

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny (Services)

Date of Meeting: 15 March 2010

Report Title: Monitoring the Implementation of Cabinet Decisions

Report By: Katrina Silverson
Scrutiny and Electoral Services Officer

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

Recommendation(s)

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

Reasons for Recommendations

To inform members of decisions taken by Cabinet since their last meeting on 21 September 2009.

Background

Cabinet Meeting held on 4 January 2010

65. RAIL ISSUES

Decision:

- (1) Hastings Borough Council supports Southern proposals for the East Coastway network changes from December 2010;
- (2) Hastings Borough Council works with other local authorities, MPs and opinion formers, including the Task Force and the A21 Reference Group representing those stations on the Hastings line (Frant and south thereof) to lobby the Department for Transport as strongly as possible for the procurement of suitable rolling stock to allow the extension of peak hour Thameslink services to run to/from Hastings with the introduction of the new Thameslink timetable from 2015;
- (3) Hastings Borough Council supports East Sussex County Council's efforts to ensure that all transport schemes are judged using the same criteria, and that the impact of major regeneration schemes is taken into account when forecasting future demand for rail travel and agrees to write to the Secretary of State for Transport to seek further clarification from him about his understanding of how regeneration features in the appraisal framework for transport schemes; and
4. Hastings Borough Council recommends to the train operating companies that Ore Station be renamed East Hastings.

Responsible Officer: Kevin Boorman, Head of Communications & Marketing

Lead Member: Councillor Matthew Lock

66. AREA BASED GRANT PROGRAMME

Decision:

RESOLVED (unanimously) that ABG funds be ring-fenced as set out in the report.

Responsible Officer: Monica Adams Acton, Head of Regeneration & Community Services

Lead Member: Councillor Matthew Lock

67. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FUNDING

Decision:

- (1) Community Partnerships Funding allocations for 2010-11 be confirmed as set out in Appendix A subject to continued satisfactory performance; and
- (2) an in depth review of performance of Community Partnership Fund project delivery be carried out at the end of the financial year 2009-10 with a report to Cabinet in June 2010.

Responsible Officer: Mary Denning, Strategic Manager, Regeneration & Community Services

Lead Member: Councillor Robert Cooke

Cabinet Meeting held on 18 January 2010

73. DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2010/11 - 2012/13

Decision:

that the first draft of the Corporate Plan for 2010/11 – 2012/13 be approved for consultation subject to the following amendments: -

- (1) Page 25 Priority 5 d): Add at end “including supporting a suitable network of cycle routes through the town”;
- (2) Page 31 Policy, Partnerships and Performance: Add new point 7 “Implement the refreshed Participation Strategy in response to the duty to inform, consult and involve and co-ordinate engagement activity across the Local Strategic Partnership”;
- (3) Page 32 Environmental Health, Parking & Highways: Amend point 5 to read “Reconfirm in our discussions with East Sussex County Council regarding arrangements for the future management of parking and highways services in Hastings, that the borough council strongly believes that the agency agreements for these services should be preserved to allow for the maximum local input”;
- (4) Page 33 Environmental Health, Parking & Highways: Add new point 10 “Work with East Sussex County Council and other partners to ensure Hastings is as well prepared as possible for the demands of winter weather”;
- (5) Page 33 Amenities, Waste and Leisure Services: Add at end of point 6 “and work with the successful contractor and others to consider how to improve or replace the existing facilities and how to identify the appropriate resources to achieve this”;
- (6) Page 34 Amenities, Waste and Leisure Services: Add new point 10 “Continue to work with Hastings United FC to try to realise their aim of a modern stadium suitable for higher division football”;
- (7) Page 34 Amenities, Waste and Leisure Services: Add new point 11 “Continue to provide opportunities for children to develop skills through play by continuing the regular programme of activities – Play Days, street play etc”;
- (8) Page 35 Regeneration and Community Services: Add new point 8 “Work with the Hastings Pier and White Rock Trust to try to find a long-term solution to the problems of Hastings Pier”; and

(9) Page 35 Planning Services: Add new point 6 “Continue to work with the A21 Reference Group and other partners in lobbying to secure improvements to the road and rail transport links, specifically the Hastings-Bexhill Link Road, the A21 and to press for the announcement of a preferred route by the Highways Agency for the Baldslow Link.”

Responsible Officer: Roy Mawford, Chief Executive

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell

74. REVENUE BUDGETS 2009/10 (REVISED) AND 2010/11, PLUS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2009/10 TO 2012/13

Decision:

- (1) the Revised Revenue budget for 2009-10 (Appendix A to the report);
- (2) the draft 2010/11 Revenue (Appendix A to the report) and Capital budgets 2009/10 (revised) to 2012/13;
- (3) the proposed expenditure from the Renewal and Repairs Reserve and Information Technology Reserve (Appendices J and I to the report respectively) and those items from other reserves shown in Appendix H to the report that can proceed without further reference to Cabinet;
- (4) the revised Land Disposal Programme. (Appendix L to the report) and agree that disposals can be brought forward if market conditions make it sensible to do so;
- (5) schemes marked with an asterisk in the Capital Programme proceed without further reference to Cabinet or Council;
- (6) a mid year review of the financial position be considered by Cabinet; and
- (7) the VAT refund be allocated as set out in paragraphs 55 to 62 of the report.

Responsible Officer: Roy Mawford, Chief Executive

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell

75 COUNCIL TAX BASE 2010 -11

Decision:

that the Council Tax base for the year 2010-11 shall be 29,348.

