

## Cabinet

Monday, 31 July 2023

**Present:** Dame N Redfearn (Elected Mayor) (in the Chair)  
Councillors C Johnson, K Clark, P Earley, S Graham,  
J Harrison, A McMullen and S Phillips

**In Attendance:** C Quinn (Young Mayor)  
S Rennison (Northumbria Police)  
D Hodgson (Business Representative)  
D McNally (Age UK, North Tyneside)  
R Layton (NT Joint Trades Union Committee)

**Apologies:** Councillors Janet Hunter and H Johnson

### **CAB32/23 To Receive any Declarations of Interest and Notification of any Dispensations Granted**

Councillor K Clark declared a registerable personal interest in agenda Item 5: 2023-24 Financial Management and Performance Report to 31 May 2023 (CAB35/23), as she was a Director and Employee at Justice Prince CIC (Working Roots), which had contracts with North Tyneside Council funded to deliver community-based programmes.

### **CAB33/23 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 June 2023 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

### **CAB34/23 Report of the Young Mayor**

The Young Mayor reported on the following activities in which he and Young Cabinet Members and/or Youth Councilors had been involved:

- Youth Councillors had attended an allotment and small garden event that

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provided information about the benefits of creating spaces within schools with experts Vicky Smith from VODA along with Wendy from Lovaine Gardens Allotment on hand to answer questions which included grant funding offers for schools.

- The Young Mayor had met with the food technology lead from Norham High School, Ms Bowers, to plan the launch of the cost-of-living cookery project as part of his pledge, to include a cost cutting guide and cookery booklet with recipes created by students available on the school lunch menu. He also thanked Shiremoor Adventure Playground which would also be running a cookery session over the summer break.
- The Young Mayor and Youth Councillors had taken part in fundraising with bag packing at Morrisons, Whitley Bay.
- Youth Councillors had taken part in the 'State of the Area' planning meetings, this year the theme was North Tyneside 2030 with contributions made on what they believed to be key themes for the future.
- Youth Councillor's, SEND Youth Forum members and Children in Care Council members had attended the launch of a safeguarding video animation at the Jam Jar Cinema, which was made with the North Tyneside Safeguarding Children's Partnership to be used in schools and colleges on how and where they could get help.
- Member of Youth Parliament, Sharon Zeng, had attended the UKYP Annual Conference along with MYPs from around the country, the focus being on Food for Learning Campaign, which calls for free school meals for all young people which would be a topic for debate at the House of Commons.
- The Young Mayor thanked the Authority's Director of Resources, Jon Ritchie, who had met with the young people to explain the financial processes between the Council and Schools, also Community Protection Officer, Katie Lawson, who provided details of the work she and her teams were doing with young people around the borough.
- Youth Councillors had taken part in a Young Carers Awareness session run by Peter Thorpe and Lucy Hodgson and staff from the Young Carers Centre.

The Elected Mayor thanked the Young Mayor for his update and praised the young people for promoting children's safeguarding, also their cost-of-living cookery and fund-raising projects.

**CAB35/23 2023–24 Financial Management and Performance Report to 31 May 2023**

*(Councillor Clark left the meeting at this point in proceedings and took no part in the following item of business).*

Cabinet considered the first financial and performance monitoring report outlining the 2023/24 financial position. It provided a full overview of both the budget and service delivery performance position across the Authority as at 31 May 2023. In terms of the budget, it set out the forecast outturn position for 31 March 2024 for both revenue and capital. For performance, it set out the key areas of service delivery, including where this impacted in budget terms; and the key performance metrics which would be monitored by the new Office for Local Government which had now been established by Government.

The report also set out the current position in relation to schools finance, the Authority's Investment Plan and treasury management. In addition, it provided details of additional revenue grants received up until 31 May 2023.

