

EXECUTIVE

TUESDAY 26 JULY 2011 AT 12 NOON

PRESENT:

Councillor Mitchelson (Leader's Portfolio)
Councillor J Mallinson (Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Bloxham (Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Mrs Bowman (Economic Development Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Ellis (Performance and Development Portfolio Holder)
Councillor Mrs Geddes (Community Engagement Portfolio Holder)

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Hendry (Chairman of the Capital Projects Task and Finish Group)
Councillors Allison, Layden and McDevitt (Observers)

APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs Luckley (Chairman of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel).

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Mitchelson declared a personal interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda item A.4 – Food Law Enforcement Service Plan. The interest related to the fact that Councillor Mitchelson is the proprietor of a shop.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 18 April 2011 were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

**EX.082/11 DRAFT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
(INCORPORATING THE CORPORATE CHARGING POLICY)
2012/13 TO 2016/17
(Key Decision)**

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Portfolio Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Resources) submitted report RD.27/11 on the draft Medium Term Financial Plan (incorporating the Corporate Charging Policy) 2012/13 to 2016/17. He advised Members that the Medium Term Financial Plan set out the current framework for planning and managing the Council's financial resources, developing its annual budget strategy and updating its current five year financial plan. The Plan further sought to link the key aims and objectives of the Council, as contained in the Corporate Plan, to the availability of resources thereby enabling the Council to prioritise the allocation of resources to best meet its overall aims and objectives.

He reported that some of the figures in the Plan would be affected by external influences and would be subject to amendment during the Council's Budget cycle.

The Assistant Director (Resources) added that the Medium Term Financial Plan was reviewed annually commencing with the assumptions made in the Budget resolution approved by Council on 1 February 2011. In addition, the Corporate Charging Policy had been reviewed and included within the Medium Term Financial Plan. The Charging Policy provided a framework for potential policy options for each charging area, but recognised the different approaches that might be required for different services and the various influences which needed to be acknowledged in setting individual charges.

The Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder then explained that the draft Medium Term Financial Plan would be available for consultation with the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel. It would then come back to the Executive on 30 August, prior to transmission to Council for approval on 13 September 2011.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

1. That the Report of the Assistant Director (Resources) (RD.27/11) on the draft Medium Term Financial Plan (Incorporating the Corporate Charging Policy) 2012/13 to 2016/17 be received.
2. That the report be made available for consideration by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Reasons for Decision

To consult with the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the Draft Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/13 to 2016/17

EX.083/11 DRAFT CAPITAL STRATEGY 2012/13 TO 2016/17
(Key Decision)

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Portfolio Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Resources) submitted Report RD.28/11 on the Draft Capital Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17. He informed Members that the Draft Capital Strategy was a key policy document, intended to direct the Council's Capital Programme and the allocation of resources for the five year period 2012/13 to 2016/17 and would supplement guidance contained in the Medium Term Financial Plan. The Capital Strategy was reviewed annually alongside the Medium Term Financial Plan, commencing with the assumptions made in the Budget Resolution approved by Council on 1 February 2011. The position had been updated to reflect any known changes since that date.

He reminded Members of the objectives of the Capital Strategy in ensuring that capital investment decisions and capital resources contributed to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities; co-ordinated strategic priorities and ensuring that investment opportunities were maximised; managed performance and decision making processes to make best use of available capital resources and setting out processes to monitor and evaluate proposed and actual capital spending on projects to ensure that value for money was obtained. The Strategy had been developed using a number of overarching guidelines.

The Assistant Director (Resources) outlined the current capital programme forecasts, reminding Members of the key assumptions which had been considered in making the projections including the Capital Programme of £7.534m for 2011/12 and £2.730m for 2012/13. The impact of the 2010/11 outturn and the carrying forward of budgets into 2011/12 and 2012/13 had increased the programme by £1.418m in 2011/12 since the budgets were approved in February.

