



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DECISIONS NOTICE

The following decisions were taken in the week ending 13 January 2006 and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Monday 23 January 2006. A decision may be called in, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure contained within Part 4 of the Constitution, by Councillors submitting a request in writing to Democratic Services (e-mail: democratic.services @stedsbcc.gov.uk) by 5 p.m. on Friday 21 January 2006.

A. DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET – WEEK ENDING 11 January 2006

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
5	Treasury Management Report: 1 April to 30 November 2005	W497	(1) The information on the Treasury Management function during the period April to November 2005 be noted; and (2) an amendment to the investment agreement with Invesco allowing the use of the AIM Money Market Fund provided the Fund retains an AAA credit rating be agreed.	It is estimated that in 2005/2006 Treasury Management activities will generate income of approximately £3,565,000 which is equivalent to £98.56 per Band D property.	To inform Members of the outcome of Treasury Management activities in the period April to November 2005 and to approve an amendment to the investment agreement.	Not allow Invesco to use the AIM Money Market Fund.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) John Hannah (01284-757262)
6	Calculating the Tax Base for Council Tax: 2006/2007 (Jan06/01)	W498	In accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Calculation of the Tax Base) Regulations 1992:- (i) the method of calculating the Council Tax Base for the Borough Council and for the parish areas for 2006/2007, as detailed in Report W498, be approved and adopted;	The increase in the tax base means that Suffolk County Council and the Borough Council should receive additional income in 2006/2007 for the same Council Tax rate. For	The Council Tax base represents the adjusted number of Band D properties in the Borough calculated by a prescribed and approved method.	None, as the methodology is prescribed however, there are variable factors associated with the adjusted numbers of Band D equivalent property:- (1) the number of new properties; (2) disabled relief; (3) single person discount;	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Graham Moore (01284-757252)

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			<p>(ii) based on the calculation methods adopted above, the Council Tax Base for the Borough Council for the financial year 2006/2007 be 36,440.69 Band D equivalent properties, as at November 2005, comprising the individual property totals of the parish areas listed in Appendix A to Report W498; and</p> <p>(iii) the first payment day of the month be brought forward, in accordance with best practice, to the first day of the month for both Council Tax and Business Rates with effect from 1 April 2006.</p>	<p>example, the Borough Council's tax levy of £156.15 for a Band D property in 2005/2006 would raise an additional £47,200 in 2006/2007 compared to 2005/2006. All things being equal, this would benefit existing tax payers. However, for existing tax payers there is also some detriment caused by the increase in the tax base. For example, if Government grant remains static the same amount of grant is based over a great number of properties. In this case the Council Tax would be forced to rise to maintain the same level of income per dwelling.</p>		<p>(4) exempt properties; and (5) the collection rate.</p>	
7	Council Tax: Schedule of Payments Dates from the	W499	(1) The schedule of payment dates shown in Appendix 1 to Report W499 be adopted for 2006/2007 for use in	There are no resource implications provided that the	The scheduling of the dates is agreed between Suffolk County Council, the Policy Authority and the	Options were considered during consultation with other local authorities within Suffolk.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)

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	Collection Fund (Jan06/02)		connection with demands on the collection fund for the Borough Council, Suffolk County Council and the Police Authority; (2) payments to Parish and Town Council's be made in accordance with the prescribed regulations; and (3) delegated authority be given to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, to agree and set the payment dates from the collection fund for future years.	Council Tax is collected in advance or at least on time to make the monthly payments to the precepting authorities.	billing authorities in Suffolk.		Graham Moore (01284-757252)
9	Grant Panel: Recommendations from 19 December 2005 and 5 January 2006 (Jan06/10)	W501	Subject to final approval of the 2006/2007 budget that the following awards be made in respect of the 2006/2007 financial year:- Applications for Project Funding: 2005/2006 (1) £1,500 be awarded to Thurlow Sports Club; and (2) £3,500 be awarded to Fornham St Martin Playing Field Management Committee. Grants to Voluntary Organisations: 2006/2007 (1) That the following grants be awarded for 2006/2007:- • Community Centres - £39,900	The grants awarded are for the 2006/2007 financial year and will be made from approved budgets.	The grant applications had been assessed in accordance with the Borough Council's Grant Policy. The Organisations undertook activities that supported the Borough Council's corporate objectives.	As part of the assessment process there are the options of:- (1) meeting the grant request in full; (2) meeting part of the grant requested; and (3) not awarding a grant.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Mike Dawson (01284-757060)

