

Agenda Item:

Report to: Overview & Scrutiny Committee for Resources

Date: 13 March 2008

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 – 3 December 2007 to 4 February 2008

Items relating to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for Resources

Cabinet meeting held on 3 December 2007:

Item:	Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 and External Funding
Decision taken:	(1) the implications for future external funding arising from the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 and the ending of other Government time limited funding streams be noted; (2) the Chief Executive be authorised to take the necessary steps to amend staffing structures in line with this report to reflect the anticipated loss of external funding in 2008/09 and beyond; and (3) a letter be sent to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and the Local Member of Parliament setting out the concerns of this Council.
Responsible Officer:	Roy Mawford Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Councillor Peter Pragnell

Item:	Local Housing Allowance
Decision taken:	That the Safeguard Policy be approved
Responsible Officer:	Brian Haydon Executive Manager Financial Services
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Matthew Beaver

Item:	Disposal of Open Space to Seaspaces – Chiltern Drive (Ore 2)
Decision taken:	That the Chief Executive or his nominee be delegated authority, in consultation with the Lead Member, to consider any responses to the statutory consultation and to proceed or not with the disposal, as appropriate.
Responsible Officer:	Jayne Butters Borough Solicitor
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Matthew Beaver

Item:	Appointment to 1066 Housing Association St Leonards Neighbourhood Board
Decision taken:	That Councillor Dowling be appointed to the 1066 Housing Association St Leonards Neighbourhood Board.
Responsible Officer:	Graham Belchamber Scrutiny and Democratic Services Manager
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Matthew Beaver

Cabinet meeting held on 7 January 2008:

Item:	Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 and External Funding Implications
Decision taken:	<p>(1) the Chief Executive be authorised in consultation with the Leader of the Council to take the necessary steps to amend staffing structures in line with the report on this subject considered on 3 December, in order to reflect the anticipated reduction in external funding in 2008/09 and beyond;</p> <p>(voting 6 votes for to 5 votes against with the Chair using his casting vote)</p> <p>(2) the Chief Executive in amending staffing structures be instructed, to consult the Leader of the Council, reflect as well the gain of Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) over the 3 years from April 2008, and to take full account of Council decisions on its 2008/09 Corporate Plan and Budget; and</p> <p>(voting 6 votes for to 5 votes against with the Chair using his casting vote)</p> <p>(3) agreement in principle be given to the use of WNF monies on a limited one-off basis in 2008/09, to enable some decisions on NRF-related reductions in HBC posts to be delayed if necessary and, therefore, for implementation of these decisions to be completed in the early months of the next financial year.</p> <p>(voting unanimous)</p>
Responsible Officer:	Roy Mawford Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Councillor Peter Pragnell

Item:	Discretionary Travel Concessions – National Concessionary Travel Scheme
Decision taken:	(1) travel before 0930 be ended and the statutory time limits of between 0930 hours and 2300 hours on normal weekdays and at any time at weekends or on public holidays be adopted; and (voting 5 votes for, 1 vote against and 4 abstentions) (2) ‘companions’ continue to be allowed to travel free when accompanying certain disabled pass-holders. (voting unanimous)
Responsible Officer:	Brian Haydon Executive Manager Financial Services
Lead Member:	Councillor Matthew Beaver

Item:	Council Tax Base 2008 - 09
Decision taken:	That the Council Tax base for the year 2008-09 shall be 29,110.
Responsible Officer:	Brian Haydon Executive Manager Financial Services
Lead Member:	Councillor Matthew Beaver

Cabinet meeting held on 4 February 2008:

Item:	Museum Extension – Financial Report
Decision taken:	(1) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive or his nominee to negotiate a contract settlement with the main works Contractor at or below an additional cost, as shown in the recommendation to the report, in order to contain the financial risk to HBC against letting the contract run its course via arbitration; and (2) a report be submitted to Audit Committee in due course.
Responsible Officer:	Simon Hubbard Corporate Director Regeneration & Planning
Lead Member:	Councillor Matthew Beaver