The Assistant Director (Resources) indicated that the current capital programme forecast spending on capital projects of around £2.7m - £1.2m per annum for years 2012/13 to 2016/17, although past experience had indicated that actual spending would be much higher due, in the main, to the fact that a number of initiatives were still at an early stage of development and had not therefore been included in the projections. He identified a number of schemes currently under review, including the Asset Review Programme; Vehicle Replacement Programme; and Disabled Facilities Grants,

commenting that the position on those schemes would need to be updated during the budget process when an indication of capital schemes coming to fruition and their timing could be made more accurately.

The report further set out an estimated level of capital finance resources which would be generated over the next five years and highlighted the current position regarding borrowing, capital receipts, reserves and balances, Government and other capital grants and external funding, and revenue contributions. Also summarised was the level of capital spending and available financing for the period 2011/12 to 2016/17 which indicated that currently there was approximately £1.8m uncommitted estimated capital resources available to support any future capital programme.

The Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder expressed grateful thanks to members of staff for the considerable amount of work undertaken over recent months, which had contributed to a much more sensible Capital Strategy. He then moved the recommendation set out in the Assistant Director's report.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

1. That the Report of the Assistant Director (Resources) (RD.28/11) regarding the draft Capital Strategy 2012/13 to 2016/17 be received.
2. That the draft Capital Strategy be made available for consideration by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Reasons for Decision

To consult with the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on the draft Capital Strategy for 2012/13 to 2016/17

EX.084/11 DRAFT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2011 - 2016 (Key Decision)

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Portfolio Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Resources) submitted report RD.29/11 on the draft Asset Management Plan 2011 - 2016. He informed Members that the draft Asset Management Plan had been updated to reflect the key issues and

changes affecting the future management and use of the City's property resource which had arisen, and the impact of the Asset Review Business Plan approved by Council in January 2011.

The Plan also reported on the current position and performance of the Portfolio and the Asset Disposal Programme. Members were requested to note the position and approve the update to the Draft Asset Management Plan in order for it to be made available for consideration by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

The Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder then moved the recommendation set out in the report.

Referring to the process, the Leader stated that the Executive looked forward to having the opportunity to discuss the document, and also the draft Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Strategy, with the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel. He added that the Panel's comments would be brought back to the Executive on 30 August prior to recommendations being made to full Council in September 2011.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

1. That the Executive noted the position as set out in Report RD.29/11.
2. That the Executive approved the update to the draft Asset Management Plan and made it available for consideration by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel, before coming back to the Executive and full Council in September 2011.

Reasons for Decision

To update the Council's Asset Management Plan and the position of the property portfolio in the light of the Asset Review Business Plan and Disposal Programme

EX.085/11 FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE PLAN (Key Decision)

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Councillor Mitchelson, having declared a personal interest, remained within the meeting room but took no part in discussion on this item of business.

Portfolio Environment and Housing

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.066/11, the Environmental Health Manager submitted report LE.16/11 providing details of the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan covering the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.

He reminded Members that the Plan set out how the Environmental Health Service would deploy its resources in 2011 to 2012 to prevent food borne diseases and help people live healthier lives. It further sought to target intervention to tackle local issues, whilst ensuring that Carlisle City Council achieved its national responsibilities.

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel had considered the matter on 14 July 2011 and welcomed submission of the Plan. A copy of Minute Excerpt COSP.55/11 had been circulated.

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder thanked the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel for their scrutiny and helpful suggestions for which the Executive was grateful. The report had been well received at the Panel meeting and he was therefore happy to move the recommendations set out on the Assistant Director's report.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive -

(1) Agreed the key actions of the Environmental Health Service's Food Law Enforcement Plan and the General Plan 2011 to 2012; and

(2) Referred the said plans to Council for approval in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Reasons for Decision

The recommended key actions have been identified following consultation and reflected the resources available to the Environmental Health Service in the financial year 2011 to 2012

**EX.086/11 CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP'S
 'ENHANCED PARTNERSHIP WORKING PROJECT' –
 CONCLUSIONS OF STAGE 1
 (Key Decision)**

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Portfolio Environment and Housing

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) submitted report LE.13/11 concerning the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership's 'Enhanced Partnership Working Project'.

