increased terms. It was reported that organisations that were prepared to accept a higher level of self-insurance were more attractive to insurers, and benefitted from lower premiums as a result.

It was noted that in recent years, the Council had moved towards taking on a greater level of self insurance in order to obtain cost-effective insurance cover and to minimise the revenue impact of increasing insurance

Action

premiums. Details of the increase in the level of excess across a number of insurance classes were contained in the report. Acting under delegated powers, the Operational Director, Finance, had reviewed insurance cover for 2015/16, as set out in paragraph 3.5. These changes had been taken after consultation with the Council's insurance broker, taking into account the Council's capacity to fund uninsured losses through the Insurance Reserve.

It was further reported that the draft Risk Financing and Insurance Strategy, attached at Appendix 1, set out how the Council would ensure that the structure of its insurance programme achieved the optimum balance between self-insurance and externally procured insurance.

Clarification was provided on insurance cover for Academy Schools. Upon transfer to Academy status, the Council would cease to provide such cover.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the changes in the Council's Insurance Programme regarding the purchase of external insurance for 2015/16 be noted; and
- 2) the Risk Financing and Insurance Strategy presented at Appendix 1, be approved.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXB169 DISCRETIONARY NON DOMESTIC RATE RELIEF

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which set out details of three applications for Discretionary Non-Domestic Rate Relief.

The Board was reminded that under the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, the Council was able to grant discretionary rate relief to any business ratepayer. At its meeting on 26 February 2015, the Board had approved a set of criteria which provided 15% discretionary relief where applications were approved from registered charities or community amateur sports clubs.

Details of the applications were set out in the report for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Discretionary Rate Relief be granted to the following organisations at the percentages

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

indicated, for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2019;

Halton Community Partnership Trust –	15%
Halton Disability Partnership –	15%

- 2) That Discretionary Rate Relief is backdated in respect of the following organisations, at the percentage indicated, for the period up to 31 March 2015;

Halton Community Partnership Trust	20%
Halton Disability Partnership	20%

- 3) The application for Discretionary Rate Relief from The Cyrenians Ltd, be refused on the grounds of them being a national organisation.

EXB170 ICT & SUPPORT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the proposals for the ICT and Support Services Capital Programme.

The Board was advised that the long term investment made by the Council in its ICT infrastructure, had played a major part in its drive for greater efficiency. It was noted that this had enabled the Council to reduce its estate, introduce automated processes, facilitate greater use of agile working and enhance its income from Service Level Agreements from third parties, amongst other initiatives. In addition, it was noted that the Administrative Shared Service had successfully launched the Picow Farm Records Management Service, which delivered scanning and a document management services within the Council and to neighbouring authorities. This was also the location for the Council's second data centre, which enhanced the resilience of the Council's business continuity, as well as providing the ability to offer services to others.

The report set out details of the three key programme areas for the 2015/16 ICT Programme. These were noted as being:

- Licensing to support the strategy;
- Server Replacement and Development; and
- Desktop Device Refresh.

RESOLVED: That the details of the ICT and Support Services Capital Programme be noted and approved and

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

the financial spend profile for 2015/16 be supported.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB171 MARKETING AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN RUNCORN AND WIDNES TOWN CENTRES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise, which provided an update on existing and proposed Marketing and Promotions activity within Runcorn and Widnes Town Centres.

The Board was advised that in December 2014, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills had commissioned and published a research paper entitled 'Policy implications of recent trends in the high street/retail sector'. This had been considered by the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board at its meeting on 25 March 2015.

It was reported that the research paper identified key trends impacting on the UK's high streets together with some recommendations which could be adapted to improve and sustain the vitality and vibrancy of Halton's town centres.

The report set out a summary of current and proposed marketing and promotions activities taking place in Widnes Markets, Runcorn Town Centre and Widnes Town Centre, for Members' information.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the existing marketing and promotional activities in Runcorn and Widnes Town Centres be noted; and
- 2) the future proposals outlined in the report be approved.

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB172 PASSENGER TRANSPORT TENDERS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which advised on the process for the open tender procedure for Passenger Transport Tenders.

The Board was advised that the Transport Co-ordination Section was responsible for a complex range of

passenger transport contracts and arrangements on behalf of the Children and the Economy and the Communities Directorates. The report set out the details of the tenders which would be advertised via The Chest, in compliance with Procurement Standing Orders.

RESOLVED: That the process of advertising transport tenders on behalf of the Children and the Economy Directorate and the Communities Directorate for services required from September 2015 be supported.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

MINUTES ISSUED: 14 April 2015

CALL-IN: 21 April 2015

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 21 April 2015

Meeting ended at 2:14pm

This page is intentionally left blank

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board (Selection Committee) on Tuesday, 19 May 2015 in The Boardroom, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, R. Hignett, Jones, T. McInerney, Philbin and Wright

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Wharton

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor Nelson

Officers present: A. Scott, M. Reaney, G. Cook, I. Leivesley and D. Parr

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
<p>EXB1 MINUTES</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
<p>EXB2 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to appoint Councillor Wharton as Deputy Leader of the Council for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.</p>	Chief Executive
<p>EXB3 APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, APPEALS PANEL, WORKING PARTY AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATOR POST AND THE APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTEEES ON VARIOUS BOARDS</p> <p>The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, regarding the appointments to the Council's Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel, Working Party and Scrutiny Co-ordinator and the appointment of a non-voting co-optee to the Health Policy and Performance Board and the appointment of two non-voting Parish Council co-optees to the Standards Committee. A list of committee memberships was tabled at the meeting.</p>	

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to

Chief Executive

- 1) agree the appointments to the Council's Boards, Committees, Appeals Panel and Working Party for the Municipal Year 2015/16 with the representation put forward by each of the political groups;
- 2) approve the nomination of Councillor A McDermott as the Scrutiny Co-ordinator for the Municipal Year 2015/16;
- 3) confirm the appointment as non voting co-optee of Mr Tom Baker as the Healthwatch Halton representative to the Health Policy and Performance Board for the Municipal Year 2015/16; and
- 4) confirm the appointment of Reverend David Felix and Mr Stephen Cluff as non-voting Parish Council co-optees to the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

Meeting ended at 2.02 p.m.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 4 June 2015 in The Boardroom, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, R. Hignett, Jones, T. McInerney, Nelson, Philbin, Wharton and Wright

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Scott, M. Reaney, D. Johnson, I. Leivesley, E. Dawson and T. Coffey

Also in attendance: Councillor J. Lowe (for Minute EXB5)

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
<p>EXB4 MINUTES</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p> <p>HEALTH AND WELLBEING PORTFOLIO</p> <p>EXB5 CARE AT HOME SCRUTINY REVIEW 2014/15</p> <p>The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which presented the recommendations of the Care at Home Scrutiny Review 2014/15.</p> <p>The Board was advised that the Health Policy and Performance Board had considered and supported the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review Group at its meeting in March 2015. The six recommendations were set out in the report for Members' information.</p> <p>Councillor Joan Lowe, Chair of the Health Policy and Performance Board, attended the meeting to present the report and answer Members' questions. She highlighted the work that had been undertaken by the Working Group and Officers who provided support.</p>	

Councillor Lowe was then thanked for attending the Board to present the report.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the contents of the report be noted; and
- 2) the recommendations, attached at Appendix 1, be approved.

Strategic Director
- Communities

EXB6 SERVICE CLOSURE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which presented the Service Closure Policy within the adult social care market.

Members were advised that from April 2015, the Care Act (the Act) required local authorities to help develop a social care market that delivered a wide range of sustainable high-quality care and support services. The Act also placed responsibility on local authorities to deliver a duty to ensure that needs were met including when there was a planned or emergency disruption to services.

In line with these new requirements, three policy and procedure documents had been developed. These made up the Service Closure Policy, attached as appendices, and were:-

- An overarching policy in relation to market oversight;
- A policy and procedure for responding to a planned service closure; and
- A policy and procedure for responding to an unplanned service closure.

It was reported that these documents provided the protocol to follow in the event of a planned or unplanned service closure.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the policies and procedures, attached at Appendices 1, 2 and 3 to the report, be approved.

Strategic Director
- Communities

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB7 DIRECTORATE OVERVIEW REPORTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic

Director, Policy and Resources, on progress against key objectives/milestones and performance targets for the fourth quarter year-end to 31 March 2015.

The Board was advised that the Directorate Performance Overview Report provided a strategic summary of key issues arising from performance in the relevant quarter for each Directorate, being aligned to Council priorities or functional areas. The Board noted that such information was key to the Council's performance management arrangements, with the Board having a key role in monitoring performance and strengthening accountability.

It was reported that each report contained an update concerning the implementation of mitigation measures for all high risks contained within each of the Directorate Risk Registers.

RESOLVED: That the report and progress and performance information be noted.

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB8 LIQUID FUEL CONTRACTS - SUPPLY OF DIESEL, KEROSENE AND GAS OIL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on a proposed tendering exercise for the supply of Liquid Fuel Contracts.

The Board was advised that currently, there were two liquid fuel contracts in place, which covered the supply of diesel kerosene and gas oil to Council sites having such requirements. These contracts were due to expire on 30 September 2015.

It was reported that Crown Commercial Services (CCS) was an executive agency sponsored by the Cabinet Office, providing commercial services to the public sector. It was proposed that Halton Borough Council join a procurement exercise undertaken by CCS for the provision of liquid fuels. It was noted that the value of these contracts was estimated to be £1.4m for a two year period commencing 1 October 2015, and that the new contracts would be procured in line with the Council's Procurement Standing Orders.

RESOLVED: That, in line with Procurement Standing Order 1.3.1, the inclusion of the Council in a new Crown

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

Commercial Services procurement exercise for the supply of liquid fuels, be supported.

EXB9 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB10 SCI-TECH DARESBUY - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, which provided an update on phase one of developments and investment at Sci-Tech, Daresbury.

The report provided an update for Members on the

Sci-Tech Enterprise Zone, Daresbury, the Phase One Developments and Investments and Future Ambitions for Sci-Tech, Daresbury. It also provided details on the new management organisation.

Reason(s) for Decision

The Council, as a partner in the Sci-Tech Joint Venture (JV), agreed to amend the JV partnership to include Langtree Land and Property Ltd. The Council entered into a loan agreement with Langtree.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The Council had no direct influence over the changes to the Langtree companies. Therefore, on balance it accepted that this was the most appropriate mechanism to ensure that Sci-Tech was delivered.

Implementation Date

Both agreements were implemented in May using the delegated powers conferred to the Chief Executive.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the work of the JV to date, be recognised;
- 2) the future ambitions of Sci-Tech be recognised;
and
- 3) the action taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and appropriate Portfolio holders under delegated powers, be noted.

Strategic Director
- Children and the
Economy

MINUTES ISSUED: 9 June 2015

CALL-IN: 16 June 2015

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 16 June 2015

Meeting ended at 2.30 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

EXECUTIVE BOARD

At a meeting of the Executive Board on Thursday, 2 July 2015 in The Boardroom, Municipal Building

Present: Councillors Polhill (Chairman), D. Cargill, Harris, R. Hignett, Jones, T. McInerney, Philbin and Wharton

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Nelson and Wright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney, G. Cook, D. Johnson, G. Meehan, D. Parr, E. Dawson and A. Jones

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

EXB11 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

EXB12 HALTON FOUNDATION (RUNCORN AND WIDNES COMMUNITY FUND)

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on progress made on the development of a Community Foundation for Halton.

The Board was advised that the Halton Foundation would link individuals, businesses and organisations with their community to facilitate philanthropy across the Borough. It was reported that the Steering Group had articulated a Vision and a Mission, as detailed in the report. It was further reported that the Foundation's focus would comprise four main elements:-

- Halton Gives;

- Halton Supports;
- Halton Cares; and
- Halton Shares

and would operate across Runcorn and Widnes to enable individuals, families, companies, entrepreneurs and charitable trusts to support Halton's communities in a cost effective way.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the establishment of the Halton Foundation – Runcorn and Widnes Community Fund be endorsed;
- 2) the Council having an ongoing advisory role in the Halton Foundation as a founding partner be agreed;
- 3) the Leader be authorised to nominate an Elected Member to represent Halton Borough Council on any decision making Boards; and
- 4) subject to trustee approval, it be agreed that charitable funds named in the report and currently administered by the Council, be administered in future by the Community Foundation for Lancashire and Merseyside as part of the Halton Foundation.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

(N.B. Councillor Wharton declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item of business as he was Chair of Governors at Hale Primary School)

**CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES
PORTFOLIO**

EXB13 BASIC NEED CAPITAL FUNDING - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, which provided an update for the allocation and spending of Basic Need Capital Funding.

The Board was advised that the Basic Need allocation supported the capital requirement for providing new pupil places by expanding existing maintained schools, free schools or academies and by establishing new schools. Halton used pupil forecast data to determine the need to provide additional school places in order to meet demand. Basic Need capital funding had been used to carry out

building works to provide additional school places at a number of primary schools listed in the report, to alleviate pressure for demand for school places in those areas. In addition, Basic Need funding had been used to provide vocational, 6th form and independent living facilities at Ashley School following the re-designation of the school.

It was reported that an extension for one additional classroom at Hale C.E. Primary School, would be funded by Basic Need capital funding, to alleviate the shortage of classroom space at the school by 2017. The balance of Basic Need capital funding would be retained to respond to any pupil place planning/demographic issues arising in either the primary or secondary sectors.

Reason(s) for Decision

The decision was required to deliver and implement the capital programme.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

Implementation Date

July 2015 following agreement of full Council.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the proposal to allocate Basic Need capital funding to Hale CE Primary School project be approved;
- 2) the position in respect of the balance of Basic Need capital funding be noted; and
- 3) Council be recommended to approve the Basic Need capital funding.

Strategic Director
- Children and the
Economy

EXB14 CONTRACTED SERVICES FOR HALTON DOMESTIC ABUSE FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES - WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDERS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, which sought a waiver of Procurement Standing Orders to enable the continuation of contracted services for Halton Domestic Abuse Family Support Services.

The Board was advised that in November 2013,

Halton Borough Council commissioned Core Assets Children's Services to deliver a new domestic abuse service for children, young people and families. It was reported that the service also supported Halton's Children's Social Care with the Cheshire and Merseyside Local Authority Pre-Proceedings Protocol.

The Board noted that there continued to be a high level of identified need for the service. The current provider was a well-established organisation with extensive knowledge and understanding of the needs of the Halton local community. To ensure continuous care, it was proposed that the current arrangements be allowed to continue to avoid disruption to service provision and allow sufficient time to increase capacity of provision within the Borough.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) in the light of the exceptional circumstances set out in the report, Procurement Standing Order 1.8.3 (c) be used to waive Procurement Standing Orders 3.1 to 3.6 to extend the contract for the provision of Domestic Abuse Family Support Services, in order to ensure continuous care and support; and
- 2) the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, be authorised, in conjunction with the Portfolio holder for Children, Young People and Families, to enter into the contract until 31 March 2016.

Strategic Director
- Children and the
Economy

HEALTH AND WELLBEING PORTFOLIO

EXB15 SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION (VULNERABLE ADULTS) TENDER - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which sought approval for the granting of a Direct Award for the delivery of community based supported accommodation service from 1 November 2015 to 31 March 2016. It also sought approval for the procurement of the supported accommodation services for vulnerable adults.

The Board was advised that the Council was responsible for commissioning services to support vulnerable adults to live independently within the Halton community. In addition, the Council provided a range of services and support for individuals with additional needs/vulnerability to maximise independence. Thirteen

service providers delivered supported accommodation contracts across the Borough.

It was reported that the current contracts for the supported accommodation framework would expire on 31 October 2015.

Reason(s) for Decision

To ensure business continuity and maintain support and care for vulnerable adults requiring accommodation related support to live within the community.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

To continue with the current model post April 2016.

To continue with the current providers and pricing framework post April 2016.

To award contracts from 1 November 2015.

Implementation Date

1 November 2015.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the content of the report be noted;
- 2) the recommendation to grant a Direct Award to supported accommodation providers, as listed in paragraph 3.3 from 1 November 2015 to 31 March 2016 be supported; and
- 3) the procurement of the vulnerable adult supported accommodation services framework during 2015 with a contract start date of 1 April 2016 be approved, with a contract length of three years with an additional two year extension based on quality of service delivery.

Strategic Director
- Communities

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB16 BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS - FUTURE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, on a proposal by Halton Chamber of Commerce to take on the management

of the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in Astmoor and Halebank Industrial Estates.

The Board was advised that the Local Government Act 2003 allowed partnerships between local authorities and the local business community to set up BIDs, which allow businesses in a specific geographic area to develop a business plan aimed at improving the area.

BIDs schemes in Halton had been very successful with a number of improvements seen over the last seven years, providing a cost effective way for business to work collaboratively to achieve a series of common objectives. The current programme would be operational until 2018, with the Council providing a number of services to the Steering Group and Executive, set out in the report and included:-

- Programme Administration;
- Crime Reduction and Community Safety Initiatives;
- Image Enhancement; and
- Business Support.

It was reported however, that the BIDs Executive Committee had expressed a view that the BID programme could be delivered at a reduced cost by not using the Council as the BID body. A proposal had been received from the Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise to take on the BID body role as a 'Project Management Organisation', through a Service Level Agreement. The Council would continue to take on responsibilities, detailed in the report, which included the issuing of BID levy bills and their collection, provision of monthly levy income statements, officer support to the BID Manager and assistance with the delivery of the BID Business Plans.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Board note the proposal for Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise to take on the management and delivery of the BIDs programmes in Astmoor and Halebank; and
- 2) Halton Borough Council continue its role as billing authority for the BIDs area be agreed.

