



CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 20 JANUARY 2010

DECISIONS

Present:

Councillor B Hoare (Chair) Councillor PD Varnserry (Deputy Chair)
Councillors Beardsworth, Church, B Markham and Perkins

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Wednesday, 20 January 2010. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

These decisions will come into force and then may be implemented on the expiry of three working days after the publication of this list.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Jo Darby at jdarby@northampton.gov.uk.

THIS LIST OF DECISIONS PUBLISHED:

21 JANUARY 2010

DATE OF EXPIRY OF CALL IN:

TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2010 AT 17:00 HOURS

| Agenda Item No | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| | None |

6. West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee - 20 October 2009

The Minutes are noted.

| Agenda Item No | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
|-------------------|---|
| | Councillor Church declared a Personal, Non-Prejudicial interest as a Board member of West Northants Development Corporation |

7. Legal Framework Agreement: West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee

The "Agreement" relating to the administration and functioning of the JPU at Appendix 1 of the Cabinet report is approved and agreed, and authorisation is given to the Chief Executive to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Borough Council.

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| Agenda | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
| Item No | None |

8. Housing Tenancy Agreement

The current position is noted and Officers are instructed to consider and incorporate any suggestions from the consultation, if appropriate, and submit the final draft Agreements to the next meeting of Cabinet for formal approval.

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| Agenda | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
| Item No | None |

9. Flexible Warranting for Health and Safety Enforcement

1. Cabinet supports the principle of entering into a flexible warranting arrangement with the Health and Safety Executive and other Northamptonshire LA's and is to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding relating to the flexible warrant scheme;
2. The Head of Public Protection is to be authorised to enter into the MOU on behalf of the Council; and delegated authority is to be granted to the Head of Public Protection to authorise relevant officers for the purposes of implementing the scheme.

10. Performance

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| Agenda | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
| Item No | None |

A. PERFORMANCE MONTHLY REPORT - NOVEMBER 2009

The contents of the report are noted.

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| Agenda | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
| Item No | None |

B. GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2009-10 PERIOD 8

The report and the forecast under spend of £559k net of management action are noted.

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| Agenda | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
| Item No | None |

C. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2008/09 MONITORING PERIOD 8

The report and the forecast overspend of £122k on the Net Cost of Services are noted.

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| Agenda Item No | Declaration/Conflict of Interests: |
| | None |

**D. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009-10 MONITORING PERIOD 8:
PROJECT APPRAISALS AND VARIATIONS**

1. The following schemes are to be added to the capital programme for 2009-10.

| Scheme Reference, Description & Directorate | Narrative | 2009-10 £ | Future Years £ | Funding Source |
|---|---|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2009-10/GF070 Grimebusters Environment & Culture | Purchase of two trailer mounted pressure washers and a bespoke vehicle for street washing and gum removal. The vehicle and equipment would be used to deliver an enhanced street scene with washed streets (targeting the town centre), free of gum and a reduction in graffiti. | 84,000 | - | NEIP |
| 2009-10/GF071B Carbon Management Projects – Lighting and Timeclocks Environment & Culture | To undertake a range of energy saving projects to reduce the carbon emissions of the Council, in line with the adopted policy and terms and conditions of the external grant funding. The work will include lighting upgrades to: Greyfriars bus station, Westbridge Cedros block, Camp Hill Depot and Fish Street offices. Timeclocks will be installed at the Central Museum, Fish Street offices | 52,721 | - | 50% Prudential Borrowing, 50% Salix |

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|--|--|---------|--------|------|
| | and Westbridge Admin block. Passive infrared lighting will be installed at Lings Forum. | | | |
| 2009-10/GF072 Partnership Information Hub (GIS) Finance & Support | To create a Northamptonshire partnership information hub. This will ensure that there is a comprehensive central information point for demographic, socio-economic and general geographic information. | 121,000 | 49,000 | NEIP |

Further details of these appraisals can be seen at Annex A of this report.

- The following variations to schemes in the capital programme for 2009-10 are approved.

| Scheme Reference, Description & Directorate | Narrative | 2009-10 £ | Future Years £ | Funding Source |
|--|---|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Budget Increase | | | | |
| 2008-09/GF073 V03 Money 4 Youth Assistant Chief Executive | Additional funding of £25k has been awarded to NBC for floodlights and a youth shelter at the multi-use games area in St Davids. The original budget for this project was an estimate of the funding that would be received, the amount in the capital programme is £14,632 less than the funding | 10,368 | - | GOEM |

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|--|--|-----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | received, therefore the budget needs to be increased by a net amount of £10,368. | | | |
| Budget Decrease | | | | |
| 2009-10/GF063B V01 Lings Forum Lighting Upgrade Environment & Culture | Further testing has shown that this project is not compliant with the terms and conditions of the Salix funding. Other projects will be submitted to utilise this funding, therefore there are no savings as a result of this variation. | (39,444) | - | 50% Prudential Borrowing, 50% Salix |
| Neutral Budget Impact | | | | |
| 2007-08/CS012 V06 Kitchen Replacement (Backlog) Housing HRA | Additional kitchens requiring urgent replacement and kitchens that are in homes in a general poor state of repair have resulted in the average kitchen cost being higher than estimated. | 80,000 | - | MRA |
| 2008-09/HRA007 V04 Complete Roofs Housing HRA | An additional roof replacement arising out of a responsive repair issue required capital replacement over and above this year's original programme. | 45,000 | - | MRA |
| 2009-10/HRA002 V02 Cooper Street Heating Improvements | This project has been tendered and has come in well within budget. Sizeable | (100,000) | - | MRA |

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| – Phase 2 Housing HRA | contingencies are required to ensure all the technical issues associated with a complex district heating scheme can be resolved quickly and efficiently, to maximize tenant comfort and satisfaction, however there is still sufficient budget to finance other key schemes delivering decent homes. | | | |
| 2009-10/HRA004 V05 Decent Homes & Poor Condition Housing HRA | There are some decent homes issues associated with structural defects and key decent homes failures that need immediate attention in order that the council does not breach its right to repair duty under the Landlord and Tenants Act. These are works to be completed earlier than expected but that would have been attributed to decent homes budgets later in the investment programme. | (85,000) | - | MRA |
| 2009-10/HRA007 V02 Structural Repairs | Following reports of leaks and other reported issues to the roof at St Katharine's Court | 10,000 | - | MRA |

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|---|--|--------|---|-----|
| Housing HRA | in Spring Boroughs inspection has shown that the parapet wall to the top of this ten-story block is in a dilapidated state and requires urgent attention. The works are sufficient in scope and nature to warrant capital expenditure. | | | |
| 2009-10/HRA014 V03 Door Entry Replacement Housing HRA | Additional urgent door replacements and upgrades are required to defend vulnerable blocks from serious antisocial behaviour such as arson, and deliberate damage, where the risk to property and people is considerable. | 50,000 | - | MRA |

Further details of these variations can be seen at Annex B of this report.

3. The following are noted:

- a. The capital programme monitoring position as at end of November 2009, including forecast outturns, revenue expenditure funded by capital and slippage into 2010-11, as set out at Annex C, D and E.
- b. The funding arrangements for the 2009-10 capital programme as set out at Annex F.