

**Agenda Item No:** 8

**Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny (Services)

**Date of Meeting:** 11 December 2008

**Report Title:** Monitoring the Implementation of Cabinet Decisions

**Report By:** **Katrina Silverson**  
Scrutiny Officer

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### **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

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### **Recommendation(s)**

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

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### **Reasons for Recommendations**

To inform members of decisions taken by Cabinet since their last meeting on 22 September 2008

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### **Background**

#### **Cabinet Meeting held on 8 September 2008**

#### **(1) Item: St Leonards Parking Scheme – Implementation of Economic Impact Assessment Recommendations**

#### **Decision:**

That the recommendations of the Traffic Management Committee in respect of the implementation of the Economic Impact Assessment be approved, as follows: -

(1) the changes set out in paragraph 28 of the report to the Traffic Management Committee be approved, as follows: -

(a) authorise advertising of proposed restrictions in Appendix 2 to the report, drawings E4/411A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S;

(b) reduce parking charges in Crystal Square car park to 50p per hour and designate it a short stay car park (3 hour maximum) with no season ticket holders permitted;

(c) increase the establishment of Civil Enforcement Officers by two and create a dedicated patrol for Central St Leonards, subject to annual review;

(d) introduce a shared residents' parking scheme in Union Street, Alfred Street, Gensing Road, Shepherd Street and Silchester Road ; and

(2) to seek County Council approval to fund the set up costs from the Hastings share of the Parking Surpluses and to fund the additional enforcement resources from the on street parking revenue account.

**Responsible Officer: Richard Homewood, Corporate Director Environmental Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Roy Tucker**

**(2) Item: Motion to Council – On Street Parking Charges**

**Decision:**

That the response to the motion to Council and the following additional proposed changes to the parking controls be noted;

(1) reverting back to shared residents parking with two hour limited free parking waiting for non permit holders, those stretches of Old London Road recently changed to residents exclusive parking;

(2) reviewing the current parking restrictions in the Old town and Town Centre to see if more parking spaces can be created;

(3) consult on changing the parking bays in High Street north of Roebuck Street to shared residents bays with one hour limited pay and display parking for non permit holders; and



- (4) Introducing a flat rate £1 charge between 6pm and 8pm for on street pay and display bays.

**Responsible Officer: Richard Homewood, Corporate Director Environmental Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Roy Tucker**

**(3) Item: Free Swimming Initiative**

**Decision:**

- (1) the Borough participate in the free swimming scheme for people aged 60 or over to be grant funded for 2 years from April 2009, and express interest in the free swimming for 16 and unders scheme;
- (2) final decisions on the 16 and under element be taken by the Chief Executive or his nominee in consultation with the Lead Member;
- (3) the Chief Executive or his nominee be authorised to agree any necessary variations to the leisure management contract in consultation with the Lead Member; and
- (4) officers be authorised to make an application for capital funding if the qualifying criteria are met.

**Responsible Officer: Richard Peters, Corporate Director Community Wellbeing**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

**(4) Item: Hastings and Bexhill Economic Development and Inclusion Strategy**

**Decision:**

- (1) Cabinet endorse the draft strategy and accompanying implementation plan for the purposes of consultation;
- (2) following the Economic Alliance's consideration of the strategy and plan at its meeting in September, it be subject to a period of three months' public consultation; and
- (3) following the consultation period, a final document be drawn up and presented to Cabinet for adoption.



**Responsible Officer: Monica Adams-Acton, Head of Regeneration and Community Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Robert Cooke**

**(5) Item: Proposed Area Based Grant Interventions, Outcomes and Process**

**Decision:**

- (1) Cabinet approves the proposals relating to the outcomes, the interventions and the allocation of remaining Area Based Grant;
- (2) Cabinet approves up to £37,600 from the Area Based Grant to fund dedicated support for the Community Network and Community Cohesion work delivered by Hastings Voluntary Action;
- (3) Cabinet endorses the commissioning and programme management processes as set out in the report; and
- (4) Cabinet delegates responsibility for allocation of remaining Area Based Grant to the Chief Executive or his nominee, in consultation with the Lead Member for Regeneration.

**Responsible Officer: Monica Adams-Acton, Head of Regeneration**

**Lead Member: Councillor Robert Cooke**

**(6) Item: Amendments to the Council's Street Trading Restrictions**

**Decision:**

- (1) that the Council's street trading restrictions be amended in accordance with the draft resolution in Appendix one to the report, and officers be authorised to place a public notice confirming a detailed resolution setting out the amendments in the local newspaper for 2 weeks at least 28 days before the resolution takes effect.