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) outlined the background to the matter, reminding Members that they had on 14 March 2011 approved the Council's participation in the project as detailed in Report LE.02/11. She added that Stage 1 of the Project had produced the following:

- (i) Project Plan (including Risk Register and Communications Strategy);
- (ii) Vision Statement: 'Working in partnership with our communities we will provide the residents of Cumbria with reliable, environmentally friendly services that deliver value for money';
- (iii) Project elements: In effect these represented the substance of the EPW project and were the result of the original CIEP funded project and the 'one to one' meetings recently conducted between the EPW Project Manager and the Leader of the Council, Environment Portfolio holder, Chairman of Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Panel and senior officers of the Council. The individual project elements would be appraised in Stage 2 of the EPW project and were listed in Appendix 2;
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU): A MoU for Stage 2 of the EPW project had been produced and circulated to each of the participating authorities for their respective Chief Executives to sign. The MoU was attached as Appendix 3 and included the following elements:

- provided a link back to the CSWP;
- defined the parties involved;
- outlined the partnering ethos;
- detailed the vision;
- summarised the governance, reporting and communication requirements.

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) further reported that Stage 2 of the Project would appraise and evaluate the project elements listed in Appendix 2 to her report against 4 key criteria, and that the conclusions of that work would be reported to a future meeting of the Executive.

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder highlighted the interesting nature of the Enhanced Partnership Working Project so far, commenting that a meeting would take place next week to discuss Stage 2. He added that Cumbria County Council and the District Councils were looking at how this area of work could be undertaken more favourably to benefit the community as a whole. The attendance of Overview and Scrutiny Chairmen from Barrow Borough Council and the City Council at the EWP Project Board had been particularly helpful in terms of progressing the matter through Council procedures. In conclusion, the Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations as detailed in the Assistant Director's report.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

(1) That the Executive received the conclusions of Stage 1 of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership's Enhanced Partnership Working Project, as detailed in Report LE.13/11.

(2) That the conclusions of Stage 2 of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership's Enhanced Partnership Working Project be reported to a future meeting of the Executive.

Reasons for Decision

To ensure that the Council was properly appraised of the progress of a project which would have a major impact on the future development of municipal waste management in Cumbria

EX.087/11 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

(Key Decision)

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Portfolio Environment and Housing

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) submitted report LE.12/11 informing Members that opportunities had arisen, for a limited time, which may assist the City Council in the achievement of some of its objectives in relation to climate change, energy conservation and 'invest to save' projects. She explained that the main driver for those opportunities was the Government's Feed-in Tariff Scheme and the Renewable Heat Incentive,

which was an incentive scheme to encourage property owners to invest in renewable energy and micro-generation projects.

The feed in tariff was available for solar photovoltaic, hydro power and wind power schemes. The renewable heat incentive scheme applied to biomass and solar thermal projects. The tariff was guaranteed for 25 years once a project had been accepted. It should be noted, however, that once the quota for renewable energy production had been reached it was likely that the scheme would be stopped or the tariff reduced. The current micro-generation scheme would run until April 2012 and therefore prompt action was advisable, particularly for solar photo voltaic projects.

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) added that the Council's Asset Review would identify assets where income had stagnated and seek to re-invest in more productive schemes. The liquidation of those assets would provide a funding opportunity for the renewable energy projects.

The Community Engagement Portfolio Holder welcomed submission of the report. Officers had undertaken a great deal of work in connection with the Holme Head Bay hydroelectric project and she could see real benefits for the local community. The Portfolio Holder added that the projected financial return of 8% or higher was very encouraging and would provide real stability.

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder concurred with the Assistant Director, indicating that the sustainable energy projects could make a real difference to communities and areas of the Council's work. He further commented upon the exciting nature and potentially superb financial returns from the Holme Head Bay hydroelectric project, and looked forward to the feasibility study coming forward. Accordingly, the Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations set out in the report.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

(1) That the Executive approved funding for initial feasibility reports on solar photovoltaic (PV) installations for 18 Nr of the Council's properties at a cost of £2,500.

