



**DECISIONS**

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>Monday, 13 November 2006</b>

<b>Date of Publication:</b>	<b>28 November 2006</b>
<b>Call-In Expiry:</b>	<b>4 December 2006</b>

This document lists the decisions that have been taken by the Cabinet held on Monday, 13 November 2006, which require publication in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000. The list specifies those decisions, which are eligible for call-in and the date by which they must be called-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

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

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**Call –in procedure**

If you wish to call-in any of the decisions taken at this meeting you should complete the call-in form and return it to the proper officer 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](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/local_democracy)

<b>Agenda item:</b>
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**6. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

**Decision:**

(1) That, in order to continue the provision of assistance to residents under the Council's Handy Person Scheme, a revenue DDF growth bid in the sum of £3,000 be made for 2007/08; and

(2) That, in order to run on a District-wide basis, funding for the Seated Exercise for the Elderly and Disabled and a repeat of the Arts project 'A Sense of Place' be considered by the Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder.

**7. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT CABINET COMMITTEE -  
17 JULY 2006**

**Decision:**

**(a) Internal Audit – Monitoring Report April/June 2006 and Work Programme July/September 2006**

- (1) That the reports issued and significant findings between April and June 2006 be noted;
- (2) That the audit follow-up status report be noted;
- (3) That the work plan for July to September 2006 be noted;
- (4) That the 2006/07 audit plan status report be noted; and
- (5) That the action taken by officers in relation to the investigation be supported;

**(b) Risk Management – Strategy and Policy**

- (6) That the Risk Management Strategy and Policy Statement be adopted; and
- (7) That the Terms of Reference of the Risk Management Group be noted.

**8. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT CABINET COMMITTEE - 25 SEPTEMBER 2006**

**Decision:**

**(a) Audit of Accounts – International Standards on Auditing**

- (1) That the report be noted; and
- (2) That the recommendations and action plan regarding maintenance of the improvements to the arrangements for risk management and value for money be agreed;

**(b) Business and Internal Control Assurance Framework**

- (3) That the Council's draft Business and Internal Control Assurance Framework be adopted;

**(c) Budget 2007/08 – Financial Issues Paper**

- (4) That the 2007/08 budget guidelines be as follows:
  - (a) the ceiling for CSB net expenditure be no more than £17million, including net growth;
  - (b) that, as part of the budget setting process, all items included within the DDF be reviewed;
  - (c) that balances continue to be aligned to the Council's net budget requirement and that balances be allowed to fall no lower than 25% of the net budget requirement; and

(d) the District Council Tax to be increased by no more than the rate of increase in the Retail Price Index;

(5) That a revised medium term financial strategy for the period 2009/10 be developed in accordance with the budget guidelines agreed above; and

(6) That communication of the revised medium term financial strategy to staff, partners and other stakeholders be undertaken by way of publishing key bullet points in appropriate publications.

## **9. FREE SATURDAY CAR PARKING**

### **Decision:**

(1) That car parking charges in the Council's short stay car parks be retained and free car parking on Saturdays be provided in the following Council-owned long-stay and combined car parks:

(a) Traps Hill, Loughton;

(b) Smarts Lane, Loughton;

(c) Queens Road (lower), Buckhurst Hill;

(d) Cornmill, Waltham Abbey;

(e) Darby Drive, Waltham Abbey;

(f) Quaker Lane, Waltham Abbey;

(g) Bakers Lane, Epping; and

(h) The Pleasance, Ongar;

(2) That all necessary changes to the existing traffic regulation orders be made;

(3) That the consequences of approximately £75,150 lost CSB revenue per annum be noted;

(4) That, to be funded from LABGI monies, a one-off DDF cost in the sum of £10,000 for signage and traffic regulation orders be noted; and

(5) That the free car parking arrangements on Saturdays be kept under operational review and further reports submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.

## **10. POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING - PIKE WAY, NORTH WEALD**

### **Decision:**

(1) That the Council-owned land adjacent to 2 Pike Way, North Weald, held under Housing Act powers, not be developed in conjunction with 2 Pike Way to provide 100% affordable housing; and

(2) That other options for the future use of the land be considered by the Housing Portfolio Holder, including the possible transfer of the land to North Weald Bassett Parish Council as an amenity area.

**11. ACCEPTANCE OF TENDER - COMMUNAL COLD-WATER STORAGE TANK REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME 2006/07**

**Decision:**

(1) That, being the lowest tender received, Homesales Construction Ltd be awarded the Communal Cold-Water Storage Tank Replacement Contract for 2006/07, at various addresses in Loughton and Woodford Bridge in the sum of £101,088; and

(2) That, in order to fund the shortfall in the existing Capital Programme, £28,000 be made available from the £311,000 savings reported to the Cabinet at its meeting in September resulting from the Wickfields stock transfer.