**Responsible Officer: Richard Homewood, Corporate Director Environmental Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Roy Tucker**



**(7) Item: Road and Rail Connections to London**

**Decision:**

- (1) (a) the formation of the A21 Reference Group be welcomed;
  - (b) the Tonbridge to Pembury improvement scheme should be treated as the highest priority among the proposed A21 improvements; and
  - (c) a proposed 'Grand Petition' by Kent and East Sussex Local Authorities seeking its early construction be supported and the Chief Executive be delegated authority in consultation with the Leader of the Council to agree the final wording; and
- (2) the lobbying campaign of the Council Leader and colleagues be supported: -
    - (a) to stop any reduction in the quantity or quality of train services between Hastings and London;
    - (b) to improve these services, in the light of service improvements to be made in December 2009 to train services between London and parts of Kent; and
    - (c) to gain recognition in the South East Plan for the regional significance of improving the rail link between Hastings and Ashford.

**Responsible Officer: Roy Mawford, Chief Executive**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell**

**(8) Item: Management Response to the Scrutiny Review of Public Contact Arrangements – Referral Back to Cabinet by Council**

**Decision:**

- (1) Cabinet reconfirms its previous agreement to the management response to the final report of the Scrutiny Review into public contact arrangements; and
- (2) management action taken to improve performance in answering telephones and pilot arrangements for introducing a contact centre approach is endorsed.

**Responsible Officer: Roy Mawford, Chief Executive**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**



**(9) Item: Jackson Hall Asset Transfer**

**Decision:**

- (1) the transfer of Jackson Hall to either Hastings Trust or Hastings Voluntary Action on a long lease for a peppercorn rent be agreed; and
- (2) officers make the appropriate arrangements to satisfy the requirements of the Big Lottery Fund.

**Responsible Officer: Monica Adams-Acton, Head of Regeneration and Community Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Robert Cooke**

**Cabinet Meeting held on 6 October 2008**

**(1) Item: White Rock Theatre – Appointment of Contractors**

**Decision:**

- (1) the report be noted and considered in conjunction with the Part 2 report which contains additional confidential information; and
- (2) the decision be treated as urgent for the purposes of call-in on the grounds that any delay is likely to seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

**Responsible Officer: Martin Etchells, Head of Leisure Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

**(2) Item: Destination Stade Update**

**Decision:**

- (1) progress on the 'Destination Stade' programme is noted; and
- (2) Hastings Borough Council reconfirms its absolute commitment to the Jerwood Gallery and the Destination Stade project and consequently additional funds of £186,000 be approved from the 'Seafront Strategy' budget to allow the appointment of an architect, and continue development of our proposals.



**Responsible Officer: Kevin Boorman, Head of Destination Management and Marketing**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

**(3) Item: South East Plan – Secretary of State’s Proposed Changes**

**Decision:**

- (1) the changes in so far as they relate to Hastings be supported;
- (2) the inclusion of Appendix A to policy SC14 be strongly supported but disappointment be expressed that the Hastings to Ashford and Hastings to Tonbridge rail improvements had not been included as strategic infrastructure priorities and a commitment be sought in the Plan to include such schemes of regional significance in the Regional Implementation Plan when it is prepared;
- (3) SEERA be supported in raising the minimum housing provision issue; and
- (4) the Council object to the deletion of the clause in policy SC4 which refers to the infringement of environmental constraints and strongly urge that it is retained with amended wording as set out in paragraph 8.2 of the report.
- (5) the Council object to the lack of reference to important strategic gaps between towns required in order to retain their individual identities.

**Responsible Officer: Tim Cookson, Borough Planning Officer**

**Lead Member: Councillor Matthew Lock**

**(4) Item: White Rock Theatre – Future Management Arrangements**

**Decision:**

- (1) the Chief Executive or nominee, in consultation with relevant Lead Member, be authorised to finalise negotiations with the company and, subject to agreement to satisfactory terms in relation to paragraphs 17 to 20 of the report, to enter into a formal contract as outlined in the report;
- (2) the option to require a Performance Bond not be exercised;
- (3) a sinking fund be established from the savings accrued from year 2 of the contract onwards to cover the costs of any required repairs and renewals; and



(4) the decision be treated as urgent for the purposes of call-in on the grounds that any delay is likely to seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests.

**Responsible Officer: Martin Etchells, Head of Leisure Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

### **Cabinet Meeting held on 3 November 2008**

#### **(1) Item: SEERA Consultation: Permanent Accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople**

##### **Decision:**

That Cabinet advises SEERA that the Borough Council: -

- (a) Has no comments to make on the overall number of permanent spaces proposed for gypsies and travellers and travelling show people;
- (b) Considers that option B best reflects the need in Hastings for permanent accommodation;
- (c) Rejects options C and D for the reasons set out in paragraph 3.2; and
- (d) Considers that there is no evidence of a need or a demand for permanent accommodation for travelling show people in Hastings.

