

Agenda Item:

Report to: Overview & Scrutiny Committee for Resources

Date: 15 March 2007

Report from: Katrina Strong, Scrutiny Officer

Title of report: **MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CABINET DECISIONS**

Purpose of report: To provide members with detailed information on Cabinet decisions taken since the last O&S meeting that fall within the remit of this Committee

Recommendations: That members note the report and consider any items that they would like to bring before the Committee

Cabinet Decisions – 4 December 2006 to 21 February 2007

Items relating to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for Resources

Cabinet meeting held on 4 December 2006:

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| Item: | Review of the Constitution |
| Decision taken: | (a) the proposed amendments to the Constitution be approved; and (b) 8 members be permitted to sit on both Licensing Committee and Planning Board. |
| Responsible Officer: | Jayne Butters Borough Solicitor |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Matthew Beaver |

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| Item: | Corporate Plan and Budget Consultation |
| Decision taken: | That the principles that will underpin development of the Council's Corporate Plan 2007/2010 and 2007/08 Budget, and the timetable for development of both documents be approved. |
| Responsible Officer: | Jane Hartnell Policy and Performance Manager |
| Portfolio Holder: | Councillors Peter Pragnell and Matthew Beaver |

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| Item: | Office Accommodation (Part I) |
| Decision taken: | That subject to approval of the proposed financial terms set out in the report in Part II, the Chief Executive or his nominee be authorised to agree leasehold tenancy arrangements for the Ground Floor and Upper Ground Floor in Aquila House. |
| Responsible Officer: | Virginia Gilbert Executive Director, Communications and Organisational Development |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Joy Waite |

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| Item: | Office Accommodation (Part II) |
| Decision taken: | That the financial terms of a lease for the Ground Floor and Upper Ground Floor, Aquila House be approved. |
| Responsible Officer: | Virginia Gilbert Executive Director, Communications and Organisational |

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| | Development |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Joy Waite |

Cabinet meeting held on 8 January 2007:

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| Item: | Hastings Castle and West Hill Lift |
| Decision taken: | (1) the West Hill Lift and Castle accessibility projects be pursued; and (2) the Council's contribution to the projects be increased to £275 000 |
| Responsible Officer: | Kevin Boorman Marketing and Communications Manager |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Joy Waite |

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| Item: | Council Tax Base |
| Decision taken: | That the Council Tax base for the year 2007-08 shall be 29,107. |
| Responsible Officer: | Brian Haydon Executive Manager, Financial Services |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Matthew Beaver |

Cabinet meeting held on 22 January 2007:

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| Item: | Draft Corporate Plan 2007/08 - 2009/10 |
| Decision taken: | That the first draft of the Corporate Plan 2007/08 – 2009/10 be approved for consultation. |
| Responsible Officer: | Roy Mawford Chief Executive |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Peter Pragnell |

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| Item: | Revenue Budget 2006/07 Revised and 2007/08 Capital Programme 2006/07 - 2009/10 |
| Decision taken: | <u>Capital Programme</u> (1) approve the capital programme for the period to 31 March 2010, together with assumed slippage in the |

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| | <p>programme of £1,000,000;</p> <p>(2) agree that schemes marked with an asterisk can proceed without further reference to Cabinet or Council;</p> <p>(3) approve the Land Disposal Programme;</p> <p><u>2006-07 Revised Budget</u></p> <p>(4) approve the revised revenue budget for 2006-07, including the transfer from the General Reserve;</p> <p><u>Reserves</u></p> <p>(5) agree the proposed expenditure from the Renewal and Repairs Reserve and Information Technology Reserve (Appendices J and I respectively) and those items from other reserves shown in Appendix H that can proceed without further reference to Cabinet;</p> <p><u>2007-08 Budget</u></p> <p>(6) assume an allowance for staff turnover of £125,000;</p> <p>(7) agree to a contingency of £275,000 (£175,000 general expenditure and £100,000 Renewal & Repairs Reserve) being included within the budget;</p> <p>(8) approve the 2007-08 revenue budget at a figure of £16,461,820;</p> <p>(9) use £264,020 from the General Reserve during 2007-08 to support all expenditure over £16,197,800; and</p> <p><u>2008-09 and Beyond</u></p> <p>(10) agree that a continuing focus be given to the Priorities Income and Expenditure Reviews (PIER) process to balance the future budget position. This to be an early corporate priority and include a reassessment of corporate and service priorities.</p> |
| Responsible Officer: | <p>Neil Dart Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance</p> <p>Brian Haydon Executive Manager, Financial Services</p> |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Matthew Beaver |

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| Item: | Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy 2007/08 |
| Decision taken: | That the Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy be approved. |
| Responsible Officer: | Neil Dart Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance |

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| | Brian Haydon Executive Manager, Financial Services |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Matthew Beaver |

Cabinet meeting held on 5 February 2007:

