

## NOTICE OF DECISIONS TAKEN (PART I - FOR PUBLICATION)

**MEETING:** Executive – Monday 21 September 2015 – 14.00 hrs.  
Shimkent Room, Daneshill House, Stevenage, SG1 1HN

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor M Gardner

The deadline for Call-in of any of the decisions below is 29 September 2015.  
Subject to there being no call-in the attached decisions may be implemented with effect from 30 September 2015.

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| <b>1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  | O Adeoye x 2809 |
| There were no apologies for absence nor any declarations of interest.   |                 |
| <b>2. MINUTES – 14 JULY 2015</b>  | O Adeoye x 2809 |
| It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 14 July 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.   |                 |
| <b>3. MINUTES – 24 JULY 2015</b>  | O Adeoye x 2809 |
| It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the Special meeting of the Executive held on 24 July 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.   |                 |
| <b>4. MINUTES – OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SELECT COMMITTEES</b>   | O Adeoye x 2809 |
| It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the following meetings of the Select Committees be noted –<br><br>4A Environment & Economy Select Committee – 7 July 2015<br>4B Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 16 July 2015 |                 |

**5. ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW OF 2014/2015**

C Fletcher x 2993

It was **RESOLVED** that Council be recommended to approve the 2014/2015 Annual Treasury Management Review.

*Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

**6. PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)**

M Partridge x 2456

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the existing Designated Public Place Orders be revoked in line with the implementation of the new Public Spaces Protection Orders.
2. That a consultation exercise be undertaken to gain options about the proposed introduction of a zoned PSPO for Stevenage, as recommended by the Stevenage Responsible Authorities Group (RAG), to cover the areas of the Town Centre and High Street, and to consider areas in Shephall (The Hyde) and Pin Green (The Oval). (Appendix B to the report refers).
3. That the Portfolio Holder in conjunction with the Strategic Director Community be delegated authority to liaise with RAG to determine the viability of either extending the boundary of the PSPO to include Bedwell shops or to create a new area comprising solely of the Bedwell shops.

*Reason for Decision: As contained in the report. (and 3 to reflect concerns expressed by local ward councillors)*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

**7. STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL: ANNUAL REPORT 2014/2015**

R Protheroe x 2938

It was **RESOLVED** that the content of the Council's draft Annual Report 2014/2015, as shown at Appendix A to the report, be agreed and published on the Council's website.

*Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

**8. 2015/16 FIRST QUARTER CAPITAL STRATEGY UPDATE**

C Fletcher x 2933

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the net decrease of £355,200 for the 2015/2016 General Fund capital programme as summarised in paragraph 4.1.1 and detailed in Appendix A to the report be approved.
2. That the net increase total of £617,000 for the 2016/2017 General Fund capital programme as summarised in paragraph 4.1.2 be approved.
3. That the increase of £5,830 for the 2015/16 Housing Revenue Account capital programme as summarised in paragraph 4.2.1 and detailed in Appendix B to this report be approved.

*Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

**9. 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER MONITORING REPORT GENERAL FUND AND HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT**

C Fletcher x 2933

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the 2015/2016 1<sup>st</sup> quarter projected net decrease in expenditure of £58,160 General Fund be approved.
2. That changes to the General Fund net budget remains within the £400,000 (increase) variation limit delegated to the Executive be noted.
3. That the transfer of £42,580 from the capital reserve subject to the Capital Strategy update be approved.
4. That the transfer of £256,240 to the regeneration assets reserve (paragraph 3.10.3 of the report refers) be approved.
5. That the 2015/2016 1<sup>st</sup> quarter net increase in surplus for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) of £11,830 be approved.
6. That changes to the HRA net budget remains within the £250,000 (increase) variation limit delegated to the Executive be noted.
7. That HRA balances projected to be £16,007,979 as at 31 March 2016 which is £189,720 below the risk assessed level of

balances (paragraph 5.3 of the report refers) be noted.

*Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

## **10. GENERAL FUND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2015/16 – 2019/20)**

C Fletcher x 2933

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the revised Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) principles, as outlined in this report, to meet the General Funds emerging 'financial security' objective (see paragraph 4.5.2 of this report) be approved.
2. That the revised approach to meeting the budget gap (paragraph 4.7.6 of the report refers) to replace the current annual Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) process which uses options put forward by services be adopted.
3. That, for modelling purposes, Council tax increases be in line with inflation with any increase above inflation used to achieve a balanced budget.
4. That, for modelling purposes, fees and charges increases be in line with inflation with any increase above inflation used to achieve a balanced budget.
5. That the inflation assumptions used in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (section 4.13 refers) be approved.
6. That the transfer of the Right to Buy Local Authority share contribution (£346,500 per year) to the General Fund capital reserve, replacing the current debt provision receipts contribution (£800,000), (section 4.15 of the report refers), subject to the 1% rent reduction being implemented be approved.
7. That a General Fund savings target of £0.917 million for the 2016/17 Budget Process, and a total savings target of £2.137million for the PBB2 period 2016/17 – 2018/19 be approved.
8. That all General Fund growth for priority schemes be funded from within the existing baseline budgets or further savings in addition to the targets identified, (paragraph 4.6.6 of the report refers) be approved.
9. That the Leaders Services Priority Group be re-convened to oversee the development of the 2016/17 – 2018/19 savings package.
10. That a minimum level of balances for the General Fund of £2.94million, (paragraphs 4.16.8 - 4.16.9 of the report refer) be

approved.

11. That a one off contribution of £150,000 to the Financial Security Reserve (formally called commercialisation reserve) to allow business cases to be adequately resourced, (paragraph 4.7.9 of the report refers) be approved.

12. That if material changes to forecasts are required following further government announcements the Assistant Director (Finance) be requested to revise the Medium Term Financial Strategy and re-present it to the Executive for approval.

13. That public consultation be commissioned in line with the requirements of the Council's Consultation and Engagement Strategy.

14. 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.*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

#### **11. STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL BALANCED SCORECARD FOR QUARTER 1 2015/16**

S Crudgington x 2185

It was **RESOLVED:**

1. That the overall performance results for Stevenage Borough Council Balanced Scorecard for quarter 1 2015/16 as summarised at Appendix A to the report be noted.

2. That status updates and performance improvement outlined in the tables of paragraphs 3.7 to 3.10 of the report as a result of the implementation of performance management activity previously approved be noted.

3. That for areas of performance considered outside an acceptable variance of the target set, the planned performance management activity outlined in the tables in paragraph 3.7 to 3.10 of the report be endorsed.

*Reason for Decision: As contained in the report.*

*Other Options Considered: As contained in the report.*

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| <b>12. URGENT PART 1 BUSINESS</b> |  |
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| The Leader updated the meeting on how SBC would be responding to the Syria refugee crisis and highlighted the challenges ahead. The Leader informed the meeting that a briefing note would be prepared for all Councillors in due course. |  |
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| <b>13. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS</b> |  |
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| <b><u>PART II</u></b> |  |
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| <b>14. URGENT PART II BUSINESS</b> |  |
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