

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

At a meeting of the **Cabinet** held at County Hall, Morpeth on Tuesday, 29 March 2022 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillor G. Sanderson
(Leader of the Council, in the Chair)

CABINET MEMBERS

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Horncastle, C. | Riddle, J.R. |
| Pattison, W. | Watson, J.G. |
| Renner-Thompson, G. | Wearmouth, R. |

OTHER MEMBERS

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| Stewart, G. | Seymour, C. |
|-------------|-------------|

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Hadfield, K. | Democratic and Electoral Services Manager |
| Lancaster, H. | Deputy Monitoring Officer |
| McEvoy-Carr, C. | Executive Director of Children's Services and Adult Social Care |
| Murfin, R. | Interim Executive Director of Planning and Local Services |
| O'Farrell, R. | Interim Executive Director of Place and Regeneration |
| Roll, J. | Head of Democratic and Electoral Services |
| Sanderson, J. | Strategic Services Manager |
| Taylor, M. | Interim Executive Director for Communities and Business Development |
| Thompson, W. | Group Company Secretary |
| Willis, J. | Interim Executive Director of Finance and S151 Officer |

One member of the press was present

Ch.'s Initials.....

105. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Ploszaj and Flux.

106. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Renner Thompson declared an interest in item 7 on the agenda as a director of NEHL.

107. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 8 March 2022, as circulated, be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

108. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND LOCAL SERVICES

Adoption of the Northumberland Local Plan (2016 - 2036)

The report presented the Inspectors' Report into the independent examination of the Northumberland Local Plan and sought Cabinet's approval to recommend that the Council approve the adoption of the Northumberland Local Plan (2016-2036), including the Policies Map, as amended by main modifications and additional changes, following its Independent Examination by the Planning Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State (report attached to the signed minutes).

The report was presented by Councillor Horncastle who drew members' attention to the key points of the report. The Plan would be a blueprint for the future of Northumberland and would provide the modern policies which were badly needed. He highlighted the benefits the Plan would bring including speeding up the application process, officers being able to deal with applications from all parts of the County and pre applications being done by the policy team, which would provide more consistency. The Plan would be a massive boost to the economy of the County.

Mr Murfin detailed some key points including those around housing numbers and employment land. The Plan also gave teeth to the Council's current corporate priorities and was a Plan for growth.

Councillor Horncastle referred to the neighbourhood plans which were in place and the need for review. Mr Murfin replied that the first generation plans had addressed that they were working from a local plan base that was out of date so would need to be reviewed. The more recent ones had been prepared in light of the developing Local Plan so would probably just need some slight tweaks.

Councillor Riddle welcomed the Local Plan and asked if there was sufficient employment land identified going forward. Mr Murfin advised that as much employment land had been identified as could be justified, including some minor green belt releases. Officers would need to look at areas in the south east of the County and along the Northumberland Line corridor in light of emerging economic needs.

Councillor Renner Thompson welcomed the stipulations on new residential housing in some of his parishes. This, along with the investment in affordable housing from the Authority would go a long way to providing housing for local people in areas where it was much needed.

The Leader made reference to the decision which had been made in 2017 to withdraw the previous Local Plan as the new Administration had not been happy with the new housing numbers and the deletion of the green belt. He maintained this had been the right decision and this was borne out by the Plan which was before members today for approval. He thanked officers for all of their work on this and for the exemplary way in which they had undertaken the consultation process.

