

NOTICE OF DECISIONS TAKEN (PART I - FOR PUBLICATION)

MEETING: Executive – Tuesday 23 July 2013 – 18.00 hrs.
Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors S Taylor OBE CC (Chair), J Gardner (Vice-Chair), R Henry CC, Mrs J Lloyd R Raynor and A Webb.

The deadline for Call-in of any of the decisions below is 31 July 2013.

Subject to there being no call-in the attached decisions may be implemented with effect from 1 August 2013

ITEM / TITLE	ACTION/LEAD
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	J Cansick Ext 2216
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Batson MBE DL CC and H Burrell. There were no declarations of interest.	
2. MINUTES – EXECUTIVE – 25 JUNE 2013	J Cansick Ext 2216
It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 June 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
3. MINUTES – OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES	J Cansick Ext 2216
When considering the Minutes of the Housing Select Committee, it was noted that the Portfolio Holder for Housing was to look at the links with Residents Forums in relation to the tenant engagement and involvement and the related Governance Structure.	

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the following meetings be noted:

Environment & Economy Select Committee – 11 June 2013

Housing Select Committee – 13 June 2013

Community Select Committee – 17 June 2013

Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 3 July 2013.

4. STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL: MAKING A DIFFERENCE – ANNUAL REPORT 2013

R. Protheroe x 2938

It was **RESOLVED**:

1. That the content of the Council's draft Annual Report 2013 as shown at Appendix A and the arrangements for final publication be agreed.

2. That it be noted that due to an administrative error details of this report had not appeared on the Forward Plan that provides 28 days notice of the decision being taken and that given these circumstances the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been consulted and has agreed that it be considered on this occasion to enable members to consider it alongside the year end financial outturn reports.

3. That having considered all the activities and developments referred to in the Annual Plan, the Executive place on record its thanks to all the officers involved in the delivery of these initiatives.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report and 3. to place on records the Executive's thanks for the work undertaken

Options Considered: As contained in the report.

5. 4TH QUARTER MONITORING REPORT GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

C.Fletcher x 2933

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the 2012/13 actual net expenditure on the General Fund of £10,187,386 be approved, subject to the 2012/13 audit of the Statement of Accounts.
2. That the 2012/13 actual net in year surplus on the HRA of £2,136,711 be approved, subject to the 2012/13 audit of the Statement of Accounts.
3. That the new carry forward requests totalling £155,650 and £304,020, as detailed in Appendix A, be approved for the General Fund and HRA respectively.
4. That the General Fund net pressure of £91,080 for 2013/14 and on-going £55,440 be approved
5. That the HRA net savings of £332,090 for 2013/14 and an ongoing saving of £51,830 from 2014/15 onwards be approved.
6. That it be noted that due to an administrative error details of this report had not appeared on the Forward Plan that provides 28 days notice of the decision being taken and that given these circumstances the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been consulted and has agreed that it be considered on this occasion in order that the year end position could be considered by Members before September.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report
Options Considered: As contained in the report.

6. 2012/13 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OUTTURN	C.Fletcher x 2933
<p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the 2012/13 capital expenditure outturn of £27,165,425, as detailed in Appendix A to the report be approved. 2. That the funding applied to the 2012/13 capital programme as detailed in Appendix A to the report be approved. 3. That the 2012/13 slippage of £977,310 as detailed in the Appendix A to this report be approved. 4. That it be noted that due to an administrative error details of this report had not appeared on the Forward Plan that provides 28 days notice of the decision being taken and that given these circumstances the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been consulted and has agreed that it be considered on this occasion in order that the year end position could be considered by Members before September. 5. That the Executive record its thanks to all the officers involved in the delivery of the Capital Schemes, both General Fund and HRA, in accordance with the agreed programme. <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in the report and 5. to place on records the Executive's thanks for the work undertaken to achieve the targets set for works delivered in the GF and HRA Capital Programmes</i></p> <p><i>Options Considered: As contained in the report.</i></p>	
7. GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2014/15 - 2016/17	S. Crudgington x 2185
<p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the revised five year General Fund (GF) Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved. 	

