



*St Edmundsbury*  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

## DECISIONS NOTICE

The following decisions were taken in the week ending Friday 8 October 2004 and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into force on Monday 18 October 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 @stedsbcc.gov.uk) by 5 p.m. on Friday 15 October 2004.

### A. DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET – WEEK ENDING 8 OCTOBER 2004

Item No.	Subject (Forward Plan Ref)	Report No.	Decision	Financial Implications	Reason(s) for Decision	Other Option(s) Considered	Contact(s)
5	County Wide Best Value Review of Community Safety	V230	(1) The findings of the County Wide Improvement Plan for Community Safety attached as Appendix A to Report V230 be endorsed; (2) the Improvement Plan, as detailed in Appendix B to Report V230 be approved, as a basis for the development of Community Safety across the County; and (3) the proposed monitoring arrangements outlined in Report V230 be approved.	There are no costs in developing the Community Strategy.	The decisions emanate from a Best Value Review of Community Safety which had been undertaken across the district councils within Suffolk over the last 12 months. Improving the safety and well being of the community is a Corporate Priority.	Options were considered during the Best Value Review.	Frank Warby (01284-700678)  Carole Herries (01284-757603)
6	Rural Services Review Final Report and Rural Action Plan (Oct04/06)	V228	(1) The findings of the Rural Services Best Value Review, as contained in Report V228, be endorsed; (2) the Rural Action Plan be approved as the basis for:- (a) developing the Council's	Those actions contained within the Rural Action Plan which can be accommodated within existing resources will be	Rural services is a Cabinet Commitment for 2004/2007. The decisions emanate from an in-depth review undertaken by the Rural Services Review Panel, which reported to	Options were considered in detail by the Rural Services Review Panel.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763)  Jerry Massey (01284-757302)

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			<p>policy framework for rural areas; and            (b) subject to the outcomes of the policy based budgeting element of the Dynamic Review – Innovation, Value and Enterprise (DR-IVE) process, developing relevant budget proposals and draft Service Plans for 2005/2006; but also            (3) the immediate implementation of those actions in the Rural Action Plan which can be accommodated within existing resources and are consistent with existing Service Plans for 2004/2005 be approved;            (4) subject to them agreeing to carry out additional work to assist the Council with the delivery of the Rural Acton Plan, a proposal be submitted for new grant aid to Suffolk ACRE as part of the DR-IVE policy based budgeting and/or grants processes for 2005/2006; and            (5) proposals be submitted for a Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund as part of the DR-IVE policy based budgeting process for 2005/2006.</p>	<p>implemented immediately. Those that cannot be implemented within existing resources will be subject to the relevant budget process for 2005/2006.</p>	<p>the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee, and this Committee made recommendations to the Cabinet.</p>		
7	Parish and Town Council Revenue Support Grants (Oct04/05)	V206	<p>Subject to the approval of full Council,            (1) subject to the amendments in (2) below,</p>	<p>The Council will fix a cash limited budget each year.</p>	<p>The decisions were based on recommendations from the Budget Panel which reported to the Policy</p>	<p>The Budget Panel and Policy Development Committee considered the issues and produced three options.</p>	<p>Sara Mildmay-White            (01359-270580)</p>

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			<p>Option 2 for proposed changes to the system of grants to town and parish councils, as outlined in Report V206 from the Budget Panel, be supported;</p> <p>(2) Option 2 outlined in Report V206 be amended as follows:-</p> <p>(a) administration costs be grant aided at a level of 7½%; and</p> <p>(b) the initial guidance document in Appendix I to be amended to clarify that:-</p> <p>(i) expenditure incurred under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 will definitely be ineligible;</p> <p>(ii) grants made by parish councils will also be excluded; and</p> <p>(iii) if the total expenditure for all parishes exceeds the approved budget the percentage paid for other expenditure will be reduced;</p> <p>(3) negotiations take place with Haverhill Town Council regarding the lost element of grant in order to reduce any detriment to the services provided by the Town Council; and</p> <p>(4) guidance be produced for parish councils outlining what may be claimed under various expenditure headings.</p>		<p>Development Committee. These issues had been subject to extensive consultation and initially launched at the Parish Conference on 10 May 2004.</p>		<p>Graham Moore (01284-757252)</p>

