



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DECISIONS NOTICE

The following decisions were taken in the week ending 23 June 2006 and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Monday 3 July 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@stedsbc.gov.uk) by 5 p.m. on Friday 30 June 2006.

A. DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET ON 21 JUNE 2006

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
4	Haverhill Masterplan – New Proposals (Jun06/18)	X46	Subject to full Council approval and to the scheme obtaining the consent of the Cinema Operator's Board:- (a) up to £6.0 million be invested from capital reserves in order to forward fund the construction of a cinema with up to four restaurants and/or associated retail; (b) £2.5 million be invested from the fund established for delivering the Haverhill Masterplan, to be used as a capital contribution for the cinema; (c) an estimated £750,000 be invested from the fund established for delivering the Haverhill Masterplan, to be used for environmental	Details of the capital investment and the expected return are included in Exempt Appendix 3 to Report X46. £750,000 will also be required from the Haverhill Masterplan fund; £500,000 to cover additional parking and access improvements and £250,000 to enhance the front of the Leisure Centre to create a new civic square.	Report X46 outlined a proposal to develop a cinema, three restaurants and one shop adjacent to the Haverhill Leisure Centre. The provision of such facilities has been included within the Haverhill Masterplan and, due to market forces, the proposed cinema operator would require a capital contribution for fit out which could be met from the Haverhill Masterplan Capital Allocation.	Various options were considered including the use of another operator or another developer with alternative methods of procurement.	John Griffiths (01284-757136) Mike Dawson (01284-757060)

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			<p>enhancements and additional car parking; (d) the Council enter into a development agreement with the developer to deliver the project; and (e) Cabinet note that there will be an exemption from tendering procedures under 2.2.(i) of the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules on the grounds that the exemption is justified as a matter of urgency, where following the rules would result in an unreasonable delay.</p>				
5	Report from the Policy Development Committee Meeting – 31 May 2006	X47	<p>Minutes of the Service Delivery Review Panel held on 1 February 2006</p> <p>The process for deciding on the location of a One-Stop-Shop or face-to-face contact centre for Bury St Edmunds, as detailed in the flow chart attached as Appendix 1 to Report W544, be approved.</p> <p>Diversity Group: Progress made in 2005/2006 and new Equality Action Plan for 2006/2007</p> <p>The Equality Action Plan for 2006/2007, as set out in Appendix 2 to Report X18, be approved.</p>	<p>The Service Delivery Review Panel will consider any financial implications arising from the locations of a One-Stop-Shop within Bury St Edmunds. There are no financial implications arising from the approval of the Equality Action Plan.</p>	<p>To progress a recommendation from the Service Delivery Review Panel to ensure the correct process is followed for deciding where to locate the One-Stop-Shop and to implement a recommendation, via the Policy Development Committee, from the Diversity Group.</p>	<p>To not approve the process undertaken for the location of a One-Stop-Shop and to not approve the Equality Action Plan.</p>	<p>Gerry Kiernan (01440-705135)</p> <p>Adriana Stapleton (01284-757613)</p>

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7	Annual Report of the Cabinet 2005/2006 and Cabinet Priorities for 2006/2007	X49	The Annual Report of the Cabinet for 2005/2006 and priorities for 2006/2007 as detailed in Report X49 be approved.	The financial implications will be recorded in the approved budgets for the relevant financial years.	The Council's Constitution requires that the Cabinet produce an Annual Report and good management practice requires forward planning to be undertaken.	Numerous options were considered with regard to the determination of commitments for future years.	John Griffiths (01284-757136) Deborah Cadman (01284-757001)
8	Report of the Policy Development Committee: Annual Reporting and Corporate Planning (Jun06/15)	X50	Subject to approval by full Council:- (1) subject to any amendments requested by councillors, the draft Corporate Plan for 2006-2016, as set out in Paper X50, be approved; (2) in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder for Performance and Organisational Development, the Chief Executive be authorised to make any minor changes required to the draft Plan prior to its publication; (3) subject to any minor changes by officers to reflect outstanding data, publication of the Best Value Performance Plan 2005/06 (as set out in Paper X50) as an annex to the Corporate Plan be approved; and (4) the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, as part of its scheduled work programme, be asked to examine the performance information contained in the plan against the national data which is due to be published	The Corporate Planning Cycle itself is used to guide financial planning systems. However, there are no resources implications arising directly from the report as preparing the Corporate Plan and Service Plans are existing activities.	The Corporate Planning and Performance Framework is reviewed every year and is monitored by the Policy Development Committee. The Corporate Plan had been updated to reflect the changes with the local area agreements, Community Strategy and Council Improvement Plan. Adoption of the Best Value Performance Plan is a statutory requirement.	Annual review and adoption of the Plans is required.	Jeff Stevens (01440-762511) Alex Wilson (01284-757002)

