



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

DECISIONS NOTICE

The following decisions were taken in the week ending Friday 13 February 2004 and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into force on Monday 23 February 2004. 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 20 February 2004.

A. RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET FROM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12 FEBRUARY 2004

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
4(a)	Review of SEAMS Mediation Service by Overview & Scrutiny Committee	agenda item 4(a)	(1) The grant funding for SEAMS in 2004/2005 be split into two six monthly payments, with the second payment being dependent upon a mid-year appraisal of the service; (2) the mid-year appraisal and authorisation of the second payment be delegated to the Corporate Director of Community in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder; and (3) the mid-year appraisal should examine progress against an action plan to improve the promotion of the service and the provision of feedback on case outcomes with referring agencies, in particular the Havebury Housing Partnership.	There is provision in the Council's base budgets to continue the existing level of grant funding.	To ensure that the Council's continued support of SEAMS provides value for money and is linked to improvements in the service.	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee considered a variety of options including discontinuing the grant.	Mary Martin (01440-763943) Richard Whitehead (01284-757037)

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4(b)	Performance Management	agenda item 4(b)	The content of the narrative item regarding Key Performance Indicators and Performance Indicator Outturns for 2002/2003 be noted.	None.	On 19 January 2004 the Overview & Scrutiny Committee received the Key Performance Indicators for the third quarter of 2003/2004 and the Performance Indicator Outturns for 2002/2003.	Not applicable.	Mary Martin (01440-763943) David Butler (01284-757030)

B. KEY DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET – 12 FEBRUARY 2004

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
5	Community Development Plan (Feb04/07)	agenda item 5 and U425	Subject to full Council approval:- (1) the first three sections ('Introduction', 'Our Commitment' and 'Community Development in St Edmundsbury') (pages 1-3) of Paper U425 to be adopted as the Council's Community Development Plan; and (2) it be noted that, as an executive function, the Cabinet will implement, review and update the remainder of the document i.e. the priority areas, support arrangements and achievements.	There are no new financial implications arising from the plan.	Community development is a relatively new area of responsibility for the Council, and supports a range of corporate objectives. The Community Development Plan will enable local communities to access the expertise available within the Council, leading to greater involvement and participation.	The content of the plan was developed in consultation with over 140 local groups and voluntary organisations.	Frank Warby (01284-700678) Mike Dawson (01284-757046)
6	Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2004/2005 (Feb04/11)	U426	Subject to full Council approval:- (1) the Annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2004/2005 incorporating the Council's Annual Investment Strategy and Prudential Indicators be approved;	It is estimated that in 2004/2005 Treasury Management activities will generate income of approximately £3,414,000 which	The CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, to which the Council must have regard, requires that the Council considers an annual strategy statement before the beginning of the	Not applicable.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Harry Last (01284-757262)

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			(2) the upper limit on fixed and variable rate exposures be set at 100% and 75% respectively of the Council's total investments; and (3) the upper limit for principal sums invested for more than 364 days be set at £60 million.	is equivalent to £95.17 per band D property.	financial year.		
7	Major Incident and Emergency Response Plan (Feb04/13)	U427	That full Council be recommended to:- (a) adopt the Major Incident and Emergency Response Plan, attached as Appendix A to Report U427; (b) in consultation with the Emergency Panel, the Corporate Director for Community be authorised to keep under review and approve the operational annexes of the plan; (c) the Corporate Director for Community be authorised to keep the plan and its annexes updated in respect of lead officer responsibilities; and (d) in consultation with the Emergency Panel, and subject to the costs being within existing budgets, the Corporate Director for Community be authorised to approve the initial and ongoing training required to implement the plan.	Adoption of the draft Major Incident and Emergency Response Plan has no direct resource implications. Elements of the plan can be met from existing budget provision. Training plans when developed will also be met from existing training budgets.	The Council must keep its emergency planning processes under review so that it can respond effectively to major incidents affecting the Borough.	An up-to-date plan is required and therefore this review is the only option for consideration. The content of the plan reflects national guidance, good practice and local experience.	Frank Warby (01284-700678) David Bird (01284-757035)

C. OTHER DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET – 12 FEBRUARY 2004

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
8	A134 Thetford Southern Link Road	U428	The Borough Council inform Norfolk County Council that there appears to be insufficient evidence that the construction of an A134 Thetford Southern Link Road, including subsequent closure of the A134 across Barnham Cross Common, and the C633 west of Barnham Gorse Industrial Estate, is in the public interest, as defined by the Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994.	There are no resource implications at this time. Should the scheme be pursued by Norfolk County Council, there may be a need for representation at any future public inquiry into the proposals.	The proposals are contrary to the strategic objectives of the Draft Replacement Local Plan and, if implemented, will have a detrimental impact on the environment of St Edmundsbury.	The Borough Council could decide not to submit comments to Norfolk County Council regarding the proposed link road.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763) Jerry Massey (01284-757302)
9	Cattle Market Redevelopment: Recommendations from the Working Party – 9 February 2004	U411	<u>Submission of Planning Applications</u> Subject to the approval of the Council, Centros Miller, the development partner for the Cattle Market, be advised that the Borough Council, as current landowner and prospective owner of the site, has no objection to the Developer progressing the scheme to a planning application for a mixed use development and enhanced link to the town centre based on the plans and designs submitted to the Council on the 26 January 2004. In granting this approval the Council acknowledges that there will be further changes to specific elements of the scheme both prior to the submission of the application and during the planning process. Any changes	The Borough Council has already made budgetary provision for the project.	To progress the redevelopment project.	As detailed in papers to Working Party.	Andrew Varley (01284-753135) Jerry Massey (01284-757302)