Strategic Director
- Children and the
Economy

RESOURCES PORTFOLIO

EXB17 2014/15 FINANCIAL OUTTURN

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the final revenue and capital spending position for 2014/15.

The Board was advised that the final accounts for 2014/15 were near completion; the revenue spending position for each Department, which would be subject to external audit, was attached to the report at Appendix 1.

It was reported that budget savings for 2015/16 were implemented over two tranches, the first of which consisted of savings of £11.5m, and approved by Council in December 2014. As a result of some of these savings being implemented early, it provided part-year budget savings in 2014/15.

The report provided details on the key variances (which were in addition to the overall net underspend) in the following services:

- Children and Families;
- Children's Organisation and Provision Department;
- Community and Environment;
- Prevention and Assessment;
- Finance;
- Legal and Democratic Services;
- Policy, Planning and Transportation; and
- Corporate and Democracy.

Members were advised that the Council's Reserves and Balances had been reviewed in accordance with the Reserves and Balances Strategy. The Council's General Reserve stood at £8,823,662. It was noted that Council had approved £3m of the General Reserve to be used to balance the budget for 2015/16. In the current economic climate and the financial challenges facing the Council, it was considered that the General Reserve at £5.8m, was considered to be at a reasonable and prudent level, given the scale of the Council's business.

With regard to Capital Spending, details of spending against the 2014/15 capital programme, were attached at Appendix 2. It was noted that spending was £11.0m below the revised capital programme of £43.1m, which represented 75% delivery of the revised capital programme.

Members were advised that there had been slippage on several large projects, listed in the report, which would incur expenditure into 2015/16.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) the information within the report be taken into account when reviewing the medium term forecast and savings proposals for future years.

Operational
Director - Finance

EXB18 2015/16 TO 2017/18 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on the 2015/16 to 2017/18 Capital Programme.

An updated Capital Programme had been approved by Council on 4 March 2015. The Board was advised that since then, other reports covering planned capital expenditure for 2015/16 and future years had been presented and that there had been slippage reported to capital projects for 2014/15 and rolled forward to 2015/16.

It was reported that the Capital Programme was subject to regular review with monitoring reports presented on a quarterly basis. Table 1 presented information on the planned Capital Programme for 2015/16 onwards, based on current information for approved schemes. Table 2 summarised how the Capital Programme would be funded.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to

- 1) approve the updated Capital Programme for 2015/18, including forecast spend and funding as set out in Table 1 and Table 2; and
- 2) the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio holder for Transportation, be delegated authority to agree a detailed implementation programme of Highways and Transportation schemes to be delivered in 2015/16.

Operational
Director - Finance

EXB19 TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2014/15 QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH 2015

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which updated them on activities undertaken on the money market as required by the

Treasury Management Statement.

The report provided supporting information on the economic background, economic forecast, short term rates, longer term rates, temporary borrowing/investments and new borrowing. It was noted that no debt rescheduling had been undertaken during the quarter.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) information included be taken into account when approving Treasury Management Strategies in future years.

EXB20 DISABLED GO - ACCESSIBILITY AND EQUALITY SERVICES

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive, on Disabled Go – Accessibility and Equality Services.

The Board was advised that the Disabled Go Service was the UK's leading provider of accessibility and equality services. The Service covered all types of venue and sought to give users information for them to make an informed choice about accessibility rather than make a decision for them.

It was reported that Disabled Go currently worked with more than 250 public and private sector organisations on its unique Access Guide Service. This strongly linked to Equality Act obligations, and helped disabled people to tackle the barriers faced by them to access venues and services and build resilience and independence.

In developing an Access Service for Halton, it was reported that the Council would seek to work with local partners initially, such as the Clinical Commissioning Group, the Chamber of Commerce, Halton Disability Partnership, the local SEND and the Voluntary, Faith and Community sector.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) in light of the exceptional circumstances set out in the report, Procurement Standing Orders 4.1 to 4.2 be waived in order for the Council to enter into a contract with Disabled Go for the provision of an Access Service in Halton; and

Chief Executive

- 2) the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Portfolio holder for Resources, be authorised to negotiate terms and enter into a contract for Access Services in Halton with Disabled Go.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB21 CHARGES FOR NEW TRAVELLER SITE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which sought approval for the setting of pitch and water/sewerage charges at the new Traveller site in Warrington Road, Astmoor, Runcorn.

The Board was advised that construction of the new Traveller site at Warrington Road was near completion. The site had in large part been funded by the Homes and Communities Agency, which required that pitch rents were set under the 'Affordable Rents' regime. It was reported that this permits rents to be set at up to 80% of the market rent, and it was proposed to set the amount at £75 per week. It was further proposed that the weekly rent for water and sewerage would be set on a cost recovery basis with an initial charge of £11.60 per week. It was noted that the combined rent and water charge for the new site would be comparable to the weekly charge for the adjacent Transit site and would enable the site to be self-financing.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the initial pitch rent for the new permanent Traveller site at Warrington Road, Astmoor, be set at £75 per week and the water/sewerage charge at £11.60 per week;
- 2) future increases of the pitch rent be calculated in line with the Homes and Communities Agency 'Affordable Rent' regime; and
- 3) future increase of the water/sewerage charge be set on a cost recovery basis.

Strategic Director
- Communities

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB22 LIVERPOOL CITY REGION MAJOR MAINTENANCE BID FOR THE SJB COMPLEX

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which sought approval to

submit a major maintenance bid to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority for the Silver Jubilee Bridge Complex (SJBC).

The Board was advised that the SJBC, approach viaducts and other major highway bridges formed a strategically important River Mersey and Manchester Ship Canal crossing. The SJBC required a continual programme of structural and maintenance works to maintain its state and availability for use. It was reported that a number of interventions had been necessary since 2006, with Department for Transport funding of £18.5m approved in 2009, so as to remove a significant amount of backlog in structural works.

It was noted that timely and on-going investment in maintenance would safeguard the previous capital investment. A proposed scheme of maintenance works, planned to start in April 2016 and to be carried out over a three year period, required a contribution from the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Growth Fund towards the capital elements of the scheme. To that end, a Major Maintenance Bid would be submitted to the LCR Combined Authority to provide gap funding for capital maintenance works.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Silver Jubilee Bridge Complex Major Maintenance bid to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority for an element of the Regional Growth Fund be approved; and
- 2) Council be recommended to approve the inclusion of £330,000 in the Capital Programme to provide the partial match funding required for the Major Maintenance bid.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXB23 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) Whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt

information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and

- 2) Whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB24 SCI TECH DARESBUY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, which informed them of urgent action taken by the Chief Executive regarding the Sci-Tech Daresbury Joint Venture Partnership.

Members were reminded of a previous report considered on 4 June 2015 regarding the changes to the Joint Venture Partnership. It was reported that the necessary legal arrangements had now been completed which brought about the change to the Joint Venture Partnership, which had required a revision to the terms of the agreed changes.

RESOLVED: That the action taken by the Chief Executive be noted.

MINUTES ISSUED: 6 July 2015

CALL-IN: 13 July 2015

Any matter decided by the Executive Board may be called in no later than 5.00pm on 13 July 2015

Meeting ended at 2.30pm

This page is intentionally left blank

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

At a meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board on Wednesday, 13 May 2015 at Karalius Suite, Stobart Stadium, Widnes

Present: Councillors Philbin, Polhill and Woolfall and S. Banks, P. Cook, B. Dutton, R. Foster, D. Lyon, A. Marr, A. McIntyre, E. O'Meara, D. Parr, N. Rowe, A. Scales, R. Strachan, L. Thompson, S. Wallace Bonner, A. Waller and S. Yeoman

Apologies for Absence: M. Creed, N. Sharpe and Councillor Wright

Absence declared on Council business: None

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

Action

HWB51 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2015 having been circulated were signed as a correct record.

HWB52 THE TRANSFER OF 0-5'S PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSIONING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board considered a report of the Director of Public Health, which provided an update on the transfer of 0-5s public health commissioning responsibilities in relation to mandation and financial arrangements. From 1st October 2015, the Government intends that local authorities will take over responsibility from NHS England for commissioning public health services for children aged 0-5. The workforce would continue to be employed by their current provider, Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Trust, whilst the commissioning responsibilities for 0-5 public health services, which included the Health Visiting Service and the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP), would transfer across to the Council.

It was reported that the Government had reached agreement that the following universal aspects of the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme would be mandated in

regulations:

1. The antenatal health promoting visits;
2. New baby review;
3. 6-8 week assessments;
4. 1 year assessment; and
5. 2-2½ year review.

With regard to finance and contracting, NHS England had worked closely with local authorities to jointly agree the finance and contracting picture. The indicative contract value for Halton had been agreed and was based on the anticipated number of Health Visitors who would be in post at the point of transfer.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

HWB53 NHS ENGLAND UPDATE

The Board received a quarterly Accountability report submitted by NHS England. The report outlined national and regional context together with specific updates on priorities that the Area Teams were responsible for delivering and how these priorities were progressing. In addition, the report gave an update on NHS England, progress on the Two Year Operational Plans as well as the development of the Cheshire and Merseyside Business Plan for 2015/16.

RESOLVED: That the update report be noted.

HWB54 BETTER CARE FUND QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT (Q1) - UPDATE

The Board was advised that the Better Care Fund operationalisation guidance and non-elective admissions ambitions had been published and the document set out the monitoring requirements for 2015/16 for the Fund which included:

- Quarterly reporting template;
- Submission points; and
- Annual reporting/year-end reporting.

It was noted that approval was sought for the Quarter 4 report from January to March 2015 which was due for submission to NHS England by 29th May 2015. Details of the submission, including a summary which covered non elective admissions and supporting metrics, were outlined in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Board

1. note the content of the report; and
2. approve the Quarter 4 Better Care Fund Report, detailed in point 4.0 of the report and at the attached appendix.

HWB55 'ONE HALTON' DEVELOPMENT SESSION

The Board received a presentation from Leigh Thompson, Director of Commissioning & Service Delivery, Halton CCG, which advised that NHS Halton CCG had recently launched a new concept and initiative called *One Halton*. This had been done in partnership with a number of local organisations including the Local Authority, NHS providers, voluntary sector organisations and other key local bodies and organisations. The *One Halton* Programme was an overarching framework to deliver a collective mandate for joint action across Halton against a jointly agreed set of strategic priorities. With a focus on primary, secondary and tertiary prevention, it created a holistic way of working in which all local organisations – both statutory and non-statutory – co-ordinated their approach and services to managing the health and well-being needs of local people. Services would be delivered in the optimum locations for people where every resident had consistent access to care. Benefits of the scheme included:

- Whole system approach;
- Shared purpose – the power of everyone behind the same idea/concept;
- Sharing expertise;
- Alignment of organisational plans and priorities;
- Greater opportunity for innovation – with agreed risk sharing; and
- Whole population approach covering all age groups.

As part of the consultation on *One Halton* the Board divided into three groups to discuss six questions around:

Is *One Halton* the right thing to do?

How do we avoid this being just another good idea?

What is the role of the H&WBB in *One Halton*?

What would *One Halton* look like to you as a member of the H&WBB?

How can you accelerate change?

How should the H&WBB through its statutory

responsibilities, provide oversight to *One Halton*?

Each group presented their findings and commented on each question. Leigh Thompson agreed to circulate a discussion document following the consultation workshop and the collective responses to the above set of questions.

It was agreed that progress of the One Halton programme would be presented to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 4.05 pm

**CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES POLICY AND PERFORMANCE
BOARD**

At a meeting of the Children Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board on Monday, 1 June 2015 in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Dennett (Chairman), Logan (Vice-Chairman), Cassidy, P. Hignett, Horabin, K. Loftus, A. McInerney, Woolfall and E. Lawler

Apologies for Absence: Councillors June Roberts, J. Stockton and Wall

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. McIntyre, G. Meehan, A. Jones, S. Clough, G. Bennett, T. Coffey and A. Parkinson

Also in attendance: M.Parkinson – Strategic Professional Partner (CWAC) and Mrs C.Alonso

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
CYP1 MINUTES	
The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
CYP2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.	
CYP3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
The minutes relating to the Children, Young People and Families Portfolio which had been considered by the Executive Board since the last meeting of the Board, were attached at Appendix 1 for information.	
RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.	
CYP4 SSP MINUTES	
The minutes of the Halton Children's Trust meeting held on 7 April 2015 were submitted to the Board for	

information.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

CYP5 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise which provided Members with the Annual Report outlining the work carried out by the Board and Officers from May 2014 – April 2015.

The Chairman wished to place on record his thanks to Members and Officers for all their co-operation and hard work carried out throughout the year.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report be received and be recommended to Full Council.

CYP6 CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION PRESENTATION

The Board received a presentation on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in the Borough. CSE was identified when children and young people received incentives such as food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes; or affection, gifts or money, for performing and/or others performing sexual activities on them.

It was reported that CSE could occur through the use of the internet or on mobile phones. In all cases, those exploiting the child or young person had power over them because of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or resources. It was noted that for the victims, the pain of their ordeal and fear that they would not be believed meant they were often too scared to come forward.

The presentation continued to discuss the CSE models: Peer to Peer; Befriending and Grooming; The Boyfriend/Pimp and The Party. Halton's response to CSE was explained to Members as were the aims and functions of the CSE Team; the Team's structure and its key objectives. The presentation also provided Members with case studies as examples of what was currently happening in Halton and explained the difference between children being vulnerable to CSE and/or at risk of CSE.

Members were advised of the PAN-Cheshire Communications that had taken place. These included focus on social media in January and February and the use of the Cheshire Police Force, Local Authorities and Catch 22

websites to promote the awareness of the **know and see** website (Catch 22 being the current commissioned service for CSE). March saw the campaign target taxis and buses and it was announced that the next phase would target the late night economy.

Following Members queries the following points were made:

Barriers with parents existed where they believed that CSE would not happen to their child – how was this being dealt with?

The Schools were consulted over this and they suggested that information be disseminated to parents from the children themselves. Disclosure occurred through friends of victims and then on from that to other people. Schools were challenging information that was picked up on immediately and were actively pushing the CSE agenda.

What about young people with learning disabilities, where do they fit in?

Links have already been made with the Adults Safeguarding Board in this regard to engage them in the identification of CSE for young people with learning disabilities.

There are different cultural ways that people bring up their children, has this been looked at?

Cultural issues were being looked at already in Halton. Some ideas to deal with this had been identified and once the CSE Team pilot was over, a decision would be made on how to progress these.

To keep Members informed of CSE activity in Halton, Officers advised that they would receive regular updates via the Board.

RESOLVED: That the presentation and comments made be received.

Strategic Director
Children and the
Economy

CYP7 INGLEFIELD SHORT BREAK SERVICE

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise, which provided an update of the current usage and capacity of the Inglefield service.

Officers advised that Inglefield was registered by

Ofsted as residential short break provision for young people, aged 0 – 18. It was noted that the service was last inspected in November 2014 for the fifth consecutive key inspection, and deemed to be outstanding in all areas.

It was reported that Inglefield was on the North West Residential Framework for overnight short breaks which was the only such local authority provision on that framework. Further it was competitively priced and had received positive feedback from placing authorities and families.

With regards to its current usage, in January 2014, there were 10 young people accessing the service (one from another local authority). In April 2015 there were 22 young people accessing the service, including three young people from other authorities. Officers advised that in order to meet the demand, Inglefield used some of the income from other placing authorities to provide an additional 4 nights opening per month. The service was therefore now operational for 5 nights and 7 nights on alternate weeks. It was noted therefore that on this basis, all requests for a service for Halton young people were currently met. However requests for service from other local authorities were not as there was no capacity to provide it.

The report continued to explain the reasons why the service was currently at its capacity and explored how additional capacity could be achieved.

Further to Members queries the following points were noted:

- Ashley School – A cohort attended Inglefield every Friday but there had been problems preventing them from accessing the full service. It was hoped that Ashley pupils would increase to 45 in future and that they could use it every day;
- Out of Borough demand had reduced because parents chose to allow family members to care for their children on occasions as well;
- The staff at Inglefield were trained the same way regardless of whether they were permanent or temporary;
- The registered manager of the service took care to ensure that staff were introduced to the young people in the case of replacements and cover, to maintain consistency and familiarity amongst the staff and

children.

RESOLVED: That the Board note the information contained in the report.

CYP8 LOCALITY EARLY INTERVENTION UPDATE

The Board received an update from the Strategic Director, Children and Economy, on the development of Locality Early Intervention in Halton.

It was reported that in November 2014 it was agreed that the Health and Wellbeing Board act as the governing body for Halton's approach to Early Intervention, setting the strategic direction and acting as the driver for planning, co-operation and working. In addition, it would be responsible for ensuring effective information sharing and performance management systems are established across partners.

Members were advised that the revised approach to Early Intervention would now encompass Troubled Families to ensure the learning and success of the programme could be embedded and further developed in line with the expanded programme. The Troubled Families Strategic Group was therefore revised and renamed as the Early Intervention Strategic Group and was now accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board. Its key functions would be to develop a business plan and drive the planning, delivery and co-ordination of Early Intervention.

The Board discussed the success of the *Early Intervention Development Day* that was held at Halton Stadium on Friday 27 March 2015, and the future development of the Early Intervention programme in Halton.

It was noted that other local authorities would be consulted where multi-agency early intervention was working well in order to learn from them. Members agreed with the importance of information sharing between partners and that all agencies need to be encouraged to do this more. Officers advised that they would submit regular updates to the Board on the progress of Locality Early Intervention.

RESOLVED: The Board note the progress to date and supports the approach to multi-agency Locality Early Intervention.