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			in December 2006 or January 2007.				
9	Suffolk Local Area Agreement	X51	(1) The latest position in relation to the development and implementation of the Suffolk Local Area Agreement (LAA) be noted; and (2) the Constitution be agreed and the Leader (or his substitute) be authorised to sign the document on behalf of the Council at the Accountable Bodies Group meeting on 30 June 2006.	The LAA includes pooled resources which are allocated to support the achievement of the targets. St Edmundsbury has not pooled any of its core funding but much of the Council's work contributes directly to the LAA. In addition, there is substantial government grant to support and reward the achievement of LAA targets.	The Suffolk Local Area Agreement (LAA) sets out priority outcomes and targets which have been agreed between local and central government. The Agreement runs from 2005 until 2008 and St Edmundsbury has been asked to sign up to the LAA Constitution at the meeting of the Accountable Bodies Group on 30 June. Therefore, Cabinet was asked to agree the Constitution document and instruct the Leader, or his substitute to sign the document on behalf of the Council.	Local Area Agreements are developed on a county basis so it would not be possible to prepare a more local LAA. The only other option would be to choose not to sign up to the Constitution.	John Griffiths (01284-757136) Deborah Cadman (01284-757001)
10	Guildhall, 79 Whiting Street and Moyses Hall	X52	Subject to confirmation of the Council's ownership of part of Moyses Hall:- (a) as the Feoffees' legal ownership of the Guildhall and 79 Whiting Street has been affirmed in principle by a Land Registry application, and that the Council merely has onerous repairing obligations associated with maintaining a Grade 1 listed Building, with no prospect of capital appreciation for the asset, the buildings be surrendered immediately; and	The five year anticipated savings on planned maintenance for the Guildhall is an average of £41,000 per annum, together with savings of running costs is estimated at £57,000 which is the equivalent to £1.56 per Band D Tax Payer. The saving of Council	Report X52 outlined the proposal to surrender the Guildhall and 79 Whiting Street to the Guildhall Feoffment Trust, from whom the properties were received, under a Charity Commission scheme of 1894. Upon surrender, the Council's obligation to maintain and manage the Guildhall and 79 Whiting Street would cease. In return, the Council will take a long lease at a peppercorn rent of the	Given in principle confirmation of the legal ownership of both the Guildhall and 79 Whiting Street by the Land Registry, and the costs of challenging this registration, the only prudent option would be to relinquish their use.	Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258) Ivan Sams (01284-757304)

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			(b) concurrent with this, a long lease at a peppercorn rent be entered into with the Feoffees for the proportion of Moyses Hall Museum, not already in the Council's ownership.	Tax on 79 Whiting Street is equivalent to a further 0.04 pence for a Band D Tax Payer.	50% of Moyses Hall not already owned by the Council.		
11	Asset Management Plan and Capital Strategy – Performance Management and Implementation Plans (Jun06/07)	X53	(a) The outcomes and performance of the Asset Management Plan and Implementation Programmes 2005/2006 be noted; (b) the Implementation Programmes 2006/2007 be approved; (c) the performance against the national property Performance Indicators (pPIS) be noted; (d) the Asset Management Plan Action Plan 2006 be approved; and (e) the additional planned maintenance sum already approved be reconsidered for inclusion within the 2007/2008 budget setting process.	Resources implications will be considered in detail as part of the assessment process for individual buildings.	Practical adoption of the Asset Management Action Plan will facilitate the Council achieving the identified strategic aims. Reporting to Members on performance, and agreeing the action plan are integral parts of the Assessment Management Plan and reflect the corporate and property goals of the Council.	The Assessment Management Action Plan is based on considering options for holding the Council's Property Portfolio. The Council has adopted the assessment processes for its non-operational portfolio which require each property to be assessed in terms of financial return, service return and value for money.	Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258) Betty Albon (01284-757307)
12	Recommendations from the Grant Panel (Jun06/13)	X54	Applications for Project Funding: 2006/2007 That the following awards be made in respect of the 2006/2007 financial year:- (a) Art Grants (1) £3,000 be awarded to the Eastern Orchestral Board to promote cultural and	As discussed by the Grant Panel.	To approve recommendations made by the Grant Panel.	The Grant Panel considered each application individually.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Mike Dawson (01284-757060)

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			<p>musical learning for the very young and their parents, £2,500 being funded from the amount brought forward from 2005/2006 and £500 allocated from the 2006/2007 budget; and (2) the Panel receives a report at the end of this project.</p> <p>(b) Recreations, Village Halls and Play Areas Grants</p> <p>(1) £1,921 be awarded to Ickworth Park Children's Centre, subject to the equivalent being raised as match funding and subject to ascertaining the VAT position; (2) a grant of £8,500 be awarded to Kedington Parish Council towards the new play area; and (3) £500 be awarded to Coney Weston Parish Council towards the play area and goal posts, subject to the Parish Council being advised that be required matching funds.</p> <p>Application for Funding: Quaker Meeting House, Bury St Edmunds</p> <p>That a grant of £15,000 be approved from the Home</p>				