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the content of the Inspectors' Report into the Examination of the Northumberland Local Plan (Appendix 3), together with the Schedule of Main Modifications appended to the Inspectors' Report (Appendix 4) be noted; and
- (ii) Council be recommended to:
 - (a) note the content of the Inspectors' Report into the Examination of the Northumberland Local Plan (Appendix 3), together with the Schedule of Main Modifications appended to the Inspectors' Report (Appendix 4).
 - (b) adopt the Northumberland Local Plan (2016 – 2036) (Appendix 1), incorporating the Main Modifications as set out in the Schedule of Main Modifications appended to the Inspectors' Report (Appendix 4) and the additional changes to the Local Plan (Appendix 5).
 - (c) subject to recommendation (b), approve the adoption of the Northumberland Local Plan (2016 – 2036) (Appendix 1) to take effect from 31 March 2022.
 - (d) subject to recommendation (b), adopt the Northumberland Local Plan (2016 – 2036) Policies Map (Appendix 2), incorporating the changes in the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications to the Northumberland Local Plan Policies Map June 2021 (Appendix 6), the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications to the Northumberland Local Plan Policies Map - Appendices, June 2021 (Appendix 7) and the additional changes to the Local Plan (Appendix 5).
 - (e) subject to recommendation (b), approve the adoption of the Northumberland Local Plan (2016 – 2036) Policies Map (Appendix 2) to take effect from 31 March 2022.

- (f) subject to recommendation (b), agree the revocation of the following development plan documents, to take effect from the 12 May 2022 (following the statutory six-week legal challenge period from the adoption date of the Northumberland Local Plan):
- Alnwick Local Development Framework Core Strategy (October 2007)
 - Alnwick District Wide Local Plan (April 1997) – Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 31 August 2007)
 - Berwick -upon-Tweed Borough Local Plan (April 1999) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 31 August 2007)
 - Blyth Valley Local Development Framework Core Strategy (July 2007)
 - Blyth Valley Local Development Framework Development Control Policies DPD (September 2007)
 - Blyth Valley District Local Plan (May 1999) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 28 September 2007)
 - Castle Morpeth District Local Plan (February 2003) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 31 August 2007)
 - Tynedale Local Development Framework Core Strategy (October 2007)
 - Tynedale District Wide Local Plan (April 2000) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 31 August 2007)
 - Wansbeck District Local Plan (July 2007) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 22 April 2010)
 - Northumberland Minerals Local Plan (March 2000) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 31 August 2007)
 - Northumberland Waste Local Plan (December 2002) - Saved Local Plan Policies (under the Secretary of State’s Direction, 31 August 2007)
 - Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan First Alteration (February 2005) - Saved Policy S5 (Green Belt Extension).
- (g) subject to recommendation (b), agree the revocation and downgrading of the Supplementary Planning Documents as set out in Appendix 8, to take effect from the 12 May 2022 (following the statutory six-week legal challenge period from the adoption date of the Northumberland Local Plan).
- (h) subject to recommendation (b), note the content of the Adoption Statement attached at Appendix 9 prepared in accordance with Regulation 26 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).
- (i) subject to recommendation (b), approve the Sustainability Appraisal Post-Adoption Statement (Appendix 10); and

- (j) subject to recommendation (b), authorise the Interim Executive Director of Planning and Local Services in consultation with Cabinet Member for Community Services, to make any additional necessary minor textual, graphical, presentational or layout amendments to the Northumberland Local Plan (2016-2036) (Appendix 1) and its Policies Map (Appendix 2) to finalise the Plan prior to publication.

In accordance with Minute No.106, Councillor Renner Thompson left the meeting at this point.

109. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:-

(a) That under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the Agenda as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Act, and

(b) That the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure for the following reasons:-

| Agenda Item | Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A |
|--------------------|--|
| 7 | 3 |
| | Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). |
| AND | The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure because disclosure could adversely affect the business reputation or confidence in the person / organisation, and could adversely affect commercial revenue. |

110. REPORT OF THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDER'S REPRESENTATIVE

Northumberland Enterprise Holdings Ltd and Northumbria Integrated Consultancy Ltd – Request For Reserved Matter Approval

The report requested formal Shareholder approval of a Reserved Matter under the Articles of Association of Northumberland Enterprise Holdings Ltd (“NEHL”) and its single subsidiary Northumbria Integrated Consultancy Ltd

("NIC") (copy attached to the signed minutes, coloured pink and marked "Not for Publication").

RESOLVED that the recommendations detailed in the report be approved.

CHAIR.....

DATE.....