

**REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
CABINET DECISIONS – 4 MARCH 2014**

1. HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY 2013-2018

- 1.1 The Cabinet approved the draft Homelessness Strategy 2013-2018

2. COUNCIL TAX DISCRETIONARY REDUCTION POLICY

The Cabinet:

- 2.1 Approved the Council Tax Discretionary Reduction Policy.
- 2.2 Agreed that applications for Discretionary Reduction be monitored during the first six months and any significant financial impact be reported back to the Cabinet.

3. NON DOMESTIC RATES DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF POLICY

- 3.1 The Cabinet approved the Non Domestic Rates Discretionary Rate Relief Policy.

4. FIT FOR THE FUTURE: CORPORATE DEBT RECOVERY

- 4.1 The Cabinet approved proposals for the Generic Corporate Debt Recovery Team as set out in Appendix (i) paragraph 5.3.2 of the Cabinet report.

5. THE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

- 5.1 The Cabinet approved the publication of the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for six weeks public consultation beginning on 11 March 2014.

6. CHARGING POLICY 2014-2015

The Cabinet agreed:

- 6.1 That the fees and charges as set out in the report be approved and applied from 1 April 2014.

- 6.2 That the setting of future fees and charges relating to cesspools and shopmobility be delegated to the Director of Leisure and Parks in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Leisure and Parks from 2015/16.
- 6.3 That the setting of future fees and charges relating to Street Name Plates be delegated to the Director of Democratic, Development and Legal Services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, Democratic and Legal Services from 2015/16.
- 6.4 That the setting of future fees and charges relating to Waste Services be delegated to the Director of the Joint Waste Service in consultation with the Cabinet Member for IT and Waste Management from 2015/16.

7. PROGRESSING A BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT IN LICHFIELD CITY

The Cabinet:

- 7.1 Approved the development of a Business Improvement District for Lichfield City Centre and the creation of a Service Level Agreement to progress this work.
- 7.2 Agreed that delegated authority be given to the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth and Development in consultation with the Strategic Director for Democratic, Development and Legal Services to agree the Service Level Agreement and appointment of a selected trade association. This would include the negotiation of any related Service Level Agreement charges (up to a maximum of £2,500 or 10% of the Service Level Agreement charge), and the identification of funding to meet these, via existing tourism and economic development budgets.

DECISIONS MADE BY CABINET MEMBERS

8. 4 CHURCH ROAD, FRADLEY

- 8.1 The Cabinet Member for Finance, Democratic and Legal Services agreed that in the event that Planning application 14/00015/FUL is granted the covenant affecting 4 Church Close, Fradley be released on terms to be negotiated by the District Valuer with those terms including a requirement that the owner is responsible for the District Council's administrative, legal and valuation costs.

9. GRANT AID AND GRANT AID PLUS ALLOCATIONS FOR 2014/15

- 9.1 The Cabinet Member for Community, Housing and Health agreed the allocation of the small grants budget for 2014/15.

10. BETTER CARE FUND

- 10.1 The Cabinet Member for Community, Housing and Health agreed to endorse the draft Better Care Fund Plan submission and to authorise and sign off the final Better Care Fund submission.

11. FAIRER CHARGING AND WELFARE BENEFITS

- 11.1 The Cabinet Member for Finance, Democratic and Legal Services accepted the final costs submitted in Staffordshire County Council's Final Proposal for the transfer of the Welfare Benefits and Fairer Charging Service to Districts, together with additional resources negotiated following receipt of the letter dated 16 December 2013 from Staffordshire County Council's Chief Executive.

12. HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION FUND LOANS AND THE HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND ASSISTANCE POLICY

- 12.1 The Cabinet Member for Community, Housing and Health approved entering into an agreement with Fusion Credit Union to provide loans in respect of the Homelessness Prevention Fund and approved the revised Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Policy.

**MICHAEL J WILCOX
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**