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			<p>Improvement Grant budget towards phase two of the refurbishment of the Quaker Meeting House in Bury St Edmunds.</p> <p>Councillor Representation and Evaluation and Monitoring of Grants Awarded by the Grant Panel</p> <p>(1) Councillor representation on an organisation's board of management or equivalent, for the purposes of monitoring core funding grants be not pursued further;</p> <p>(2) there be a Service Level Agreement with all core funded organisations, including appropriate performance management conditions, in place prior to the release of the second instalment of the 2006/2007 funding in October 2006;</p> <p>(3) the Grant Panel continue to receive an update from all core funded organisations; and</p> <p>(4) all core funded organisations provide a full financial report at the end of their financial year.</p>				
14	Emergency Panel Recommendations (Jun06/12)	X56	Major Incident and Emergency Response plan: Call Centre	As discussed by the Emergency Panel.	To implement a recommendation from the Emergency Panel	To not update the plan.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-280763)

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			<p>Operations</p> <p>That Annex F, Call Centre Operations, as detailed in Report X40 be adopted for inclusion in the Major Incident and Emergency Response Plan.</p>		regarding the call centre operations section of the Major Incident and Response Plan.		David Bird (01284-757035)
17	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Progress of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-2008	X58	An application to formally merge the partnership between St Edmundsbury CDRP, Forest Heath CDRP and Mid Suffolk CDRP, as set out in Appendix 2 to Report X30, be made to the Secretary of State.	There are no new financial implications on applying to the Secretary of State to formally merge the three CDRPs.	The St Edmundsbury CDRP, Forest Heath CDRP and Mid Suffolk CDRP informally merged 18 months ago and now wish to apply to the Secretary of State to formalise the partnership.	To revert to individual CDRPs or formally apply to the Secretary of State.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-280763) Adriana Stapleton (01284-757613)
18	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Youth Development Work and the Involvement of Young People	X59	That officers investigate the feasibility of facilitating a youth café in the Borough and bring the results back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for further consideration.	At this stage, there are no financial implications arising from the recommendation for officers to investigate the feasibility of a youth café other than officers' time. The Council would seek to draw in external funding for any new facility.	To progress suggestions from the Youth Forum as presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	To not progress ideas and suggestions highlighted by the Youth Forum. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will investigate options for a Youth Café.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Adriana Stapleton (01284-757613)
19	Community Warden Scheme (Jun06/14)	X60	(1) To approve the development of a Suffolk Wide Community Warden Scheme in partnership with the Police, Suffolk County	The Suffolk Street Wardens Scheme is funded by the Suffolk County Council, St	The Suffolk County Council propose to introduce a community warden scheme within Suffolk in partnership with all District	The Borough Council could continue the existing Street Warden Scheme alongside the PCSO's. However, with Waveney District Council	Jeremy Farthing (01440-280763) Carole Herries (01284-757606)

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			Council and the other District Councils in Suffolk; (2) to approve the phasing out of the Bury St Edmunds Street Warden Scheme and replace it with Police Community Support Officers once employed and trained, at the end of January 2007; and (3) the financial saving of £40,000 which the phasing out of this scheme will deliver in 2007/2008 be approved as a Community Directorate DR-IVE saving.	Edmundsbury Borough Council, Bury St Edmunds Town Council and Waveney District Council. Waveney District Council is withdrawing from the partnership and the current management and administration is unsuitable. St Edmundsbury Borough Council had committed £40,000 per year to fund the Street Warden Scheme and, if the Scheme is phased out, and PCSO's introduced, there would be a DR-IVE saving of £40,000 per year from 2007/2008 ongoing.	Councils and the Police. The Community Wardens would be existing staff who would carry out the generic role under the banner of 'Community Wardens'. The report advised on the impact of the scheme and the introduction of the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO's) on the existing Street Wardens Scheme.	pulling out of the scheme, this option is not financially viable.	
20	Decent Homes Grant	X61	The Council's Homes Assistance Policy be amended to include the Decent Homes Grant as detailed in Appendix 1 to paper X61.	The funding would be additional monies from central government to address the decent home target. The demand for the grant would involve additional officer time but it	The Council has been allocated capital funding of £248,157 from the Government's single regional housing pot specifically aimed at increasing the number of vulnerable households living in decent homes. An additional grant (a Decent Homes Grant) as detailed	Consideration was given to the maximum level of grant and whether the grant should be repayable if the property was sold. The maximum level of grant was set to include costs of replacing kitchens or bathrooms should this work be found to be necessary.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763) Richard Whitehead (01284-757037)

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				is considered that this could be accommodated within existing staff resources.	in Appendix 1 to Report X61 is proposed using the allocated funding, in addition to those already available under the existing Homes Assistance Policy.		

Joy Bowes, Head of Legal and Democratic Services
23 June 2006