

Agenda Item No:

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny (Services)

Date of Meeting: 1 September 2011

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 2 June 2011.

Background

Cabinet Meeting held on 13 June 2011

3. CULTURAL INTERREG BIDS

Decision:

1. the Council bid for up to £395,000 (c. €434,500) of Interreg grant as Lead Partner in the Cultural Capital project to deliver economic regeneration actions, outputs and outcomes. The final bid to be adjusted to reflect confirmed match-funding;
2. the Chief Executive or his nominee, in consultation with the Lead Member of Regeneration and the opposition group Leader or his nominee, be delegated authority for amendments and final sign off of the Cultural Capital bid and related documents for European Interreg funding under the 8th Call of the 2-Seas Programme in order to meet the 8 July 2011 submission deadline; and
3. the Chief Executive or his nominee, in consultation with the Lead Member of Regeneration, be delegated authority for subsequent actions including acceptance of the Grant Offer letter, and entering into Partnership Agreements with other Partners in the bid, to enable implementation if the bid is approved.

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

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Chowney

The reason for this decision was:

The report set out the key strategic objectives and outlined the current situation in regard to the Cultural Capital project initiative. To enable the bid to be submitted, the report sought Cabinet's approval for delegated authority for the final sign off in order to meet the submission deadline of 8 July 2011. The report also sought Cabinet approval for delegated authority to complete other formalities, if the bid were to be approved.

4. PROPOSED ADDITIONAL LICENSING SCHEME FOR HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Decision:

- (1) all Houses in Multiple Occupation in Braybrooke, Castle, Central St Leonards and Gensing wards, currently not subject to mandatory licensing, are designated as subject to additional licensing under section 56(1)(b) of the Housing Act 2004;
- (2) the designation comes into force on the 19 September 2011 and lasts for a period of 5 years; and
- (3) the principles underpinning the licensing conditions proposed at Appendix 2 to the report and the proposed fee structure at Appendix 3 are agreed.

Responsible Officer: Andrew Palmer, Head of Housing Services

Lead Member: Councillor Trevor Webb

The reasons for this decision were:

Hastings had a proportionately large private rented sector. There was a high concentration of HMOs in areas of Hastings and St Leonards where living conditions were often well below standard. The Council wished to implement an HMO additional licensing scheme to help tackle these problems and provide greater protection for tenants. The outcome of consultation had indicated overwhelming support from private tenants, the wider community and from a majority of landlords for additional licensing.

5. JOINT WASTE COMMITTEE – CONSTITUTION AND NOMINATION OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Decision:

- (1) the constitution for the Joint Waste Committee be adopted as set out in Appendix A to the report;
(voting unanimous)
- (2) the Leader of the Council and the Lead Member for Environment and Highways be appointed to the Joint Waste Committee and substitutes may be nominated from time to time;
(voting unanimous)
- (3) Rother District Council be appointed to act as the Administering Authority;
(voting unanimous)
- (4) a supplementary estimate be approved for the contribution of £60,000 to the procurement process to be held by the Administering Authority which will submit regular financial reports to the Joint Waste Committee on commitments;
(voting unanimous)
- (5) the Chief Executive or his nominee in consultation with the Lead Member be delegated authority to authorise the Lead Director for the administering Authority to make minor amendments to the constitution of the Joint Waste Committee; and
(voting unanimous)
- (6) an update report on progress be brought to Cabinet in the early Autumn.
(voting unanimous)

Responsible Officer: Mike Hepworth, Head of Environmental Health

Lead Member: Councillor Phil Scott

The reason for this decision was:

To enable the establishment of the Joint Waste Committee and to appoint Hastings Borough Council representatives so that the procurement of a Joint Waste Contract could proceed.

6. CORPORATE PLAN 2011/12 – 2013/14 PART III: REPORT BACK ON 2010/11 AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS 2011/12

Decision:

- (1) the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Staff and Management Forum be noted and considered for inclusion in the final version;
- (2) the Corporate Plan 2011/12 - 2013/14 Part III be approved for publication (the 28th February Council delegated authority to the Cabinet to approve Part III) with the substitution of 30 for 15 as the target for 2012 for the number of long term empty properties returned to use.