CYP9 EARLY YEARS REVIEW

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director – Children and Economy, which provided a summary of the school performance data for early years in Halton.

The report identified the challenges the Borough faced and described the actions to be taken to raise standards. It also provided details on the progress the Borough was making in terms of the national child measurement programme and similarly the challenges faced in the early years.

The report provided Members with details of the *Good Level of Development* (GLD) indicator of achievement and the figure of 46% achieved by children in Halton, and how Halton was placed nationally. Reference was also made to a previous PPB report (Summary of Educational Attainment and Progress 2014) in October 2014 and its action plan. Some of the key areas of work which had been undertaken since this were discussed in the report.

The following points were noted in relation to the report:

- The speech and language service had been put out to market to see how it could be recommissioned; the Blackpool model was referred to as an example as its demographics were similar to Halton;
- The attainment of children in the Early Years, as measured at the end of the reception year through the national Good Level of Development indicator, indicated low outcomes compared to other Local Authorities. Research was to be undertaken to determine why this was the case, including looking at attainment on entry to settings and schools and the subsequent progress made throughout the Early Years phase.
- Parents needed to be made aware of the importance of their child's development and take responsibility for this in the years prior to school;
- Members requested a Ward by Ward breakdown of early years data; this would be looked at and provided to Members when available

RESOLVED: That Members support the proposed approach to improving standards in early years.

Strategic Director
Children and the
Economy

CYP10 EDUCATION STRUCTURE

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director – Children and Economy, which provided an update on the development of Halton's Education Service.

It was reported that in 2014 an Efficiency Review was undertaken of Learning and Achievement Services in the Borough. Following the resignation of the Operational Director, Learning and Achievement, the departmental management arrangements were revisited and revised. The review concluded that the 0-19 Division was well managed and delivered effectively, but suggested a number of amendments to the operational structure to build resilience and enhance the long term sustainability of school improvement and portage within the existing budget provision.

The report continued to outline the restructure of the roles within the newly named '*Education Division*', which had now transferred to the Organisation and Provision Department, along with the *0-25 Inclusion*, to form the *Educational Inclusion and Provision Department*.

The Board was introduced to Mark Parkinson, Head of Service for Education, at Cheshire West and Cheshire Council (CWAC), who had provided a 'light touch' professional oversight, which would be augmented by Halton's existing Strategic System Leadership Group. The Strategic System Leadership Group was explained as a schools' led system where leaders and practitioners with a proven record of success in raising standards, provided expert guidance for the schools they supported. It was noted that Halton's approach was recognised in Ofsted's North West Annual Report 2014, as described in the report.

The report continued to discuss the Strategic System Leadership Group's aims through collaboration and partnership and attached to the report were its Terms of Reference for Members information.

The Chairman thanked Mark Parkinson for his attendance on behalf of the Board and commented that it was important to understand the education structure from early years onwards.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and Members support the approach to System Leadership.

CYP11 SEND UPDATE REPORT

The Board was presented with an update of the actions taken with regards to the implementation of the SEND reforms in Halton, as required by the Children and Families Act 2014.

The Board was advised that under the directions of the Children and Families Act 2014, Local Authorities had a duty to publicise on the Local Offer website the process by which individuals could obtain an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP), and a timetable of when statements of special educational needs (SEN) would be converted into an EHCP. Halton had met this requirement and it was noted that Partnership meetings were held every week with representatives from Education, Health, Social Care and Schools.

Members were advised that to fund the reforms the SEN Service had been restructured and a Burdens Fund of £456,833 had been received in total, paid to the Council between 2014 and 2016. New posts had been created therefore at no additional cost to the Local Authority; details of these were listed in the report.

The report went on to advise Members of the challenges that remained for the reforms and it was noted that an inspection would be carried out by Ofsted next January.

The Board discussed the implementation of the SEND reforms so far and how targets and outcomes were measured. It was commented that these needed to be realistic in order to see achievements. Members also discussed the aspirations of parents with children with SEND, in that some were too high and some not high enough. Members requested case studies be presented at the next update so that they could better understand the challenges and the difference the new SEND arrangements were making.

RESOLVED: That the Board

1. Approve the latest developments; and
2. Supports next steps in the implementation process.

Strategic Director
Children and the
Economy

CYP12 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS FOR
QUARTER 4 2014-15

The Board received the Performance Management Reports for Quarter 4 of 2014-15 and were requested to consider them and raise any questions or points of clarification required.

It was noted that the key priorities for development or improvement in 2014-17 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to the Board as follows:

- Children and Families Services; and
- Education, Inclusion and Provision (formerly Learning and Achievement and Children's Organisation and Provision)

The report detailed progress against service objectives and milestones and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period.

RESOLVED: That the Policy and Performance Board receive the fourth quarter performance management reports.

Meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

**EMPLOYMENT, LEARNING AND SKILLS, AND COMMUNITY POLICY AND
PERFORMANCE BOARD**

At a meeting of the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board on Monday, 15 June 2015 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Edge (Chairman), Baker, Cassidy, Howard, P. Lloyd Jones, Logan, Parker and Joe Roberts

Apologies for Absence: Councillors MacManus, C. Plumpton Walsh and Rowe

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: W. Rourke, A. Jones and C. Patino

Also in attendance: None

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

		<i>Action</i>
ELS1	MINUTES	
	The Minutes from the meeting held on 23 March 2015, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.	
ELS2	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
	The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.	
ELS3	ANNUAL REPORT	
	The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, which provided an Annual Report outlining the work carried out by the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board for 2014/15.	
	The Chairman wished to place on record her thanks to Members and Officers for their continued support and hard work throughout 2014/15.	
	RESOLVED: That the 2014/15 Annual Report be recommended to Full Council.	

ELS4 ADULT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Children and Economy, which provided a summary of the Government's consultation document '*A Dual Mandate for Adult Vocational Education*', which was published in March 2015.

It was reported that the consultation would close on 16 June 2015 and would summarise Government's proposals for future adult vocational education. Further, the consultation document described what had been done since 2010 to promote vocational education and training for adults across further and higher education sectors and analysed England's performance on higher level vocational education against our comparator nations.

Members noted that the report identified three core themes associated with higher level skills (funding; institution building; and the ownership and development of qualifications, standards and curricula) and recognised the importance of individuals being given a second chance to gain the fundamental skills required for life and work. These core themes were discussed in detail in the report.

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was Halton's draft response to the consultation; which had been developed with the Halton Employment Partnership. It was noted that although the consultation period closed on 16 June 2015, Board Members comments would be taken into consideration and included in the feedback.

Members' comments included the following:

- concerns were raised over the future funding of Vocational Adult Education. Members suggested that it was important that activities to support Vocational Adult Education were appropriately managed to ensure that there was synergy between the respective offers of the Council and Riverside College. It was noted that Mary Murphy, the Principal of the College had been invited to give a presentation on the College at the next meeting;
- suggestion that the Council worked closer with academies/free schools so that courses were not duplicated in the Borough; the Operational Director, Employment, Enterprise and Economy, had already planned a meeting with the Operational Director – Education, Inclusion and Provision, to look at

ensuring that there was strong collaboration between Education and Business sectors in the Borough to ensure that all schools had consistent and equal access to the economic opportunities that were being developed in the Borough;

- A question was raised regarding future funding in respect of 16-19 year olds as part of national discussions on devolution.

RESOLVED: That the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community Policy and Performance Board:

- 1) welcomes the work underway in developing a Halton consultation response; and
- 2) delegates the final approval of the Halton consultation response to the Operational Director (Economy, Enterprise and Property) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Chair of the Employment, Learning and Skills, and Community PPB.

ELS5 EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The Strategic Director, Children and Economy, presented a report which updated Members on the development and implementation of the European Programme for the Liverpool City Region (LCR).

It was reported that the LCR Employment and Skills Board had held detailed discussions and consulted on the proposed allocations for the Inclusive Economy element of the City Region's European Programme. This led to an allocation which was approved and submitted to the City Region's ESIF Committee on 26 February 2015.

This approved allocation was attached to the report as Appendix 1 and was submitted to the Department for Work and Pensions as Managing Authority for the European Social Fund (ESF) programme.

Members were informed of two bids submitted on behalf of partners: the European Social Fund the Ways to Work (WtoW) Programme and the Business Support ERDF.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the report.

ELS6 SCRUTINY TOPIC GROUP

The Board received an update on the Inward Investment Topic Group, from the Strategic Director, Children and Economy.

Members were advised in January's PPB meeting that the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) was developing a collaborative City Region approach to Inward Investment. Following this the Board agreed that it was important to understand the current arrangements for managing Inward Investment enquiries locally, including the source of these enquiries and the resources allocated to delivering the service. It was noted that this would then determine whether there was synergy between a local and city region wide inward investment service and where added value could be obtained.

It was proposed therefore that a Scrutiny Topic Group be established to enable Members to evaluate the effectiveness of the current Inward Investment service and assess where Halton's Inward Investment priorities should lie, together with an assessment of future resource requirements.

The update provided Members with a topic brief and programme and details of the content of the first and second meetings, as referred to in Appendices 1, 2 and 3. Members discussed the proposals for the next steps of the Topic Group and it was hoped the final report would be presented to Members in September.

Members requested a brief account of the content of the employment charter developed through the Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Board. An update on this would be provided at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Board notes the progress to date and supports the next steps outlined in the report.

Strategic Director
- Children and the
Economy

ELS7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REALISING TALENTS DOCUMENT

The Board received a summary of the *Local Government Association Realising Talent: a new framework for devolved employment and skills*, which recommended options for the devolution of employment and skills to local areas.

The report explained Government proposals on how

the anticipated employer demands of the future would be met, how to up-skill the workforce and get more people back to work. It was noted that the Government faced two significant challenges to achieving this as follows:

- 1) A better local skills match between training and employer demand; and
- 2) Integrating employment, skills and health provision at the local level – more effective and more efficient support.

The report informed Members that the recommendations recognised all councils believed that much more could be done locally to reduce unemployment, and more effectively match local skills supply with current and future employer demand. It set out the minimum expectation to improve services for all areas, and created the space for those who had already made great strides in devolving powers, to go further. The report listed the recommendations called for, listed below and provided commentary on each:

- The introduction of Local Labour Market Agreements by 2016/17;
- A shift in national focus to help the most disadvantaged by replacing the £260 million Work Programme with two new programmes, and devolving it;
- Devolving skills funding and commissioning for all ages;
- Devolution of post 16 learning, and a new Youth Offer;
- Job Centre Plus Support Contracts and Flexible Support Fund to be co-commissioned with councils; and
- A National Employment and Skills Partnership.

It was noted that the Liverpool City Region was well placed with the work underway on potential devolution and their response was attached at Appendix 1 of the report for Members information.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

ELS8 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS - QUARTER 4 2014-15

The Strategic Director, Children and the Economy, presented the performance management reports for Quarter

4 of 2015-16 and requested the Board to consider them and raise any questions or points of clarification.

It was noted that the key priorities for development or improvement in 2014-17 were agreed by Members and included in Directorate Plans, for the various functional areas reporting to the Board as detailed below:

- Enterprise, Employment and Skills; and
- Community and Environment

The report detailed progress against service objectives and milestones and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period.

Following Members queries the following information was requested:

- to know more about the Club Halton Accreditation; and
- the nature of work of the Community Sports Coaches was requested and how they were selected.

Officers would respond after the meeting via email to all members as this information was not to hand.

RESOLVED: That the Board receive the Quarter 4 performance management reports.

Meeting ended at 7.45 p.m.

HEALTH POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Health Policy and Performance Board held on Tuesday, 9 June 2015 at Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors J. Lowe (Chairman), S. Hill (Vice-Chairman), Baker, Dennett, C. Gerrard, M. Lloyd Jones, C. Plumpton Walsh, Sinnott, Wallace and Mr T. Baker

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Horabin and Osborne

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: L. Derbyshire, L. Gladwyn, D. Nolan, S. Wallace-Bonner and L Wilson

Also in attendance: Ms E Alcock, Mr S Banks, Mr D Chow, Ms J Snodden and Dr D Wilson (NHS Halton CCG), Ms D Evans and Ms J Tudor (Bridgwater NHS Trust) and Ms S Doyle and Ms C McNally (UCC).

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
HEA1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held 10 March 2015 having been printed and circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
HEA2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.</p>	
HEA3 HEALTH AND WELLBEING MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board of its meeting held on 11 March 2015 were submitted to the Board for information.</p>	
<p>HWB44 – The Board noted that Widnes Vikings had received recognition for its work with the community and had received the Super League Cup 2014 award. In this respect, clarity was sought on whether there was a cost</p>	

incurred for working with schools. In response, it was reported that this information would be circulated to Members of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

HEA4 NHS HALTON CCG'S CONSULTATION AND STEERING STRATEGY

The Board received a report and presentation from Mr D Chow, Engagement and Involvement Manager, NHS Halton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) which shared the range of engagement that was being undertaken to influence commissioning decisions; highlight good practice and joint working in engagement and consultation.

The Board was advised that NHS Halton CCG had a duty to engage widely with local people to ensure that services were commissioned in line with local peoples need. Promoting opportunities, wellbeing and good health for people locally was a key target within the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and NHS Halton CCG's 2 year plan and 5 year strategy. The report provided an overview of some of the projects and programmes that had been undertaken to continually engage people locally both in their own health and the work of NHS Halton CCG and partners over the last financial year 2014/2015. A presentation of events and projects was attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

The Board discussed the issue and challenges of legal highs and noted that the Safer Policy and Performance Board had established a Topic Group to look at ways of addressing this matter in the Borough.

The Board noted that all GP Practices had established a Patient Participation Group. However, it was also noted that some were not as effective as others as they did not meet frequently and the CCG would be meeting with the all Group Chair's in order to look at ways of addressing this issue.

Members highlighted the importance of raising young people's awareness of the seriousness of diabetes. In response, it was reported that next week a Halton Real Comic on Type 2 Diabetes would be distributed widely in the community. A Halton Real Comic - Health Checks was circulated at the meeting. It was reported that they would be available in all schools, libraries and patient groups. A link to ipads and an APP would also be available. In addition, it was anticipated that in the near future a Mental Health and

SEND comic would also be produced and distributed.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The report, presentation and comments raised be noted; and
- (2) Mr Chow be thanked for his informative presentation.

(Note: Councillor M. Lloyd Jones declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following items of business HEA4, HEA5, HEA8 and HEA9 as her husband is a Governor of Warrington and Halton Hospital Foundation Trust and Bridgwater Community Health Care Trust.)

HEA5 HEALTH BASED PRIORITY REPORT (Q4/END OF YEAR)

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which presented the progress of key performance indicators, milestones and targets relating to Health in Quarter 4 of 2014-15.

A verbal update on the performance monitoring targets was given at the meeting, highlighting that the majority would be achieved by the end of the year. In addition, an update was given on the indicators that had not met their target; the reasons why and the actions being taken to address this matter.

Page 59 – Homelessness: Clarity was sought on who would be monitoring the Pan Merseyside Bond Scheme and more information was requested. In response, it was reported that this information would be circulated to all Members of the Board.

Page 65 – CCC6 – The number of households living in temporary accommodation – The Board agreed to monitor this target in light of the introduction of Universal Credit and the impact it would have on residents in the Borough.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

HEA6 HPPB ANNUAL REPORT 14/15

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which presented the Annual Report for the Health Policy and Performance Board for April 2014-March 2015 attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

It was reported that during 2012 -13 the Board had looked in detail at many of Halton's Health and Social Care priorities. Further details of these were outlined within the Annual Report and were set out in Appendix 1.

The Chairman, on behalf of Councillor E Cargill, took the opportunity to thank Officers and Members for their contribution to the Board and Working Groups during the last municipal year.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

HEA7 COMMUNITY NURSING - UPDATE ON STAFFING LEVELS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which provided feedback on issues discussed at the last meeting in respect of the presentation of the Care at Home Scrutiny Review 2014/15.

The Board was advised that the Care and Home Scrutiny Review 2014/15 report that had been presented to last meeting of the Board had taken account of the current Community Nursing Services. As part of the review, Members received a presentation of the service that was currently delivered in Halton. The presentation focussed on such areas as current staffing levels, referrals, quality and safety aspects and patient feedback. Members had previously expressed concerns about the perceived lack of capacity within the Community Nursing Service.

The Board was further advised that in order to provide Members with appropriate assurances, the following information represented an update on the posts affected and the actions that had been taken to ensure a safe workforce was in place:-

- A Band 7 evening service District Nurse sister had returned from long term sick leave week commencing 12th April 2015 on a 4 week phased rehabilitation return to work programme;
- A vacant 0.4 FTE Band 5 Community Nurse post had been recruited to and a start date was expected to be confirmed imminently following the completion of recruitment checks;
- 2 x 0.4 Band 5 post interviews had taken place on 28th April 2015 and recruitment checks for the

successful candidates had commenced;

- A Band 7 District Nurse sister had left the Trust on the 26th April 2015; however, she would be remaining on the nurse bank for night duties. The post was being advertised and, until it had been recruited to, the Trust had taken on a very experienced agency nurse working 2 to 3 nights per week who was also interested in applying for the post; and
- There were no capacity issues in the District Nursing Out of Hours Service. Staff within the service occasionally reported issues when the evening staff had handed over patients if they had been delayed with an end of life patient which impacted on their workload. This was because the community nursing service prioritised end of life patients and this had been discussed and agreed with staff.

The Board noted that the service was currently fully staffed.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted; and
- (2) the steps taken to ensure the community nursing service has capacity to provide a safe and efficient Community nursing service be noted.