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| Item: | Hastings and Bexhill Renaissance Ltd (HBRL) - Sale of Station Plaza site |
| Decision taken: | (1) approval be given for the sale of the Station Plaza Site by HBRL to Hastings College; and (2) at the forthcoming special meeting of HBRL Board, the Council's representative request SEEDA to maintain the level of investment, including the capital receipt from the sale of the site, for HBRL to deliver the outputs set out in its Business Plan. |
| Responsible Officer: | Neil Dart Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Matthew Beaver |

Cabinet meeting held on 8 February 2007:

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| Item: | Review of Senior Management Structure |
| Decision taken: | A the following be approved: - (1) the Framework proposed in Section 3 of the report for a new Senior Management Structure for the Council, with the caveat that the number of posts in the third tier should be for the appropriate figure and not necessarily 16; (2) the Process and Timetable set out in Section 4 for introducing the proposed Framework; and B the resolutions to minute number 24 of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 7 February 2007 be noted and welcomed. |
| Responsible Officer: | Roy Mawford Chief Executive |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Peter Pragnell |

Cabinet meeting held on 21 February 2007:

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| Item: | Corporate Plan 2007-08 - 2009/10 |
| Decision taken: | <p>(1) the content of the document attached to the Chief Executive's report, as amended, form the basis of the Council's Corporate Plan 2007/08 – 2009/10 and be used in the production of a Summary to be circulated to local households together with Council Tax information by 31 March 2007;</p> <p>(2) Part III of the Corporate Plan will be produced by the deadline of 30 June 2007, to include: a retrospective year-end report on performance and the actual Performance Indicator information for 2006/07. That this information be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in May, prior to consideration by the Cabinet on 11 June 2007 and that the Council be asked to delegate authority to the Cabinet meeting on 11 June 2007 to agree Part III of the Corporate Plan;</p> <p>(3) the Chief Executive be delegated authority, after consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make further amendments as is considered necessary to the attached plan prior to publication to improve the design, layout and to use non-technical, user-friendly language; and</p> <p>(4) all who submitted views as part of the consultation process be thanked for their contributions.</p> |
| Responsible Officer: | Roy Mawford Chief Executive |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Peter Pragnell |

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| Item: | 2007/08 Budget and Council Tax |
| Decision taken: | <p>(1) the following, as agreed at your meeting on 22 January 2007, adjusted by an increase in the capital allocation to £733,000 for disabled facilities grants and a reduction in the Housing capital allocations funded by capital grant from the Regional Housing Board to reflect the provisional allocation of £1,338,000, be approved;</p> <p>(a) the Revised Revenue Budget for the year 2006–2007 and the Revenue Budget for 2007–2008 and</p> <p>(b) the Capital Programme for 2006 – 2010;</p> <p>(2) it be noted that at its meeting on 8 January 2007 the Cabinet calculated the amount of 29,107 as the Council's council tax base for the year 2007–2008 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;</p> |

(3) the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2007–2008 in accordance with Section 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;

- (a) £82,772,800 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Sections 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act
(Gross expenditure)
- (b) £66,619,980 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3)(a) to (c) of the Act
(Gross income)
- (c) £16,152,820 being the amount by which the aggregate at (3)(a) above exceeds the aggregate at (3)(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.
(Net expenditure)
- (d) £9,864,030 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, decreased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its General Fund to its Collection Fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.
(External Finance and Collection Fund deficit.)
- (e) £216.06 being the amount at (3)(c) above less the amount at (3)(d) above, all divided by the amount at (2) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.
(Hastings Borough Council share of Council Tax at Band D level)

(f) Valuation Bands

| A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 144.04 | 168.05 | 192.05 | 216.06 | 264.07 | 312.09 | 360.10 | 432.12 |

being the amount given by multiplying the amount at (3)(e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.
(Hastings Borough Council's share of Council Tax for each valuation band)

(4) it be noted that for the year 2007–2008 East Sussex County Council, East

Sussex Fire and Rescue Authority and the Sussex Police Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below;

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| East Sussex County Council | 698.46 | 814.87 | 931.28 | 1,047.69 | 1,280.51 | 1,513.33 | 1,746.15 | 2,095.38 |
| East Sussex Fire and Rescue | 49.13 | 57.32 | 65.51 | 73.70 | 90.08 | 106.46 | 122.83 | 147.40 |
| Sussex Police | 81.78 | 95.41 | 109.04 | 122.67 | 149.93 | 177.19 | 204.45 | 245.34 |

(ESCC, East Sussex Fire and Rescue and Sussex Police shares of Council Tax for each valuation band)

- (5) having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (3)(f) and (4) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2007–2008 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below

| A £ | B £ | C £ | D £ | E £ | F £ | G £ | H £ |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 973.41 | 1,135.65 | 1,297.88 | 1,460.12 | 1,784.59 | 2,109.07 | 2,433.53 | 2,920.24 |

(Total Council Tax for each valuation band).

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| Responsible Officer: | Neil Dart Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance |
| Lead Member: | Councillor Matthew Beaver |