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		U412	<p>that represent a significant variation from the form and nature of the current proposals will be reported to the Cattle Market Redevelopment Working Party for comment before submission to the planning authority.</p> <p><u>Off-Street Car Parking Requirements</u> Subject to the approval of full Council, the Borough Council in partnership with Centros Miller, procures an underground car park on the Cattle Market site subject to the following conditions:- (1) the capital contribution from the Borough Council be fixed at a maximum of £4 million; (2) the form and layout of the underground car park be agreed by the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment; (3) the terms and conditions of any contribution from Centros Miller be agreed by the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment and be subject to the approval of Cabinet; (4) the total level of surface and underground car parking on the Cattle Market site be limited to a maximum of 900 spaces; and (5) the terms of the agreement with Centros Miller concerning the long term redevelopment of the underground car park be</p>				

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		U413	<p>agreed by the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment and be subject to the approval of Cabinet.</p> <p><u>Planning Applications</u> Part of former livestock market, Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds Planning Application SE/04/1011/P</p> <p>That an objection to this proposal to develop part of the Lacy Scott and Knight site for residential purposes be raised on the grounds that such development would restrict the comprehensive redevelopment of this important part of the town centre.</p> <p>16/17 Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds Planning Application SE/04/1059/P Listed Building Application SE/04/1060/LB</p> <p>That no objection to this proposal for alterations to this Grade II listed building be raised.</p>				
		exempt report U414	<p><u>Outline of Changes Necessary to the Development Agreement</u> The exempt recommendations of the Working Party were</p>				

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		exempt report U415	approved. <u>Procurement</u> The exempt recommendations of the Working Party were approved.				
		exempt report U424	<u>Appointment of Project Manager</u> The exempt recommendations of the Working Party were approved.				
		agenda item 8	<u>Public Building</u> A workshop be convened to discuss issues in respect of the public building on Tuesday 2 March 2004 at 5.00 pm.				
		agenda item 9	<u>Housing Strategy</u> That negotiations take place between the developer and the officers to agree the payment of a commuted sum rather than an on site housing provision as part of the planning application process and the Working Party be advised of the outcome of these negotiations.				
		agenda item 10	<u>Site Visits</u> That the Corporate Director for Economy and Environment, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Working Party and the Development Control Committee, organise visits as considered appropriate, including the dates of the visits.				

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10	Budget and Council Tax Setting: 2004/2005	U429	That subject to full Council approval:- (a) the budgets attached to Report U429 be approved; (b) having taken into account the Risk Assessment and the Five Year Financial Model, together with all the other information contained in Report U429, the level of band D Council Tax for 2004/2005 be fixed at no more than £153.00, and that officers be instructed to report to Council with this proposal or, if achievable, a lower proposal following consultations with the Portfolio Holder for Resources and the Leader of the Council; and (c) the previous decision to review future budgets and capital programmes as discussed in paragraph 3.1.2 of Report U429 be now implemented as a priority.	In revenue terms, every additional £36,000 added to future years' budgets represents an increase in the Council Tax of £1.00 a year for a band D property. Every 1% rise in the Council Tax represents an increase in expenditure of approximately £50,000.	The Cabinet is required to present budget proposals to full Council on 26 February.	All the proposals detailed in Report U429 have been considered previously by Cabinet, following a rigorous and detailed examination of growth bids by the Budget Panel.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) David Addy (01284-757200)
11	Panel Minutes – Grant Panel – 8 January 2004 (Feb04/12)	U430	(1) Subject to the amendment in relation to Suffolk Acre, the recommendations of the Grant Panel from its meeting on 8 January 2004 which can be met from within the base budgets agreed by full Council on 26 February be approved; but (2) approval of those recommendations which require growth in revenue budgets or the Capital Programme (including Suffolk Acre) be subject to the Cabinet's	The financial implications were considered by the Grant Panel and any approvals will be dependent upon the budget agreed by full Council on 26 February.	To determine a range of voluntary organisation grant applications and grants budgets for 2004/2005.	The Panel considered a range of options for each proposal, including the non payment of grant.	Nigel Aitkens (01284-735258) Graham Moore (01284-757252)

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			budgetary proposals in Appendix A of Paper U429, and the approval of those proposals by the full Council on 26 February 2004.				
11	Panel Minutes – Cattle Market Redevelopment Working Party – 12 January 2004	U431	The Cabinet received these minutes, noting that the recommendations therein had been previously considered by Cabinet on 14 January and Council on 26 January 2004.				John Griffiths (01359-268881) Jerry Massey (01284-757302)
11	Panel Minutes – Broadband Panel – 21 January 2004 (Feb04/04)	U432	Collection of Information That £5,000 be vired from the £25,000 grant allocated from the Rural Initiatives Capital Programme approved by the Council on 18 November 2003 for the purpose of obtaining independent advice on broadband availability.	The financial implications were considered by the Broadband Panel. This decision can be met from within existing budgets.	To progress the introduction of broadband into the Borough.	No alternative options were considered.	Jim Thorndyke (01359-250271) David Addy (01284-757200)
14	Miscellaneous Write-Off Report	exempt agenda item 14	That £938.38 be written-off as detailed in the exempt narrative.	Subsequent to the Cabinet meeting on 14 January 2004 two errors were found within the report that related to sundry debtors. Therefore, as a result, the Cabinet was requested to write-off a further £938.38.	The reasons for recommending the write-off of individual amounts are included in exempt Report U384.	The Council has appointed a firm of bailiffs to assist in the collection of business rates and Council Tax and also has online tracing facilities. It is not considered appropriate to pass these debts onto another agency.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580) Graham Moore (01284-757252)

Joy Bowes, Acting Head of Legal and Democratic Services
13 February 2004

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