(2) On completion of the feasibility studies, PV installation projects, expected to give a financial return of 8% or higher, would be selected up to a maximum value of £500,000. A further report with recommendations including costs and benefits would be brought back to the Executive for further consideration and determination of the way forward. The funding to be found from the Asset Review.

(3) The Executive approved the Council's involvement as a partner with Denton Holme Green Group to assist in development in the Holme Head Bay hydroelectric project and to investigate the feasibility of the project.

(4) On completion of the investigation, subject to there being an acceptable level of return to the authority, a further report with recommendations including costs and benefits be brought back to the Executive for further consideration and determination of the way forward. The funding to be found from the Asset Review.

(5) That the Assistant Director (Local Environment) be requested to investigate the feasibility of biomass heating at Longtown Community Centre.

Reasons for Decision

To take advantage of the feed in tariff for micro-generation as an invest-to-save project;

To assist in meeting the Council's target for carbon emissions reduction (15% reduction on 2008 consumption by 2013);

To contribute towards action on climate change; and

To help building users reduce on-site electricity consumption and energy costs

EX.088/11 CARLISLE AND EDEN CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP PLAN

(Key Decision)

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not programmed within the Forward Plan for consideration at this meeting)

Portfolio Community Engagement

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) submitted report CP.1/11-12 presenting the new Partnership Plan for 2011/12 developed by the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP).

The Assistant Director (Community Engagement) outlined the background to the matter, informing Members that central to the development of the Partnership Plan was a 'Strategic Assessment' of information collected from responsible authorities, other partners and the community. He added that the Plan must be reviewed annually thus allowing the Partnership to take account of new priorities emerging from the ongoing assessments (conducted on a six monthly basis). Those priorities must reflect the concerns raised by local people and it was a key requirement that community consultation be undertaken as part of the strategic assessment. In conclusion, he welcomed Members' comments on the matter.

In response to a question, the Community Engagement Portfolio Holder outlined the many benefits to the rural area, which included reducing anti-social behaviour. The community engagement aspect was of particular importance and programmes were in place for Brampton, Dalston and Longtown. She stated that the Partnership Plan was very much an integral part of what the CDRP was trying to achieve and looked forward to seeing its effects in the future.

The Leader reported that the Partnership Plan would be made available for consideration by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel, before coming back to the Executive in September 2011.

The Community Engagement Portfolio Holder recommended that the CDRP Annual Review 2009/10 should also be provided to assist Members in their consideration of the matter.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive :

(1) Had considered the Carlisle and Eden Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership's Plan for 2011/12 and how it would, in defining the priorities, support the implementation of Carlisle City Council's Corporate Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy (Community Plan).

(2) Made the Plan available for consideration by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Reasons for Decision

The purpose of the Partnership Plan was to provide a single document that presented the priorities and how they had been agreed. The Plan illustrated the partnership structure that would address those priorities and how it would manage performance

**EX.089/11 CAPITAL PLANNED ENHANCEMENTS TO COUNCIL
PROPERTY**
(Key Decision)

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a Key Decision, although not in the Forward Plan)

Portfolio Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.003/11, the Assistant Director (Resources) submitted report RD.26/11 concerning capital planned enhancements to Council Property.

The Assistant Director (Resources) outlined the background to the matter commenting that, as Members were aware, the Council's Property Team was currently undertaking a major review of the authority's assets. The programme of works identified in the Capital Major Repairs Programme had initially been shaped by a 5 year maintenance plan produced from condition surveys and adjusted each year to keep abreast of new legislation. The Council had a legal duty to maintain its properties and the programme was required to comply with that duty.

In addition, the Council had a duty to provide safe facilities for staff to work in. The Major Repairs Capital Programme provided resources to allow essential work to be carried out to achieve that; and also to allow efficient use of buildings and protect and enhance the value of the assets in line with the Asset Management Plan.

The Assistant Director (Resources) indicated that his previous report (RD.73/11) presented proposals for capital investment for planned major repairs. The business case identified 15 separate projects required to meet the Council's legal obligations and priorities for building maintenance, details of which were provided. Those projects tackled a range of issues, including asbestos management, conservation of the historic fabric, DDA, and health and safety. Members were therefore requested to release the £530,000 capital budget set aside in the Council budget for 2011/12 for planned enhancements to Council property.

The Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder stated that it was vital in these difficult financial times that the capital budget was maintained. He therefore welcomed submission of the report and moved the recommendation contained therein.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive authorised the release of the £530,000 capital budget set aside in the Council budget for 2011/12 for planned enhancements to Council property.

Reasons for Decision

The project proposals would enable the Council to meet legislative requirements relating to Building Maintenance and help to reduce the backlog of maintenance figure

EX.090/11 FORWARD PLAN
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-Cutting

Subject Matter

The Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 October 2011 was submitted.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Forward Plan of Key Decisions for the period 1 July 2011 to 31 October 2011 be received.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

EX.091/11 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY OFFICERS
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Performance and Development

Subject Matter

Details of decisions taken by Officers under delegated powers were submitted.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the decisions, attached as Appendix A, be received.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

**EX.092/11 REFERENCE FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL – DEVELOPMENT OF
CARLISLE’S VISITOR ECONOMY – PROJECT INITIATION
AND UPDATE**
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Economic Development

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EEOSP.40/11, consideration was given to a reference from the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel following their consideration of a report by the Strategic Director (SD.04/11) providing an update on the proposals to bring together the Carlisle Tourism Partnership and the City Centre Partnership to form a new 'not for profit' company limited by guarantee. The Panel had resolved:

"1) In order that the Panel could monitor progress and timescales update reports would be presented at the Panel meetings on 8 September 2011 and 1 December 2011.

2) That consideration be given by the Executive to cross-party representation when the Board was set up."

A copy of the Minute Excerpt had been circulated.

In response, the Economic Development Portfolio Holder thanked the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel for their consideration of the matter and their support.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive had considered the reference from the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel and thanked the Panel for their support.

Reasons for Decision

To respond to a reference from the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel

**EX.093/11 REFERENCE FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE – IFRS
RESTATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute AUC.42/11, consideration was given to a reference from the Audit Committee following their consideration of the Audit Commission's report on the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Restatement of 2009/10 Accounts for Carlisle City Council.

The Audit Committee had resolved:

"(1) That the Audit Committee recognised the considerable amount of work which had been undertaken in relation to the restatement of the 2009/10 Accounts and thanked the Audit Commission and Officers for their input.

(2) That the Audit Committee wished to draw the Executive's attention to the issue of Leases and, in particular, the importance for the Council of ensuring that leases were correctly classified in the future."

A copy of the Minute Excerpt and Report had been circulated.

In response, the Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder welcomed the Committee's sentiments set out in recommendation (1) above. He further confirmed that the Executive was happy to take on board the issues identified within the Audit Commission's report in relation to Leases and the need to ensure that Leases were correctly classified in the future.

The Leader added that investigations would be carried out on that latter point.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

(1) That the Executive welcomed the Audit Committee's recognition of the work undertaken by the Audit Commission and Officers of the City Council in relation to the restatement of the 2009/10 Accounts.

(2) That the Executive would investigate the issues identified within the Audit Commission's report in relation to Leases and particularly the need to ensure that Leases were correctly classified in the future.

Reasons for Decision

To respond to a reference from the Audit Committee

**EX.094/11 CAPITAL PROJECT – WILLOWHOLME INDUSTRIAL
ESTATE**
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Environment and Housing

Subject Matter

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) submitted report LE.15/11 reminding Members that, following the Carlisle floods of 2005, funding was set aside from the Capital Budget to enhance Willowholme Industrial Estate. The estate and its tenants had been badly affected by the flooding and a package

of measures was agreed in consultation with the tenants on the Industrial Estate.

Many of the works (which included upgrading of the street lighting, repairs to fences, drainage improvements and enhanced signage) were completed soon thereafter; however the reconstruction of the un-adopted section of road was delayed until after the other major infrastructure improvements were completed to sewers and flood walls.