The report set out the programme of work which was in place to manage and mitigate the 2023/24 budget pressures and formed the 2024–2028 Medium Term Financial Plan. From a performance point of view, service delivery overall across the Authority remained strong. Key areas of strength were delivery of the Our North Tyneside Plan 2021–2025 programmes including delivery of the affordable homes and carbon reduction programme. The Ambition for North Tyneside Programme was progressing very well with regeneration projects across all four areas of the borough. The Authority continued to manage high levels of demand in a number of areas including Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments, children in care and home care.

The forecast net pressure for the current year as at 31 May 2023 was £11.7m. A breakdown of this by Directorate was shown in Table 1 of paragraph 1.5.1.2 of the report, with the key areas of variation summarised in the following paragraphs. A more detailed commentary of pressures was contained in section 1 of Annex 1.

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Many of the pressures in the current year were consistent with those faced in recent years. This included the impact of inflation, on both in-house delivery and externally commissioned services, as well as rising demand and increased complexity for services within both adults and children's social care. An overview of the key areas of pressure and related performance information was set out below.

Adults Services had a forecast pressure of £2.3m. Within this, costs for externally commissioned care were the main cause, with the greatest pressure continuing within residential care. This was partly mitigated by vacant posts, additional health income but the main improvement being seen in increased client contributions. The pressure was driven by a range of factors, but primarily inflationary pressure on care providers fees and the lack of home care provision, resulting in more short-term residential care placements to facilitate hospital discharge. Further detail was contained within section 1.2 of the Annex. From a performance perspective within Adults Services, despite the focus to facilitate hospital discharge, the number of clients in short and long-term placements in residential and nursing care settings had remained constant. There was an on-going drive to find alternatives to short-term residential placements, where home care was not available, as well as improve the monitoring and reporting of these placements. Demand for homecare services remained high and there was ongoing work to support the homecare market, which was a national issue across all authorities.

Children's Services had a forecast pressure of £5.4m. In 2022/23 there were significant pressures (£14.6m at its height) in Children's Services. The majority of this (£12.3m) related to services for children in care. This was due to increased staffing costs for children's social care and increased numbers of children, both in need and in care, compared to the numbers assumed when the budget was set originally.

A significant programme of work to analyse and understand the position, had resulted in an increase to the gross budget of £9.7m based on new assumptions. This assumed a level of children in need at 1,600, with 330 of those being children in care. The associated staffing requirement had been increased to 74 social workers. In previous years the budget had been based on assumptions of 1,400 children in need with 260 children in care, supported by 55 social workers. This led to significant financial pressures as well as increased demand on the team.

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Within the current year, the increased budget had improved the position, however, there was still a forecast financial pressure due to the number of external residential care placements and the level of demand remaining higher than assumed. The number of children in care was at 362, with the overall level of children in need at 1662. Work was therefore ongoing with this area as part of the programme to mitigate and manage both the budget pressures and set the Medium-Term Financial Plan. More information on Children's Services was set out in section 1.3 of the Annex.

Commissioning and Asset Management (C&AM) had a forecast pressure of £6.2m due to two main areas. Firstly, Home to School Transport which had a pressure of £2.9m due to higher-than-expected levels of children with complex needs who had support with transport. This was further exacerbated by inflationary pressures on the transport contracts. There was also a forecast pressure of £2.9m for Catering Services. This was due to a combination of inflation on the costs of food purchases, staffing costs relating to sickness, maternity cover and 'deep cleaning' days and due to reduced income from fewer schools now using this service. Further information on C&AM was included in section 1.5 of the Annex.

These main pressures in the General Fund were partly offset by a forecast underspend in Central items. This included savings in the minimum revenue provision (£1.5m), treasury management savings (£1.0m) and the application of contingencies for general inflationary pressures (£1.1m). Further details on Central Items is included in section 1.11 of the Annex.

