



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECISIONS NOTICE

The following decisions were taken in the week ending 26 June 2009 and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Monday 6 July 2009. 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@stedsb.gov.uk) by 5 pm on Friday 3 July 2009.

A. DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET ON 24 JUNE 2009

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
4	Haverhill Area Working Party: 6 May 2009 (Jul09/10)	A52	(1) That the offer to applicants of the Queen Street Shop Fronts Grant Scheme of a choice of Option 2 or Option 3 in respect of meeting shopfront design costs, as detailed in Section 3.6 of Report Z687, be approved; (2) subject to the following amendments, precise details of the Scheme, as set out in Appendices A, B, C and D to Report Z687, be approved:- (a) Appendix B: Item 21, to replace reference to 'two local shopfitters' by 'three local shopfitters', and replace reference to 'partnership' by 'partnering arrangement'; (b) Appendix B: Item 31, to insert reference to ensuring	The funding for the Queen Street Shop Front Grant Scheme has already been identified.	To enable eligible applicants to the Scheme to seek funding assistance to improve the aesthetics of their shopfronts in Queen Street, Haverhill.	Options were considered in detail by the Haverhill Area Working Party.	Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258) Mike Dawson (01284-757060)

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			<p>each case would be judged on its own merits; and</p> <p>(c) Appendix C: to insert reference in the application form itself that written proof of permission from the landlord to undertake the works would be provided, if required; and</p> <p>(3) to enable free design work to be offered to applicants as referred to in Option 3 of the Scheme, a working group comprising Councillors Cox, McManus and Mrs Richardson and appropriate officers be established to devise criteria to enable the selection of three local shopfitting companies to work in a partnering arrangement with the Borough Council.</p>				
5	Haverhill Area Working Party: 11 June 2009 (Jul09/10)	A53	<p>Replacement St Edmundsbury Borough Local Plan 2016 – Policy HAV2: Strategic Housing Site North West Haverhill: Approval of Masterplan</p> <p>Subject to the approval of full Council, the Masterplan for the development of North West Haverhill, as contained in Appendix A to Report A35, be adopted as non-statutory planning guidance.</p>	A draft Masterplan was prepared by consultants acting on behalf of the landowners in respect of the land at North West Haverhill.	The Local Plan states that a development cannot proceed for major projects until Masterplans have been adopted.	Options in respect of the detail of the Masterplan were considered by the Haverhill Area Working Party and the Sustainable Development Panel.	<p>Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258)</p> <p>Terry Clements (01284-827161)</p> <p>Chris Rand (01284-757352)</p>

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7	Revising of St Edmundsbury Fuel Poverty Strategy (Jul09/05)	A55	That the draft Affordable Warmth Strategy, as set out in the Appendix to Report A26, be approved for external consultation, and that following consultation the final version of the Strategy be submitted to the Cabinet for adoption.	The Borough Council allocates £4,000 a year for the promotion of energy conservation. Grants are also available to those that meet the eligibility criteria for the Housing Grants Scheme and Warm Front Scheme.	The Borough Council first adopted a Fuel Poverty Strategy in 2002 and it is now necessary to review and revise the Strategy to keep up with changing circumstances.	Not to revise the St Edmundsbury Fuel Poverty Strategy is not considered an option.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Peter Gudde (01284-757042)
8	Equality Action Plan 2008 to 2011: Progress made in 2008/2009 (Jul09/08)	A56	That the amended Equality Action Plan for 2009 onwards, as set out in Appendix 1 to Report A24, be approved.	Reviewing the Equality Action Plan will be undertaken from existing resources.	The Diversity Group, a working group of the Policy Development Committee, had reviewed the progress made since the implementation of the Equality Action Plan in 2008 and had recommended changes to the Plan in light of new legislative requirements detailed in the new Equality Framework, and the Comprehensive Area Assessment and Organisational Assessment.	Options were considered in detail by the Policy Development Committee.	David Ray (01359-250912) Davina Howes (01284-757070)
9	Partnership Strategy (Jul09/11)	A57	That the Partnership Strategy and its toolkits, as set out in the Appendix to Report A25, be adopted for use as a pilot strategy.	Piloting the Partnership Strategy will be undertaken within existing resources.	Further to an internal audit report in completion of the Organisational Assessment, the need for the Borough Council to adopt a Partnership Strategy has become evident. This will help to ensure that the Council's partnerships are formed, monitored and reviewed with the appropriate level of governance arrangements in place to achieve better outcomes.	Not to pilot the Partnership Strategy is not considered an option.	David Ray (01359-250912) Davina Howes (01284-757070)

