



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DECISIONS NOTICE

The following decisions were taken in the week ending 26 May 2006 and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Tuesday 6 June 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 Monday 5 June 2006.

A. DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET ON 24 MAY 2006

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
6	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Council Improvement Plan (Jun06/03)	X6	(1) That the draft Council Improvement Plan for 2006/2007 as set out in Report W701 be approved. (2) that the Independent Remuneration Panel be asked to consider how it might encourage greater attendance of Members at training sessions.	None. The process is intended to improve value for money for tax payers.	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee monitors progress against the Council's Improvement Plan and updates where necessary.	To not update the plan. However amendments and improvement are ongoing.	Jeff Stevens (01440) 762511 Adriana Stapleton (01284) 757613
7	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: The Committee's Audit Responsibilities	W7	(1) That, subject to the approval of full Council, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be given authority to take on the enhanced audit responsibilities set out in Report W703, and that the Constitution be amended to reflect the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix A to that report.	There are no direct financial implications from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviewing their audit responsibilities.	The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has responsibility for the Council's audit function and reviewed the best process to be followed.	Four options were considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:- (1) to have a separate Audit Committee; (2) to have an Audit Panel of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; (3) to enhance the current audit responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny	Sara Mildmay-White (01359) 270580 Adriana Stapleton (01284) 757613

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			(2) that the training needs of Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be reviewed to ensure they are able to carry out these audit responsibilities. (3) that audit reports be written in plain English as far as regulations allow.			Committee; or (4) not to change.	
8	Asset Management Plan: Houses (Jun06/02)	X8	Subject to the exclusion of the final property listed, the proposals identified in Exempt Appendix 3 to Report X8, which relate to individual assets, be approved.	Some of the proposals recommended for individual houses will have effects on income streams but the potential loss of income from the commercial rent role is de minimis. In all cases, the interest invested from the sales is far in excess of the current rental income from the sold assets.	To make better use of property resources, in accordance with good asset management planning.	The process for assessing the houses includes option appraisals. The agreed options are retain, to consider the visibility of alternative uses or with partners, to better meet the Council's property objectives, or to sell and reallocate capital to better achieve corporate objectives.	Nigel Aitkens (01284) 735258 Betty Albon (01284) 757307
9	Annual Review and Appointment of Cabinet Working Party and Panels	X9	On the basis set out in Paper X9: (a) The Public Service Village Working Party be disbanded; (b) It be recommended to full Council that a Sustainable Development Panel replace the Planning Policy Panel; (c) the Leisure Centre Liaison Group be replaced by a Leisure Development and	There are no direct financial implications in reappointing the Cabinet's Working Party and Panels.	The Cabinet appoints Working Party and Panels to undertake detailed work in respect of specific issues and to report back to the Cabinet.	To disband, merge or adapt some of the Working Party/Panels, or to retain the existing structure.	John Griffiths (01284) 757136 Steven Lincoln (01284) 757108

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			Olympic 2012 Panel; and (d) subject to satisfactory consultation the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to amalgamate the Joint Staff Consultative and Central Safety Panels.				
10	Council Tax Benefit Overpayment – Proposed Write-Off	X10	One Council Tax Benefit totalling £817.36 as detailed in exempt Appendix 1 to Paper X10 be approved for write-off.	A total of £817.36 be written off.	The reasons for the decisions were contained within exempt Appendix 1 to Report X10.	Not to write-off these debts at this stage was not considered an option.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359) 270580 Graham Moore (01284) 757252

Joy Bowes, Head of Legal and Democratic Services
26 May 2006