HEA8 IM&T STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which provided Members with the 2015-2018 IM&T strategy for Halton.

The Board was advised that document had been carried out in collaboration with a number of key stakeholders. Following engagement with stakeholders the strategy aimed to identify what both local priorities were in relation to IM&T and also the wider healthcare economy priorities which spanned a number of organisations and which were likely to span the life of the strategy.

The Board was further advised that the workstreams had been identified by first specifying the need that was not currently being met and then identifying the possible solutions that could meet this need. Their potential impact

on outcomes and also their ease of implementation was also mapped.

It was reported that the strategy had been presented to the CCG Service Development Committee in February 2015 and had been approved via the Governing Body in March 2015. The work streams were now being developed into a number of detailed project plans to be progressed over the coming months.

Furthermore, it was reported that the identified work streams within the IM&T strategy were now being planned in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders and detailed project plans being developed. These would form a monitoring dashboard that would be discussed monthly at the IM&T working group and form the basis for the quarterly IG Committee report.

The Board noted the current position and next steps of the IM&T Strategy, set out in the report.

The Board noted the significant challenge and opportunities of the IM&T Strategy and the excellent work that had been undertaken to date.

RESOLVED: That the Strategy and the Year 1 priorities within the Strategy be noted.

HEA9 URGENT CARE - PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which gave Members an update in relation to the Urgent Care/System Resilience agenda within Halton, including an update on the Urgent Care Centre (UCC) developments. Appendix 1, to the report, gave information on Halton's System Resilience Group Membership and the System Resilience Performance Dashboard for February 2015.

The Board was advised that System Resilience Group (SRG) had been designed to be reflective of the whole system of health and social non-elective and elective care within Halton.

Ms C McNally (Runcorn UCC) and Ms S Doyle (Widnes UCC) attended the meeting to give Members an update on the two Urgent Care Centres.

It was reported that Runcorn UCC had been operational since 9 February 2015 and was operating from 7

am – 10.30 pm (accepting patients up until 10 pm). Doctors were currently present from Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm. However, from 1 July 2015 a doctor would be on duty from 8 am – 10 pm seven days a week. In addition, it was reported that the UCC had already started to complete more episodes of care than when it was the Minor Injuries Unit, which had resulted in reducing the instances where patients have had to be referred onto A&E.

In respect of Widnes UCC, it was reported that work had commenced on site on 4 February 2015 and there were two phases. Phase 1 would be completed by the end of this week and it was anticipated that Phase 2 would be completed by the end of June 2015. Once work had been completed, it would operate under the agreed Service Delivery Model as Runcorn UCC. It was also reported, that staffing levels at the site were also improving and would continue to do so over the next few weeks.

Furthermore, it was reported that there had been very positive feedback on the service delivered to date at the Runcorn UCC and there would be a launch of the service to the public in July 2015.

Members raised concern that Runcorn UCC was currently operating reduced hours in terms of doctor provision and was not available seven days a week. In response, it was reported that there had been recruitment problems and therefore it had not been possible to extend the medic provision. However, there had been extensive staff training; clinicians with extended nursing and assessment skills, including the prescription of drugs were available, and nurse practitioners to complement the doctors.

The Board noted the challenges in respect of recruitment nationally. The Board discussed the Dashboard information and it was agreed that it be circulated with the Health PPB Briefing, prior to the agenda despatch. It was also agreed that feedback on the impact that the UCC's were having on A&E attendance be reported back to the meeting on 8 November 2015.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

HEA10 CARE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which presented Members with

information on Making a Difference: A Strategy for Transforming Care Management in Halton 2015-2020.

The Board was advised that Making a difference: A Strategy for Transforming Care Management in Halton 2015-2020 had been developed within a range of national and local policies and themes including the Care Act 2014. The Act placed additional responsibilities on the Council through the 'wellbeing principle' and the wider focus on the whole population in need of care rather than just those with eligible needs or who were funded by the state.

The Board was further advised that implementation of the Care Act had significant implications for the roles of the Adult Social Care workforce as the way people accessed the care and support system changes and demand increased for assessments and support plans from self-funders and carers.

It was reported that the strategy set out a framework to build on the existing care management model and construct a professional, skilled care management service that was fit for purpose and responsive to the future demand.

Furthermore, it was reported that implementation of the strategy action plan required Workforce Capacity Planning and this was underway and was supported by Skills for Care as one of their pilots. The project would explore how social workers were deployed, how many would be needed (for the expected increase in assessments) and how assessments were undertaken. This would then inform the right mix and numbers of social workers and community care workers with the right skills and knowledge to implement care and support reform.

In conclusion, it was reported that the action plan would be delivered through the newly established Professional Capabilities Forum, chaired by the Principal Social Worker (Divisional Manager Care Management and Assessment). The Strategic Director and Operational Director, Prevention and Assessment, would form the "Professional Leadership" and have an overview of progress in implementing the strategy.

The Board had a discussion on the model of brokerage and consultation that had taken place. It was noted that this was not the final document, and further

consultation would take place with service users and staff.

RESOLVED: That the Care Management Strategy for Halton 2015-20 supporting evidence be noted.

Meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

SAFER POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Safer Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 16 June 2015 at the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Thompson (Chairman), Lea (Vice-Chairman), Edge, Gilligan, V. Hill, M. Lloyd Jones, Nolan, Sinnott and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors M. Bradshaw and J Gerrard and Councillor D. Cargill (Portfolio Holder – Community Safety)

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Andrews, E. Anwar, L. Derbyshire, N. Hallmark, C. Patino and J. Williams

Also in attendance: Councillors: J. Lowe and S. Hill (Health PPB Chairman and Vice Chairman), PC J Lennox (Cheshire Police), Mr D Kitchen and Ms J Treharne (North West Ambulance Service) and Ms D Perchard (Trading Standards).

ITEM DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD

SAF1 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Action

The Chairman took the opportunity to place on record, his thanks and appreciation to Councillor M Ratcliffe, who had been a Member of Halton Borough Council for many years. He highlighted the work she had undertaken both as a Ward Councillor and Member of the Board.

The Chairman, at the meeting, circulated a hardcopy of the new operating model for Cheshire Police. The document outlined changes that were proposed for an increase in the number of Police Officers. Overall it was a positive for Halton, which would now have two local policing units. In addition, the proposals showed that there would be a Beat Team in each ward (a mixture of constables, PCSO's and specials). He reported that he would be attending a meeting on Thursday, 18 June 2015, with Councillor D Cargill and the Assistant Chief Constable to discuss the new operating model and encouraged Members to email any comments/observations they may have on the proposed

model.

In conclusion, the Chairman reported that the Annual meeting of the Police & Crime Panel would be held on 26 June 2015.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The verbal update be noted; and
- (2) The Board place on record a vote of thanks to Councillor M Ratcliffe for the work undertaken by her during her time as a Borough Councillor and Board Member and also gave their best wishes to her for the future.

SAF2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

SAF3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.

SAF4 SSP MINUTES

The minutes from the last Safer Halton Partnership (SHP) meeting held on 16 February 2015 were presented to the Board for information.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

SAF5 OVERVIEW OF TRADING STANDARDS

The Board received a verbal update from Ms D Perchard, Trading Standards on the service they provided in Halton.

The Board was given information on the following:-

- The role and responsibility of Trading Standards; who was involved and that the service had transferred back to Halton on 1 April 2014 with only half the staff in post – one enforcement officer instead of four. However, by September 2014, they were fully staffed;
- The approach that Trading Standards had taken

was to look at issues that were affecting Halton residents and businesses and then try to use their skills and legislative powers to address these issues;

- Consumer Advice – the role of the service i.e. advise consumers on their rights and how to enforce them when things go wrong. In addition, it was reported that advice was also given to businesses on their responsibilities. Examples of cases last that had been considered year were available at the meeting ;
- Scams – general awareness and details of the Scam Victims Project. The project included 190 Halton residents who were thought to have been victims of mass marketing fraud scams;
- Doorstep crime and ecrime – what had been done and future plans to address this issue;
- Counterfeiting; under age sales; safety; iCAN; weights and measures and feeding stuffs.

Information on the above areas and what had been done to date and the Impacts of the Trading Standards Scam Victims Project – The First 6 Months was also circulated to Members of the Board

The Board noted that the Trading Standards Annual report would be presented to a future meeting. The Board discussed the increase in scams locally and nationally and that they very often involved the most vulnerable people i.e. people with mental health problems, the elderly and lonely people.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The verbal update and comments raised be noted; and
- (2) Ms D Perchard be thanked for her informative presentation.

SAF6 DANGEROUS DOGS - CHESHIRE POLICE

The Board received a presentation from PC Lennox, Cheshire Police on dangerous dogs and the law. The Board was advised that Halton was one of the biggest hotspot in the county in relation to dangerous dogs. The presentation:-

- Highlighted that there were over 200,000 reported dog bites per year which cost the NHS £3,000,000; 50% of attacks involved children under 12yrs; 70% of fatalities occurred in children under 10yrs; 92% of attacks were by male dogs 94% of which were unneutered; the number of people taken to hospital following a dog bite had almost doubled in a decade and there were 3-5 incidents per day reported in Cheshire;
- Outlined fatal dog attacks by breed – 1982-2013 listing with more than 10 deaths occurring;
- Set out Section 1 of the Dangerous Dog Act 1991;
- Detailed some of the prohibited breeds in the UK;
- Set out the Dangerous Dogs Amendment Act 1997; Section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 and the new sentencing;
- Highlighted newspaper coverage of the fatalities;
- Highlighted the categories of individuals who were the highest risk of being bitten and explained the law relating to seizure;
- Showed graphic images of dog bites; and
- Outlined the Dogs Act 1871 and detailed the Community Protection Notice.

The following comments arose from the presentation:-

- The Board noted that in respect of the Community Protection Notice (CPN), dog owners would be given a realistic time in relation to the offence to rectify the situation. This timescale varied according to the offence;
- The importance of Halton residents being aware of the situation in respect of dangerous and illegal dogs in Halton was noted and it was suggested that information on this matter be presented to schools and Colleges in the area. In response, PC Lennox reported that due to lack of resources this would be very difficult at the current time. However, it was highlighted that parents would also benefit from awareness training and the

Expect Programme delivered some aspect of this issue to schools;

- Concern was raised that there was only one reading device for dog microchips used by Cheshire police. The device was used to enable a clearer impression to be given on the status of dogs found to be causing a nuisance and where complaints had been made;
- Clarity was sought on whether Housing Associations took account of the issue with their housing tenants. In response, it was reported that Housing Associations gave permission for tenants to have a dog unless it was a prohibited breed. The Board noted that more work could be done with Housing Associations to address this issue i.e. via conditions in individual tenancy agreements;
- It was noted that the Borough had previously encountered incidents of dangerous dogs being kept and trafficked through Cheshire for dog fighting elsewhere. The Board also noted with some concern that children were most significantly the victims of dangerous dogs attacks; and
- The Board noted the challenges Cheshire Police faced in respect of illegal dogs and the ways in which individuals could get round the legislation governing this matter. It was also noted that 4/5 cases a month in Halton were referred to the court, with disappointing outcomes

The Members discussed the seriousness and severity of the situation in Halton and that there was no budget available to deal with this matter. The Members also noted that other organisations such as Housing Organisations also had the potential to influence this issue through tenancy agreements. In light of this, the Board agreed that the Chairman raise with the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) the potential to focus on this issue in Halton and Cheshire.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the contents of the presentation and comments raised be noted;

- (2) the Board expressed concerns at the severity and frequency of incidents in Halton and Cheshire and agreed that the Chairman raise with the PCC the potential for more focus on addressing this issue; and
- (3) PC Lennox be thanked for his informative presentation.

SAF7 NORTH WEST AMBULANCE SERVICE ANNUAL REVIEW

The Board received a presentation from Mr D Kitchin and Ms J Treharne, North West Ambulance Service, NHS Trust on the Annual Review of the service.

The presentation:-

- Gave details of the services provided and which covered Cheshire and Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Lancashire;
- Outlined that the service covered the North West footprint of 33 CCGs, 1,420 GP practices and 29 acute trusts; 1.3 million 999 calls were received each year; there had been 950,000 patient episodes; it represented a population of 7m people, with a growth of 3% by 2017; approximately 5,000 staff were employed with an annual income of £260 million; there were three emergency control rooms (virtual call taking) and 1.2 million PTS journeys has been undertaken in Cheshire, Lancashire, Merseyside and Cumbria;
- Set out the Performance Standards for 999 calls; Halton CCG Red Activity by week 2013/14 vs 2014/15; Healthcare professional activity by the hour; HCP Admissions – NHS Halton CCG for 2014/15 and 2015/16;
- Detailed the top five calls that had been received;
- Detailed the Halton Performance and the demand for various categories of calls;
- Outlined the Year end Performance 2014/15 and 2015/16;
- Highlighted Warrington and Whiston's Hospital Arrival Screen Information;

- Explained how work was undertaken with responders; how and why the ambulance service had changed and the evolving role and local initiatives that had taken place;
- Outlined the changes to emergency and urgent care and how the service was operating differently to achieve better outcomes; and
- Explained how work was taking place to educate the public and partners.

The Chairman reported that last year England's Chief Inspector of Hospitals had published his first report on the quality of care provided by North West Ambulance Service. Overall the Quality Care Commission (CQC) Inspection had found that the Trust provided safe and effective services which were well led with a clear focus on quality. The Inspection Team had included CQC Inspectors, doctors, nurses, paramedics, patient experts by experience and senior manager; over 60 people had spent four days visiting the Trust's three emergency operation centres.

The Board noted the challenges and delays in patients waiting to be transported home via ambulance and the steps that were being taken to address this matter.

The Board was advised that the three emergency call centres were based in Broughton - Preston, Parkway – Greater Manchester and Anfield – Liverpool. However, an urgent upgrade was required in respect of the building and environment in Anfield and it was anticipated that a new site, preferably on the Joint Command and Control Centre at Bridle Road Bootle, would be established by 2017.

The Board was also advised that there were 35 Ambulance services across Cheshire and Merseyside 7 of which were co-located with the Fire and Rescue Service. Clarity was sought on how many emergency ambulances were available in Halton during the evening. In response, it was reported that there were two vehicles in Runcorn; two in Widnes, two response cars in Runcorn and one in Widnes which ceased at 2 am due to lack of demand. However, the additional investment would also provide an additional 16 hour ambulance vehicle in Widnes and Runcorn and one further response car.

The Board noted the extensive training that was undertaken by all staff and that this included training in mental health issues, alcohol and drugs.

Clarity was sought on the vulnerability of the Patient Transport Service in light of losing the Manchester contract two years ago. In response, it was reported that the contract would cease in 2016 and NWAS would bid to retain the existing contracts and to gain the Manchester contract. It was reported that lessons had been learned and the bid would be as competitive as possible.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The contents of the presentation and comments raised be noted;
- (2) Mr D Kitchin and Ms J Treharne be thanked for their informative presentation; and
- (3) The Board re-affirm the support from the CQC in finding that the Trust provided safe and effective services which were well led with a clear focus on quality.

SAF8 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS 2014-15 - QUARTER 4

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which presented the progress of key performance indicators, milestones and targets relating to Safer in Quarter 4 of 2014-15.

It was reported that the majority of the performance monitoring targets would be achieved by the end of the year.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SAF9 SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which provided Members with an overview of key developments for the Substance Misuse Service (Adults) during 2014/15.

The Board was advised that Halton Borough Council commissioned the substance misuses services (drug and/or alcohol) and the service supported local people who had substance misuse problems. The contract was delivered across the Halton area by Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI).

The Board was further advised that a key part of that programme was to focus on public health information and

prevention agenda to reduce the number of individuals taking drugs/misusing alcohol and ensuring robust and accessible information was provided to residents of Halton. The aim of the drug and alcohol service was to improve health and social care outcomes and reduce the impact caused by addiction or dependency to drugs and/or alcohol, with a clear drive on improving health inequalities for local people

It was reported that the Halton Brew (a coffee shop within the Halton area developed by the carers group) was ready to launch/start up as a working and sustainable enterprise supporting people in recovery and people affected by substance abuse. The Council had supported the Halton Brew initiative to apply for capital funding from Public Health England. The award had been successful and the scheme had awarded £15.935 capital funding from PHE to help with the start-up capital costs required to secure and furnish the venue that would house the Halton Brew.

Furthermore, it was reported that Commissioning Managers and CRI had worked with Probation colleagues to apply for £50k grant funding for a temporary post to co-ordinate and deliver advice, guidance and training interventions that met the needs of unemployed people who had a drug & alcohol issues or were in Halton treatment services; promote, coordinate and operate referral and liaison procedures with other agencies as required

In conclusion, it was reported that the substance misuse contract with Crime Reduction Initiates (CRI) was due to expire on the 31st March 2016. During 2015 the substance misuse contract would be tendered with a new contract start date of the 1st April 2016. During a period of procurement the service would continue to provide a responsive and invaluable service to the residents of Halton.

The Board noted the new service in Runcorn High Street and that a launch on the new service would be undertaken in summer in order to address some perception issues.

The Chairman reported that Mr John Williams was attending his last meeting of the Board prior to taking up his new role in Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The Chairman took the opportunity to place on record the Board's appreciation of the work undertaken by John during his time with the Authority.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report and comments raised be noted; and
- (2) the Board place on record a vote of thanks to Mr John Williams and extend its best wishes to him for the future.

SAF10 NOVEL PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES (NPS)

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which sought support from Members to implement a total ban of any substance termed Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) also known as 'Legal Highs' across all Halton Borough Council services and venues.