Responsible Officer: Jane Hartnell, Head of Policy, Partnerships and Performance

Lead Member: Councillor Jeremy Birch

The reasons for this decision were:

The Council's Corporate Plan was one of the key documents by which the Council was held to account for its performance, therefore honest and transparent reporting back of how well we performed against targets in the previous year was essential. Local people and staff also needed to be aware of the targets and standards we had set ourselves, and where any of these targets had changed from previous years we needed to be clear about the reasons why.

7 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Decision:

That the contents of the revised Local Development Scheme be agreed, prior to its submission to the Secretary of State.

Responsible Officer: Tim Cookson, Borough Planning Officer

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Chowney

The reason for this decision was:

To meet the requirement for Local Planning Authorities to produce a Local Development Scheme as set out in Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning.

Cabinet Meeting held on 11 July 2011

14. PETITION – LOCAL LIST OF BUILDINGS OF QUALITY FOR RETENTION

Decision:

- (1) the petition be welcomed and the case accepted for establishing a local list of heritage assets important or significant as part of the Local Development Framework process; and
- (2) the community be involved through a 'civic society' to: agree with the Council the criteria for inclusion on a local list of heritage assets and; produce a proposed list of properties through the 'civic society' to be considered for adoption by the Council.

Responsible Officer: Simon Hubbard, Corporate Director Regeneration, Homes and Communities

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Chowney

The reason for this decision was:

In order to provide an appropriate response to the petition.

15. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW OF DERELICT BUILDINGS

Decision:

- (1) the Scrutiny Review Team be thanked for their report; and
- (2) the proposed actions from the resolution of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Services be accepted and implemented.

Responsible Officer: Simon Hubbard, Corporate Director Regeneration, Homes and Communities

Lead Member: Councillor Peter Chowney

The reason for this decision was:

To respond to the Scrutiny Review Team's recommendations.

17. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW OF YOUTH LEISURE PROVISION

Decision:

- (1) the Scrutiny Review Team be thanked for their report;

- (2) the recommendations of the review be agreed; and
- (3) the management response be approved.

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

Lead Member: Councillor Trevor Webb

The reasons for this decision were:

The review was undertaken to identify ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of local provision and to increase awareness and participation by young people. A Cabinet report setting out the management response to the outcome of the review was required.

18. SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Decision:

- (1) the findings of the Hastings Surface Water Management Plan study are noted;
and
- (2) the action plan be approved.

**Responsible Officer: Virginia Gilbert, Head of Amenities and Leisure
Services**

Lead Member: Councillor Phil Scott

The reasons for this decision were:

The aftermath of the 2009 Hollington flooding exposed areas of uncertainty and lack of clarity over responsibility for flood prevention and inland flood defences around the Borough. The Council bid successfully for funding from the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for a Surface Water Management Plan for the Borough. A multi-agency team was established and an engineering consultant appointed to lead the study. The study report and action plan had been agreed by the agencies; Councillors and the public should now be made aware of the results, the role of public agencies, sources of assistance and the responsibilities of property owners and the public generally.

19. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FUND

Decision:

- (1) the priorities for CPF grant funding be approved as set out in the report, , subject to the addition of the words, “including advice to young people” to proposed CPF priority outcome a. iv Employability / vocational skills provision, with any subsequent grants being subject to the Council’s budget decisions in February 2012;
- (2) the next Community Partnership Fund round be for one year (2012-13); and
- (3) a comprehensive review of the Council’s financial support of community and voluntary organisations be completed in time to inform the Council’s priorities and budgets for 2013-14 and beyond.

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

Lead Member: Councillor Jay Kramer

The reasons for this decision were:

The current CPF round would end in March 2012. There was an indicative figure of £374,000 earmarked for CPF in 2012-13, although any final sum would be determined as part of the Council’s normal budget process. It was sensible to set priorities for CPF funding in accordance with the Council’s refreshed corporate objectives and priorities. These priorities needed to be determined now to allow sufficient time for the application process to be completed in time for grant decisions in early 2012.

The Council received Transitional Grant which the government had stated would not continue beyond 2012-13. The magnitude of the reduction in the Council’s level of resources by March 2013 would have a significant impact on all aspects of the Council’s services. In this context, it was prudent to review the Council’s support for community and voluntary organisations to help inform future resource allocations.

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: 13 June and 11 July 2011

Officer to Contact

Katrina Silverson
ksilverson@hastings.gov.uk
01424 451747