A programme of work was in place to both manage and mitigate the 2023/24 budget pressures as well as form the 2024-2028 Medium Term Financial Plan. A full overview of the 15 workstreams within this programme was set out in section 6 of the Annex. The workstreams included the work in relation to the High Needs Block (section 1.5.2) and Children's Services as referenced above.

In relation to individual schools, they were required to submit their rolling three-year budget plan to the Authority by 31 May each year. All schools had provided returns but two still required final Governor approval, therefore the figures for 2023/24 included in this report were draft.

The provisional outturn for school balances for 2022/23 was a deficit of £0.4m. Budget plans submitted by schools indicated that this would increase to a deficit of £8.5m by the end of 2023/24. There were currently 14 schools that had

submitted a deficit budget plan for 2023/24. It was noted that there were five new schools requiring a licenced deficit agreement in 2023/24 and nine schools that continued to require support. Of these nine schools, one had a structural deficit, which meant that the school was unable to submit a recovery plan which showed it coming back into financial balance within 3 years which was required in line with the scheme for financing schools. The Authority would hold budget review sessions with the fourteen schools involved across July and September.

There had also been significant pressures within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in relation to the High Needs block which ended 2022/23 with an overspend of £9.6m. As reported previously, to address these pressures, the Authority had joined the Department for Education's (DfE) Safety Valve Intervention Programme on 1 April 2023. Subject to meeting specific performance measures, this would provide the Authority with £19.5m of revenue funding to support the current deficit position within this budget area. The DSG Management Plan (which was submitted to the DfE as part of the agreement), demonstrated how, over a five-year period, the Authority would bring the High Needs Block back into balance by the end of that period. The Authority was on track to reach a positive in-year balance on this budget by the end 2027/2028. The current year position included the first tranche of funding from the DfE of £7.8m.

The Authority's DSG management plan forecasted that there would be 2,134 Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) maintained in January 2024 and currently the authority was on track to do this. There were 2,140 EHCPs at the end of May 2023. The rate of EHCPs maintained by the Authority had slowed, despite the higher demand for Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments in North Tyneside compared to national and regional rates.

As part of the Safety Valve Intervention Programme, the Authority would receive £4.7m from the DfE in capital funding to support the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Management Plan which would be used to develop an Early Years hub and increase the Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) in schools. As part of this programme, the Authority was working with its maintained special schools to agree pupil numbers and the banding of these pupils which could impact on the funding they received.

The projected outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) was an underspend of £0.015m. The main areas of pressure within this budget area related to housing repairs due to the impact of inflationary increases on

materials and subcontractor prices. There was also an anticipated pressure due to the 2023/24 pay award expected to be greater than assumed in the HRA Business Plan. Other significant pressures related to the cost-of-living crisis and the continued uncertainty and volatility of utility bill costs. In performance terms for housing, rental income collection was better than forecasted despite the gradual increase in rent arrears for current tenants due to the impact of Universal Credit. Fewer than 1% of homes were empty and available for letting, therefore maximising the amount of rent that could be collected.

The approved 2023–2028 Investment Plan totalled £329m (£114m in 2023/24) and was detailed in table 22 of the Annex, within section 4. A review of the Investment Plan had resulted in proposals for variations (changes to the financing of the Plan) of £6.8m and reprogramming (changes to the delivery of the Plan) of £0.3m in 2023/24, details of which were set out in Section 4 of the Annex, paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4. At the end of May 2023, spend of £6.3m had been incurred in year, representing 5.21% of the overall plan for 2023/24. Progress on the Affordable homes programme; Housing Capital delivery programme; Asset Planned Maintenance programme; Highways and Infrastructure Works; Ambition for North Tyneside; Killingworth Lake; and Waggonways project were detailed in paragraph 1.5.4.2 of the report.

The level of external borrowing (excluding PFI) had remained the same since 31 March 2023 at £422m to 31 May 2023. The level of internal funding remained high at £68.5m at 31 May 2023 (£102m at 31 March 2022). This was in line with the Authority's Treasury Management Strategy as this avoided external interest charges wherever possible.