The Board was advised that overall drug use had reduced in the UK. However, a significant recent development had been an increase in the range of new and easily available novel psychoactive substances (NPS), also known as "Legal Highs". These chemical substances were newly created, and hence, were not automatically controlled under legislation.

The Board was further advised that in the UK NPS could be purchased on the internet, via dealers on the streets and in clubs and pubs, and in shops. Test purchasing had found that NPS could contain legal substances, illegal substances, or a mixture of both. It was reported that evidence of potential harms was emerging, with indications that the health implications of NPS could be just as serious as illicit drugs and could cause a range of physical and psychological symptoms.

It was reported that Legal Highs were an emerging issue for Halton. There had been an increase in the use of small canisters of national Novel Psychoactive Substances within the Halton Stadium, local parks and other public areas. Council and Police Officers had provided basic information to raise awareness about the harm and risks associated with Legal Highs within the Borough with a focus on local businesses (shops, pubs and clubs).

Furthermore, it was reported that the Halton Substance Misuse Provider CRI (Crime Reduction Initiatives) conducted a workshop on the dangers of Legal Highs lead by CRI's national Novel Psychoactive Substances lead. The workshop had been attended by CRI Staff, YMCA, Cheshire Police and Young Addaction and had been successful in educating and refreshing knowledge on this subject matter.

A number of external stake holder services, including local hostels and young person's substance misuse services were also invited to attend sessions.

The Board noted the number of recent hospitalisations in Warrington as a result of legal highs and that it was on the increase across Cheshire.

After considerable discussion, Members of the Board supported and recommendation to Executive Board, that, with immediate effect, the use of Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) be banned across all Halton Borough Council services and venues.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report and comments raised be noted; and
- (2) the Board recommend that Executive Board, with immediate effect, ban across all Halton Borough Council services and venues Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS).

SAF11 TOPIC GROUP UPDATE - (NPS) LEGAL HIGHS

The Board received an update from the Lead Officer of the Board, Mr Chris Patino on progress of the NPC Topic Group.

It was reported that at the last meeting the Board had established a Topic Group to address the issue of NPC (Legal Highs) in the Borough.

The Board was advised that two meetings had taken place and the third was scheduled on Thursday, 18 June 2015 at Halton Stadium. The previous report had been as a result of the Topic Group and their concern relating to Legal Highs in the Borough.

The Board was further advised that Mr John Bucknall would be attending the next meeting to inform Members of the use of drugs and why people used particular drugs. It was reported that a full and interesting programme had been developed for the Topic Group between July – October 2015 and a range of people would be attending to give Members information to enable them to establish firm recommendations on this issue.

It was reported that the meetings had been well attended to date and Members were encouraged to attend

future meetings.

The Board discussed the availability of Legal Highs and the increase of the use of them in the Borough and the serious consequences that could arise from such use.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report and comments raised be noted.

SAF12 ALCOHOL UPDATE

The Board considered a report which provided Members with an update on activity to reduce the harm caused by alcohol.

The Board noted the summary of key achievements during the last quarter relating to:-

- The Local Alcohol Action Area (LAA);
- Halton Alcohol Inquiry: Talking drink taking action;
- Ensuring the local licensing policy supported the alcohol harm reduction policy;
- The reducing drinking during pregnancy campaign; and
- Progress against related objectives and performance indicators for Quarter 3.

The Board was advised that the final report for the LAAA project was due in May 2015. This would be shared at the next Safer Halton Partnership Board meeting.

Work was also underway to consider the role of Nalmefene within local service provision. Nalmefene (also known as Selincro) was recommended as a possible treatment for people with alcohol dependence who:

- were still drinking more than 7.5 units per day (for men) and more than 5 units per day (for women) 2 weeks after an initial assessment;
- do not have physical withdrawal symptoms; and
- do not need to either stop drinking straight away or stop drinking completely.

It was reported that Nalmefene should only be taken if the person was also having ongoing support to change their behaviour and to continue to take their treatment, to help them reduce their alcohol intake. Work had commenced to consider the role of this treatment, and the availability of

behavioural change support services locally.

The Board noted the excellent work that was being taken to address alcohol abuse in the Borough and that the final report on the LAA would be presented to the next meeting of the Board.

It was suggested and agreed that consideration be given to improving the signage in relation to suicide attempts on the Silver Jubilee Bridge.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

At a meeting of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board on Wednesday, 24 June 2015 at the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors Woolfall (Chair), Fry (Vice-Chairman), P. Hignett, V. Hill, C. Loftus, MacManus, Morley, Sinnott, G. Stockton, A. Wall and Zygodillo

Apologies for Absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Noone, G. Ferguson, G. Cook, D. Cunliffe, E. O'Meara, S. Rimmer and Griffiths

Also in attendance: Councillor R Hignett in accordance with Standing Order No.33. Also 20 members of the public and one member of the press.

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
EUR1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2015, having been circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
EUR2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>It was confirmed that seven public questions had been received and would be submitted and addressed as part of Minute No 4. It was noted that in accordance with Standing Order 34 (9), written notice of questions must be given by 4.00 pm on the working day prior to the date of the meeting to the Committee Services Manager. As the following two additional questions were received after the deadline it was agreed that a written response would be provided:</p>	
<p>MARY SYKES</p> <p>I have lived here quite happily for 18 years but since the incinerator has been up and running my life is just a living nightmare with the rotten smells and the constant humming noise every single night unless they are aware of being monitored I report most nights but on Friday 19th June 2015 I broke down in work due to the stress and lack of sleep this can't go on. My family life is suffering I have a husband and</p>	

daughter who is 11yrs old .who feel like they have to walk on egg shells around me. I am very weepy and could very easily fall but have a family I am trying to keep together, please please sort this nightmare we are living out. The noise and stink has to go. What is the council going to do?

DONNA WOODS

There is much concern that when the incinerator stack was reduced by 10 meters that this would result in the dispersal from the stack not to be as efficient considering that the original height was the recommended height. Could the committee consider additional monitoring is put in a downwind location to provide additional monitoring of the emissions from the site. I believe Weston School was a recommended place.

EUR3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Board considered the Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board relevant to the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be received.

EUR4 REPORT ON AIR QUALITY IN HALTON 2015

The Board considered a report of the Director of Public Health which presented an overview of air quality in Halton. It also presented a summary of national and local air quality monitoring, progress against National and European Air Quality legislation and provided a response to a petition for Air Monitors received by the Council in March 2015.

It was noted that on the 6th March 2015, the Council had received a petition entitled "Request for the Council to Monitor the Air Quality for PM2.5 and other toxins" which contained 5,632 signatures. In response to the petition, the report identified the facts around air quality and air quality monitoring in Halton within the national and international frameworks and identified the following recommendations to address the issues raised in the report and ensure that air quality in Halton remained good and ultimately to improve health and wellbeing in Halton:-

- i) Undertake a series of public engagement events to build a greater understanding of the concerns local people had regarding air quality in Halton and identify opportunities to build improved transparent relationships to ensure a clear way forward in all concerns;

ii) Develop an active multi-agency Air Quality Forum (including lay representation) to enable issues and concerns could be raised and discussed in an open, engaged forum and facilitate agreement on actions and outcomes.

iii) Investigate further opportunities to limit emissions and reduce NO₂ in areas of potential high traffic activity around built up areas and achieve compliance with NO₂ Air Quality Objectives.

iv) Develop a full Air Quality Strategy, based on available local and national data and evidence to ensure that Halton was able to sustain recent improvements in Air Quality across the Borough and proactively seek to remove the declaration of Air Quality Management Areas within the Borough.

In accordance with Standing Order No.34 (9), the following public questions were submitted to the Board by email:

QUESTION 1 - ANNE-MARIE ATHERTON

Halton Borough Council, as quoted in an article in Liverpool Echo, states that the only air quality measure that the Borough fails is the level of Nitrous Oxide/nitrogen dioxide and that this comes from road traffic. I would like to draw your attention to an article produced by the United States Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov/asthma/no2.html>

This article shows a clear link between severe asthmatic attacks and high levels of Nitrous Oxide/nitrogen dioxide.

I would also like to draw your attention to a published scientific paper which prove nitrous oxide/nitrogen dioxide is produced by waste incinerators of which there is one in Runcorn and one (at least) in Widnes. http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gp/bgp/5_3_Waste_Incineration.pdf

Therefore I would like to question how does Halton Borough Council air quality investigations distinguish between road traffic nitrogen dioxide and that produced by incinerators?

The medical/treatment cost of the high incidence of asthma and COPD in the borough could be drastically reduced if the air quality was improved - so why does the local council want to do nothing about improving health and quality of life for its inhabitants?

RESPONSE

Part 1

Nitrogen Dioxide is produced and emitted by combustion processes, and therefore incinerators do produce Nitrogen Dioxide. Air monitoring cannot distinguish between Nitrogen Dioxide from different sources. The results of monitoring undertaken across the Borough, for Nitrogen Dioxide show that levels, including those in and around Weston Point, are well below the national legal levels in all but the designated Air Quality Management Areas within Widnes. The Air Quality Management Areas in Widnes were declared 3 years prior to the development of the Energy from Waste incinerator. While we cannot determine the source of the Nitrogen dioxide using the monitors, we have identified that traffic is the cause of the higher rates in the AQMAs. A series of monitoring has taken place across the Borough, the only areas recording higher levels are the 2 small areas in Widnes which are known to suffer from traffic congestion. Industry within Widnes cannot be the cause of the higher levels in these areas as the higher levels would be recorded across Widnes and not concentrated within these 2 small areas.

I draw your attention to the figure on page 25 of the report which shows the independent air quality monitoring carried out in Weston Point, and highlights that Nitrogen Dioxide levels in Weston Point, with the full running of the Energy from Waste plant are below objective levels in all areas except at the kerbside of the express way. This shows that higher Nitrogen Dioxide levels are a result of the emission from vehicles, and not as a result of emissions from the incinerator.

Part 2

It is accepted that high levels of air pollution can and does impact upon health, including an association between high levels of Nitrogen Dioxide and potential increased exacerbations of asthma.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency article referred to in the question, highlights the link between high Nitrogen Dioxide levels and severe asthma attacks. We would like to highlight that the Air Quality Standards adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for Nitrogen Dioxide are a yearly average concentration of $100\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, compared to the UK yearly average of $40\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The United States Environmental Protection Agency states

that “the existing [US] annual primary standard appears to be both adequate and necessary to protect human health against both long- and short-term NO₂ exposures”. In Halton, the highest annual average Nitrogen Dioxide level measured in the Air Quality Management Area is 41.1 µg/m³, which, while it breaches the UK Air Quality Objectives, would not exceed the US standard if this was applied and under this basis would not be considered at levels that are harmful to health as described within this article.

Halton data shows that prevalence of asthma, and hospital admissions for asthma (which are indicative of the number of severe asthma attacks) do not correlate with areas that exceed Nitrogen Dioxide objectives. It is not possible to say therefore that higher Nitrogen Dioxide levels are the cause of asthma and asthma admissions in Halton.

As identified in the report, the Council is committed to improving air quality and particularly within the Air Quality Management Areas, and has undertaken, and continues to undertake, a series of measures, as highlighted in the report.

QUESTION 2 - COLIN BUTLER

Considering that the DCC committee refused to endorse INEOS’s proposal for a single point monitor, which was positioned up wind of the Incinerator, does this present Committee consider it to be a good use of funds that will be available from the fund provided by the incinerator to be used for additional monitoring as proposed by the original Section 106 agreement between HBC and INEOS when planning permission was granted. The reason for this not being implemented is due to the fact that a Public Inquiry (which cost INEOS around £1/2m) decided that INEOS under the strict legal definition had met the particular condition as stated in the permit.

The fact that there were 4 assurances given in the planning application which were:-

No steam will reach ground level

There will be no noise complaints

There will be no complaints regarding odour all being proven as not being met.

With the only one not being able to be proven incorrect is that the emissions will not be at the required limits at ground level because INEOS have refused to implement additional

monitoring which the DCC deemed necessary hopefully will further illustrate that this additional monitoring is what the local residents deserve.

RESPONSE

The Section 106 referred to in the question states that the lump sum payments made to the Council as part of the development, are to be used by the Council to fund environmental matters as may be specified from time to time by the Council within the Borough of Halton for the benefit of its residents generally and which may include measures to improve public transport, highway network improvements, travel plan monitoring, waste recycling and wider community improvements such as landscaping and nature conservation measures. The spending of the monies received by the Council as part of the Section 106 agreement is not a matter the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board can decide. The monies from the development must be spent in accordance with the legal agreement which states that the Council will convene a management board, which shall include three elected members, to be charged with the task of identifying environmental matters proposed within the Borough of Halton. The management board will determine how the fund is to be used in accordance with the legal agreement.

The monitors at the Brine Reservoir site are located within the predicted plume direction from the Energy from Waste plant and therefore appropriate for monitoring any emissions from this site. These monitors have not measured above objective levels of pollutants.

Supplementary Question:

The Section 106 agreement for the incinerator planning application has not yet been implemented. Would it be within the remit of this Board to determine how the funds allocated as part of the Section 106 are distributed?

Response:

The Section 106 referred to in the question states that the lump sum payments made to the Council as part of the development, are to be used by the Council to fund environmental matters as may be specified from time to time by the Council within the Borough of Halton for the benefit of its residents generally and which may include measures to improve public transport, highway network improvements, travel plan monitoring, waste recycling and wider community

improvements such as landscaping and nature conservation measures. The spending of the monies received by the Council as part of the Section 106 agreement is not a matter the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board can decide. The monies from the development must be spent in accordance with the legal agreement which states that the Council will convene a management board, which shall include three elected members, to be charged with the task of identifying environmental matters proposed within the Borough of Halton. The management board will determine how the fund is to be used in accordance with the legal agreement.

QUESTION 3 - SAMANTHA BENNION

Considering the number of complaints that have been received about the incinerator along with all of the stress that the plant has caused could the Committee consider that use of the funds the Council receive from the plant are used to provide a monitoring system that is the same as the one in place at Weston Brine and is placed at an appropriate place that will be downwind of the incinerator. This would give the local residents the reassurance that we deserve for having the incinerator dumped on our doorstep whilst at the same time using cash which is not from the general purse and has been earmarked for use of the local community.

RESPONSE

With regards to the Committee determining the spend of the monies received by the Council under a Section 106 agreement, I refer to the response given previously to question 2. The legal agreement for the Section 106 states that a management board will determine the spend based with the terms stated within the agreement and it is not a matter that this committee can agree.

With regards to an additional monitoring site, the prevailing winds in the area are westerly and north westerly and within the direction of a likely plume from the stack, the brine reservoir location was determined to be appropriate on this basis. This location was agreed by an Environment Agency expert and the Planning Inspector subsequently reviewed this location and deemed it appropriate for the discharge of the condition regarding monitoring.

Alternative sites were also considered but were not deemed suitable for a variety of reasons.

Locating a second monitor in the area will not provide

additional information above that which we received from the Brine reservoir site in terms of air quality. As identified within the report, the Council has commissioned an independent Air Quality Consultancy to model air quality across Weston, and results show that pollutants are all within objective levels (other than directly on the express way).

QUESTION 4 - SHEENA MADDOCK

Many residents have made complaints concerning emissions from the chimney stack and there are major concerns within the community that the monitoring of the site has been dictated by INEOS and we now have the opportunity to use the cash the Council receive from the company to fund additional monitoring. With this in mind would the Council please consider using this money to fund additional monitoring in line with that hoped for by the Planning Committee at the time of the original application made by INEOS?

RESPONSE

As identified in response to previous questions (question 2). The monies received by the Council form a Section 106 agreement, the terms of which identify how the monies can be spent and the process for this to take place. Considerations will be made based on these terms.

The Section 106 referred to in the question states that the lump sum payments made to the Council as part of the development, are to be used by the Council to fund environmental matters as may be specified from time to time by the Council within the Borough of Halton for the benefit of its residents generally and which may include measures to improve public transport, highway network improvements, travel plan monitoring, waste recycling and wider community improvements such as landscaping and nature conservation measures. The spending of the monies received by the Council as part of the Section 106 agreement is not a matter the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board can decide. The monies from the development must be spent in accordance with the legal agreement which states that the Council will convene a management board, which shall include three elected members, to be charged with the task of identifying environmental matters proposed within the Borough of Halton. The management board will determine how the fund is to be used in accordance with the legal agreement.

The monitors at the Brine Reservoir site are located within the predicted plume direction from the Energy from Waste plant and therefore appropriate for monitoring any emissions from this site. These monitors have not measured above objective levels of pollutants.

QUESTION 5 - DARRIN WHYTE

The petition was "Air Monitors for Halton", as we know Halton consists of the towns of Runcorn and Widnes and the civil parishes of Hale, Daresbury, Moore, Preston Brook, Halebank and Sandymoor the only AQMA's are in Widnes.

Is it right to rely on diffusion tubes for the basis of a detailed assessment on Air Quality along with using data from pollution stations to forecast future events, which for Runcorn are in Warrington, Speke and Tranmere should we have Air Monitors or diffusion tubes to monitor our polluted air?

RESPONSE

As stated within the report, Halton has a series of air monitors which monitor air quality directly within the Borough. We currently have 22 active monitors:

- 16 diffusion tubes monitoring NO₂
 - 12 in Widnes
 - 4 in Runcorn
- 3 real time analysers undertaking continuous monitoring for NO₂
 - 1 on Milton Road (part of the national AURN network)
 - 1 on Marzhan Way in Widnes
 - 1 at the brine reservoir Runcorn
- 2 real time analysers undertaking continuous monitoring for particulates
 - 1 on Milton Road which measures PM₁₀
 - 1 at the brine reservoir which measures both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}.
- 1 Monitor for dioxins at the brine reservoir.