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8	Cambridge Sub-Regional Housing Strategy (Oct04/10)	V249	The Cambridge Sub-Regional Housing Strategy, attached to Report V249, be endorsed.	There are no direct resource implications. However, the Strategy sets out the sub-regional view on spending priorities and could, therefore, affect future funding for the Borough Council.	The Strategy has been developed by the Cambridge Sub-Regional Affordable Housing Group and is required to be submitted to the Regional Housing Forum to inform the East of England Regional Housing Strategy.	A Sub-Regional Housing Strategy is essential to ensure the area is fully represented within the East of England Regional Housing Strategy and, therefore, identifying clearly the need for housing investment in the area.	Frank Warby (01284-700678)  Carole Herries (01284-757603)
9	Review of Homes Assistance Policy (Oct04/08)	V250	(1) The Homes Assistance Policy 2003 be amended as detailed in Appendix III to Report V229, subject to the minor amendments made at the meeting, to offer the following assistance:- (i) Discretionary Renovation Loan (owner occupiers): A loan to replace the Unfit Property Defective Dwellings, Empty Homes and Affordable Housing Grants that will be made available to owner occupiers to carry out essential works of repair and improvement; (ii) Discretionary Renovation Grant (Landlords): A grant to replace the Unfit Property Defective Dwellings, Empty Homes and Affordable Housing Grant that will be made available to landlords to carry out essential repairs and improvements to properties	Subject to the budget setting process, there will be a reallocation of existing grant budgets to fund the new Policy.	The Cabinet had requested a review of the Home Assistance Policy which had been subject to examination by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Options were considered in the review undertaken by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Frank Warby (01284-700678)  Carole Herries (01284-757603)

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			<p>which will be let at an affordable rent;</p> <p>(iii) Healthy Homes Grant: A grant to replace the existing Healthy Homes Grant, Energy Efficiency Grant and Small Works Grant that will be made available to vulnerable persons to enable them to remain in their homes in safety, security and warmth;</p> <p>(iv) Discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant: A grant to combine the existing Disabled Facilities Grant and Relocation Grant to assist applicants to fund either the cost of essential works of adaptation or a contribution towards the cost of moving to a more suitable property where the existing home cannot be adapted to meet their needs; and</p> <p>(v) Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant: This grant remains unchanged; and</p> <p>(2) other than the Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant, eligible works for the above grants and loans be determined by the Head of Environmental Health &amp; Housing.</p>				
10	Supporting People Home Improvement Agency Services	V251	(1) The Borough Council enter into a partnership, as detailed in Report V251 to provide Home Improvement Agency	The partnership arrangement will reduce the Borough Council's	The Partnership Agreement ensures the continuation of a well regarded service that	(1) To remain outside the partnership and fully fund a local Home Improvement Agency from the Borough	Frank Warby (01284-700678)

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	Partnership (Oct04/09)		Services as part of the wider Supporting People Home Improvement Agency Service; and (2) the Corporate Director for Community and the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be given delegated authority to approve the final partnership agreement on behalf of the Council.	financial contribution to the Home Improvement Agency from £65,000 a year to a maximum of £27,500.	contributes significantly to the Borough Council's Housing Strategy. At the same time the economies of scale ensures that the same level of service can be delivered whilst reducing the Borough Council's financial contribution to the Home Improvement Agency.	Council's own resources; and (2) to close the Home Improvement Agency.	Mike Dawson (01284-757060)
11	Regulation of Cosmetic Skin Piercing and Skin-Colouring Businesses (Oct04/13)	V252	(1) The new model byelaws annexed to Report V252, as Appendices 1 & 2 be adopted; (2) the affixing of the common seal to the byelaws be authorised; and (3) the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to carry out the necessary procedure and apply to the Secretary of State for confirmation.	Most of the cost of implementing these new provisions can be met within existing resources. In addition, there is the ability to charge a reasonable registration fee.	The introduction of the new byelaws will mean that the Borough Council is playing its part in ensuring that services used by the public are regulated to the proper standard.	Continuation of the current practice relating to ear piecing and tattooing only.	Frank Warby (01284-700678)  Julie Lynch (01284-757048)
14	Leisure Centres Transfer Steering Group: Recommendations	V256	(1) The transfer of the Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill Leisure Centres to Abbeycroft Leisure be deferred for a period up to 1 February 2005; and (2) noting that the Borough Council intends to re-open the Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre as soon as possible after fire damage repairs have been carried out, and in consultation with the Abbeycroft Leisure Board, further reports in respect of the way forward for Bury St	The full financial implications of the fire and on the transfer of the Leisure Centres to a Trust is still to be determined.	The fire at the Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre on 20 September 2004 caused extensive damage and, therefore, the delay in the proposed transfer from 1 November 2004 by approximately four months would allow the situation to be fully appraised.	Transferring the Haverhill Leisure Centre only to a Trust was considered but determined to be inappropriate.	Terry Clements (01284-827161)  Mike Dawson (01284-757060)