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11	Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 1 June 2009	A59	<p>Nominations to Suffolk Joint Scrutiny Committees The Cabinet recommends that, full Council appoint the following Members to Suffolk Joint Scrutiny Committees:-</p> <p>(a) Suffolk Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Councillor Beckwith;</p> <p>(b) Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Policy Panel Full Member: Councillor Thorndyke; and Substitute Member: Councillor Oliver;</p> <p>(c) Joint Scrutiny of Flooding and Flood Risk Working Party Councillors Mrs Levack and Price.</p>	There are no direct financial implications in appointing Members to the Suffolk Joint Scrutiny Committees.	The Borough Council already appoints to Suffolk Joint Scrutiny Committees and it is considered beneficial to continue this practice.	Other options were considered in detail by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.	David Lockwood (01638-718002) Adriana Stapleton (01284-757613)
13	Annual Review and Appointment of Working Parties and Panels	A60	<p>(1) Procurement Standards Board That:- (a) the Procurement Standards Board be disbanded; and (b) formal reporting arrangements be made involving the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee as part of its performance management role.</p> <p>(2) Public Service Village (PSV) Councillor Group That the Public Service Village Councillor Group be disbanded at the end of the formal West</p>	Reviewing the Cabinet's Working Parties and Panels was undertaken from within existing resources.	The Cabinet reviews annually its Working Parties and Panels etc. including its Membership and Terms of Reference.	Not to review the Working Parties and Panels is not considered an option.	John Griffiths (01284-757136) Steven Lincoln (01284-757108)

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			<p>Suffolk House project, after receipt of a report on project close-down.</p> <p>(3) Impact Management Group That the Borough Council's Impact Management Group continue but under the aegis of Bury St Edmunds Town Centre Management, as detailed in paragraph 4.3 (c) of Report A60.</p> <p>(4) Sustainable Development Panel That the revised Terms of Reference for the Sustainable Development Panel, attached as Appendix A to Report A60, be approved.</p>				
14	West Suffolk House Joint Committee: 1 May 2009 (Jul09/07)	A61	<p>That:-</p> <p>(1) Councillors Aitkens and Ray be appointed as full Members to the West Suffolk House Joint Committee and;</p> <p>(2) on the nomination of the Leader of the Council, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to appoint two further Members of the Cabinet as Substitute Members to the Joint Committee.</p>	<p>Reviewing the Membership of the West Suffolk House Joint Committee was undertaken from within existing resources.</p>	<p>As the remit for the West Suffolk House Joint Committee was changing now the building programme was virtually complete, it is considered appropriate to consider whether the current Portfolio Holders should continue to sit on the Joint Committee. Whilst the Joint Committee had nominated the current Portfolio Holder for Resources and Efficiency to represent the Borough Council on the Joint Committee, this could potentially cause a conflict of interest following his election to Suffolk County Council on 4 June 2009.</p>	<p>Not to review the Membership of the West Suffolk House Joint Committee is not considered an option.</p>	<p>Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258)</p> <p>Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)</p> <p>Alex Wilson (01284-757695)</p>

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15	Grant Panel: 9 June 2009 (Jul09/09)	A62	<p>Applications for Project Funding: 2009/2010</p> <p>(1) Recreation, Village Hall and Play Scheme Grants:-</p> <p>(a) Hundon Village Hall £8,000 be awarded to Hundon Village Hall and Playing Field Charity towards the cost of refurbishing and refitting the village hall entrance and toilets;</p> <p>(b) Little Teapots Pre-School, Chedburgh £4,000 be awarded to Little Teapots Pre-School, Chedburgh towards the cost of the extension to the school room in Erskine Centre;</p> <p>(c) Ixworth and Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council £5,000 be awarded to Ixworth and Ixworth Thorpe Parish Council towards the cost of refurbishing and extending the village play area;</p> <p>(d) Bradfield Combust with Stanningfield Parish Council £5,000 be awarded to Bradfield Combust with Stanningfield Parish Council towards the cost of new equipment and safety surfaces for the Hoggards Green Play Area, Stanningfield.</p> <p>(e) Ingham Social Club Further consideration of the application submitted by</p>	£22,000 has been allocated from the Recreation, Village Hall and Play Scheme Grant budget.	The Grant Panel considered in detail relevant grant applications and made recommendations to the Cabinet.	The Grant Panel considered in detail each application.	<p>Paul Farmer (01284-768777)</p> <p>Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)</p> <p>Mike Dawson (01284-757060)</p>

