

Report of the Cabinet

The CABINET reports and recommends as follows:-

1. Review of Polling Districts, Polling Places and Polling Stations

That they have given consideration to a report of the Chief Executive (copy attached) on the review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations carried out as required by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended to Council to approve:-

- (a) The implementation of changes to the parliamentary polling districts and parliamentary polling places as detailed in Appendix 3 to apply to all elections, namely UK Parliamentary, Local Government and any other elections and referenda;
- (b) The authorisation of the Electoral Registration Officer to make the amendments to polling districts for the Electoral Register to be published on 1 February 2020;
- (c) The delegation to the Chief Executive to make, where necessary, alterations to the designation of any polling place prior to the next full review in consultation with ward Councillors and the portfolio holder; and
- (d) That due to the parish areas of Burdon (in Doxford ward) and Warden Law (in Copt Hill ward) being extremely small, with few electors, special circumstances apply for the purposes of the Representation of the People Act 1983, so that those parishes do not need to be separate polling districts.

2. Council Tax Base 2020/2021

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services (copy attached) on the calculation of the Council Tax Base for 2020/2021 and to seek approval to recommend to Council the Council Tax Base for 2020/2021 in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended to Council that:-

- (a) The report for the calculation of the Tax Bases for the City Council and Hetton Town Council for 2020/2021 be approved; and

- (b) That pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 1992 and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Sunderland City Council as its Council Tax Base for the year 2020/2021, shall be 71,336 and for the area of Hetton Town Council shall be 3,868.

3. Local Council Tax Support Scheme

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Corporate Services (copy attached) requesting that Cabinet consider, for the purposes of paragraph 5 of Schedule 1A to the Local Government Finance Act (LGFA) 1992, whether the Local Council Tax Support Scheme (LCTSS) – which is the Council’s Council Tax Reduction Scheme under section 13A(2) LGFA 1992 – should be revised or replaced with another scheme for the financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended to Council that:-

- (i) The current LCTSS for the City of Sunderland, the main features of which are set out at Appendix A, be amended from 1 April 2020 to incorporate any legislative changes to the prescribed requirements for the Scheme but that it be not otherwise revised or replaced; and
- (ii) The approved LCTSS for the financial year 2020/2021 be published on the Council’s website and in any additional manner determined by the Executive Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Cabinet Secretary.

4. Feed and Food Law Service Plan 2019/20

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods (copy attached) on the Feed and Food Controls Service Plan for 2019/2020 to be used by the Feed and Food Safety Enforcement across the city, which had been formulated to comply with the current recommendations of the Food Standards Agency Framework Agreement and outlined the national priorities and standards for service delivery.

They also referred the matter to the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee for advice and consideration. The Committee commended the hard work of the staff during the year and supported the Cabinet’s recommendation to submit the Feed and Food Controls Service Plan for 2019/2020 to Council for final approval.

Cabinet also gave delegated authority to the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, to make any amendments to the plan that were considered appropriate in the light of comments from the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee, prior to it being referred to Council for endorsement.

Accordingly, the Cabinet recommended to Council to approve the Feed and Food Law Service Plan 2019/20.

5. Adoption of Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033

That they have given consideration to a report of the Executive Director of City Development (copy attached) to seek approval to the adoption of the Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033 (the Plan).

They also referred the matter to the Economic Prosperity Scrutiny Committee and the Planning and Highways Committee for advice and consideration. The Committees supported the recommendations of the report and thanked officers for all the work involved in the preparation of the Plan.

Accordingly the Cabinet recommends that Council:-

- (i) Notes the Planning Inspector's Report on the Core Strategy and Development Plan (Appendix 1) and accepts the Main Modifications;
- (ii) Adopts the Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033 including the Policies Map (Appendix 2) to take effect from 30 January 2020; and
- (iii) Notes that Cabinet agreed that the Supplementary Planning Documents set out in Appendix 3 to the report are revoked with effect from 30th January 2020 subject to Council's agreement to adopt the Core Strategy and Development Plan with effect from that date, with revised SPDs to be developed where appropriate.

N.B. Members are requested to note that the Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033 is included in Appendices 1 to 4 of the Cabinet report, which are available for inspection in Members' Group Rooms and the Members' Workroom or alternatively the document can be viewed on-line at:-

<https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/9951/Committee/1966/Default.aspx>

