



## CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 9 JUNE 2010

## DECISIONS

**Present:**

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

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Wednesday, 9 June 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 Frazer McGown [fmcgown@northampton.gov.uk](mailto:fmcgown@northampton.gov.uk).

**THIS LIST OF DECISIONS PUBLISHED:**

10 June 2010

**DATE OF EXPIRY OF CALL IN:**

15 June 2010 AT 17:00 HOURS

**1. Apologies**

Councillor Perkins.

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<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
	None

**A. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COST OF CONSULTANTS  
TASK AND FINISH GROUP REPORT.**

Cabinet received the Overview and Scrutiny report and recommendations and will respond in due course.

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<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
	None

**B. SHELTERED HOUSING AND HOUSING OPTIONS FOR  
OLDER PEOPLE TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

Cabinet received the Overview and Scrutiny report and recommendations and will respond in due course.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **C. COMMUNITY CENTRES TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

Cabinet received the Overview and Scrutiny report and recommendations and will respond in due course.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **6. Change of Scene Project**

Cabinet noted the decisions of the Chief Executive and also noted the project's aims and objectives.

Cabinet noted that the Council would be accountable to Natural England (on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund) for the successful execution of the project, which included securing the required level of match funding and employing the Project Co-ordinator.

Cabinet noted the nomination of the Northampton East Area Partnership Co-ordinator as the Council's Lead Officer for the project, with full access to advice from Finance, HR, Legal, Procurement and other professional staff as required.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **7. Parish Partnerships - the Northamptonshire Councils' Charter**

Cabinet endorsed the Northamptonshire Councils' Charter.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **8. Housing Strategy**

Cabinet approved Housing Strategy 2010-2015

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **9. The West Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment and the Council's Approach to Affordable Housing Provision in Northampton**

Cabinet noted the outputs of the West Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment May 2010 mentioned in the report

Cabinet agreed:

1. The West Northamptonshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment May 2010 as a robust piece of evidence that the Council would use to inform its decision making with regards to affordable housing planning policies and the Housing Strategy
2. An affordable housing target of 35% in the Borough to be provided in new developments, subject to viability considerations, for developments of 15 dwellings or ½ hectare in association with Northampton Local Plan policy H32, in advance of a new policy being adopted within the revised West Northamptonshire Local Development Framework.
3. An affordable housing tenure mix target of 70% social rent and 30% intermediate housing types (e.g. new build home buy, below market rent, fixed equity, or other below market housing price products that may become available) within Northampton Borough.
4. A target of no more than 15% of affordable dwellings as 1 bed homes, with the Council placing more emphasis on the provision of 2 bed, 3 bed and 4 bed houses as part of any affordable housing negotiated.

The above targets as set out in option C of the report were adopted for the purposes of development control.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **10.Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Allocations Policy**

Cabinet noted the outcome of the review of the Choice Based Lettings scheme

Cabinet agreed to the operational changes to the Choice Based Lettings scheme and the changes to the Housing Allocations policy contained in Appendix F.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **11.Voids Lettable Standard**

Cabinet approved the lettable standard in appendix B.

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<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Declaration/Conflict of Interests:</b>
<b>Item No</b>	None

### **12.Rent Arrears Recovery Strategy**

Cabinet approved the strategy attached in the appendix to the report.