

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

THE EXECUTIVE
Tuesday, 12 May 2009

DECISIONS DIGEST

THE CALL-IN DEADLINE FOR ANY ITEMS CONTAINED IN THIS DIGEST IS 5.00 P.M. ON THURSDAY 21 MAY 2009 SUBJECT TO ANY CALL-IN REQUESTS BEING RECEIVED, ALL THE DECISIONS WILL BE ACTIONED ON OR AFTER FRIDAY 22 MAY 2009.

**DATE
ISSUED/PUBLISHED
THURSDAY 14 MAY 2009**

AGENDA ITEM NO./SUBJECT	DECISION	PORTFOLIO HOLDER	ACTIONING OFFICER
<p>RSS14: EAST OF ENGLAND REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY SINGLE ISSUE REVIEW CONSULTATION - PLANNING FOR GYPSY & TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION: PROPOSED CHANGES (APRIL 2009) (Contact Officer: Pru Khimasia, Senior Planning Officer email:pru.khimasia@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01462 611473)</p>	<p>1. <i>That in its response to the Proposed Changes to the Single Issue Review, the Executive:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>Objects to the additional requirement for Gypsy and Traveller pitches in the former South Bedfordshire and former Mid Bedfordshire areas on the basis that, in the light of the most up to date information, the level of need has not been justified.</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Strongly objects to the Secretary of State's proposals that the figures be regarded as minima, on the basis that to do so would lead to uncertainty for both gypsies and travellers and the settled community alike.</i></p>	<p>Portfolio for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Director of Sustainable Communities</p>

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	<p>(c) <i>Whilst not accepting the increase in pitch numbers as noted in (a) above, accepts a split of pitches between the former Mid Bedfordshire area and the former South Bedfordshire area, as recommended in the Panel Report, until such time as the two separate Local Development Frameworks are combined.</i></p> <p>(d) <i>Rejects the proposed change to combine the delivery of pitches as a Central Bedfordshire total and continues to support the delivery of pitches in the two separate Development Plan Documents for the former Mid Bedfordshire and former South Bedfordshire areas, in line with existing Council policy and transition regulations.</i></p> <p>(e) <i>Supports the flexibility within the RSS to determine longer term need for pitches through a review of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments.</i></p> <p>(f) <i>Objects to the need for separate transit requirements for Central Bedfordshire and Luton.</i></p> <p>(g) <i>Notes the addition of new policy H4A but considers that local authorities should accommodate Travelling Showpeople pitches to meet recognised historic, local need.</i></p>		

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	<p>(h) <i>Opposes the proposals that Local Development Documents should consider the need for rural exception sites and alteration of Green Belt boundaries.</i></p> <p>2. <i>That this Executive expresses (a) its concern at the methodology the Department for Communities and Local Government has used to determine the requirements for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation; and (b) its view that all local authorities, both urban and rural, have the same obligation to address the needs of Gypsies and Travellers.</i></p>		
<p>BEAR PROJECT LAND PURCHASE OPTION AGREEMENT <i>(Contact Officer: Ben Finlayson, BEaR Project Manager email:ben.finlayson@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01234 228927))</i></p>	<p>1. The Executive notes that by signing the option agreement the Authority is committing to purchase the site on a freehold basis subject to:</p> <p>(a) the successful bidder electing to utilise the site; and</p> <p>(b) planning permission being granted for the proposal.</p> <p>2. That the Directors of Sustainable Communities and Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Safer and Stronger Communities and Corporate Resources, be given delegated authority to:</p> <p>(a) finalise negotiations with the landowner in line with the approximate costs detailed within the</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities</p>	<p>Director of Sustainable Communities</p>

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	<p>submitted report and authorise the signing of the option agreement on behalf of the Council; and</p> <p>(b) continue dialogue with the other Partnership members to obtain agreement on the cost share for approval by members later in the procurement process.</p>		
<p>GRANT AID <i>(Contact Officer: Sue Barrow, PA to Assistant Director Leisure, Culture, Libraries, Adult & Community Learning and Grants Officer email:sue.barrow@centralbedfords hire.gov.uk Tel: 01462 611243)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the proposed criteria for the Central Bedfordshire grant aid schemes as set out in Appendices B1, B2 and B3 of the submitted report be approved as an interim arrangement. 2. That the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee be requested to consider the mechanisms and criteria for a more permanent grant aid scheme. 	<p>Portfolio for Safer and Stronger Communities</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children, Families and Learning</p>
<p>APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS <i>(Contact Officer: Rob Mills, Committee Services Manager email:rob.mills@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5274)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children, Families and Learning, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Learning and group leaders, be given delegated authority to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) extend the terms of office of all local authority governors currently in place across Central Bedfordshire until 31 August 2009; and (b) agree the process for appointing local authority governors to school governing bodies across Central Bedfordshire, for a new four-year term beginning 1 September 2009. 	<p>Portfolio for Children, Families and Learning</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children, Families and Learning</p>