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts Grants - £4,000 • The Salvation Army - £6,700 • Bury St Edmunds Volunteer Centre - £7,500 • 3CT's - £2,500 • Bury St Edmunds YMCA - £5,000 • Haverhill and District Volunteer Centre - £12,500 • Relate - £7,000 • Gatehouse - £4,000 • Haverhill Advocacy & Mentoring Service - £5,010 • Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery - £36,300 • Bury St Edmunds CAB Lodgers Scheme - £1,000 • Haverhill & District CAB: Core Funding - £107,700 • Bury St Edmunds CAB: Core Funding - £93,690 • Haverhill Association for Voluntary Organisations - £5,000 <p>(2) That no award be made for 2006/2007 to the following organisations:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Suffolk Victim Support; • Rethink Disability OPTUA; • West Suffolk Mind: Emergency Gap Funding; • West Suffolk Mind: Core Funding; • Suffolk Connect; and • CSV Media Action Desk and BBC Radio Suffolk. 				

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			<p>(3) Further information be presented to the next meeting of the Panel in respect of the Haverhill and District Citizens' Advice Bureau Lodging Scheme.</p> <p>Grants to Anglia in Bloom Groups</p> <p>That:-</p> <p>(1) the existing support arrangements for Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill in Bloom organisations remain unchanged, subject to future DR-IVE and service reviews;</p> <p>(2) a grant scheme should be established for the rural "In Bloom" groups in the St Edmundsbury Borough Council district in accordance with the proposals in Section 4 of Report W475;</p> <p>(3) Clare in Bloom be awarded a grant of £5,400 and Cavendish in Colour £1,000 for 2006/2007;</p> <p>(4) a letter be sent to Cavendish and Clare Parish Councils notifying them that the Borough Council's budget for contributing to the "In Bloom" competition was cash limited and, therefore, in future years the Borough Council's contribution could reduce dependent on the</p>				

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		W518	<p>applications received; and (5) a letter be sent to Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill Town Councils suggesting that the work undertaken in respect of the "In Bloom" competition should be subject to a partnership arrangement.</p> <p>Haverhill and District Citizens' Advice Bureau: Lodging Scheme</p> <p>That a grant of £1,000 be awarded to the Haverhill and District Citizens' Advice Bureau Lodging Scheme for 2006/2007.</p> <p>Haverhill Arts Centre: Grant 2006/2007</p> <p>That, subject to Cabinet approval and approval of the final budget process:- (1) a grant of £286,278 for 2006/2007 be offered to the Haverhill Town Council to operate the Haverhill Town Hall Arts Centre and provide an arts and entertainment programme, in accordance with Option (d) of Report W486; (2) officers enter into discussions with Haverhill Town Council and the Town Hall Arts Centre Charity to</p>	The grants awarded are for the 2006/2007 financial year and will be made from approved budgets.	The grant applications had been assessed in accordance with the Borough Council's Grant Policy. The Organisations undertook activities that supported the Borough Council's corporate objectives.	As part of the assessment process there are the options of:- (1) meeting the grant request in full; (2) meeting part of the grant requested; and (3) not awarding a grant.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Mike Dawson (01284-757060)

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			<p>agree a 5 year funding package, which will seek to utilise alternative funding sources and deliver a year on year reduction in the level of support required from St Edmundsbury;</p> <p>(3) details of the attendance figures and financial performance of the Town Hall Arts Centre in 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 be provided to an appropriate meeting of the Panel as part of the consideration of any future funding arrangements; and</p> <p>(4) as a condition of the grant, Haverhill Town Council be requested to provide accounts for the Town Hall Arts Centre as a separate entity to the Town Council in a format required by the Borough Council.</p>				
10a	Dynamic Review – Innovation, Value and Enterprise (DR-IVE) 2 Final Report (Jan06/04/07)	W502	The recommendations from the Policy Development Committee, as listed in Report W502 and updated in the addendum to W502 circulated at the meeting, be considered in detail at the Cabinet's budget setting meeting.	The Cabinet will make its final decisions as to recommendations to full Council for the 2006/2007 and subsequent years budgets at their February 2006 meeting.	As Part of the DR-IVE process the Policy Development Committee make recommendations on the budgets for consideration by the Cabinet and this was the final report for Committee. The Cabinet is required to make its final recommendations to full Council prior to the budget setting meeting on 23 February 2006.	Options were considered by the Policy Development Committee and the Cabinet and will have to balance the recommendations against the corporate plan priorities and the administrations' commitments.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Adriana Stapleton (01284-757613)