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			Edmunds Leisure Centre and options for capital investment at the Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill Leisure Centres be considered by the Leisure Centres Transfer Steering Group in order that this Group can advise the Cabinet on this matter.				
15	Revised Car Parking Scheme at Lake Avenue Shops, South Parade, Bury St Edmunds	V257	(1) Approval be given to the expenditure of £20,000 on a revised car parking scheme at Lake Avenue Shops, Bury St Edmunds, as detailed in Appendix A to Report V257; and (2) such expenditure to be met from the unallocated funding in the Capital Programme for Works arising from the Traffic Studies in Partnership with Suffolk County Council.	The scheme has an estimated cost of approximately £28,000. £8,000 has been allocated to the scheme by outside bodies and the remaining £20,000 required can be funded from £90,000 unallocated in the Capital Programme.	To ensure the continued viability of the precinct, which serves a wide local community on the Mildenhall Estate in Bury St Edmunds and safeguard the public using it.	Doing nothing was not considered an option.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)  Steve Boor (01284-757323)
17	Capital Accounts 2003-2004: Determinations Required under Part IV of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989	V259	The determination required under Part IV of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as detailed in Report V259, be approved.	There are no direct financial implications emanating from the decision, as the determinations list how capital expenditure had been financed in 2003/2004.	To meet statutory requirements relating to the use of resources to finance capital expenditure.	No other options have been considered as this is a legal requirement.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)  Kim Ryder (01284-757251)
18	Revised Insurance Arrangements (Oct04/15)	V260	(1) The Borough Council proceed with inviting tenders for the provision of insurance based upon deductibles (excesses) of £25,000 for third	(1) By increasing the excesses to £25,000 for third party, motor and property cover and	To produce significant savings as part of the Dynamic Review – Innovation, Value and Enterprise (DR-IVE)	(1) To continue with the current arrangements; and (2) to have excesses of £35,000 and £50,000.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)

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			party, motor and property cover; (2) a self insurance fund be established, with annual contributions of £166,000, in order to finance the increased deductibles; (3) externals surveyors be engaged to undertake sample checking of property valuations; and (4) a report be presented to the Cabinet in June 2006 to report on the new arrangements.	establishing a self insurance fund, with an annual contribution of £166,000 there could be an ongoing annual saving of £206,000.  (2) The cost of engaging surveyors to advise on property valuations is estimated at £5,000 and will be met from the insurance budget.	process.		Ken Parker (01284-757243)
19	e-Government Programme Manager	agenda item 19	The temporary appointment of an e-Government Programme Manager be approved and funded from Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) 3 grant.	The total cost of this temporary appointment will not exceed £70,000 for the period ending in April 2006.	Arising from a review it was recommended that the Council appoints a dedicated e-Government Programme Manager to oversee and co-ordinate the numerous projects that are required to be delivered ahead of the December 2005 deadline for 100% compliance for all services to be e-enabled.	No other options were considered.	Jeff Stevens (01440-762511)  Carlton Brand (01284-757200)
20	External Fund Manager: Investments	agenda item 20	The interim arrangement for the management of external investment funds until the conclusion of the Dynamic Review – Innovation, Value and Enterprise (DR-IVE)	There would be savings of £22,750 for the remainder of this financial year (2004/2005) on management	On 17 September 2004 the Borough Council was advised that Cazenove was withdrawing their Treasury Fund Management Service and would be repaying all	Options are still being considered under the DR-IVE process.	Sara Mildmay-White (01359-270580)  Graham Moore (01284-757252)