As at 31 May 2023 the Authority had Treasury investments of £15m. During April and May 2023, £0.2m was generated through interest earned on investments, of which £0.1m related to income earned on HRA balances. The Authority invested in line with Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy (CIPFA) guidance, maintaining a low-risk approach to investments.

The table in paragraph 1.5.6.1 of the report set out the details of new revenue grants received up to the end May 2023.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report; or alternatively, to not accept the recommendations.

**Resolved** that (1) the forecast budget monitoring position for the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA), schools finance and Treasury Management together with the service delivery performance position across the Authority as at 31 May 2023, be noted;

(2) the Authority's Investment Plan spend of £6.3m to 31 May 2023 and the proposed financing of the Plan to the end of the year, be noted;

(3) variations of £6.8m and reprogramming of £0.3m for 2023/24 within the 2023-2028 Investment Plan; be approved; and

(4) the receipt of £2.274m new grants including the acceptance of all Grant Funding Agreements and, in relation to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for Communities and Place, be approved, and the Assistant Chief Executive be authorised to procure any goods, works or services to deliver the outcomes for that grant, be approved.

(Reason for decision: It is important that Cabinet continues to monitor performance against the Budget, especially given the current level of financial pressures faced by the public sector.)

**CAB36/23     A Strategy for Economic Growth in North Tyneside – North of Tyne  
Combined Authority of Grant**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to develop a comprehensive Economic Strategy for North Tyneside and accept grant funding of £65,000 from the North of Tyne Combined Authority to support the development and commissioning of the Strategy.

In May 2021 Cabinet agreed an Inclusive Economic Strategy for North Tyneside. The strategy included a framework, built around the concept of rights to seven fundamental areas. These included Education, Employment, Safety, Social Equity, Housing, Connections and Environment and the Strategy sets out how the Authority can use economic growth to ensure residents had access to good quality provision. As well as ensuring those with protected characteristics were fully linked to opportunities.



The Economic Strategy would take this thinking further and include an additional focus on how North Tyneside as a coordinated 'place' would achieve economic growth and provide a greater understanding of the Boroughs strengths and the opportunities that can act as enablers. The Strategy would then incorporate the principles of the existing Inclusive Economic Strategy which demonstrated how growth would provide opportunity for the Boroughs deprived wards and how it supported the objective of reducing inequalities.

The Authority had allocated a small budget within the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development's approved budget to develop this strategy but by securing the additional North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) funding this work could be truly amplified to ensure that the strategy was fully collaborative across stakeholders and partners and could clearly demonstrate how the Borough could contribute to the region's aims and objectives, particularly in light of North East Devolution. The project would be delivered in the following stages:

- Consultation – Led by the Authority via the Regeneration and Economic Development Team and the Engagement, Participation and Advocacy Team. Consultation will be carried out with partners, stakeholders, businesses, and residents.
- Economic Analysis – The appointed specialist will look at baseline economic data and provide a robust analysis to set out the position in North Tyneside and identify key strengths, challenges and opportunities.
- Drafting the Strategy – Using feedback from consultation, economic evidence and analysis and information and review from the team, the specialist will draft the strategy in line with key priorities. There will be scheduled review points where feedback and further consultation can be sought before the final draft is produced.
- Publication – The strategy would be published and promoted in partnership with stakeholders and partners as a place-based strategy for the Borough.

This project supported the NTCA's Corporate Plan by defining, understanding, and articulating how North Tyneside can support the key aims and ambitions as outlined within the plan. In particular, how the Borough can deliver against the following portfolios:

- Jobs, Innovation and Growth – Developing a deeper understanding of the North Tyneside business profile and the opportunities they represent, defining

the opportunities for job growth and tackling challenges in the talent pipeline, defining real sector strengths and identifying leading clusters with future potential. Working to understand where innovation can lead productivity gains, prosperity and growth, with links to the green economy. As well as articulating and defining the inward investment proposition for the Borough.