The national Automatic Urban and Rural Network, maintained by DEFRA is a national network of monitoring stations which provides national data, local sites include Widnes, Tranmere, Speke and Warrington. The data is provided hourly to DEFRA and is used to assess ambient air quality, identify rapid changes in air quality and assess long term changes in air quality. This data is not received directly by the Council but this data is additional to the monitoring

data undertaken locally.

Monitors can be, and are, relocated regularly to areas where there is a potential to exceed objective levels so that appropriate measures can be taken to prevent elevated levels.

QUESTION 6 - JACKIE FLOREK

Because

1. statistics already show long-term significant health problems,
2. Halton now has a large EfW Incinerator,
3. there are increasing numbers of lorries bringing waste to the Runcorn EfW Incinerator,
4. the stack was significantly reduced in height from the original design (because it is in a flight path) which reduces dispersal efficiency,
5. people living next to it are experiencing conditions which we were assured would not happen,
6. the Brine Reservoir readings 2012-13 showed there were five instances of pollution levels being exceeded,
7. the monitoring in Runcorn is mainly by *diffusion tubes, ("Local Authorities are advised not to rely upon *diffusion tube data alone as the basis of a Detailed Assessment..." and "The accuracy of the tubes should be quantified by means of a co-location study with a fully calibrated chemiluminescent analyser."

<http://laqm.defra.gov.uk/laqm-faqs/faq67.html>)

I am asking on behalf of Halton Residents please will the Council either use the money they receive from the EfW Incinerator or seek external funding (or a combination of both) to put in place more and better placed and more appropriate air quality monitoring in Halton which will include monitoring for PM2.5 and all potentially harmful pollutants?

Please note I am not questioning whether the Council does or does not comply with their legal obligation.

RESPONSE

As identified in the response to the previous question (Question 5), the Council has additional appropriate monitors over and above the diffusion tube monitors. One of which is placed at the Brine reservoir site which monitors Nitrogen Dioxide, Particulate at PM10 and PM2.5 and dioxides. This location is appropriate to identify emissions from the Energy from Waste plant as it was determined to sit within the direction of the prevailing wind and within the

likely predicted path of the plume from the incinerator stack.

In addition, as identified within the response to question 3, the monies received under the Section 106 agreement will be spent in accordance with the conditions within the legal agreement and determined by a management group, as laid out within that agreement. Any considerations will be made by this management group once it is up and running.

All monitoring at the Brine Reservoir sites show that air quality is within permitted levels. The levels have been set by Europe and the UK at levels that will protect health, as the air quality monitored within this area is within these levels, it cannot be identified as a cause of ill health.

QUESTION 7 - MR MARK CAMPBELL

There is much concern that when the incinerator stack was reduced by 10 mts that this would result in the dispersal from the stack not to be as efficient considering that the original height was the recommended height. Could the committee consider recommending additional monitoring is put in a downwind location to provide additional monitoring of the emissions from the site. I believe Weston School was recommended place.

RESPONSE

As mentioned in the response to previous questions, the current monitoring site located at the Brine Reservoir represents an appropriate and recommended location for monitoring potential activity from the site, being located along the predicted plume path. Current monitoring indicated that all measured pollutants are within objective levels. The reduction in the height of the stack does not appear to have resulted in any dispersal issues and additional monitoring would not be beneficial.

Alternative locations were considered but discounted during the planning stages and the Brine Reservoir location was considered appropriate.

Supplementary Question:

How can you be certain monitors are in the right position when the plant has not been open that long?

RESPONSE

As part of the planning process metrological data was

collated on all aspects of the plant including an analysis of prevailing winds, the location of the monitors were identified as the most likely were the plant plume path would fall.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) the recommendations contained within the report be submitted to Executive Board and it be recommended by this Board that those recommendations be supported.

Director of Public Health

EUR5 PETITION FOR ALTERATION OF WAITING RESTRICTIONS, QUEENS AVENUE, WIDNES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which advised that an 80 signature petition and associated individual letters had been received requesting alteration of the waiting restrictions on Queens Avenue, Widnes.

The immediate area of the Argos/Homebase offices at Queens Avenue/Royal Avenue in Widnes, was subject to intense pressure on available on and off-road parking provision as a result of these offices, the adjacent housing and the shops on Queens Avenue.

At the present time, the parking bays on the shops side of Queens Avenue were limited to 40 minutes stay time, with unrestricted parking on the other side. There were also "At Any Time" restrictions in the area of the junctions with Royal Avenue and Coronation Drive, in order to protect sightlines. The short stay parking provision was intended to provide a high turnover in the use of the bays to give better access to the shops for the majority of customers, with the unrestricted parking available for visitors needing to make a longer visit. It was noted that residents had complained about various parking issues including: The blocking of driveways; all-day parking in the limited stay bays near the shops; and the use of "private" housing association car parks by office workers. These issues culminated in a meeting between residents' representatives, Ward Councillors, Cheshire Police and managers from Argos /Homebase in February 2015.

Whilst it was accepted that it could be in the interests of some businesses and their customers to have a two hour time limit on the parking bays near the shops, this would

severely restrict parking space turnover. It would also limit the number of visitors able to access the businesses directly by being able to drive to the shops and then being able to park immediately near their destination. It was also not clear how a two hour stay would dissuade Argos/Homebase employees from parking there.

Members were advised that Ward Councillors and Cheshire Police had been consulted and supported retention of the present 40 minute stay duration on the bays adjacent to the shops, Cheshire Police pointing out that the present restrictions were introduced to prevent extended parking outside the shops and provide a short term area for those persons visiting said shops.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the requested alteration of the existing 40 minute time limited waiting arrangements adjacent to the shop units in Queens Avenue, Widnes be refused; and
- (2) the lead petitioners and individual writers be so informed.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EUR6 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS FOR QUARTER 4 OF 2014/15

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which detailed the fourth quarter performance management report for 2014/15 on progress against service objectives/milestones and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen in relation to:-

- Development and Investment Services;
- Highways and Transportation, Logistics and Development Services;
- Waste and Environmental Improvement and Open Space Services; and
- Housing Strategy.

RESOLVED: That the fourth quarter management report be noted.

EUR7 POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director,

Policy and Resources, which sought to develop a work programme of topics for the Board to scrutinise as part of their 2015/16 work programme. It was agreed that the following Working Parties be established for 2015/16:

Trees – Councillors P Hignett, MacManus, G. Stockton, C. Loftus and Sinnott.

Waste Management – Councillors Sinnott, C. Loftus, V. Hill, G. Stockton and Zygadlo.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Members of the Board indicate target topic areas for potential scrutiny 2015/16;
- (2) Details of topic briefs be agreed by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board, in conjunction with the Lead Officer; and
- (3) Members confirm their support for the continuation of the Waste Management Working Party and establishment of a Trees Working Party with membership as follows:-

Trees – Councillors P Hignett, MacManus, G. Stockton, C. Loftus and Sinnott.

Waste Management – Councillors Sinnott, C. Loftus, V. Hill, G. Stockton and Zygadlo.

EUR8 ANNUAL REPORT FOR ENVIRONMENT AND URBAN RENEWAL POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

The Board considered a copy of the Annual Report from the Chair of the Environmental and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board 2014/15. The full Board met five times during the year and the report set out the work carried out and recommendations throughout the Municipal Year April 2014 to March 2015.

The Chair wished to note on record his thanks to Members and Officers for their support during the year.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report be accepted.

EUR9 OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS, VARIOUS LOCATIONS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which advised on objections that had been received following public consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order to introduce 20 mph speed limits on a number of roads in Halton.

Overall, 17 letters/e-mails were received, 16 of which were objections to aspects of the proposals. With regards to two objections relating to Palace Fields Avenue, these were primarily related to a belief that the lower speed limit would not be complied with and would be of little value, expressing concerns over enforcement. However, the route carried physical traffic calming for its full length which restricted traffic speeds and negated the need for a high degree of Police enforcement. It was therefore recommended that the 20 mph speed limit was implemented at this location.

With regard to the eleven objections relating to Beechwood Avenue, these covered a range of issues which were set out in the report. Several of the objections expressed a belief that the reduced speed limit was unnecessary, given the physical layout and geometry of what was a distributor road and bus route already equipped with a range of facilities to assist vulnerable road users, and two School Crossing Patrols operating adjacent to the local schools. It was therefore recommended that Beechwood Avenue be excluded from the proposed 20 mph zones for the Beechwood area.

Members were advised on the four objections which were received to the introduction of 20 mph speed limits generally and these were summarised in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the proposal to make a Traffic Regulation Order to implement a 20 mph speed limit on those roads defined in Appendix B with the sole exception of Beechwood Avenue be supported; and
- (2) the report be submitted to the Executive Board for resolution.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EUR10 STREET LIGHTING - STRATEGY AND POLICY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which sought approval for the Street Lighting Strategy and Policy which had been prepared following a previous report to Executive Board on 29 March 2012. The Executive Board, at its meeting on 26 March 2015 approved an Invest to Save bid of £4.7m for a programme of work to replace the current conventional street lighting with energy saving light emitting diode (LED) lighting units. The Executive Board also considered potential measures to achieve street lighting savings. It was noted that the cost of street lighting maintenance was constantly rising, mainly as a result of energy costs which were increasing well above inflation. The cost of energy for all the Council's highway electrical assets (including street lighting, traffic signals, illuminated signs, etc.) was approximately £1,216,000 per annum. It was noted that there was no statutory duty to provide street lighting, however, it was recognised that street lighting had a vital role to play in reducing fear of crime and improving community safety after dark. Due to increased energy costs for street lighting, it was recognised that action must be taken to minimise future growth in energy consumption and was one of the reasons for preparing a Street Lighting Strategy and Policy.

The report highlighted the following proposals which were contained within the Street Lighting Strategy and Policy:-

- There should be no net increase in the highway electrical equipment stock that would increase the demand for and cost of energy other than those detailed in the report;
- There should be a presumption against new lighting schemes or additional highway electrical equipment funded through Area Forums or from the Council's other capital budgets, unless the additional revenue budget was available to fund the on-going lighting/highway electrical equipment and maintenance indefinitely;
- Consideration would need to be given in the future to the removal of lighting from secondary independent footpaths and gated routes to the rear of residential properties;
- Where there were suitable alternative lit routes, then consideration would also be given to no longer

installing lighting on independent footpaths, unless it was a primary route to a school or major employment areas;

- A presumption against any future growth in street lighting provision would be difficult due to the need to provide it on new residential roads and high profile regeneration schemes;
- The developer shall pay the Council a commuted sum to cover the cost of 10 years maintenance, based on the current HBC Term Maintenance Contract or 10% of the new works costs, whichever was the higher, plus the energy charges for the equipment based on the current energy supply contract rates for 10 years.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Street Lighting Strategy and Policy document attached as Appendix 1 be endorsed and submitted for approval to the Executive Board;
- (2) endorsement be given to the proposal to remove street lighting from rear passageways and independent footpaths where these routes were not the primary means of access to properties and when existing equipment is no longer serviceable; and
- (3) endorsement be given to the proposal to require a commuted sum to be paid where non-standard equipment is installed as part of a development (see paragraph 4.7).

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EUR11 UPDATE ON GYPSY AND TRAVELLER NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Board considered a report which provided an update on current issues around Traveller needs including: sites, unauthorised encampments, needs and management. The report outlined information on permanent sites within Halton and unauthorised encampments. In addition, Members considered information on the latest national policy for Traveller sites and what was expected from local authorities. The report also provided details on the recent Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessment in 2014 and an update on the delivery of new permanent Traveller pitches at the Warrington Road, Runcorn site.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

EUR12 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 3 REVIEW

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which provided a summary of the delivery of the four-year implementation programme of Integrated Transport Schemes and Interventions. The report reviewed the delivery of schemes funded through the Integrated Transport Block (ITB), which was used to fund small transport improvements. The ITB was allocated over a range of themes and interventions that were reported and approved by Executive Board for inclusion into the Council's annual Capital Programme. Expenditure across these themes during the four-year period had been in accordance with the overall ITB allocation within each of the themes listed below:

- Integrated Transport;
- Neighbourhood Centres;
- Walking and Cycling Improvements;
- Measure to Assist Buses;
- Local Safety Schemes and other Highway Improvements; and
- Intelligent Transport Systems.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

EUR13 NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE CONSULTATION REVIEW PANEL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which requested nomination of two Members to represent the Board on the Consultation Review Panel.

RESOLVED: That the Chair and Vice Chair of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board, sit on the Consultation Review Panel as may be required from time to time.

EUR14 NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS TO THE HALTON PUBLIC TRANSPORT ADVISORY PANEL - MUNICIPAL YEAR 2015/16

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which requested Members to agree nominations to sit on the Council's Public Transport Advisory Panel for the Municipal Year 2015/16.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the nominations for the Halton Public Transport Advisory Panel for 2015/16 be as follows: Councillors Fry, McInerney, Morley and G.Stockton;
- (2) the Chair of the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Transportation, nominates a Chair and the Chair to agree such deputies, as may be required from time to time;
- (3) nominations be endorsed; and
- (4) the key issues discussed by the Panel during the Municipal Year 2014/15, as set out in the report, be noted.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

Meeting ended at 7.40 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

CORPORATE POLICY AND PERFORMANCE BOARD

*At a meeting of the Corporate Policy and Performance Board on Tuesday, 2 June 2015
in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn*

Present: Councillors Gilligan (Chairman), A. Lowe (Vice-Chairman), Dennett, C. Gerrard, C. Loftus, A. McInerney, N. Plumpton Walsh, Joe Roberts and Wainwright

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Rowe

Absence declared on Council business: Councillor Osborne

Officers present: M. Reaney, I. Leivesley, G. Ferguson, T. Dean and W Rourke

Also in attendance: None

**ITEM DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

	<i>Action</i>
CS1 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes from the meeting held on 3rd March 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.</p>	
CS2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	
<p>The Board was advised that no public questions had been received.</p>	
CS3 EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	
<p>The Board was presented with the Minutes relating to the Corporate Services Portfolio which had been considered by the Executive Board since the last meeting of the Board.</p> <p>With regard to Minute EXB134 the Board discussed the arrangements regarding the disposal of the former Halton Village Hall and clarification was provided on the allocation of the proceeds of the sale.</p> <p>Under Minute EXB168 it was agreed that additional information on the various risks for each level of insurance and activity would be circulated to Members of the Board.</p>	

RESOLVED: That the minutes be noted.

CS4 SSP MINUTES

The Minutes relating to the Corporate Services Portfolio which had been considered by the Halton Strategic Partnership were presented to the Board for information.

Arising from the discussion, the Board noted that future governance arrangements for the Halton Strategic Partnership were being considered and an update report would be brought to the next meeting of the Board.

Under Minute 12 it was agreed that:

- on behalf of the Board, Riverside College be congratulated on their achievement in the Department of Education League tables in January; and
- an update on the Halton Curve be forwarded to Councillor N. Plumpton Walsh.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes be noted.

CS5 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT GROUP MINUTES

The Board considered the minutes of the Member Development Group meeting held on 26th June 2014.

RESOLVED: That the Board note the minutes.

CS6 MARKETS UPDATE

The Board considered a report which provided an update on occupancy rates and level of arrears at Widnes Indoor Market.

With regard to occupancy rates, although there was a perception vacancy rates were high at the Market, it compared favourably with other market halls. The occupancy rate at the Market at 31st March 2015 was 85%. This compared with 84% as at 31st March 2014 and 92% as at 31st March 2013.

It was reported that since January 2015 there had been:

- 12 new traders operating in the market hall;
- 10 traders had left, five of which were for economic reasons;

- more traders in the market, 81, compared with 76 in 2014, although some existing traders had downsized.

In addition, it was noted that a Market Plan was being developed and the markets management team was working with the Communications and Marketing Team and market traders to develop a longer term events programme

In respect of Market arrears, the level and amount was similar to 12 months previous. However the split between the amount owed by ex-traders had changed. 58% of total debt related to ex-traders and 42% of total debt related to existing traders. This compared to 67% ex-traders debt and 33% existing traders debt in the previous year.

Members welcomed the information and debated issues raised in the presentation by officers. The following points were noted:

- the importance of a balanced approach to maintaining the Market and recovering debt;
- the National Association of British Markets had several initiatives to support new traders and there were also Market specialists who could provide support;
- traders did not feel they were receiving the appropriate level of support in terms of promotion;
- traders should be directed to agencies to assist them if they are having difficulties paying their rent;
- where appropriate, action should be taken against those unauthorised traders in Widnes Town Centre and car boot sales.

RESOLVED: That the Board:

1. note the contents of the report; and
2. an update report be brought to the Board in six months.

CS7 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board considered a copy of the Annual Report from the Chair of the Corporate Services Board, 2014/15. The Board met five times during the year and the report set out the work carried out and the recommendations throughout the Municipal Year April 2014 to March 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report be noted.

CS8 CORPORATE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015

The Board was provided with a report from the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which presented details of corporate accident statistics with associated trends, from 1 April 2014 to 31st March 2015.

Officers commented that the report highlighted that there had been a year by year increase in the number of risk assessments undertaken and health and safety training courses attended. It also highlighted a decrease in the number of significant accidents and violent incidents and showed that the number of days lost as a result of accidents had reduced from 373 last year to 177 this year.

However, the number of stress risk assessments undertaken had been very low which, in the current climate, needed addressing and the numbers using the lone working system had not increased. Actions were being taken to address both these issues.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

CS9 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS FOR QUARTER 4 OF 2014/15

The Board received a report from the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which presented the Performance Monitoring Reports for Quarter 4 of 2014/15.