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			<p>Ingham Social Club be deferred to enable the officers to contact the applicants to ascertain the amount of match funding being sought from other sources in addition to those already applied for, as detailed in Section 2.7.7 of Report A29.</p> <p>(2) Arts Grant:- (1) £500 be awarded to the Milkmaid Folk Arts Centre Community Interest Company (CIC) towards its operating costs in 2009/2010; and (2) as the maximum grant awarded under the Arts Grants Scheme is £500, consideration of future Art Grants applications be determined in consultation with full Members (and substitutes, if appropriate) of the Grant Panel using the 'fast track' e-mail system that usually applies to the Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund Scheme, as detailed in Appendix A to the Grants Policy.</p>	<p>£500 has been allocated from the Arts Grants Scheme budget.</p>	<p>The Grant Panel considered in detail the application for an Arts Grant and made a recommendation to the Cabinet.</p>	<p>The Grant Panel considered the application in detail.</p>	<p>Paul Farmer (01284-768777)</p> <p>Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)</p> <p>Mike Dawson (01284-757060)</p>
			<p>Grants to the Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery and Theatre Royal: 2010/2011 (1) the joint application process in connection with the awarding of core funding grants to the Bury St Edmunds</p>	<p>By adopting the joint application process detailed in Report A30, administrative tasks would significantly be reduced thus saving officer time.</p>	<p>The streamlining of the application process to the Arts Council England from the Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery and the Theatre Royal will provide the Borough Council with substantial information to support their grant</p>	<p>Options were considered in detail by the Grant Panel.</p>	<p>Paul Farmer (01284-768777)</p> <p>Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)</p>

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			Art Gallery and Theatre Royal, as outlined in Report A30 be adopted by the Borough Council; and (2) the timetable detailed in Sections 2.3 and 2.5 of Report A30 be approved.		applications to the Council and will assist in the monitoring of the performance of these two organisations.		Nick Wells (01284-757630)
16	Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party: 26 May 2009 (Jul09/02)	A63	That:- (1) no objections to the proposed installation of Way Finding signs as detailed in Report A5 be raised; and (2) the developer be asked to incorporate within the signs the location of the toilet provision within the whole town, in addition to that currently shown in relation to the arc development.	The Borough Council will not be funding these Way Finding signs.	The signs will contain information relevant to the arc development and will also point the way to the attractions and key destinations within the whole of Bury St Edmunds.	Options were considered in detail by the Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Mark Walsh (01284-757300)
17	Sustainable Development Panel: 5 May 2009 (Jul09/03)	A64	(a) St Edmundsbury Local Development Framework: Employment Land Review That, subject to the Head of Planning and Engineering making minor amendments to the text to correct typographical and factual errors, the Western Suffolk Employment Land Review, Appendix A of Report Z683, be approved for publication purposes and for adoption as part of the evidence base for the St Edmundsbury Local Development Framework.	This document has been produced within existing budgets.	As part of the evidence base underpinning the preparation of the Local Development Framework, the Employment Land Review is a key part of this evidence base.	Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development Panel.	Terry Clements (01284-827161) Ian Poole (01284-757350)

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			<p>(b) Accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showpeople in the East of England: the Secretary of State's proposed changes to the draft Revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy That the Council notes the requirement for 20 pitches to be provided in St Edmundsbury but considers the justification for the increase from 15 to 20 pitches to be not appropriately evidenced and this concern be conveyed to the East of England Regional Assembly as the basis of the Council's formal consultation response.</p> <p>(c) Forest Heath District Council Local Development Framework Core Strategy: Proposed Submission Document Consultation That no objections be submitted to the Forest Heath District Council Local Development Framework Core Strategy Proposed Submission Document.</p>	<p>Responding to the consultation documents has been undertaken within existing resources.</p> <p>Responding to the consultation document has been undertaken within resources.</p>	<p>The Borough Council has concerns regarding the justification for increasing the Council's requirement to provide a further five Gypsy and Traveller pitches in the Borough in addition to the 15 pitches already required, as it is considered not to be appropriately evidenced.</p> <p>The Borough Council considers that the proposals contained in the Forest Heath District Council's Core Strategy will have no significant detrimental impact on St Edmundsbury.</p>	<p>Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development Panel.</p> <p>Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development Panel.</p>	<p>Terry Clements (01284-827161)</p> <p>Ian Poole (01284-757350)</p> <p>Terry Clements (01284-827161)</p> <p>Ian Poole (01284-757350)</p>
19	Sustainable Development Panel: 23 June 2009 (Jul09/03)	A65	<p>(a) A Guide to Affordable Housing In St Edmundsbury That the Guide to Affordable Housing in St Edmundsbury,</p>	The document has been produced within existing budgets.	The Guide will provide help with implementing the Council's affordable housing policies and give clear guidance to developers in order to improve the delivery	Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development	<p>Terry Clements (01284-827161)</p> <p>Ian Poole (01284-757350)</p>