- Education, Inclusion, and Skills – Developing a strategy for upskilling the local workforce in line with the NTCA Strategic Skills Plan to ensure businesses have the talent they need and to promote inclusion in the economy.
- Cultural and Creative – coordinating the economic development outcomes contained within the North Tyneside Cultural Plan and incorporating the North Tyneside Cultural and Creative Zone.

The strategy would also include North Tyneside's contribution to elements of the cross-cutting themes as set out below:

- Net Zero Transition – by ensuring residents and businesses are equipped with the skills needed for the future and ensuring businesses are supported in making the necessary changes for a successful transition to a sustainable economy.
- Inclusive Economy – by ensuring all elements of growth and economic opportunity are accessible and beneficial to all.
- Innovation in Recovery – supporting post pandemic innovation in the private sector and securing any opportunities it represents for North Tyneside and the wider region. E.g. Pharmaceuticals, digital and tech, advanced manufacturing, renewables and offshore.

The Strategy would also ensure that North Tyneside provides an active and meaningful contribution to the following goals as defined in the NTCA Corporate Plan, the value of which would be determined as a result of the Strategy – £1.1bn of new economic growth; 10,000 new jobs; 2.1bn private sector leverage; and 37,000 learning opportunities a year. The Strategy would also be developed in line with the priorities as set out on the North East Devolution Deal to ensure that it had longevity and continued to be meaningful over the next 5 years. In particular, the strategy would consider:

- Economy & Investment Fund – a scaled up fund underpinned by an investment plan driving inclusive economic growth, net zero and addressing inequalities. The value of which is £48m per year for LA7

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- totalling £1.4bn over the deal lifetime, with substantial leverage effect.
- Skills, Education & Inclusion – scaling up devolved skills package (to around £60m p.a.), encouraging strong collaboration around education and continuing a focus on inclusion, careers & employability.
  - Clean Energy & Net Zero – measures to unlock potential and increased investment in our major industries, businesses and infrastructure to support clean energy & net zero transition.
  - Culture, Tourism and Place – scale-up of cross-regional activity and endorsement of major NE opportunities.
  - Business Growth & Inward Investment – provisions to join-up regional assets to strengthen investment potential.
  - Trailblazer Negotiations and Future Funding – allowing the combined Authority the option to ‘fast track’ into further powers and investment and maximise future funding to the Borough and wider region.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report; or alternatively, to not accept the recommendations.

**Resolved** that (1) the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, be authorised to accept the £65,000 grant funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority in relation to A Strategy for Economic Growth in North Tyneside; (2) the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, in consultation with the Director of Resources and Head of Law, be authorised to enter into the Grant Funding Agreement and any other documentation as required to facilitate resolution (1) above; and (3) the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, in consultation with the Director of Resources and the Head of Law, be authorised to commence the procurement of a specialist to assist with analysis work and the drafting of the Strategy for Economic Growth, and to award a contract to the bidder who submits the most advantageous tender in accordance with UK public procurement legislation.

(Reason for decision: Accepting this funding will enable the authority to produce An Economic Strategy for North Tyneside.)

**CAB37/23     The Business Factory (UKSPF) – North of Tyne Combined Authority  
Acceptance Grant**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to accept grant funding of £699,648 from the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) to deliver “The Business Factory” project. Funding had been secured from UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to support residents and businesses in the Borough looking to start up a new business or grow an existing business, with the aim of increasing the number of businesses, availability of jobs and levels of productivity within North Tyneside.

The Authority had been delivering business support within the Borough for over 10 years. Most recently via the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funded “Made in North Tyneside – Enterprise Ready (MINT)” project that started in 2019 and ended delivery on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023. This was preceded by the “Raising Enterprise” project delivered between 2013 and 2019. The MINT project was delivered by TEDCO Business Support and focused on providing fully funded local start up support to residents and new businesses in North Tyneside, including 1:1 advice, a suite of workshops and access to consultants. The support was delivered under the Authority’s brand “The Business Factory” which had always been owned and managed by the Authority.