2. That the revised five year Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Financial Strategy be approved.
3. That the Council's GF and HRA current and projected financial positions be noted.
4. That a GF savings target of £1.0 million be approved for the 2014/15 Budget Process, and a total savings target of £3.0 million be approved for the period 2014/15 – 2016/17.
5. That a HRA savings target of £0.5 million be approved for the 2014/15 Budget Process, and a total savings target of £1.5 million be approved for the period 2014/15 – 2016/17.
6. That the approach to delivering the GF savings target be focussed on the Priority Based Budgeting framework outlined in paragraph 4.9 of the report subject to the process including an early stage Executive Challenge to consider potential proposals.
7. That all GF and HRA Growth for priority schemes be funded from within the existing baseline budgets or further savings in addition to the targets outlined in paragraph 4.7. of the report being delivered.
8. That the Strategic Director (Resources) work with the Council's Senior Management Team and Executive Portfolio Holders to deliver options that will achieve the saving targets identified within the strategy.
9. That the Leaders Services Priority Group be re-convened to oversee the development of the 2014/15 – 2016/17 savings package.
10. That a minimum level of balances for the GF of £3.0 million and £10.249 million for the HRA for 2014/15 be approved.
11. That the Strategic Director (Resources) be requested to revise the Medium Term Financial Strategy and re-present to the Executive for approval, if material changes to forecasts are required following further government announcements, particularly the outcome of the 2014/15 Finance Settlement and the first year of operation of the Localisation of Council Tax and Business Rates.
12. That the Trade Unions and staff be consulted on the key messages contained within the Medium Term Financial Strategies and more specifically when drawing up any proposals where there is a risk of redundancy.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report
Options Considered: As contained in the report.

8. STEVENAGE / EAST HERTS SHARED ICT, BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT, PRINT AND DESIGN PARTNERSHIP

A.Hill x 2556

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the proposal for delivery of ICT, Business Improvement, Print and Design services through a shared services with East Herts Council, including the transfer of staff who fall in scope of the partnership from East Herts Council to Stevenage Borough Council under the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) 2006 be approved.
2. That delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director (Resources), in consultation with the Resources Portfolio Holder, to negotiate and agree a partnership agreement to implement these proposals
3. That a transfer from the Capacity Building reserve of £37,000 to part fund the revenue costs associated with setting up the shared service in year 1 with the residual costs of setting up the shared service (£37,070) being funded from General Fund balances in 2013/14 be approved,
4. That a transfer of £27,500 from the ICT reserve to fund the capital investment needed for the implementation of the Print and Design shared service (£20,500) and office accommodation works (£7,000) required at East Herts Council offices (these costs being 50% of the total cost i.e. Stevenage Borough Council share) be approved.
5. That it be noted that the ICT capital investment required for the shared service has approved funding in the current capital strategy and that future capital savings arising from Shared services will be incorporated into future Capital Monitoring reports.
6. That it be noted that the accommodation costs for Daneshill House needed to facilitate the Shared Service can be accommodated within the approved capital programme for 2013/14 for office accommodation

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report
Options Considered: As contained in the report.

9. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS

Joint Revenues & Benefits Executive

At a recent meeting of the Joint Revenues & Benefits Executive it was apparent that East Herts Executive had appointed a substitute Members to serve on the Committee when one of their appointed Executive Members was unable to attend. It was thought prudent for the Stevenage Executive to also arrange for a substitute Member.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the Stevenage membership of this Committee include a substitute Member to attend if necessary.
2. That Councillor Ralph Raynor be appointed the Executive substitute Member.

Reason for Decision: To ensure that Stevenage has full representation at meetings

Options Considered: None.

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as described in paragraphs 1-7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by SI 2006 No. 88.
2. That having considered the reasons for the following item being in Part II it be determined that maintaining the exemption from disclosure of the information contained therein outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

PART II	
11. ASSET MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – SUPPORTING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME	K.Clark x 2828
<p>It was RESOLVED that the recommendations in the report be agreed with the addition of a provision for significant changes to arising in relation to the sites discussed to be subject to further consultation with Executive Members.</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in the report</i> <i>Options Considered: As contained in the report.</i></p>	
12 . URGENT PART II BUSINESS	
None	