HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

THURSDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2011

DECISION SHEET

I C Bates, K J Churchill, D B Dew, J A Gray, A Hansard, C R Hyams, Mrs D C Reynolds, T V Rogers and L M Simpson PRESENT:

ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	CONTACT OFFICER
1	Budget 2011/12 and medium term plan 2012 to 2016	
	Recommended to full Council that subject to appropriate adjustments to the Annexes to reflect the final settlements for the Government Formula and New Homes Reward Grants, the proposed budget, Medium Term Plan and Financial Plan be approved and that there be no increase in Council Tax for 2011/12, i.e. Band D charge will remain at £124.17.	S Couper 388103
2	Treasury Management Strategy 2011/12	
	Approved the contents of the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2011/12 and recommended the Strategy to Council for approval along with the the Treasury Management Indicators and Prudential Indications for 2011/12.	Mrs E Smith 388157
3	Asset Management Plan - Annual Report	
	Noted the Council's management of assets against national property performance management indicators for 2009/10.	K Phillips 388260
4	New Local Transport Plan (LTP3)	
	Recommended to Council approval of the District Statement for Huntingdonshire for inclusion in the Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan and requested the Head of Planning Services to inform the County Council of the District Council's concerns with regard to the impact of reduced funding for the proposed Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan on the County's ability to deliver an improved transport infrastructure and of the need to pursue all possible alternative sources of funding including the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.	M Sharp 388300

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5	Open Space Strategy	
	Recommended to Council the adoption of the draft Open Space Strategy for Huntingdonshire 2011 – 2016 and supporting action plans.	J Craig 388638
6	Huntingdon West Area Adoption procedures	
	Recommended to Council that they approve the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan (AAP) as part of the Council's Development Plan.	Ms L Hughes 387069
7	Planning Conservation	
	requested the planning division to hold regular meetings with a representative of Hinchingbrooke and Kimbolton Schools (and Abbey College, Ramsey if appropriate) with the aim of developing a good working relationship on conservation issues and planning future maintenance requirements and nominated Councillor R J West as an intermediary between the Division and each of the schools to attend (and potentially) chair those meetings;	R Reeves 388003
	agreed to offer specific training to town and parish councils in heritage and conservation issues to raise awareness locally on the subject and on the value of conservation character statements, buildings at risk register, etc.;	
	suggested that town and parish councils be encouraged to work with the District Council on heritage and conservation issues by alerting the Council of any deterioration in the condition of listed buildings and unauthorised works to listed buildings or in conservation areas in their parishes;	
	requested that consideration be given to regular meetings between conservation officers and parish councils with a view to refreshing the training provided;	
	suggested that town and parish councils be encouraged where conservation groups or civic societies currently do not exist to seek the establishment of such bodies to promote an interest in the local heritage;	

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	agreed that ways of improving the District Councils website be explored to provide additional information on conservation issues and procedures;	
	requested the Conservation Team to publicise the availability of grants from potential sources to help owners of listed buildings fund the cost of maintenance and repairs;	
	requested that representations be made through the Local Government Association to alter the present arrangements for value added tax so that repairs and maintenance of listed buildings become zero rated, thereby reducing the cost of maintaining heritage assets; and	
	encouraged officers to use 'plain English' in their communications with the public to help in an understanding of complex conservation issues and explain what is required.	