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10b	Scrutiny of new budget and service plan proposals (Jan06/04/07)	W487 (Policy Development Committee)	That the recommendations of the Policy Development Committee in respect of a framework for the Cabinet's own assessment of new budget and service plan proposals as detailed in Report W487 be approved.	The Cabinet will make its final decisions as to recommendations to full Council for the 2006/2007 and subsequent years budgets at their February 2006 meeting.	As part of the budgetary process the Policy Development Committee make recommendations on the budget for consideration by the Cabinet and this was the final report for Committee. The Cabinet are required to make its final recommendations to full Council prior to the budget setting meeting on 23 February 2006.	Options were considered by the Policy Development Committee and the Cabinet will have to balance the recommendations against the corporate plan priorities and the administration's commitments.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Adriana Stapleton (01284-757613)
11	Public Service Village Working Party (Jan06/05)	W505	Subject to the approval of full Council:- Public Service Village: Outline Business Case (a) the procurement of new offices for St Edmundsbury Borough Council be undertaken at Western Way, Bury St Edmunds in accordance with the Outline Business Case and incorporating the outcomes of the Service Delivery Review process; (b) in order to facilitate Suffolk County Council relocating to Western Way, either by co-location or integration as appropriate, the options including potential income for land ownership be explored and reported back to	As discussed by the Public Service Village Working Party.	As discussed by the Public Service Village Working Party.	The Working Party considered various options prior to reaching the recommendations.	Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258) Ivan Sams (01284-757304)

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			<p>the Public Service Village Working Party;</p> <p>(c) all necessary approvals be obtained, including planning consent, co-ordinating with other neighbouring developments' proposals (including West Suffolk College, Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre and the NHS Logistics Building) and as appropriate, the production of an Environmental Impact Assessment and Master Planning;</p> <p>(d) a Travel Plan be prepared and arrangements identified for its implementation;</p> <p>(e) alternative locations for depots be identified, working in partnership with other Local Authorities;</p> <p>(f) in consultation, alternative locations for Skateboard Parks be identified in due course and the Skateboarding Panel be asked to identify appropriate sites;</p> <p>(g) the governance arrangements contained in Report W458, as considered at the meeting of the Public Service Village Working Party on 12 December 2005 be adopted;</p> <p>(h) a Project Manager be appointed; and</p> <p>(i) additional public sector</p>				

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			partners be engaged at Chief Executive level.				
13	Recommendations from Joint Staff Consultative Panel: 25 October 2005	agenda item 13	(1) the Homeworking Policy as detailed in Appendix A to Report W328 be adopted; and (2) the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Performance and Organisational Development, be authorised to make any minor amendments to the policy prior to publication.	As discussed by the Joint Staff Consultative Panel and included within the Homeworking Policy where necessary.	To implement a Homeworking Policy. The policy would help towards improving worklife balance for employees.	Not to implement a Homeworking Policy.	Jeff Stevens (01440-762511) Louise Hammond (01284-757008)
14	Olympic Games 2012 (Jan06/06)	W506	That the Borough Council commits to contribute to, and seek benefits for the Borough from the Olympic Games in 2012 in principle, and in particular that:- (i) an Olympic Working Party of Members be established through the widening of the remit of the current Leisure Centres Liaison Group; (ii) in principle, approval be given to form a St Edmundsbury Olympic Partnership Group when appropriate, open to voluntary, public, private and other external bodies; (iii) the Cabinet appoints the Portfolio Holder responsible for Sport and the Head of Leisure Services as the Member and officer	The main resource implication at present is officer time and therefore there is no financial cost to the Council at this stage. As the project develops, any funding proposals would be subject to the budget setting process.	The recommendations are to provide an early indication of the situation regarding the games and St Edmundsbury. Guidance from LOCOG at this time is to begin building partnerships but not begin detailed planning work.	Various options available are still under consideration, however, if the Borough Council wishes to contribute and benefit from the Olympics, it is important to begin planning at an early stage.	Terry Clements (01284-827161) Neil Anthony (01284-757064)

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			<p>'champions' for preparations for the Olympic Games respectively;</p> <p>(iv) officers undertake a full review of sports development and links to the opportunities from the Olympics, in partnership with Abbeycroft Leisure and other sports organisations;</p> <p>(v) plans be developed with partners to identify and support individuals with talent in the Borough who could potentially compete in the British team in 2012;</p> <p>(vi) plans be developed to support individuals amongst Borough Council staff with the potential to compete internationally in 2012; and</p> <p>(vii) the Borough Council to fully engage with young people in preparations for the Olympics in 2012, through the work of the new Olympic Working Party.</p>				
15	Tackling Racial Harassment: Continuation of Funding	agenda item 15	The development of a three year Service Level Agreement with the Racial Harassment Initiative and a commitment to fund £3,500 per year from the Community Safety Budget for 2006-2009 from within existing budgets be approved.	The Borough Council currently funds £3,363 from the Community Safety Budget.	The Racial Harassment Initiative are seeking to put in place a three year Service Level Agreement with partners with the aim of establishing a structured framework across the service. The RHI is therefore seeking a total contribution of £10,500 for a three year Service Level	To withdraw from supporting the casework Officer under the Racial Harassment Initiative.	Frank Warby (01284-700678) Carole Herries (01284-757603)

