

NOTICE OF DECISIONS TAKEN (PART I - FOR PUBLICATION)

Agenda Item: **3**

MEETING: Executive – Tuesday 4 November 2013 – 14.30 hrs.
Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors S Taylor OBE CC (Chair), J Gardner (Vice-Chair), H Burrell (left at 15.50 hrs), R Henry CC, Mrs J Lloyd R Raynor and A Webb.

**The deadline for Call-in of any of the decisions below is 12 November 2013.
Subject to there being no call-in the attached decisions may be implemented with effect from 13 November 2013**

ITEM / TITLE	ACTION/LEAD
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	J Cansick Ext 2216
An apology for absence was received from S Batson MBE DL CC. There were no declarations of interest.	
2. MINUTES – EXECUTIVE – 15 OCTOBER 2013	J Cansick Ext 2216
It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
3. MINUTES – OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES	J Cansick Ext 2216
It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the following meetings be noted:	

- A. Environment & Economy Select Committee – 30 September 2013
- B. Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 1 October 2013
- C. Community Select Committee (draft) – 10 October 2013

4. LICENSING ACT 2003 – LICENSING POLICY REVIEW	H Morris Ext 2175
<p>It was RESOLVED that the proposed Stevenage Borough Council Licensing Policy, as shown at Appendix A, which has been drafted in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003, be noted and recommended to Council for approval</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in the report</i> <i>Options Considered: As contained in the report.</i></p>	
5. HACKNEY CARRIAGE / PRIVATE HIRE CONVICTIONS POLICY	H Morris Ext 2175
<p>It was RESOLVED that the proposed Stevenage Borough Council Convictions Policy for the licensing of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire drivers and Private Hire operators set out at Appendix A, be noted and recommended to Council for approval.</p> <p><i>Reason for Decision: As contained in the report</i> <i>Options Considered: As contained in the report.</i></p>	
6. UNDER OCCUPANCY POLICY	R Mitchell Ext 2934
<p>It was RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That greater priority be awarded through the Allocation scheme to those wishing to downsize because they are affected by the social size criteria enabling them to be given a higher priority to move. 2. That authority be given to make an application to the Secretary of State to use HRA funds to cover the shortfall in benefit incurred by a family under occupying a property where disability aids and adaptations have been carried out. This application will only be made 	

where the £163,000 available to SBC for Discretionary Housing Payments is likely to be exhausted.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report

Options Considered: As contained in the report

7. WELFARE REFORM - IMPACT ON RESIDENTS AND THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE

J Cresser Ext 2028

It was **RESOLVED**

1. That the content of the report on the implementation of welfare reform be noted together with the increasing unforeseen costs to the Council.
2. That the funding of the four additional posts in the Customer Service Centre (CSC) until 31 March 2014 at a total cost of £23,520 be agreed and the position going forward into the following financial year be reviewed.
3. That a further report be brought to the Executive in July 2014 to review the position at that time and consider any further actions that might be appropriate subject to the evidenced impact of the Welfare Reforms. This timescale will enable officers to review data for a full year and also for the first quarter of 2014/15

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report

Options Considered: As contained in the report

8. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY MID YEAR REVIEW

C Fletcher Ext 2933

It was **RESOLVED** that Council be recommended to approve of the 2013/14 Mid-year Treasury Management Strategy and Annual Investment Strategy Review.

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report

Options Considered: As contained in the report

9. 2ND QUARTER MONITORING REPORT – GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA)

C Fletcher Ext 2933

It was noted that the legend in Chart 2 'Outstanding Debt by Type' at paragraph 4.4.4 should refer to the financial year 2013/2014 not '2012/2013' as quoted.

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the 2013/14 2nd quarter net expenditure adjustment to the General Fund of £46,910 increase be approved.
2. That the 2013/14 2nd quarter decrease in expenditure to the HRA of £24,160 be approved.
3. That the progress of the 2013/14 approved savings and growth items be noted.
4. That following consideration of a number of small schemes for the Town Centre improvements the spend on this project be deferred until 2014/15 when a larger scheme can be delivered and therefore a transfer to the New Homes Bonus reserve of £200,000 be approved.
5. That a transfer of £11,510 from the Single Status reserve to contribute towards the implementation costs of single status be approved.
6. That an HRA budget carry forward of £65,000 for the Social Enterprise project be approved.
7. That net budget adjustments to the 2014/15 General Fund revenue budget of £4,590 (adverse variance) be approved.
8. That net budget adjustments to the 2014/15 Housing Revenue Account Revenue budget of £10,210 (favourable variance) be approved.
9. That the progress of the 2013/14 New Homes Bonus funded schemes be noted.

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

10. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS

None

11. 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 items 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

12. PART II MINUTES – 15 OCTOBER 2013

J Cansick Ext 2216

It was **RESOLVED** that the Part II Minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

13. GENERAL FUND BUDGET & HRA PROPOSALS 2014/15, 2015/16 SAVINGS OPTIONS, FORWARD PLAN AND UPDATE FINANCIAL STRATEGY (PRIORITY BASED BUDGETING)

C Fletcher Ext 2933

Three Equality Impact Assessments relating to specific savings were circulated at the meeting and it was noted that further such Assessments would be circulated before final approval was given to the budget.

It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations in the report be approved

Reason for Decision: As contained in the report

Options Considered: As contained in the report

11 . URGENT PART II BUSINESS

The Chair provided an update on the Children's Centres.