The Business Factory also delivered ‘Business Factory Online,’ an online resource where residents and businesses could access support tools. This included fact sheets, business planning tools, diagnostic tools, videos, and tutorials. This offer would continue to be delivered under the new proposals. The Business Factory was managed by the Business and Enterprise team, under Inclusive Economic Growth and as part of the wider Regeneration and Economic Development Directorate (RED.) As ERDF funding had now come to an end, officers had been seeking alternative funding sources to deliver business support within the Borough and had successfully secured funding from North of Tyne Combined Authority’s, UKSPF.

The Government launched the UKSPF in April 2022 with funding intended to support activity and interventions previously supported by European Funding and with the primary goal to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK via activity across three key themes – Community and Place; Supporting Local Business; and People and Skills. On behalf of North Tyneside, Newcastle and

Northumberland, the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) submitted a Delivery Plan totaling £47.1m across the key themes with circa £19m attributed to the 'Business Support' theme. The plan had been codesigned with the three Local Authorities and stakeholders and it would provide a whole suite of business support for the Authority to refer businesses into. UKSPF provided considerably less funding than what was available from European Funding so delivery needed to be redesigned and reallocated to reflect the reduction.

As part of this Delivery Plan NTCA had allocated to the three North of Tyne Local Authorities £750k each to deliver local support and the remaining amount would be allocated using a 'Dynamic Purchasing System.' This system was a commissioning tool that invited delivery agencies to become part of a supplier framework that could be used by the three Local Authorities and NTCA to deliver activity under the UKSPF programme. This system had been designed to provide a more flexible and efficient way of procuring suppliers whilst at the same time complying with UK procurement legislation. Project delivery would be procured using either the Dynamic Purchasing System where appropriate or directly by the Authority, if required, in line with the Authority's procurement policy and procedure.

As part of the £750k allocation, North Tyneside Council, the Authority would deliver support under the brand of the "Business Factory" to a value of £699,648. The remaining £50,532 allocated to the Authority would be used to continue the service delivered through the Business and Intellectual Property Centre at North Shields Customer First Centre in partnership with Newcastle City Council and Northumberland County Council.

The proposed programme of support would provide a refreshed and revitalised Business Factory website and offer a new approach to business support. This was built around self-guided learning and offered a complementary programme of on the ground activity in line with the following framework:

- WELCOME: Introducing businesses to The Business Factory Online; providing a guided tour of the online materials and functionality, peer to peer networking and Q and A sessions.
- INSPIRE: Inspiring residents to startup businesses through exciting events to promote entrepreneurial skills.
- EXPLORE: Providing short and targeted sector specific start up programmes.

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- DEVELOP: Delivering thematic workshops for established businesses.
- GROW: Offer of consultancy and mentor support to achieve specific growth outcomes for established businesses.

Appendix 1 to the report illustrated the customer journey within the operational framework linked to output delivery.

The project would focus on collaboration and play a key role in pulling together all business support activity accessible to residents and businesses in the Borough. This would make sure that North Tyneside is getting the most out of business support programmes being delivered by partners operating across wider North East geography. It would also ensure that activity was clearly aligned to complementary delivery programmes within the Authority. This included establishing strong relationships with the successful and developing Working Well Hubs to provide targeted and accessible support to those hardest to reach with the aim of improving inequalities. All activity commissioned under the project would be closely aligned to the objectives of the Working Well Hubs.

In addition, a key principle of the project was to ensure activity was inclusive, flexible, and defined by ongoing dialogue with businesses linked to the developing Business Engagement Strategy. Details of the project outputs and outcomes were set out in section 1.5 of the report. The timescales for delivery were – Project Start Date – 1st July 2023; Refreshed Business Factory Launch Date – 1st October 2023; and Project End Date – 31st March 2025.

Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report; or alternatively, to not accept the recommendations.

**Resolved** that (1) the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, be authorised to accept the £699,648 grant funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority in relation to The Business Factory;

(2) the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, in consultation with the Director of Resources and the Head of Law, be authorised to enter into the Grant Funding Agreement and any other documentation as required to facilitate resolution (1) above; and

(3) the Director of Regeneration and Economic Development, in consultation with the Director of Resources and the Head of Law, be authorised to undertake any

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necessary procurements to support the project delivery set out paragraph 1.1 of the report and to award a contract to the bidder who submits the most advantageous tender in accordance with UK public procurement legislation.

(Reason for decision: Accepting this funding will enable the Authority to establish The Business Factory support offer for North Tyneside.)

### **CAB38/23 Exclusion Resolution**

**Resolved** that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and having applied a public interest test as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

### **CAB39/23 Tyne Brand Strategic Property, Tynemouth**

Cabinet considered a report seeking approval to purchase all the land interests necessary by the Authority within the site boundary (as indicated on the plan at Appendix 1) for the acquisition of the former Tyne Brand site, Tynemouth; and to declare the "Hunters Engineering" site (as indicated on the plan at Appendix 2) surplus to the Authority's requirements and to dispose of the site to facilitate the relocation of an existing business currently located within the Tyne Brand site boundary.

At its meeting on 25 January 2021 Cabinet approved the North Shields Masterplan. The plan identified several housing sites including the redevelopment of the former Tyne Brand factory site as key to the regeneration ambitions for North Shields. The Tyne Brand site was currently in multiple ownership (including North Tyneside Council owned land). Despite several attempts by private developers to assemble the land, the market had failed to bring forward a viable development for the site. It was therefore considered appropriate for the Authority to take steps to acquire the sites to bring them into public ownership and secure onward development. This approach was agreed by Cabinet on the 24 January 2022. In addition, Cabinet supported the utilisation of a Compulsory

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Purchase Order to acquire the land should purchase by voluntary agreement not be possible.

This report deals with the voluntary acquisition of land interests on the Tyne Brand site as well as the necessary site development procedures.

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Cabinet considered the following decision options: either to agree the recommendations as set out in paragraph 1.2 of the report and to agree the acquisition of all land interests, procurement of demolition and site investigation decline the opportunity to acquire all land interests, procurement of demolition and site investigation contractors and the disposal of the form Hunters Engineering site.

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**Resolved** that (1) the “Hunters Engineering” site as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report as being surplus to the Authority’s requirements and its disposal, be approved;  
(2) the Director of Housing and Property Services, in consultation with the Director of Commissioning and Asset Management, the Director of Resources, the Head of Law and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, be authorised:  
i. to take all necessary steps to purchase all the land interests necessary for the acquisition of the former Tyne Brand site, North Shields, as indicated on the plan at Appendix 1.  
ii. to take all necessary steps to procure and enter into a contract to secure the demolition of all existing buildings on the former Tyne Brand site, North Shields, as indicated on the plan at Appendix 1.  
iii. to take all necessary steps to procure and enter into a contract to undertake site and ground investigation across the former Tyne Brand site, North Shields, as indicated on the plan at Appendix 1.

(Reason for decision: It is considered the best and only way to acquire the necessary land interests by agreement to develop the site and comply with the requirements of any subsequent Compulsory Purchase Order process.)

### **CAB40/23    Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday 18 September 2023 at 6.00pm.



**Minutes published on Thursday 3 August 2023.**

The decisions contained within these Minutes may be implemented (unless called in by 3 Non-Executive Members for consideration by the Overview, Scrutiny Co-ordination and Finance Committee) immediately following the expiry of the call-in period; i.e. 5.00pm on Thursday 10 August 2023.