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			<p>detailed in paper A47, be published.</p> <p>(b) East of England Implementation Plan The responses to the consultation questions, as set out in Appendix E of to Report A48, be approved for submission to the East of England Development Agency/East of England Regional Assembly as the Borough Council's formal response to the consultation on the Draft Implementation Plan.</p> <p>(c) Replacement St Edmundsbury Borough Local Plan 2016 – Policy HAV2: Strategic Housing Site North West Haverhill: Approval of Masterplan</p> <p>(d) Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 4: Planning for Prosperous Economies Consultation Draft May 2009 The responses to the consultation questions, detailed in Appendix B to Report A49, be submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government as the Borough</p>	<p>Responding to the consultation document has been undertaken within existing resources.</p> <p>Responding to the consultation document has been undertaken within existing resources.</p>	<p>and overcome misunderstandings.</p> <p>The Implementation Plan aligns the targets of the Regional Economic Strategy and the Regional Spatial Strategy and sets out the regionally significant interventions required to deliver the targets up to 2021. It is therefore beneficial for the Borough Council to respond to the consultation.</p> <p>The Cabinet's decision on this item is recorded on page 2, item 5.</p> <p>It is considered appropriate to respond to the consultation draft in connection with a new Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 4 which will combine existing Planning Policy Guidance notes and PPSs.</p>	<p>Panel.</p> <p>Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development Panel.</p> <p>Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development Panel.</p>	<p>Terry Clements (01284-827161)</p> <p>Ian Poole (01284-757350)</p> <p>Terry Clements (01284-827161)</p> <p>Ian Poole (01284-757350)</p>

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			<p>Council's formal response to the consultation.</p> <p>(e) Home Renewable Energy Grant (1) The Home Renewable Energy Grant Scheme, attached as Appendix A to Report A51 with Section 1 amended to replace <i>'The proposed scheme will support two technologies, solar hot water and heat pumps'</i> with <i>'The proposed scheme will support all technologies approved by the Low Carbon Buildings Programme'</i>, be approved and promoted to all residents in the Borough; (2) in 2009/2010, the grants be funded from the £10,000 external funding; and (3) the scheme be continued in future years subject to the availability of external funding.</p>	£10,000 of external funding has been secured by the Borough Council to enable up to 20 grants of £500 each to be awarded in 2009/2010 to eligible householders wishing to install renewable energy technologies.	The Borough Council is committed under the Local Area Agreement to work with its partners to reduce per capita Carbon Dioxide emissions. It is considered appropriate to initiate this new scheme to support this commitment and enable eligible householders to install renewable energy technologies.	Options were considered in detail by the Sustainable Development Panel.	<p>Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)</p> <p>Peter Gudde (01284-757042)</p>
20	West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee: 12 June 2009 (Jul09/04)	Agenda Item 20 (b)	That Councillor Ray be appointed to replace Councillor Farmer as a full Member of the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee.	Reviewing the Membership of the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee was undertaken from within existing resources.	Councillor Farmer is currently one of the Borough Council's representatives on the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee. On 4 June 2009, Councillor Farmer was elected as a Member of Suffolk County Council and, consequently, there could be a potential conflict of interest arising from his membership on this Joint Committee.	Not to review the membership of the West Suffolk Waste and Street Scene Services Joint Committee was not considered an option.	<p>John Griffiths (01284-757136)</p> <p>Steven Lincoln (01284-757108)</p>

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22	Asset Management Plan (AMP) and Capital Strategy Performance Management and Implementation Plans (Jul09/01)	A67 Amended	That the Implementation Programmes 2009/2010 detailed in Section 4.5 of Report A28 and the Asset Management Plan Action Plan 2009, as set out in Appendix 1 of Report A28 be approved.	Resource implications will be considered in detail as part of the assessment process for individual buildings.	Adoption of the Asset Management Plan Action Plan will assist the Council achieving its strategic aims by identifying the ideal and sustainable property portfolio to meet service delivery needs and to help and support major terms of capital expenditure.	The Asset Management Plan 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)

Joy Bowes,
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
26 June 2009