The Assistant Director (Local Environment) reported that, although the road reconstruction had now been completed on Willowholme Road, work remained to be undertaken on Mill Race Road. Accordingly she requested the release of £26,133 from the Industrial Estates Capital Fund to cover the additional costs incurred in disposing of contaminated material found during work on Willowholme Road. She added that the funding would enable work on Mill Race Road to be completed and the roads to then be submitted for adoption by Cumbria County Council.

The Economic Development Portfolio Holder emphasised the very positive feedback received from businesses on the Willowholme Industrial Estate in relation to the work undertaken.

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder then moved the Assistant Director's recommendation.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive approved the release of £26,133 from the Industrial Estates Capital Budget to fund the additional costs incurred in disposing of contaminated ash as detailed within Report LE.15/11.

Reasons for Decision

Completion of the proposed works would enable the City Council to pass responsibility for maintaining the road to the County Council

EX.095/11 CAPITAL PROJECTS TASK AND FINISH GROUP
(Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

There was submitted the final report of the Capital Projects Task and Finish Group (OS.19/11) which had been endorsed by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 16 June 2011. The Panel supported the recommendations of the Task Group, namely:

1. The proposed major development and sale of land at the site at the top of Wigton Road should be done in such a way to maximise revenue for the long term.
2. That full consideration to social accountability and consequences for the local community be given when progressing with the Asset Management Plan.
3. That the allocation of capital funding for specific projects should only be made after a full, detailed and rigorous examination of each project, its time scale, value for money and longer term revenue implications are examined.
4. That the development of a long term Capital Programme should seek political consensus and full public consultation when this programme is drawn up and when it is being reviewed. This would facilitate an agreed longer term vision and economic plan for the future of Carlisle.
5. That land and other assets listed on the Council's Asset Register should be sold off, if not an integral part of the Council's subsequent economic strategy. Particularly for the improvement of the City's industrial estates for the longer term creation of jobs and economic prosperity. That where possible, brown field sites in the City's ownership which are suitable for future affordable housing should be designated and where possible the planning permission process brought forward to facilitate such development should funding be available in the near future.

An excerpt from the Minutes of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 16 June 2011 (ROSP.36/11) was also submitted for information.

The Chairman of the Task and Finish Group presented their final report, He paid tribute to the first class help and assistance provided by Officers and also thanked the Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder for his support.

The Chairman outlined the Task Group's concerns and recommendations commenting that, following reassurance provided, Members now believed that a robust process was in place to drive the capital programme and they were happy with that. He added that it would in future be helpful if a city-wide, as well as a political, consensus could be brought forward in the development of a long term Capital Programme. In conclusion, he reported that Members of the Task Group had expressed a particular interest in the Morton Site.

In response, the Leader clarified that Capital Projects and Asset Management were in fact two different projects. The Executive was content with the work already being undertaken by the Capital Projects Board (chaired by the Deputy Chief Executive) in profiling capital projects. He added that the capital programme was part of the budget process.

The Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder thanked the Chairman of the Task and Finish Group for the report. He said that the Executive would consider the recommendations with a view to identifying the best way forward

for the long term benefit of the people of Carlisle. A more detailed response and open debate on the recommendations could take place at the next meeting of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 25 August 2011.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive had considered the final report of the Capital Projects Task and Finish Group and would respond in detail at the next meeting of the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 25 August 2011.

Reasons for Decision

To respond to recommendations of the Capital Projects Task and Finish Group

EX.096/11 CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Environment and Housing

Subject Matter

The Minutes of the meeting of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership held on 30 March 2011 were submitted for information.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership held on 30 March 2011 be received.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

EX.097/11 JOINT MANAGEMENT TEAM MINUTES (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Various

Subject Matter

The Minutes of the meetings of the Joint Management Team held on 28 April and 26 May 2011 were submitted for information.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Joint Management Team held on 28 April and 26 May 2011, attached as Appendix B, be received.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

LEADER'S COMMENTS

The Leader stated that this was the last scheduled meeting of the Executive at which the Town Clerk and Chief Executive would be present.

On behalf of the Executive, he wished to place on record Members' thanks and appreciation for the support and assistance provided by her, and their best wishes for the future.

(The meeting ended at 12.32 pm)