**Responsible Officer: Simon Hubbard, Corporate Director Regeneration and Planning**

**Lead Member: Councillor Matthew Lock**

#### **(2) Item: Scrutiny Review of CCTV – Relocation of CCTV Control Room**

##### **Decision:**

- (1) the proposal to relocate the control room to the Station Plaza complex be approved and £165,000 be added to the Capital Programme for this scheme and the decision be treated as a matter of urgency for the purposes of call in; and
- (2) the Chief Executive or his nominee be authorised to develop a memorandum of understanding with the developer of the Station Plaza site for relocation of the control room.





**Responsible Officer: Richard Homewood, Corporate Director Environmental Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Roy Tucker**

**(3) Item: Motion to Council – Estate Agents’ Boards**

**Decision:**

- (1) the Motion be welcomed; and
- (2) a proposal be submitted to the Secretary of State seeking her agreement to making a Direction under Regulation 7 of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007 to control the display of “for sale”, “to let” and similar advertisements as specified in Class 3A of Schedule 3 of Part 1 of the Regulations on properties facing the sea-front between Grosvenor Crescent and Pelham Crescent, including Warrior Square.

**Responsible Officer: Tim Cookson, Borough Planning Officer**

**Lead Member: Councillor Matthew Lock**

**(4) Item: Corporate Priorities and Financial Strategy (2009-10 To 2011-12)**

**Decision:**

- (1) consult internally and externally on the redrafted Corporate Priorities; and
- (2) approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2009/10 to 2011/12 and the recommendations contained within it.

**Responsible Officer: Roy Mawford, Chief Executive**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell**

**(5) Item: Motion – Ice Rink Proposals**

**Decision:**

- (1) the motion is noted;



- (2) the Council supports the principle of a temporary open-air ice skating rink for the town, during Winter 2009, in Queen's Square Priory Meadow; and
- (3) the ice rink is provided by Priory Meadow Centre and subject to an acceptable business plan, a Council contribution is made in accordance with the terms of the lease for the Centre.

**Responsible Officer: Martin Etchells, Head of Leisure Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

**(6) Item: Play Pathfinder**

**Decision:**

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) the programme of capital expenditure of £276k for playground renewals supported by the Play Pathfinder during 2008/09 and 2009/10 be approved;
- (3) the 2008/09 playground renewals should include Shornden, Waterside Close and West Hill playgrounds;
- (4) the provision of an adventure playground in Hastings be supported in principle;
- (5) the concerns regarding the sustainability of the proposed adventure playground be noted and East Sussex County Council be requested to underwrite the anticipated annual revenue costs arising; and
- (6) a further report be provided as soon as possible on the outcome of the request to East Sussex County Council for future revenue funding support, together with an assessment of the implications arising from the local Steering Group's recommendation regarding the location and sustainability of the proposed adventure playground.

**Responsible Officer: Richard Peters, Corporate Director Community Wellbeing**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

**(7) Item: Future of Area Co-Ordination – Management Response**

**Decision:**

- (1) the report be noted; and



(2) an additional full report be considered by Cabinet following the outcome of a Members' seminar on community empowerment and further discussion with partners.

**Responsible Officer: Simon Hubbard, Corporate Director Regeneration and Planning**

**Lead Member: Councillor Robert Cooke**

**(8) Item: Empty Homes Strategy 2008-2013 and the Management Response to the Overview and Scrutiny Review**

**Decision:**

(1) that the management response to the Overview and Scrutiny review of the Empty Homes Strategy be agreed and officers be requested to undertake further revisions to the document to reflect recent changes to the local housing market.

**Responsible Officer: Andrew Palmer, Head of Housing Services**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

**(9) Item: Merger of 1066 Housing Association with Amicus Horizon**

**Decision:**

(1) Cabinet gives support, in principle, to a merger of 1066 Housing Association and Amicus Horizon; and

(2) the Chief Executive, or his nominee, in consultation with the Lead Member for housing and Opposition Spokespersons or their nominees, is delegated authority to agree the terms of any settlement resulting from the proposed revisions to the transfer agreement.

**Responsible Officer: Richard Peters, Corporate Director Community Wellbeing**

**Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch**

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**Wards Affected**



Ashdown, Baird, Braybrooke, Castle, Central St. Leonards, Conquest, Gensing, Hollington, Maze Hill, Old Hastings, Ore, Silverhill, St. Helens, Tressell, West St. Leonards, Wishing Tree

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**Area(s) Affected**

Central Hastings, East Hastings, North St. Leonards, South St. Leonards

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**Policy Implications**

Please identify if this report contains any implications for the following:

Equalities and Community Cohesiveness	Yes
Crime and Fear of Crime (Section 17)	Yes
Risk Management	No
Environmental Issues	Yes
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	No
Organisational Consequences	No

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**Supporting Documents**

Cabinet Minutes: 8 September, 6 October and 3 November 2008

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**Officer to Contact**

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