



DECISIONS

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| Committee: | CABINET |
| Date of Meeting: | Thursday, 3 November 2016 |
| Date of Publication: | 8 November 2016 |
| Call-In Expiry: | 14 November 2016 |

This document lists the decisions that have been taken by the Cabinet at its meeting held on Thursday, 3 November 2016, which require publication in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000. The list specifies those decisions eligible for call-in and the date by which they must be called-in.

Those decisions that are listed as being “recommended to the Council...”, or request the Chairman of the Council to waive the call-in, are not eligible for call-in.

The wording used might not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes, which will take precedence as the minutes are the official record of the meeting.

If you have any queries about the matters referred to in this decision sheet then please contact:

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Call-In Procedure

If you wish to call-in any of the eligible decisions taken at this meeting you should complete the call-in form and return it to Democratic Services before the expiry of five working days following the publication date. You should include reference to the item title. Further background to decisions can be found by viewing the agenda document for this meeting at: www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/local_democracy

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| Decision No: |
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3. MINUTES

Decision:

- (1) That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2016 be taken as read and signed by the Leader as a correct record.

7. COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS FOR VACANT PROPERTIES

Decision:

- (1) That, for the financial year 2017/18, class C properties which were unoccupied and substantially unfurnished, as defined under Section 11A(4A) of the Local Government Finance Act 2012, be in receipt of 100% Council Tax discount for one month only; and
- (2) That should a dwelling cease to be vacant then no further period of discount be awarded for at least two months with immediate effect.

8. NORTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP - EXTENSION OF JOINT COMMITTEE AGREEMENT FOR A FURTHER FOUR YEARS

Decision:

- (1) That the delegated authority from Essex County Council (ECC) to the North Essex Partnership (NEPP) for the administration of on street parking arrangements would end in March 2018 and the County Council, following a review of the arrangement, had decided to extend this up to 2022, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee of NEPP in December, be noted;
- (2) That the authority to agree the four year extension at the Joint Committee meeting in December 2016 from 2018 to 2022 be delegated to the Portfolio Holder for Safer, Greener and Transport; and
- (3) That the dissatisfaction of the Council at the lack of enforcement performance of the Partnership within the District be noted and the Portfolio Holder be requested to get an assurance of improved performance.

9. CIVIC OFFICES, COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AND OTHER OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS - PLANNED MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2016/17 - 2020/21

Decision:

- (1) That the Five Year Planned Maintenance Programme 2016/17 to 2020/21 for Operational and Commercial Properties be approved; and
- (2) That the Capital and Revenue budget requirements for essential and planned maintenance works at the Civic Offices, other Operational Buildings and Commercial property for the five year period 2016/17 to 2020/21 be approved (Appendices 1 and 2 of the report refer), including:
 - (a) Capital growth bids of:
 - (i) £659,000 in 2018/19;
 - (ii) £394,000 in 2019/20; and
 - (iii) £292,000 in 2020/21; and
 - (b) Revenue growth bids of:
 - (i) £45,240 in 2019/20; and
 - (ii) £122,150 in 2020/21.

10. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME - MONITORING REPORT SEPTEMBER 2016

Decision:

(1) That the progress of the projects within the Transformation Programme for September 2016, alongside the planned actions for October 2016, be noted.

11. PAYMENT OF UNALLOCATED ONE-FOR-ONE REPLACEMENT RIGHT TO BUY (RTB) CAPITAL RECEIPTS TO GOVERNMENT - QUARTERS 1 AND 2 2016/17

Decision:

In view of the current uncertainty regarding the amount of resources available to the Council's Housing Revenue Account (HRA) in the future and the need for the Cabinet to make a decision, as part of the further HRA Financial Options Review, on whether or not to refinance the first PWLB loan in order to continue with the Housebuilding Programme for Phases 4 – 6:

(1) That a temporary moratorium on work to progress Phases 4–6 of the Housebuilding Programme be introduced with immediate effect, with the exception of progressing planning applications for the developments agreed by the Council Housebuilding Programme for Phases 5 and 6, up to their determination;

(2) That the action already taken by Officers to “temporarily” pay over to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) the £1.364million of 1-4-1 Receipts that accrued in Quarter 2 of 2016/17 and, if possible, the £312,000 of 1-4-1 Receipts from Quarter 1 (plus the interest payable since 1 August 2016), which would otherwise be used to part-fund Phases 4-6 of the Council Housebuilding Programme, before the expiry of the 3 year utilisation period in July 2019 be confirmed, in order to avoid paying additional interest charges in the region of £4,800 or £5,800 per month from 1 November 2016;

(3) That, following discussions with DCLG officials, if it was no longer possible to “temporarily” pay over the £312,000 of 1-4-1 Receipts from Quarter 1 to the DCLG, they be paid over to the DCLG permanently, as soon as possible, in order to minimise the accrual of additional interest charges in the region of £1,000 per month;

(4) That the planned further HRA Financial Options Review be undertaken as soon as possible after:

(a) the Government had provided the awaited details of its proposal to require councils to sell their higher value empty properties to fund the new levy being introduced by the Government; and

(b) the financial effects on the Council could be assessed;

in order for the Cabinet to make early long term decisions on the future of the Housebuilding Programme and the funding of the HRA;

(5) That any further 1-4-1 Receipts that would accrue in future Quarters be “temporarily” paid over to the DCLG when they arose, until such time as the further HRA Financial Options Review had been completed, subject to decisions being made on whether or not to recover those 1-4-1 Receipts from the DCLG before the deadline of 31st July 2017; and

(6) That, as part of the further HRA Financial Options Review, consideration be given to whether or not further reductions should be made to the funding of replacements and improvements to the existing housing stock, through moving from the Council's Modern Homes Standard back to the more basic Decent Homes Standard.

12. APPROVAL TO CREATE THREE NEW OFF-STREET CAR PARKS

Decision:

(1) That the creation, and naming of the following three new off-street car parks in the Loughton Broadway area be approved:

(a) a car park on the northern half of the Industrial Estate, Oakwood Hill North Car Park, with a short stay tariff, creating 15 new parking spaces;

(b) a car Park on the southern half of the Industrial Estate, Oakwood Hill South Car Park, with a short stay tariff, creating 25 new parking spaces; and

(c) a car park behind shop numbers 12 to 14 Loughton Broadway, Burton Road South Car Park, with a long stay tariff, creating 15 new parking spaces;

(2) That an 'Invest to Save' bid in the sum of £40,000 for 2017/18 for improvement and setup costs for the above three new car parks be agreed; and

(3) That the services of the North Essex Parking Partnership be secured to make the necessary Traffic Regulation Orders to convert these car parks to pay and display.