

Decision No: CAB191 – 17/06/10

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 24 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: CABINET

PORTFOLIO AREA: STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

SUBJECT: ANNUAL PROGRESS UPDATE ON THE
2008-11 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT
(LAA) 2009/10

AUTHOR: PAULA BLACK

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet notes the good progress against the LAA outcomes in Appendices 2.
- (2) That Cabinet notes the actions outlined in the Exception Report in Appendix address areas not meeting the agreed targets.
- (3) That Cabinet agrees to ask Cabinet Members to review any areas of performance at future Cabinet Members Meetings and/or discusses with the relevant leading partnership progress on the action plans.
- (4) That Cabinet notes the targets for the Local Area Agreement were negotiated originally in 2007 and refreshed in 2009, and in particular that the target refresh to address the impact of the economic recession on the achievements employment outcomes.
- (5) That Cabinet notes that conversations are on-going with partners to review priorities for the city in light of future plans for commissioning to deliver outcomes agreed in the Sustainable Community Strategy, and as a result new priorities will be established which will set the agenda for the next city-wide performance framework which will act as the successor to the current LAA.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The report provides information on progress against the LAA priorities ensuring close monitoring for continuous improvement.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The monitoring of the Local Area Agreement is part of the performance management framework. This framework is a corporately defined process; as such no alternative options are appropriate.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision

Date:

17 June 2010

Decision Maker:

Councillor Mary Mears
Leader of the Council

Signed:



Proper Officer:

17 June 2010

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



SCRUTINY

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Or: This decision is urgent and not subject to call-in (date of CE's agreement to urgency of decision).

Call-In Period

18-24 June 2010

Date of Call-in *(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)*

Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB192 – 17/06/10

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 25 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: CABINET

PORTFOLIO AREA: STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

SUBJECT: SINGLE EQUALITY SCHEME UPDATE

AUTHOR: MARY EVANS

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet supports the ongoing work to reduce inequality across the city and notes progress made so far against the objectives set out in the Single Equality Scheme Action Plan.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

It was agreed that six-monthly reports would be made on progress against the Single Equality Scheme to be discussed and noted by the Overview and Scrutiny Commission.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Councils are required to produce schemes relating to the equality groups covered by legislation. The alternative to a single scheme is to produce multiple schemes (one for each of the 6 equality strands, plus carers, socio-economic disadvantage and others). However, this was not considered appropriate, as it creates significant duplication and would not effectively address issues of cross-cutting disadvantage or multiple discrimination. Therefore it was decided to develop one Single Equality Scheme.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB193 – 17/06/10

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 26 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: CABINET

PORTFOLIO AREA: STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

SUBJECT: DIGNITY & RESPECT AT WORK POLICY

AUTHOR: CHARLOTTE THOMAS

THE DECISION

(1) That Cabinet notes the report.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The implementation of the Dignity and Respect at Work Policy should:

- protect the council from legal claims, including those of unlawful discrimination, from current and former employees
- help to improve the organisation's performance by reducing sickness absence and staff turnover and improving staff morale and productivity. In turn this will have a positive impact on the level of customer service provide by our staff.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Evidence from a number of sources has indicated that some staff are experiencing bullying and harassment at work which suggests that the council's approach to tackling these issues could be improved.

If the council is serious about wishing to eliminate bullying and harassment and to creating a working environment in which everyone is treated with dignity and respect, there is no option other than to introduce this policy.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB194 –

Forward Plan No: CAB16168

This record relates to Agenda Item 27 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET KEY DECISION

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	HOUSING, CULTURE & ENTERPRISE
SUBJECT:	RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FROM DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES & LOCAL GOVERNMENT: COUNCIL HOUSING – A REAL FUTURE
AUTHOR:	SUE CHAPMAN

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet supports the proposals for self financing of the HRA as set out in the DCLG Consultation paper 'Council Housing: A Real Future' issued on 25 March 2010.
- (2) That Cabinet approves the council's formal response to the consultation as attached at Appendix 1 supporting the proposal to move to self financing for the HRA.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The recommendation is to welcome the consultation proposals and to approve the formal response from the Council supporting self financing. This will enable the council to have a say in the process and thereby influence the outcome.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The option of not responding was discounted on the basis that it will deprive the Council of an opportunity of influencing the debate.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB195 – 17/06/10

Forward Plan No: CAB14964

This record relates to Agenda Item 28 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET KEY DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: CABINET

PORTFOLIO AREA: FINANCE & RESOURCES

SUBJECT: TARGETED BUDGET MANAGEMENT
(TBM) PROVISIONAL OUTTURN
2009/10

AUTHOR: PATRICK RICE

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet notes the provisional outturn position for the General Fund, which is an underspend of £0.235 million.
- (2) That Cabinet notes the provisional outturn for the Section 75 Partnerships and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2009/10.
- (3) That Cabinet approves the contributions to reserves as set out in paragraph 3.4.
- (4) That Cabinet notes the provisional outturn position on the capital programme.
- (5) That Cabinet approves the following changes to the capital programme:
 - (i) The budget reprofiling as set out in Appendix 5;
 - (ii) The carry forward of slippage into the 2010/11 capital programme, to meet on-going commitments on these schemes as set out in Appendix 6;
 - (iii) The new scheme as set out in Appendix 8.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

Budget monitoring is a key element of good financial management, which is necessary in order for the council to maintain financial stability and operate effectively.