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	<p>2. That the Monitoring Officer report to the Council's Annual General Meeting on 18 June 2009 on the 'in principle' allocation of governor places in line with overall political proportionality on the new Council.</p>		
<p>SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FORUM - MEMBERSHIP <i>(Contact Officer: Rob Mills, Committee Services Manager email:rob.mills@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 300 5274)</i></p>	<p>1. That the amended terms of reference for the Admissions Forum as set out in Appendix A of the submitted report be approved, including a revised membership and role, in compliance with the new regulations and Admissions Code.</p> <p>2. That the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children, Families and Learning and the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children, Families and Learning, be given delegated authority to approve any future minor amendments to the Admissions Forum's membership arrangements where these have been recommended by the Forum itself.</p>	<p>Portfolio for Children, Families and Learning</p>	<p>Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Children, Families and Learning</p>
<p>MEMBERS' ICT PROVISION POLICY <i>(Contact Officer: Rob Wood, Assistant Director ICT email:rob.wood@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01582 474161)</i></p>	<p>That the proposed Members ICT provision as set out in paragraphs 8 to 23 of the submitted report be approved.</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources</p>	<p>Director of Corporate Resources</p>

AGENDA ITEM NO.	DECISION	PORTFOLIO HOLDER	ACTIONING OFFICER
<p>MILTON KEYNES AND CENTRAL BEDS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON JOINT WORKING FOR THE SOUTH EAST EXPANSION AREA <i>(Contact Officer: Sue Frost, Senior Planning Officer email: sue.frost@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01462 611337)</i></p>	<p>That the Joint Memorandum of Understanding as set out in Appendix A to the submitted report be endorsed as the basis for an agreement on joint working arrangements to support, implement and fund the production of a development framework for the whole of the Milton Keynes South East Strategic Development Area.</p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Director of Sustainable Communities</p>
<p>MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME <i>(Contact Officer: Roy Romans, Minerals and Waste Team Leader email:roy.romans@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01234 228091)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Central Bedfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme as set out in Appendix A to the submitted report be approved for formal submission to the Secretary of State, and following approval be brought into effect. 2. That the Director of Sustainable Communities, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development, be authorised to make any changes to the Central Bedfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme both prior to submission, and in response to any comments made by GOEAST and the Secretary of State. 	<p>Portfolio for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Director of Sustainable Communities</p>

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<p>COUNCIL HOUSING RENT INCREASE FOR 2009/10 (Contact Officer: Mr T Keaveney, Assistant Director Housing Services email: tony.keaveney@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 3008 000 Ext. 32257)</p>	<p>1. <i>The Executive approves an amended rate of increase for Council rents to the rate of increase that was originally approved by Council on 26 February 2009, as follows:</i></p> <p>(a) <i>that the rate of increase is in principle reduced from an average of 6.2 per cent. to an average of 3.168 per cent. in accordance with the Government's Rent Convergence Policy and published Draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Determination;</i></p> <p>(b) <i>that the increase is in principle applied from 29 June 2009, and the full year effect of a 3.168% per cent. average increase is payable over the remaining 37 rent weeks of the year 2009/10.</i></p> <p>(c) <i>that the Directors of Social Care, Health and Housing and Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Social Care Health and Housing and Corporate Resources, be given delegated authority to determine and approve the precise level of rent increase and the exact date from which the increase shall apply, once the Government has published its final HRA Determination, provided that the budget position overall remains unaltered and the approach is consistent with the position and intent set out in the submitted report.</i></p>	<p>Portfolio Holder for Social Care, Health and Housing</p>	<p>Director of Social Care, Health and Housing</p>

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	<p>2. <i>That the Executive notes that the effect of the reduced rate of increase in council rents is neutral to the Council's Housing Revenue Account, which continues to be viable for a period of not less than 15 years, as set out in the Budget reports to the Shadow Executive and Council in February 2009.</i></p>		
<p>CONSOLIDATION PLAN - PROGRESS REPORT <i>(Contact Officer: Ian Dailey, Programme Management Team Leader email:ian.dailey@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0300 3008 000)</i></p>	<p>1. That a report be made to the next meeting of the Executive on the Business Improvement Plan proposals.</p> <p>2. That the transition budget monitoring follow the normal financial budget monitoring arrangements of the Authority.</p>	<p>Portfolio for Business Transformation</p>	<p>Director of Business Transformation</p>
<p>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT 2007 <i>(Contact Officer: Susan Childerhouse, Head of Public Protection (North) email:susan.childerhouse@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01462 611394)</i></p>	<p>1. That Councillor David Lawrence be requested to attend the Venture Day at Cranfield University on 14 May 2009.</p> <p>2. That the Director of Sustainable Communities be requested to :</p> <p>(a) report to the next meeting of the Executive on Councillor Lawrence's suggestion regarding an electric vehicle programme including the opportunities to bid or otherwise under the Sustainable Communities Act 2007; and</p> <p>(b) write to the Local Government Association informing them at this stage of the possibility of a bid.</p>	<p>Portfolio for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Director of Sustainable Communities</p>

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<p>LUTON GATEWAY: COMPANY INCORPORATION AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP <i>(Contact Officer: Liz Wade, Assistant Director Economic Growth and Regeneration email:liz.wade@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 01234 228972)</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Executive endorses: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the progress being made to establish and incorporate Luton Gateway; and (b) the proposal to present a full report and draft annual delivery plan to a future meeting of the Executive for approval. 2. That the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development and the Leader or his/her nominee be appointed as directors on the Board of Luton Gateway. 3. That the Directors of Sustainable Communities and Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development, be given delegated authority to agree the company incorporation documents on behalf of the Council. 	<p>Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>Director of Sustainable Communities</p>

Date Issued:	14 May 2009	To:	All Members of the Council and Management Team
<p>NOTE: Resolutions of the Executive shown in italics are NOT subject to call-in.</p>			