**12. SPRINGFIELDS IMPROVEMENT SCHEME - REPURCHASE OF LEASEHOLD FLAT**

**Decision:**

(1) That, in order to facilitate the Springfields Improvement Scheme, a further leasehold flat at 36 Springfields, Waltham Abbey be repurchased; and

(2) That, in order to fund the repurchase, a further £90,000 be made available from the £310,000 savings reported to the Cabinet at its meeting in September from the Wickfields stock transfer within the HRA Capital Programme.

**13. PROVISION OF SOCIAL HOUSING GRANT TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE HOUSING - THE QUARTER, CHIPPING ONGAR**

**Decision:**

(1) That Social Housing Grant (SHG) of £710,000 be provided to London & Quadrant (L&Q) Housing Trust, funded from the unallocated budget for SHG within the Housing Capital Programme, to enable the rents of 18 properties at The Quarter, Chipping Ongar, including the five properties not in receipt of Housing Benefit, to be converted from market rents to affordable rents; and

(2) That further SHG totalling £290,000 be provided to L&Q Housing Trust when additional provision for SHG is made available within the Housing Capital Programme in the future, in order to convert the rents of the remaining 6 properties from market rents to affordable rents.

**14. CONSULTATION PLAN 2006/07**

**Decision:**

That the Consultation Plan for 2006/07, setting out those issues on which public consultation is planned to be undertaken during the remainder of 2006/07 and detailing those public consultation exercises completed during 2005/06, be noted.

**15. GAMBLING ACT 2005 - ADOPTION OF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGES TO THE LICENSING SYSTEM**

**Decision:**

(1) That the Statement of Principles made under the Gambling Act 2005 be recommended to the Council for adoption; and

(2) That the functions outlined in the Statement of Principles be delegated to the Licensing Committee.

**16. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT LAND SALE - MERLIN WAY, NORTH WEALD**

**Decision:**

(1) That a planning application be submitted for Class B1 (offices/light industrial) and Class B8 (warehouse/distribution) uses on land adjoining Hangar 3, Merlin Way, North Weald;

(2) That, upon the grant of the above planning permission and completion of the appropriate surveys and property information pack, the site be offered for sale on the open market by the invitation of best offers for the freehold interest;

(3) That an allocation of £20,000 be made from the General Capital Contingency to initially fund an environmental assessment, ground conditions investigations, planning consultancy and other necessary site reports, such that if the site is ultimately disposed of all costs incurred in this process be off-set against the capital receipt arising; and

(4) That, upon completion of the marketing exercise, a further report be submitted to the Cabinet on the developers' offers and schemes.

**17. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS - LANGSTON ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, LOUGHTON**

**Decision:**

(1) That the Head of Legal, Administration and Estates in consultation with the Leader of the Council be authorised to agree the principal terms of an agreement with Essex County Council for vehicular access rights through the T11 Development Site, Langston Road, Loughton;

(2) That, conditional upon satisfactory agreement with Essex County Council in respect of vehicular access rights, the T11 Site and Essex County Council's adjoining land be jointly marketed by both Councils;

(3) That the District Council's Langston Road Depot be retained for operational purposes for the time being and not included in any possible sale;

(4) That, in the event that terms not be agreed with Essex County Council for the vehicular access rights through the T11 Development Site, the Head of Legal, Administration and Estates in consultation with the Leader of the Council be authorised to offer the T11 development site alone for sale on the open market by the invitation of best offers for the freehold interest; and

(5) That, upon completion of the marketing exercise, a further report be presented to the Cabinet on the developers' offers and schemes.

## **18. RE-USE OF PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION REGULATIONS AND ICT**

### **Decision:**

(1) That requests for public sector information in which the Council holds the copyright be considered and made available for re-use in accordance with the adopted policy;

(2) That the draft policy based on a case by case review of requests be approved with a view to implementation on 1 January 2007; and

(3) That the Head of Research and Democratic Services be authorised to include appropriate scales of fees and charges in the policy.

## **19. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

### **Decision:**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on the grounds that they would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

<b>Agenda Information <u>Item No</u> <u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Subject</u></b>	<b>Exempt  <u>Paragraph</u></b>
20	Leisure Management Contract	3

## **20. LEISURE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT - EPPING SPORTS CENTRE**

### **Decision:**

That with respect to the future management of Epping Sports Centre after the termination date of the current contract on 3 January 2009:

(a) the Council's Leisure Management Contractor, SLM be invited to submit proposals in line with the current Specification and Contract Conditions with respect to an extended contract period up to 3 January 2013 with an optional further period to January 2016, to be based on performance;

(b) Contract Standing Orders regarding the submission of tenders be set aside in order to consider a contract extension which can only be offered to SLM on the same general terms and conditions without open competition; and

(c) a further report be submitted to the Cabinet on the outcome of SLM's proposals prior to acceptance, reserving the option to seek bids from the open market if it is deemed that insufficient Value for Money has been achieved.