The capital budget changes are necessary to maintain effective financial management.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The forecast outturn position on council controlled budgets is an underspend of £0.235 million, any underspend will be added to unallocated general reserves unless approval is given to allocate funds to specific reserves or contingencies.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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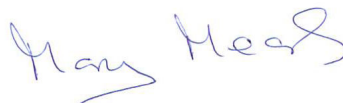
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Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB196 – 17/06/2010

Forward Plan No: CAB17336

This record relates to Agenda Item 28A on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET KEY DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: CABINET

PORTFOLIO AREA: FINANCE & RESOURCES

SUBJECT: 2010/11 IN-YEAR GOVERNMENT GRANT REDUCTIONS

AUTHOR: MARK IRELAND

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet notes the details of the 2010/11 in-year grants reductions announced by the government and set out in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4 and appendices 1 and 2.
- (2) That Cabinet notes the actions taken to date outlined in paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 to ensure no further spending commitments are entered into in the grant funded services until a revised funding package has been agreed.
- (3) That Cabinet considers and agrees the proposed principles for dealing with the in-year reductions in funding as set out in paragraphs 3.7 to 3.11.
- (4) That Cabinet agrees that contracts should be entered into for 3 schemes in the primary school additional places capital programme committing £2m resources from the 2011/12 capital programme for the reasons set out in paragraphs 3.12 to 3.17.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

In-year reductions in spending need to be made quickly to match the reduction in government grants as the scale of the reductions increase as the year progresses and there are fewer months left in which to make the savings.

If a decision is not taken to enter into contracts for the primary school extensions now then new places will not be available in September 2011.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Options on how to reduce spending to match the reductions in government grants will be considered in the July Cabinet report.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB197 – 17/06/2010

Forward Plan No: CAB16095

This record relates to Agenda Item 29 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET KEY DECISION

DECISION-MAKER: CABINET

PORTFOLIO AREA: FINANCE & RESOURCES

SUBJECT: CORPORATE PROCUREMENT OF ENERGY - HALF HOURLY (PLUS 100KW) ELECTRICITY AND GAS CONTRACTS STARTING OCTOBER 2010

AUTHOR: ANGELA DYMOTT, GLYNNAN BARHAM

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet procures both its half hourly (plus 100Kw) electricity contract (from % renewable sources) and its gas contract through the European Union compliant flexible framework contracts offered by the LASER Energy Buying Group, part of central purchasing bodies (CPBs).
- (2) That Cabinet grants delegated power to the Director, Finance & Resources to award the contract to LASER Energy Buying Group following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Central Services and to take all other steps necessary for implementation of the proposals

REASON FOR THE DECISION

This report seeks approval to undertake a tendering exercise of OGC compliant 'Central Purchasing Bodies', for the Council's Half Hourly (plus100kW) electricity and gas contracts that end on 31 September 2010. The report outlines alternative procurement and framework options and seeks delegated powers to enable expedient contract placement in order to obtain value for money within the volatile energy market.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The first stage contains the option of either continuing to procure our utilities through the existing arrangement or opt for a broker/central purchasing body to procure on our behalf. It should be noted that the risk of market volatility is reduced by opting for procurement through Central Purchasing Body.

The second stage contains the options of either utilising a framework that relies on a fixed purchase process or a flexible/variable arrangement. All options have their advantages and disadvantages, however in light of the need to make savings and to better manage the volatility of the energy markets to the council's benefit the report summarises the most advantageous options that the Council should consider.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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Call-in Procedure completed *(if applicable)*

Call-in heard by *(if applicable)*

Results of Call-in *(if applicable)*

Decision No: CAB198 –

Forward Plan No: N/A

This record relates to Agenda Item 30 on the agenda for the Decision-Making

RECORD OF CABINET DECISION

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	ENVIRONMENT
SUBJECT:	SURVEILLANCE POLICY
AUTHOR:	JO PLAYER

THE DECISION

- (1) That Cabinet approves the continued use of covert surveillance and the accessing of communications data as an enforcement tool to prevent and detect all crime and disorder investigated by its officers, providing the necessity and proportionality principles are stringently applied.
- (2) That Cabinet approves the amendments to the Policy and Procedures in line with recommendations made by the revised Codes of Practice and the implementation of the two Orders made under the Act.
- (3) That Cabinet approves the amendment to the Council's scheme of delegation so that the Director of Finance and Resources is recognised as the Senior Responsible Officer for the purposes of directed surveillance and access to communications data.
- (4) That the Cabinet adopts the quarterly reporting template as set out in Appendix 2.
- (5) That Cabinet be updated on the Government's proposed changes to the surveillance regime as affects Local Authorities in a timely manner.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The introduction of the Corporate Enforcement Policy should help to ensure that identified breaches of the law are dealt with in the most appropriate manner. However, it is essential that officers are able to use the RIPA powers for all crimes regardless of how trivial some may be perceived, but only after exhausting all other methods of enforcement. As authorisation is generally given at Head of Service level and above, it is unlikely that these powers will be abused.

The implementation of an Annual Review has made the whole process transparent and demonstrated to the public that the correct procedures are followed.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Consideration was given to recommending that Cabinet stipulate those crimes that we trivial and therefore the powers referred to in the report should never be used. This approach is not considered necessary given the level at which authorisations are made

A review of 'surveillance activities' could be the subject of the normal scrutiny process this option has equal merit.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

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