Responsible Officer: Peter, Grace, Head of Financial Services

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell

Cabinet Meeting held on 1 February 2010

78. HASTINGS PIER

Decision:

- (1) approval in principle be developed for a Compulsory Purchase Order. This approval in principle is to lay out in detail all the conditions that, if they were met would enable the Council to make and seal a CPO;
- (2) liaison with Hastings Pier & White Rock Trust continues to ensure that they are assisted in drawing down public funding to produce fuller business plans and technical appraisals that might support their future restoration and use of the Pier; and
- (3) Compulsory Purchase Order process be not begun as proposed in the motion submitted by Councillor Stevens and Councillor Armstrong.

Responsible Officer: Simon Hubbard, Director of Housing, Regeneration & Communities

Lead Member: Councillor Matthew Lock

79. EMPTY HOMES STRATEGY

Decision:

- (1) the revised empty homes strategy and action plan be adopted with the following amendment:
"Page 5, Target 10 milestones replace June with March 2010 and December with September. Target 11 milestones replace April 2011 with December 2010."; and
- (2) the Council make available up to £250,000 to start a rolling programme of Compulsory Purchase Orders. The funding sources for this budget will be discussed in

line with the Council's overall available budget at the time particular properties are identified for a Compulsory Purchase Order.

Responsible Officer: Andrew Palmer, Head of Housing Services

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch

80. RESPONSE TO DRAFT NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

Decision:

that - the response to the Government's consultation on draft National Policy Statements for Energy Infrastructure be ratified as appended to the report of the Head of Regeneration and Community Services.

Responsible Officer: Richard Homewood, Corporate Director, Environment & Leisure Services

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Finch

Cabinet Meeting held on 15 February 2010

81. DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN 2010/11 - 2012/13

Decision:

(1) the content of the document attached to the report of the Chief Executive form the basis of the Council's Corporate Plan 2010/11 - 2012/13, subject to the proviso that any significant amendments made to the Council's draft Budget be reflected in the final Corporate Plan text and subject to the following amendments: -

Page 35

5. Add at end "and mobilise local public opinion against any attempt by the county council to cancel these agreements"; and

Page 43

Add new 6. "Agree and implement our People Strategy and Action Plan. This will steer our continuing work to improve leadership and management skills; enhance organisational development and change management capabilities, and enable and encourage staff to become more involved in shaping services and decision-making";

(2) the Chief Executive be given delegated authority, after consultation with the Leader of the Council and both Opposition Group Leaders, to make further revisions as is considered necessary to the Corporate plan prior to publication to reflect decisions made on the Council's Budget, and to improve the design, layout and to use non-technical, user-friendly language;

- (3) the Plan attached to the report (subject to revisions as referred to in recommendations (1) and (2) be used in the production of a Summary to be circulated to local households together with Council Tax information by 31st March 2010;
- (4) Part III of the Corporate Plan will be produced by the deadline of 30th June 2010, to include a retrospective year-end report on performance and the actual Performance Indicator information for 2009/10; that this information be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in May, prior to consideration by the Cabinet on 14th June 2010; and that the Council be asked to delegate authority to the Cabinet meeting on 14th June 2010 to agree Part III; and
- (5) all who submitted views as part of the consultation process be thanked for their contributions.

Responsible Officer: Roy Mawford, Chief Executive

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell

82. BUDGETS & COUNCIL TAX (2010-11)

(1) the following, as recommended at the meeting on 18 January 2010 and adjusted in respect of the points identified in this report, be approved:

the Revised Revenue Budget for the year 2009–2010 and the Revenue Budget for 2010–2011 (Appendix A);

the Capital Programme for 2009–2013 (Appended);

(2) it be noted that at its meeting on 18 January 2010 the Cabinet agreed the amount of 29,348 as the Council's Council Tax base for the year 2010–11 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;

(3) the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2010–11 in accordance with Section 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

- (a) £101,090,710 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) £83,732,340 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) £17,358,370 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (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) £10,436,720 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 surplus/deficit.)
- (e) £235.85 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount at recommendation (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 £
157.23	183.44	209.64	235.85	288.26	340.67	393.08	471.70

being the amount given by multiplying the amount at (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 2010–11 East Sussex County Council, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Authority and the Sussex Police Authority had 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	772.20	900.90	1,029.60	1,158.30	1,415.70	1,673.10	1,930.50	2,316.60
East Sussex Fire and Rescue	54.57	63.67	72.76	81.86	100.05	118.24	136.43	163.72
Sussex Police	92.28	107.66	123.04	138.42	169.18	199.94	230.70	276.84

(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 (f) above and recommendation 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 2010–11 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below;

A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
1,076.28	1,255.67	1,435.04	1,614.43	1,973.19	2,331.95	2,690.71	3,228.86

(6) subject to the receipt of further VAT refunds, it will be the intention to consider bringing further reports to Cabinet allocating the money as follows:

£200,000 for a pavilion, including public toilet facilities, at West Marina;

£150,000 increase to cushion the impact of significant grant reductions in 2011/12;

£50,000 for sustainable community transport; and

(7) a Mid Year review of the Financial position be considered by Cabinet.

Responsible Officer: Neil Dart, The Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Pragnell

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

Area(s) Affected

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

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	Yes
Environmental Issues	Yes
Economic/Financial Implications	Yes
Human Rights Act	Yes
Organisational Consequences	Yes

Supporting Documents

Cabinet Minutes: 2 March, 30 March and 27 April 2009

\$swm232gc
Report Template v20.0

Officer to Contact

Katrina Silverson
ksilverson@hastings.gov.uk
01424 451747
