

# HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## CABINET

THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2004

### DECISION SHEET

**PRESENT:** I C Bates, Mrs J Chandler, R L Clarke, Mrs K P Gregory, N J Guyatt, D P Holley, T V Rogers and L M Simpson

ITEM NO.	SUBJECT	CONTACT OFFICER
1	<p><b>OXMOOR ACTION PLAN - INTERIM PLANNING GUIDANCE</b></p> <p>Noted progress achieved to-date in implementing the Oxmoor Action Plan, including the redevelopment of the Sapley Square area, the commencement of environmental improvements and the disposal of District Council land at Buttsgrove Way to Huntingdonshire Housing Partnership for the development of 30 affordable housing units.</p>	R Probyn 388430
2	<p><b>WASTE PFI</b></p> <p>Approved the powers proposed for the Member Board, as summarised in Annex A of the report, and the overall governance proposals for the period prior to a final decision on procurement; approved the existing provision for waste procurement in the MTP of £50,000 and £20,000 in 2004/05 and 2005/06 respectively for the purposes referred to in paragraph 4.9 of the report; noted the governance options for the management of any joint contract and the service delivery implications for the District Council ; requested the Director of Operational Services to provide to a future meeting of the Cabinet an evaluation of the governance options and service delivery implications of the procurement process; agreed that a progress report on the matter be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels in April 2004; and authorised the Director of Operational Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for the Environment and/or the Deputy Leader, to determine the content of a Members' Seminar to be held on 2nd March 2004.</p>	R Preston 388340
3	<p><b>WASTE STRATEGY</b></p> <p>Noted the securing of £1.8 million of grant funding from the Government's Recycling Challenge Fund and the introduction of wheeled bins for dry recyclables in the garden waste trial area (the cost to be met from the 2003/04 Government grant provision) and the revenue</p>	R Preston 388340

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	<p>implications for the MTP. Also agreed to release the relevant funding in respect of the Garden Waste – District-Wide scheme in the MTP.</p>	
4	<p><b>LGA - CONSULTATION PAPER - BALANCE OF FUNDING</b></p> <p>Agreed to submit the following comments of the Cabinet to the LGA –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Need first to review the duties, functions and powers of local government.</li> <li>2. any new system of local government finance should be fair, open and understandable.</li> <li>3. Support for property-based tax with an improved (tapering) benefits system which reflects the investment value (ie, the income from investments) rather than the capital value of investments.</li> <li>4. Do <u>not</u> support relocalisation of business rates.</li> <li>5. Do <u>not</u> support local income tax because it would be difficult/expensive to administer and collect and would require significant and costly restructuring of the Inland Revenue's existing arrangements.</li> <li>6. Do <u>not</u> support local car tax, congestion charges, 'green' taxes or local tourism or sales taxes.</li> </ol>	<p>S Couper 388103</p>
5	<p><b>REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION</b></p> <p>Agreed to submit the following comments to the Standards Committee on the review of the Constitution:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ substitution arrangements – if introduced substitute Members need to be named prior to the meeting, absences should continue to be recorded and a proportionate approach adopted;</li> <li>◆ public forum at full Council meetings – opposed the suggestion that there should be provision within the Council meetings for questioning the Chairman;</li> <li>◆ opportunity for a Member who proposes an amendment to the original motion to reply – in principal no objection;</li> <li>◆ public speaking at Overview and Scrutiny Panels – opposed to suggestion that the Overview and Scrutiny Panel Chairmen be given the authority to invite Members of the public to speak at their Panel meetings and agreed that the present arrangement</li> </ul>	<p>Mrs C Deller 388007</p>

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	<p>whereby the Panel invite representatives continues;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ introduction of a third Overview and Scrutiny Panel – do not recognise the need for an additional Panel;</li> <li>◆ Policy changes – do not recognise the need to make a provision in the constitution for policy changes to be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Panels prior to their consideration by the Cabinet given the available facility to uplift these items from the forward plan; and</li> <li>◆ pre-publicity for Council meetings – do not recognise the need for additional publicity for the annual debate on the state of the District.</li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS AND OTHER ACCOMMODATION MEMBERS ADVISORY GROUP</b></p> <p>Approved the specification for the option appraisal work as set out in the office accommodation and depot brief and requested a further report to a future meeting of the Cabinet following the tendering process; deferred consideration of an option to relocate to an edge of town location pending the outcomes of the option appraisals for the refurbishment of Pathfinder House/Castle Hill House or redevelopment of either Pathfinder House or the bus station site in Huntingdon Town Centre; and approved the appointment of CPMG Consultants to prepare an urban design framework for the Pathfinder House site.</p>	<p>A Roberts 388009</p>