

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN PART I

MEETING: Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Wednesday 11 September 2013, 6pm, Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

MEMBERS PRESENT J Thomas (Chair), J Brown, M Cherney-Craw, G Clark, J Hollywell, R Parker CC, S Speller, H Tessier, and S Walker.

THE AGENDA ITEMS REFERRED TO IN THIS SUMMARY OF DECISIONS MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE RECEPTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OFFICES, DANESHILL HOUSE.

COPIES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE COMMITTEE SERVICES SECTION 01438 242992

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Hearn and B Underwood. The Committee extended its best wishes to Councillor Underwood and wished him a speedy recovery. There were no declarations of interest.	G Moody Ext 2203
2. SUMMARY OF DECISIONS – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 29 AUGUST 2013	
It was RESOLVED that the Summary of Decisions from the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 29 August 2013 be noted.	G Moody Ext 2203

<p>3. PART 1 DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE</p>	
<p>This report had not been circulated to Members five clear days before the meeting nor had it been made available for public inspection. The Chair determined however that given the short period of time left before the end of the call-in period on 11 September 2013, it be considered on this occasion.</p> <p>Treasury Management Review 2012/2013</p> <p>Members asked a number of detailed questions about the report which were answered by the officer.</p> <p>1st Quarter Monitoring Report – General Fund and Housing Revenue Account.</p> <p>In reply to a question concerning the provision of support services for the elderly living in sheltered housing schemes the Strategic Director (Resources) undertook to provide a breakdown of the costs involved.</p> <p>In reply to a further question concerning the costs of parking enforcement the Strategic Director (Resources) undertook to consult with the relevant department to determine the need for a review of the Council’s policy in this area.</p> <p>Capital Strategy Update</p> <p>In reply to a question the Strategic Director (Resources) undertook to liaise with Housing to confirm that adequate checks were carried out to ensure that all ‘Right to Buy’ sales were bona fide and that vulnerable residents and the system were not being exploited by a third party. He also undertook to provide Members with a breakdown of the profile of properties that had been sold under the ‘Right to Buy’ agreement.</p> <p>It was commented that the Council was now allowed to enter into ‘Buy Back’ arrangements and the Committee was advised that officers had been requested to develop a ‘Buy Back’ policy. It was anticipated that the Housing Select Committee would be involved in the development of this policy.</p>	<p>S Crudgington Ext 2185</p> <p>S Crudgington Ext 2185</p> <p>S Crudgington Ext 2185</p>

Balanced Scorecard 2013/2014 Quarter 1

In reply to a request for comparison data the Strategic Director (Resources) undertook to provide details of the previous quarter's balanced scorecard results.

Members expressed concern at the inclusion of the Community Engagement: Community Development (LCB2) measure in the scorecard.

Concerns were also expressed at the representation of Black and Ethnic Minority Groups in consultation events and it was debated whether the Council's methods of engagement excluded such groups either by accident or design.

Following on from discussions about red indicators and the need for the Strategic Director (Resources) to pass on some Member's questions to other departments to answer the Scrutiny Officer undertook to invite Strategic Directors as appropriate to subsequent meetings when the Balanced Scorecard was due to be reviewed.

It was noted that the appendix to the report detailed the red indicators on the Balanced Scorecard.

Local Government Act 1972 – Section 85

The Committee acknowledged the decision of the Executive in respect of Councillor David Cullen under the provisions of the above act.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Part 1 Decisions of the Executive taken on 11 September 2013 be noted:

- Treasury Management Review 2012/2013

S Crudgington
Ext 2185

S Weaver
Ext 2332

S Weaver
Ext 2332

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Quarter Monitoring Report – General Fund and Housing Revenue Account • Capital Strategy Update • Balance Scorecard 2013/2014 – Quarter 1 • Urgent Part 1 Business – Local Government Act 1972 Section 85 	
4. URGENT PART 1 DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
None	
5. URGENT PART I BUSINESS	
None	
6. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC	
Not required.	
PART II	
7. PART II DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE (IF ANY)	
None	

8. URGENT PART II DECISIONS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
None.	
9. URGENT PART II BUSINESS	
None.	