The reports related to the following functional areas which reported to the Board and detailed progress against service objectives and milestones, and performance targets and provided information relating to key developments and emerging issues that had arisen during the period:

- Finance;
- Human Resources and Organisational Development;
- ICT and Administrative Support;
- Legal and Democracy;
- Policy and Performance;
- Property Services; and
- Catering, Stadium and Registration Services.

Arising from the reports it was commented that:

- clarification be provided to Members on the actual number of staff over 65 which had increased by 1.4%;

- as a result of a recent change in legislation there were new COMAH sites in the Borough. Details of these sites and fees charged for preparing COMAH plans be forwarded to Members; and
- it was noted that the days lost due to sickness target had not been achieved, although had reduced.

RESOLVED: That the fourth quarter performance monitoring reports be received and noted.

Meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

BUSINESS EFFICIENCY BOARD

At a meeting of the Business Efficiency Board held on Wednesday, 3 June 2015 at the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Joe Roberts (Chairman), M. Lloyd Jones (Vice-Chairman), Cole, Fry, A. Lowe, MacManus and N. Plumpton Walsh

Apologies for Absence: Councillors J. Bradshaw, McDermott and J. Stockton

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: S. Baker, A. Dalecki, E. Dawson, L. Derbyshire, I. Leivesley, M. Murphy and R. Rout

Also in attendance: Mr M Heap and Ms L Temple-Murray (Grant Thornton)

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE BOARD**

BEB1 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

BEB2 EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which gave Members an update on the progress made to date on the Efficiency Programme and as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Board noted the progress in relation to the review of:-

- Library Services (Wave 5);
- Learning & Achievement (Wave 5);
- Halton Supported Housing Network (Wave 5);
- Supplier Relationship (Wave 5);
- Highway Services (Wave 5); and
- Premium Pay, use of Agency Workers and use of Casual Staff (Wave 6).

The Board noted that the Library Service Review had

Action

been successfully completed; the service would be monitored until October 2015 and an evaluation would also be undertaken to ensure the model was robust and efficient.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

BEB3 2013-16 PROCUREMENT STRATEGY UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which provided Members with an update regarding progress with the Council's Procurement Strategy 2013-16 targets and performance measures.

The Board noted the progress against key measures within the Strategy, set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

The Board was advised that for the remaining duration of the Strategy, the established commercial approach to procurement would continue and the Procurement Division would continue to respond to opportunities to work collaboratively with other organisations to promote and embed the principles of efficient commercial procurement.

The Board congratulated Officers on the excellent work that had been undertaken on the Social Value Procurement Framework and noted the benefits it provided to the community.

The Board noted the increase in the Local SME Registration. However, the Board also noted that there had been a reduction in the number of National SME's and discussed the possible reasons for this reduction.

RESOLVED: That the report and position statement be noted.

BEB4 2014/15 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS UPDATE

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which gave Members an update on the timetable of completing the 2014/15 Statement of Accounts, to review the changes to the accounting policies and to consider the key events that would have significant impact on the financial statements for 2014/15.

The Board was advised that the Statement of Accounts presented the overall financial position of the Council as at 31st March 2015, which should be prepared to present a true and fair view of the financial statements of the Council. The

accounts had been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15, also known as The Code. This was updated annually and specified the accounting principles and practices required to prepare a Statement of Accounts.

The Board noted the number of changes that had been made to the draft accounting policies from those which had been included in the 2013/14 Statement of Accounts and the events which would have a significant impact on the statements for 2014/15.

The Board was further advised that the draft 2014/15 Statement of Accounts would be certified by the Operational Director – Finance on 30 June 2015 prior to them being passed to the external auditor, Grant Thornton LLP.

It was reported that the Statement of Accounts would be available for public inspection from 1 July 2015 to 28 July 2015 when any person may inspect and make copies of them. From 29 July 2015, until the conclusion of the audit, a local government elector for the Council or his/her representative may ask the auditor questions about the accounts.

Furthermore, it was reported that the auditor was required by the Audit Commission Act 1998 to report on the Statement of Accounts before 30 September 2015. The Audit Findings report would be considered by the Business Efficiency Board on 23 September 2015, together with any amendments to the draft Statement of Accounts.

The Board noted that the Government were currently consulting on Business rates and that the Council would be providing a response to the Government before the deadline in July 2015. The Board also noted that a proposal in the report stated that valuation appeals for the period 2010 to 2015 had to be lodged with the Valuation Office Agency by 31 March 2015. The Council would increase the financial provision to cover the appeals, but if the appeals were dismissed, it would result in a financial benefit to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the report and comments raised be noted.

BEB5 STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER 2015/16

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which sought comments on

a revised Strategic Register that had been developed for 2015/16 Municipal Year.

The Board was advised that in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Policy (previously approved by this Board) an annual review of the Council's Corporate Risk Register was required. This had been undertaken by the Council's Management Team and was presented to the Board for Members consideration.

In the revised register, the Board noted the revised scores which related to the Council's ability to continue to deliver its services to the required or expected level.

The Board was further advised that since the previous Coalition Government's austerity measures had commenced, the Council had been working hard to mitigate the effects of those budget reductions on the community by:

- delivery on its Efficiency Programme;
- focusing on its Procurement process;
- working with and sharing services with other authorities;
- pooling budgets;
- reducing the number of managers;
- reducing staff numbers and terms and conditions;
- and
- increasing income.

In conclusion, it was reported that the Council's ability to reduce the impact of budget reductions on the quality of frontline services through these initiatives was reaching its conclusion. Therefore, the scores in the risk register which related to the impact of budget reductions did not show any significant change after the mitigating actions had been taken. This demonstrated that there was a belief that subsequent grant reductions would now be felt more acutely on the community and the services it received. However, whilst every effort would continue to be made to protect those most vulnerable in the community and essential frontline services, given the magnitude of the grant reductions and the aggregation of previous grant losses, this would become more and more difficult to achieve.

The Board discussed the Government's summer budget due to take place on 9 July 2015 and the impact this could have on the Borough in respect of budgetary cuts. The Board noted the serious challenges facing the Council as a result of the cuts and the importance of ensuring that residents in the Borough were fully aware of the situation.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report and comments raised be noted;
- (2) the revised Strategic Risk Register 2015/16 be adopted; and
- (3) a progress report against the actions in the plan be presented to the Board in six months.

BEB6 INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which informed Members that the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS) required the Head of Internal Audit to deliver an annual audit opinion and report which could be used to inform the Annual Governance Statement. The annual report must provide:

- A conclusion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the organisation's framework of governance, risk management and control;
- A summary of the work that supported the opinion;
- A statement on conformance with the PSIAS.

The Board was advised that the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011 provided a requirement for local authorities to conduct a review of the effectiveness of its internal audit at least once each year. This review provided Members with a basis for determining the extent to which reliance could be placed on the internal audit opinion.

The Board noted information set out in the report relating to:-

- The Annual Opinion on the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control;
- A summary of work supporting the Annual Opinion;
- A Statement on conformance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards;
- The Internal Audit Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme; and

- The Annual review of the effectiveness of internal audit;

RESOLVED: That the Board note and approve:-

- (1) the Head of Internal Audit's opinion on the Council's framework of governance, risk management and control;
- (2) the summary of work that supports the opinion;
- (3) the statement on conformance with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards;
- (4) the outcomes from the internal Audit Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme; and
- (5) the findings of the annual review of the effectiveness of internal audit.

BEB7 EXTERNAL AUDIT FEE 2015-16

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which provided Members with details of the scale fee, set by the Audit Commission, for the 2014/15 external audit.

The Board was advised that the Audit Commission published its work programme and scale of fees at the end of March 2015. The letter attached to the report, set out details of the audit fee for the Council along with the scope and timing of external audit work and the team that would be working on the audit.

RESOLVED: That the 2015/16 audit fee and the scope and timing of the planned external audit work be noted.

BEB8 EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which sought approval of the Audit Plan proposed by Grant Thornton.

The Board was advised that the attached report set out details of Grant Thornton's strategy and plan to deliver the 2014/15 audit of the Council's financial statements. It also provided details of their approach to the value for money conclusion.

RESOLVED: That the External Audit Plan be approved.

BEB9 EXTERNAL AUDIT LETTER TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which provided Members with a proposed response to the annual letter to the Board from Grant Thornton, the Council's external auditors, regarding their year-end audit of accounts work.

The Board was advised that International Auditing Standards required the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton, to raise with those charged with governance (i.e. the Business Efficiency Board) matters that may affect the Council's financial statements and to document the Board's response.

The Board was further advised that Appendix 1 to the report, presented a proposed response to a number of questions contained in a letter from Grant Thornton to the Chair of the Board. Grant Thornton attended the meeting to discuss, if required, questions further with the Board.

RESOLVED: That the proposed response to the Council's external auditors shown in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

BEB10 DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2014/15

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which enabled Members to consider and approve the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) for 2014/15.

The Board was advised that Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 the Council must produce an AGS which must be approved by the resolution of a Committee or Members of the authority meeting as a whole. The AGS must also be approved in advance of the Council approving the statement of accounts.

The Board was also advised that the Council's Constitution delegated the responsibility to review and approve the AGS to the Business Efficiency Board. Once approved, the AGS would be signed by the Council Leader and Chief Executive and published on the Council's website.

The Board was further advised that the AGS was

intended to identify any areas where the Council's governance arrangements needed to be developed and to set out any action that was proposed to strengthen those arrangements.

The Board noted the information in respect of the 2014/15 Annual Governance Statement.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the draft Annual Governance Statement (AGS) be confirmed that it accurately reflects the corporate governance arrangements at the Council;
- (2) the action plan be endorsed; and
- (3) the draft Annual Governance Statement be approved.

BEB11 EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which provided an update from Grant Thornton (External Auditors) regarding the following:-

- the progress made in delivering their responsibilities as the Council's external auditors; and
- a summary of emerging national issues and developments that may be relevant to the work of the Board.

Ms Liz Temple-Murray from Grant Thornton presented the report and various publications were circulated at the meeting, including details of workshops for Members to attend.

The Board was advised that a checklist had been established to aide Members when considering the accounts at the end of June 2015 and it was agreed that an electronic version would be circulated to Members of the Board.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

BEB12 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

The Board considered:

- 1) Whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- 2) Whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

BEB13 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, which provided Members with a summary of internal audit work completed since the last meeting of the Board.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) The executive summaries of the internal audit reports be noted; and
- (2) the progress made in regard to the implementation of previous internal audit recommendations be noted.

Meeting ended at 7.50 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Tuesday, 14 April 2015 at The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Morley (Vice-Chairman), Cole, R. Hignett, S. Hill, June Roberts, C. Plumpton Walsh, J. Stockton, Thompson and Woolfall

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Wainwright

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone, A. Plant, J. Eaton and R. Wakefield

Also in attendance: 19 Members of the Public

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

Action

DEV52 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 2 March 2015 and 9 March 2015 having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

DEV53 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.

DEV54 - 15/00013/FUL - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 53 NO. DWELLINGS WITH ACCESS FROM LIVERPOOL ROAD INCLUDING OPEN SPACE, LANDSCAPING AND BOUNDARY TREATMENTS AND - 15/00100/106/MOD - APPLICATION TO DISCHARGE CLAUSE 5.2 OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENT DATED 28/04/1995 BETWEEN LIVERPOOL ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESAN TRUSTEES INCORPORATED; CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; ICI CHEMICALS AND POLYMERS LTD AND HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL ON LAND AT WIDNES RECREATION GROUND, LIVERPOOL ROAD, WIDNES, CHESHIRE

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was noted that outline planning permission for up to 50 dwellings was granted on this site by the Committee in 2013; therefore the principle of residential development on the site was already established.

In relation to the first application, Officers advised that further to the representations referred to in the report; a Ward Councillor had requested that a green buffer of planting be introduced between the Foxley Heath Estate and the development site. Although Officers advised that this was not necessary, condition number 5 could be amended to secure the submission of a landscaping scheme if the Committee requested. Further, two additional independent material planning objections had been received since the production of the report. These representations raised no new issues to those already discussed in the report.

The second application proposed to discharge Clause 5.2 of Section 106 Agreement dated 28 April 1995, between Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated; Cheshire County Council; ICI Chemicals and Polymers Ltd; and Halton Borough Council. The Clause related to the land which was attached to the Section 106 Agreement being used as greenspace only. The land subject of the full planning application fell within this area and therefore the discharge was requested.

The Committee was addressed by Mr Symes who objected to the development on behalf of local residents. He argued that no public consultation had been carried out in respect of the proposal and therefore the residents were not aware it. He stated that the area did not benefit from adequate sporting facilities as stated in the report and that the fields of the proposed site were well used by locals. He referred to a covenant in a Section 106 Agreement and objected to its removal. Also he said that brownfield sites should be used over greenfield sites and that the development would cause an increase in traffic on Liverpool Road and therefore an increase in pollution.

Mr Artis addressed the Committee on behalf of the applicant. He stated that he understood the concerns of local residents but reassured them that the applicant had worked closely with the Council and addressed all concerns raised by them. He also stated that Sports England had raised no objections to the application as stated in the

officer's report.

In response to Mr Symes' reference to a covenant on the land, the Council's Legal Representative informed the Committee that the covenant which had existed under the Section 106 Agreement no longer existed and was defunct. The wording was being removed for purely technical reasons.

Members considered the application, representations and updated information presented to them, and agreed that the application be approved subject to an amendment to condition number 5 to include the submission of a landscaping scheme.

RESOLVED: That

- a) Application 15/00013/FUL – the application be approved subject to the following conditions:
 1. Time limit – full permission;
 2. Plans approved;
 3. Site levels (BE1);
 4. Facing materials to be agreed (BE1 and BE2);
 5. Submission, implementation and maintenance of a landscaping scheme (BE1);
 6. Implementation of boundary treatments scheme (BE1);
 7. Implementation and management of Public Open Space (BE1);
 8. Breeding birds protection (GE21);
 9. Hours of construction (BE1);
 10. Dust suppression during construction (BE1);
 11. Construction Management Plan (Highways) (BE1);
 12. Visibility splay (vehicles) – (BE1);
 13. Provision and retention of parking for residential development (BE1);
 14. Retention of garages (BE1);
 15. Off-site highway improvements (BE1);
 16. Construction of site access (BE1);
 17. Speed camera relocation scheme (BE1);
 18. Biodiversity enhancements (GE21);
 19. Bat friendly lighting scheme (GE21);
 20. Drainage strategy (PR16); and
 21. Ground contamination (PR14).

- b) Application 15/00100/106MOD – clause 5.2 of Section 106 Agreement between Liverpool Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Trustees Incorporated;

Cheshire County Council; ICI Chemicals and Polymers Ltd and Halton Borough Council be discharged.

To avoid any allegation of bias, Councillor R Hignett declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item as he was a Member of the PSJV Sci-Tech Daresbury Board.

DEV55 - 15/00059/FUL - PROPOSED EXCAVATION AND EARTHWORKS TO FORM DEVELOPMENT PLOT INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF RETAINING WALL; CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS INTO AND THROUGHOUT THE SITE INCLUDING LIGHTING; DRAINAGE; AND SOFT LANDSCAPING WORKS TO FORM EXTENSION OF SITE CONNECTIVITY WORKS APPROVED UNDER PREVIOUS PLANNING PERMISSION AT DARESBUURY SCIENCE PARK, KECKWICK LANE, DARESBUURY, RUNCORN, WA4 4FS

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Officers advised the Committee that the additional and amended information requested from the applicant with regards to highway matters, as mentioned in the officer's report, had not yet been received. They requested delegated authority to approve the application once this had been received.

Members approved the application subject to the above delegation and the conditions listed below.

RESOLVED: To delegate authority to the Operational Director, in consultation with the Chairman or Vice Chairman, to resolve outstanding issues and approve the application subject to the following conditions and a Section 106 Agreement for highway improvements:

1. Time limit – full permission;
2. Approved plans (BE1 and BE2);
3. Details of improvements of connectivity to Keckwick Lane South (BE1 and TP17);
4. Facing retaining wall materials (BE1 and BE2);
5. Landscaping scheme and implementation (BE1);
6. Boundary treatments scheme (BE22);
7. Tree protection measures (BE1 and GE27);
8. Breeding birds protection (GE21);
9. Details of bat and bird boxes (GE21);

10. Hours of construction (BE1);
11. Submission of a Construction Management Plan (Highways) (BE1);
12. Drainage strategy (PR16); and
13. Submission of details of future lighting (BE1 and GE21).

DEV56 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 URGENT BUSINESS

The Board was advised that a matter had arisen which required immediate attention by the Board (Minute 57 refers). Therefore, pursuant to Section 100 B (4) and 100 E and due to the timeframe for determination of the application, the Chairman ruled that the item be considered as a matter of urgency.

DEV57 - 15/00155/P3JPA - PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE FROM FORMER OFFICE BUILDING TO RESIDENTIAL (USE CLASS C3) CREATING 64 DWELLINGS COMPRISING 2 NO 1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS, 56 NO 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS AND 6 NO 3 BEDROOM APARTMENTS, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF 45 NO CAR PARKING SPACES AT GROSVENOR HOUSE, NORTHWAY, RUNCORN, CHESHIRE

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

It was noted that this application was not a full planning application and was permitted under Class J, subject to the condition that before beginning the development, the developer shall apply to the Local Planning Authority for a determination as to whether the prior approval of the authority would be required as to:

- Transport and highways impacts of the development;
- Contamination risks on the site; and
- Flooding risks on the site.

Officers advised that based on the above considerations the proposal was acceptable subject to the attachment of a condition which secured the submission of precise details relating to site access arrangements and parking provision and its implementation prior to the first use of the building for residential purposes.