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					Agreement.		
16	Recommendations of Policy Development Committee: Community Centres	W507	The scope of the review of Borough Council owned Community Centres, as set out in Report W490, be endorsed.	None at present. The review will identify these and report back to Cabinet.	To set the scope of the review prior to commencement.	To not undertake the review or amend the scope prior to commencement.	Frank Warby (01284-700678) Carole Herries (01284-757603)
17	Recommendations of Policy Development Committee: Policy on Housing Benefit Overpayment (Jan06/08)	W508	Options 1-4 in Section B of Report W508 be added to the existing policy for the recovery of overpaid Housing Benefit.	Each option would have different implications and would be specific to individual cases. However, all approaches are intended to recover overpaid benefit on behalf of the taxpayer.	To improve the recovery process of overpaid Housing Benefit.	To leave the system as it is or recommend other options for recovery.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Ann Parry-Jones (01284-757255)
18	Leisure Centres Liaison Group (Jan06/12)	W509	Abbeycroft Leisure: Charity Commission Application That the proposed Object Clauses 3(c) and 3 (d) be removed from the application to the Charity Commission to enable the application to register Abbeycroft Leisure as a Charity to be progressed.	As discussed by the Leisure Centre Liaison Group.	To progress the Charity Commission application regarding Abbeycroft Leisure.	Various options were considered by the Leisure Centres Liaison Group	Terry Clements (01284-827161) Neil Anthony (01284-757064)
19	Waste Management Options for Local Authority Statutory Performance Standards on Recycling and Composting in	W510	(1) the consultation paper on the Options for Local Authority Statutory Performance Standards on Recycling and Composting in 2007/2008 be noted; (2) the Department of the Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) be advised that the	The resources implications are not known until new targets are set.	As a high performing Council, it is in the interest of the authority to lobby the Department of Food and Rural Affairs to set challenging targets to ensure the continued success of the Suffolk Partnership.	Given the high level of performance achieved by St Edmundsbury the subject is one of importance. It is considered however that the response would be strengthened by a joint submission from the	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763) Sandra Pell (01284-757300)

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	2007/2008 (Jan06/16)		Borough Council, as part of the Suffolk Waste Partnership, has concerns as outlined in paragraph 3.4 of Report W510; and (3) the views as outlined in Appendix 1 to Report W510 be supported.			Suffolk Waste Partnership.	
21	Car Park Management Services	exempt W512	The exempt recommendation be approved.	None at present.	To clarify the Borough Council's position regarding Car Park Management Services.	To progress as detailed in exempt Report W512.	Terry Clements (01284-827161) Jerry Massey (01284-757302)
22a	Car Parking Working Party Minutes: 1 November 2005 (Jan06/09)	W513	Car Park to the rear of 1-5 High Street, Haverhill (1) the Borough Council enter into an agreement to take over the management of the car park at the rear of 1-5 High Street, Haverhill; (2) the charging tariff, as set out in paragraph 3.2 of Report W359 (and increased in accordance with the Lower Downs Slade car park) be agreed; and (3) £10,000 capital cost be funded from a virement from the existing car parking income.	As discussed by the Car Parking Working Party.	To progress management options regarding the car park to the rear of 1-5 High Street, Haverhill.	The Car Parking Working Party considered various options.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763) Jerry Massey (01284-757302)
22b	Car Parking Working Party Recommendations : 20 December 2005 (Jan06/09)	W514	Decriminalised Parking Enforcement The officers prepare a business case to inform a decision by Members as to whether or not a	As discussed by the Car Parking Working Party and Policy Development Committee.	To progress the investigations into decriminalised parking enforcement.	Various options are being investigated regarding the decriminalised parking enforcement and whether a scheme should be introduced.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763) Jerry Massey (01284-757302)

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			Decriminalised Parking Enforcement scheme should be established for St Edmundsbury.				
23	Cattle Market Redevelopment Working Party (Jan06/03)	W515	<p>Project schedule update</p> <p>That the Project Schedule Report as detailed in Appendix A to Report W433 be endorsed.</p> <p>Discharge of Planning Conditions</p> <p>That the schedule for consideration of planning conditions attached as Appendix A to Report W434 be endorsed.</p> <p>Procurement Update</p> <p>That the current procurement arrangements for the Cattle Market project be endorsed.</p>	As discussed by the Cattle Market Redevelopment Working Party.	To ensure the redevelopment of the Cattle Market site progress on schedule.	The Cattle Market Redevelopment Working Party considered various options.	<p>John Griffiths (01284-757136)</p> <p>Jerry Massey (01284-757302)</p>

Joy Bowes, Head of Legal and Democratic Services
13 January 2006