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			Review be approved.	fees.	the Borough Council's investments on 28 September 2004.		
21	Planning Policy Panel (Oct04/11): Recommendations	V261	<p><b>(1) Strategic Greenfield Site, Haverhill</b>  Subject to the approval of full Council:-  (1) Representations received and summarised in appendix B to Report V221, in relation to the strategic housing allocation in Policy HAV2 be noted and officers' responses to representations made in appendix B to Report V221 be endorsed;  (2) Policy HAV2 be confirmed as the strategic housing site for Haverhill subject to the following amendment:-  Housing (up to 1,150 to 2016 including a minimum of 40% affordable housing); and  (3) the above amendment be included in the re-deposited Replacement St Edmundsbury Borough Local Plan 2016.</p> <p><b>(2) London-Stansted-Cambridge-Peterborough Final Report</b>  Subject to recognition that the two strategic corridors serving the Borough (A14 and the A1307) need investment to enhance the existing infrastructure to facilitate sustainable economic growth in the Borough, the East of</p>	<p>There will be no direct financial implications to the Borough Council in compiling this section of the Replacement Local Plan.</p> <p>There are no direct financial implications from responding to this consultation exercise.</p>	<p>Recommendations from the Planning Policy Panel.</p> <p>The Minister for Regeneration and Regional Development advised the Borough Council to put forward its proposals on the London to Peterborough Study as part of the consultation on the Regional Spatial Strategy.</p>	<p>The Planning Policy Panel has been considering options for strategic Greenfield sites in Haverhill.</p> <p>Options have been considered by the Planning Policy Panel.</p>	<p>Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763)</p> <p>Ian Poole (01284-757350)</p>

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			England Regional Assembly (EERA) be advised that the housing requirement in the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) could be increased from the current proposal of 400 to 500 dwellings per annum over the period 2001 to 2021.				
22	One-Way Traffic System, Kings Road, Bury St Edmunds (Oct04/02)	V262	(1) To make Kings Road, Bury St Edmunds one-way westbound between St Andrews Street South and Prospect Row, subject to suitable funding being available; (2) to precede the introduction of the permanent works by a two month trial; (3) to install an environmental barrier in Robert Bobby Way adjacent to Old Convent Orchard prior to any trial being undertaken; and (4) funding from Suffolk County Council for this work be sought.	The estimated cost of the works is £50,000 and bids will be submitted to Suffolk County Council for this to be funded from the Local Transport Action Plan or the On-Street Car Parking Account.	A one-way traffic system on Kings Road increases pedestrian safety and access and helps to reduce unnecessary traffic movements in the town centre.	(1) Do nothing would not increase pedestrian safety.  (2) making the road one-way eastbound.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763)  Steve Boor (01284-757323)
23	Christmas Lights: Bury St Edmunds, Clare and Haverhill	agenda item 23	The Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Leader of the Council, be authorised to resolve outstanding issues regarding the provision of Christmas lights in 2004 and subsequent years, in accordance with the limitations placed upon the Cabinet in the Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.	The financial implications will not be known until other organisations have finalised their contributions towards Christmas lights.	The Borough Council organises the erection of Christmas lights at these locations.	No other options were considered.	Jeremy Farthing (01440-820763)  Steve Boor (01284-757323)

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26	Cattle Market Redevelopment: Delivery of the Underground Car Park	exempt report V265	Subject to the approval of full Council, the principle of the Deed of Variation to the Development Agreement incorporating options outlined in Section 4 be accepted.	There are no immediate resource implications provided that the Borough Council's requirements for the underground car park can be met within the existing budget.	As the provision of the underground car park is now integral to the scheme, the Deed of Variation needs to incorporate flexibility for the Borough Council, while assuring Centros Miller that the underground car park will be delivered.	No other options were considered as the underground car park is now integral to the scheme.	Andrew Varley (01284-753135)  Jerry Massey (01284-757302)

Joy Bowes, Head of Legal and Democratic Services  
8 October 2004

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