Members considered the above matters and agreed

that the proposal was acceptable and that prior approval for change of use was required. The proposal was approved subject to a condition relating to parking provision.

RESOLVED: That the prior approval for the change of use from Class B1(a) offices to Class C3 (dwellinghouses) was required and was approved subject to a condition relating to parking provision.

Meeting ended at 7.10 p.m.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Monday, 18 May 2015 at the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Cole, R. Hignett, S. Hill, June Roberts, Rowe, Wainwright, Woolfall and Zygadlo

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Morley, C. Plumpton Walsh, J. Stockton and Thompson

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone and A. Plant

Also in attendance: 1 Member of the Public

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

Action

DEV58 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2015, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

DEV59 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.

DEV60 - 15/00152/FUL - PROPOSED EXTENSION OF EXISTING B8 (STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION) WAREHOUSE INCLUDING ANCILLARY WORKS TO HARDSTANDING, CAR PARKING AND SITE ACCESS AT LIDL DISTRIBUTION CENTRE, BLACKHEATH LANE, MANOR PARK, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Officers reported that the issues relating to the

objection from the Environment Agency regarding the adequacy of the Floor Risk Assessment had now been resolved following the submission of further information.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Standard 3 year permission (BE1);
2. Condition specifying plans (BE1);
3. Materials condition, requiring building and hardsurfacing materials to match the existing building/hardsurfacing or in accordance with details submitted to and agreed in writing (BE2);
4. Submission and agreement of a scheme of temporary amphibian fencing (GE21);
5. Submission and agreement of a Construction Environmental Management Plan including wheel cleansing facilities (BE1);
6. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
7. Vehicle access, parking and servicing to be constructed prior to occupation of properties/commencement of use (BE1);
8. Any additional conditions recommended by the Environment Agency (PR16/CS23).

DEV61 - 15/00175/FUL - PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY REAR/SIDE EXTENSION AND PITCHED ROOF OVER EXISTING GARAGE (REDUCED IN LENGTH TO ACCOMMODATE EXTENSION) AT 40 BEACONSFIELD CRESCENT, WIDNES

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Standard 3 year expiry; and
2. Materials to match existing (BE1)

DEV62 - 15/00138/HBCFUL - PROPOSED ERECTION OF SINGLE ALLEY GATES TO EITHER END OF PASSAGEWAY AT PASSAGEWAY BETWEEN 2-16 STANLEY STREET AND 3-15 PARKER STREET, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

1. Standard time limit for implementation;
2. List of plans; and
3. Requirement for colour coating Dark Green (BE22).

DEV63 - 15/00171/HBCFUL - PROPOSED ERECTION OF DOUBLE ALLEY GATES TO EITHER END OF PASSAGEWAY AT PASSAGEWAY BETWEEN 44-78 YORK STREET AND 7-39 VICTORIA ROAD, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Officers advised that an objection had been received from a disabled resident. Property Services had contacted the resident to suggest a push bar could be installed on the gate. Property Services had confirmed the resident thought this an acceptable solution.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to the following conditions:

4. Standard time limit for implementation;
5. List of plans; and
6. Requirement for colour coating Dark Green (BE22).

Meeting ended at 6.35 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Development Control Committee on Monday, 8 June 2015 at The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors Nolan (Chairman), Morley (Vice-Chairman), Cole, R. Hignett, S. Hill, June Roberts, J. Stockton, Thompson and Woolfall

Apologies for Absence: Councillors J. Bradshaw, C. Plumpton Walsh, Wainwright and Zygadllo

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: A. Jones, J. Tully, T. Gibbs, M. Noone, A. Plant, A. Evans and R. Wakefield

Also in attendance: Councillor N Plumpton Walsh and one member of the public

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

DEV64 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2015 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

DEV65 PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the following applications for planning permission and, in accordance with its powers and duties, made the decisions described below.

DEV66 - 15/00108/S73 - PROPOSED REMOVAL OF CONDITION 1 FROM PLANNING PERMISSION APP/D0650/C/10/2126943 TO ALLOW THE PERMANENT RETENTION OF A MIXED USE FOR THE KEEPING OF HORSES AND A RESIDENTIAL GYPSY CARAVAN SITE AND THE VARIATION OF CONDITION 5 TO ALLOW THE STATIONING OF 12 CARAVANS AT ANY TIME (OF WHICH NO MORE THAN ONE SHALL BE A STATIC CARAVAN OR MOBILE HOME) ON LAND TO THE SOUTH WEST OF JUNCTION BETWEEN NEWTON LANE AND CHESTER ROAD, DARESBUURY

Action

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Members agreed with the recommendations in the officers' report in that the proposal was considered inappropriate due to the significant impact it would have on the openness of the Green Belt. Therefore the totality of harm to the Green Belt arising from the development would not be clearly outweighed by other considerations and therefore, the Committee was satisfied that the very special circumstances necessary for the granting of planning permission did not exist. The Committee also agreed that the development would be contrary to national and local planning policies.

RESOLVED: That the application be refused due to the significant impact that the development proposal would have on the openness of the Green Belt as stated in Policy GE1 of the Halton Unitary Development Plan, and due to it being contrary to: Policies CS6 and CS14 of the Halton Core Strategy; the National Planning Policy Framework; Planning Policy for Traveller Sites; and human rights legislation.

DEV67 - 15/00115/COU - PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE TO RESIDENTIAL CARAVAN SITE FOR UP TO 8 CARAVANS INCLUDING THE LAYING OF HARDSTANDING AND ERECTION OF THREE AMENITY BLOCKS AT FORMER IVY HOUSE, MARSH LANE OFF BRINDLEY ROAD, RUNCORN, CHESHIRE

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Members agreed with officers' recommendations to refuse the application as outlined in the report in paragraph 9.1 and noted that the Council was meeting its need of the (Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment) GTAA by the provision of a new permanent 12 pitch site in Warrington Road, Runcorn. The also agreed that the development would be contrary to national and local planning policies.

RESOLVED: That the application be refused as it was contrary to: the provisions of Policies BE1, E3, PR14 and PR16 of the Halton Unitary Development Plan; Policies CS14 and CS16 of the Halton Core Strategy Local Plan; the National Planning Policy Framework, and Planning Policy for Travellers Sites.

DEV68 - 15/00194/FUL - PROPOSED PARTIAL DEMOLITION AND CONVERSION OF CHURCH INTO 6 NO, TOWN HOUSES, CONSTRUCTION OF 2 NO DETACHED DWELLINGS AND 6 NO. SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS ON THE ADJOINING LAND WITH ASSOCIATED ACCESS, CAR PARKING AND LANDSCAPING AT ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, VICTORIA ROAD, RUNCORN

The consultation procedure undertaken was outlined in the report together with background information in respect of the site.

Officers advised the Committee that the main representations listed in the report had now been dealt with. Further comments had been received from the occupier of number 49 Victoria Road regarding the amendments to the proposal. Members were advised that blinds were to be fixed on all first floor windows; access to the site would be fitted with automated gates attached to sandstone piers (as shown in the amended landscaping plan), and a more robust boundary treatment would be included. It was noted that all of these would be subject to planning conditions.

Members agreed that the application should be approved subject to the conditions listed below and the addition of the conditions above.

RESOLVED: That the application be approved subject to conditions relating to the following:

1. Standard 3 year permission (BE1);
2. Condition specifying plans and amended/additional plans (BE1);
3. Historical recording of the existing building internal and externally prior to commencement (BE1 and CS20);
4. Materials condition, requiring building and hard surfacing materials to match the existing building/hard surfacing or in accordance with details submitted to and agreed in writing (BE2);
5. Submission and agreement of details of structural support for stone tracery (CS20);
6. Submission and agreement of details of all new windows and doors to be used in the conversion of the Church (CS20);
7. Details of the Management Plan for the future maintenance and preservation of the historic Church and features retained as part of this approval (CS20);
8. Details of boundary treatments to be submitted (BE22 and CS20);

9. Submission and agreement of a Construction Environmental Management Plan including wheel cleansing facilities (BE1);
10. Submission of details of a surface water drainage scheme (BE1);
11. Submission of details of a foul drainage scheme (BE1);
12. Construction and delivery hours to be adhered to throughout the course of the development (BE1);
13. Vehicle access, parking and servicing to be constructed prior to occupation of properties/commencement of use (BE1);
14. Submission of details of bird and bat enhancements within the scheme (GE27);
15. Landscaping scheme to be approved in writing and implemented (BE1);
16. Prior to development beginning submission of details of further bat survey to be undertaken April to October (GE27);
17. Demarcation of parking bays (TP17);
18. Installation of retention of internally fitted venetian blinds (BE1);
19. Permitted development removed for extensions and outbuildings (BE2 and CS20);
20. Permitted development removed for conversion of garages (TP12);
21. Permitted development removed for front boundaries (TP17); and
22. Provision and retention of visibility splay on plats 2 and 13 and front boundaries (TP17).

DEV69 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The following applications had been withdrawn:

15/00020/PLD

Application for a Certificate of Proposed Lawful Development for single storey rear and side extension, roof alterations and insertion of Velux roof lights at 143 Birchfield Road, Widnes, Cheshire.

14/00094/FUL

Proposed two storey side extension, addition of two bay windows, change of use of vacant land to residential curtilage, and creation of new vehicular access at 2 St Aidan's Drive, Widnes, Cheshire.

15/00073/FUL

Proposed construction of 1 no. detached dormer bungalow with associated landscaping and access on part of the rear garden of 117 Birchfield Road, Widnes, Cheshire.

15/00060/FUL

Proposed construction and operation of a solar photovoltaic farm and gas powered fast response power plant, including perimeter fencing, inverter and transformer stations, cabling, CCTV, substations, internal access road and landscaping/biodiversity enhancement Land Bounded By Dismantled Railway and Situate to the South of Johnsons Lane, Widnes.

15/00118/PLD

Application for certificate of Proposed Lawful Development for installation of solar PV panels to roof at Silver Blades Ice Rink, The Hive, Widnes.

15/00249/FUL

Proposed demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey extension on the same footprint and alterations to front elevation at 94 Malpas Road, Runcorn.

Meeting ended at 6.51 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Regulatory Committee on Wednesday, 17 June 2015 in the Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Present: Councillors K. Loftus (Chairman), Wallace (Vice-Chairman), Fry, P. Hignett, Lea, McDermott, Nelson, G. Stockton and Wall

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Howard and A. Lowe

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: G. Ferguson, K. Cleary and J. Tully

Also in attendance: Councillor Osbourne and seven members of the public.

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE**

	<i>Action</i>
REG17 MINUTES	
<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2015 having been circulated were signed as a correct record.</p>	
REG18 APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE - 224 DITCHFIELD ROAD WIDNES	
<p>The Committee met to consider an application which had been made under Section 17 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the grant of a premises licence. The hearing was held in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003 and the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005.</p> <p>The meeting was held as a hearing relating to an application for a premises licence made by Pandiyarajah Sellathurai in respect of premises at 224 Ditchfield Road, Widnes.</p> <p>The applicant requested the following licensable activities:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the supply of alcohol off the premises between the hours of 08.00 to 23.00 each day; and • the hours the premises are open to the public 06.00 to 23.00 each day. <p>The Committee was advised that as part of his</p>	

operating schedule the Applicant had volunteered a number of conditions, details of which were outlined in the report. In addition, comments received from Cheshire Police and conditions agreed between Trading Standards and the applicant were noted.

The Chairman introduced the members of the Committee and the Council's officers who were present.

The Council's legal adviser, John Tully, summarised the procedure to be followed and outlined the nature of the application.

Prior to outlining the application Mr Tully advised the Committee of the 20 letters/emails which had been received and included details on relevant representations. All persons who had made relevant representations had been requested to supply evidence on not later than five working days prior to the hearing.

After outlining the nature of the application Mr Tully advised the Committee of the additional information which had been received from the applicant and emailed to members of the Committee and those residents who made objections by email. It was noted that this information did not add anything that was not already in the Premises Licence application.

At the hearing, the Committee were addressed by the applicant's Licensing Representative Ian Rushton who was accompanied by Pandiyarajah Sellathurai the applicant.

Mr Chorley and Mr Grizedale had both submitted representations and addressed the members as "other persons". The members also took into consideration the relevant written representations submitted by other persons who did not attend the hearing. In addition Councillor Osborne, Ward Councillor, addressed the Committee on behalf of the residents who made representation.

The Committee asked a number of questions of the parties and retired to consider the matter.

RESOLVED:

Findings

1. A number of representations submitted to the licensing authority did not constitute relevant representations. These were not taken into

consideration.

2. None of the representations which were capable of being relevant representations were supported by evidence which the Committee could consider.
3. The application was consistent with the Licensing Objectives.

The Determination

Having considered the application in accordance with section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003 and all other relevant considerations it is decided that the application be granted subject to:

1. The conditions volunteered as part of the operating schedule;
2. The conditions agreed with Trading Standards; and
3. The relevant mandatory conditions.

Time that the licence shall take effect: Immediately.

REG19 LICENSING ACT 2003 STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

The Committee considered a request to authorise a review of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy (SLP). SLP must be reviewed by the Council for successive five year periods and the current Policy was due to expire at midnight on 6th January 2016. Members were advised on the consultation process to be followed and a copy of an amended SLP, which would assist the process, had been circulated to Members.

Following the consultation process a report would be brought back to Committee for consideration and recommendation to Council.

RESOLVED: That

1. the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services (OD-LD) be authorised to undertake a consultation exercise in respect of the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy in accordance with section 5 of the Licensing Act 2003;
2. the OD-LD determine all matters relating to the consultation process; and
3. the matter be reported back to the Regulatory

Committee following the completion of the consultation process; and

4. a voluntary code of good practice be prepared by the Director of Public Health by the beginning of August (and circulated to members at that time) and brought to the September 2015 meeting for consideration.

REG20 GAMBLING ACT 2005 STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY

The Committee considered a request to authorise a review of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy. The Policy must be reviewed by the Council for successive three year periods and the current Policy was due to expire at midnight on 30th January 2016. Members were advised on the consultation process to be followed and a copy of an updated Policy, which would assist the process, had been circulated to Members.

Following the consultation process a report would be brought back to Committee for consideration and recommendation to Council.

RESOLVED: That

1. the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services (OD-LD) be authorised to undertake a consultation exercise in respect of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy in accordance with section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005;
2. the OD-LD determine all matters relating to the consultation process; and
3. the matter be reported back to the Regulatory Committee following the completion of the consultation process.

REG21 TAXI LICENSING MATTER

The Committee was advised that during meetings of the Taxi Consultative Group various changes and additions were tabled to the Single Status Drivers conditions (and pre conditions) and Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle conditions. The Taxi Consultative Group was requested to consult with the taxi trade regarding changes and the outcome of the consultation was outlined in the report. The potential changes were as follows:

- The introduction of an English/Maths test for all new Single Status Drivers;
- the use of electronic cigarettes by licensed drivers and passengers whilst in their licensed vehicles;
- the use of a spare tyre, a space saver tyre or sealant are required in licenced vehicles;
- changing the size of luggage space in licenced vehicles taking into consideration the area above the back seat of the vehicle; and
- removing the Council's policy on blackout/privacy glass.

RESOLVED: That the following be recommended to Executive Board for approval as Council policy:

1. the proposals set out at Appendix B of the agenda except that (1) The proposal regarding maths tests be not proceeded with; (2) The details of level of competence in English which must be achieved be determined by the OD-LD; and
2. existing conditions relating to "privacy glass" (being condition 2.5 of the current Hackney Carriage Vehicle Conditions and 2.6 of the current Private Hire Vehicle Conditions) shall be deleted and the following condition substituted in each case:

Privacy Glass

Privacy glass shall be permitted subject to the following rules:

- The permitted degree of tinting of glass in front of the vehicle's "B-Pillar" shall be in accordance with national standards;
- The permitted degree of tinting of glass behind the vehicle's "B-Pillar" shall not exceed the vehicle manufacturer's specification for the vehicle in question.

Meeting ended at 8.48 p.m.

This page is intentionally left blank

APPEALS PANEL

At a meeting of the Appeals Panel held on 18 June 2015 in Halton Stadium, Widnes.

Present: Councillors Wainwright (Chairman), Angela McInerney and Parker

Apologies for absence: None

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: K Lunt

Also Present: Appellant (Minute 8 refers)

**ITEMS DEALT WITH
UNDER POWERS AND DUTIES
EXERCISABLE BY THE PANEL**

Action

**AP1 SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)
ACT 1985**

The Panel considered:

- (1) Whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 1,2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) Whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the

nature of the business, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraphs 1,2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

AP2 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 265

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the decision of the Local Authority dated 24 March 2015 be upheld and the appeal be dismissed.

AP3 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 266

The Panel was advised that this appeal was withdrawn as the assessment had been revised.

AP4 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 267

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the decision of the Local Authority be upheld and the appeal be dismissed.

AP 5 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 268

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the decision of the Local Authority dated 13 April 2015 be upheld and the appeal be dismissed.

AP 6 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 269

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the decision of the Local Authority be upheld and the appeal be dismissed.

AP 7 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 270

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the presenting officer.

RESOLVED: That the decision of the Local Authority dated 23 March 2015 be upheld and the appeal be dismissed.

AP 8 HOUSING DISCRETIONARY APPEAL HEARING: CASE NO 271

The Panel considered information submitted in respect of the above appeal and heard representations from the presenting officer and the appellant.

RESOLVED: That the appeal be upheld and the award be increased from 13 April 2015 and extended in length of award to end 11 October 2015.

Meeting ended at 12 noon.

This page is intentionally left blank