



BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2011, AT 6.00 P.M.

THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BURCOT LANE, BROMSGROVE

SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION

The attached papers were specified as "to follow" on the Agenda previously distributed relating to the above mentioned meeting.

6. Cabinet Response to the Reduction in Bus Services Task Group Report (Pages 1 - 4)
10. Forward Plan of Key Decisions (Pages 5 - 16)

K. DICKS
Chief Executive

The Council House
Burcot Lane
BROMSGROVE
Worcestershire
B60 1AA

21st October 2011

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Cabinet Response to the Reduction in Bus Services Task Group Scrutiny Report

Introduction

At the Cabinet meeting on 5th October 2011 consideration was given to the report of the Task Group on the Reduction in Bus Services. The Leader welcomed the Chairman of the Task Group, Councillor C. J. Bloore to the meeting and invited him to introduce the report.

Councillor Bloore gave background information on the reasons for establishing the Task Group and the sequence of events subsequent to this. There was a detailed discussion on the recommendations

Response to recommendations

Please find below responses to the recommendations contained within the scrutiny report:

Recommendation 1

That within the Council Constitution, the Corporate Delegations in respect of Consultation Documents be amended as follows:

“**Detail** - To respond to Consultations by the County Council

Delegated to: That consultations routinely go to full Council for debate. However when there are timescale or other issues which would prevent this then the Chief Executive responds in consultation with the relevant Ward Members.”

Cabinet Response

- (a) that the spirit of the recommendation be approved but that officers be requested to report back to Overview and Scrutiny Board with suitable wording in order to amend the Constitution; and
- (b) that it be ensured that the amendment to the Constitution recognises that there may be occasions when this Council is not consulted formally by the County Council on proposals but which Members may still wish to debate at Council by way of a Notice of Motion.

(revised wording attached)

Implementation Date:

Recommendation 2

That the Council support Worcestershire County Council by contacting the bus operators, Black Diamond and Johnson's Coaches to make representations for the 204 service to be reinstated and for clarification on the future of the X50 service.

Cabinet Response

That the recommendation be supported but that in order that there is a specific point of contact on this matter, the letter be sent to the Portfolio Holder for Transport at the County Council rather than the bus operators.

Implementation Date: November 2011

The Leader thanked the Task Group for their work in producing the report which had provoked an interesting debate.

Councillor Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP - Portfolio Holder for Community Services.

Revised Wording in respect of Recommendation 1

1.1 Where the Council is asked to respond to a consultation on a matter for which the local authority has a responsibility or where it affects the District of Bromsgrove and where the time scales for responding permit then they shall be a matter for the Full Council to consider.

1.2 In any event all consultations will pass automatically upon receipt to the Chief Executives Department and will either be managed in accordance with 1.1 above or where 1.1 does not apply will be passed to the Leader of the Council for comment and the relevant Head of Service or Director to provide a response as appropriate.

For the purposes of this delegation a consultation shall not be regarded as affecting the District of Bromsgrove if it relates to a national issue and would have no more effect on the District of Bromsgrove than it would on any other area; or

If it relates to actions taken by or statements made by a body or individual connected with the District, but those actions or statements are not specifically related to the District of Bromsgrove.

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FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

1 NOVEMBER 2011 TO 29 FEBRUARY 2012

This Forward Plan lists the **Key Decisions** which it is proposed to take during the period 1 November 2011 to 29 February 2012. **Key Decisions** are executive decisions which must be taken or delegated by the Council's Cabinet and relate to matters which fall within the Council's agreed Budget and Policy Framework.

Key Decisions are those executive decisions which are likely to:

- (i) result in the Council incurring expenditure, foregoing income or the making of savings in excess of £50,000 or which are otherwise significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) be significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the district;

Key Decisions will include:

1. A decision which would result in any expenditure or saving by way of a reduction in expenditure of £50,000 provided the expenditure or saving is specifically approved in the Medium Term Financial Plan.
2. A virement of any amount exceeding £50,000 provided it is within any virement limits approved by the Council;
3. Any proposal to dispose of any Council asset with a value of £50,000 or more or which is otherwise considered significant by the Corporate Property Officer;
4. Any proposal to cease to provide a Council service (other than a temporary cessation of service of not more than 6 months).
5. Any proposal which would discriminate for or against any minority group.

Further details of each Key Decision are appended to the Forward Plan. To assist with internal forward planning, this Plan also lists other non-key decisions which the Cabinet is expected to make during the specified four month period. It also includes decisions to be taken over a longer period where these are known. The Forward Plan is updated and published on the Council's website on a monthly basis.

CABINET MEMBERSHIP

Councillor R. Hollingworth	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Partnerships and Economic Development
Councillor Mrs. M. A. Sherrey	Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Community Services, Older People, the Young and Vulnerable People
Councillor M. J. A. Webb	Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Cultural Services, Environmental Services and Emergency Planning
Councillor Dr. D. W. P. Booth	Portfolio Holder for Business Transformation (including ICT) with special responsibility for the Town Centre Regeneration and Special Projects
Councillor C. B. Taylor	Portfolio Holder for Planning, Core Strategy, Regulatory Services and Strategic Housing
Councillor M. A. Bullivant	Portfolio Holder for Policy, Performance, Communications, Customer Services, Legal, Equalities, Democratic Services and Human Resources

CONSULTATION AND REPRESENTATIONS

For **Key Decisions** the summary document appended to the Forward Plan sets out details of any proposed consultation process. Any person/organisation not listed who would like to be consulted or who wishes to make representations on the proposed decision are encouraged to get in touch with the relevant report author as soon as possible before the proposed date of the decision. Contact details are provided.

Alternatively you may write to The Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove B60 1AA or email: committee@bromsgrove.gov.uk

Item No.	Decision Taker & Expected Date of Decision	Original Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Decision	Type of Decision (Key or Non-Key)	Lead Councillor/ Portfolio Holder	Comments
1	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Enforcement Policy (<i>recommendation from the Worcestershire Shared Services Joint Committee</i>)	Non-Key*	Councillor C. B. Taylor	*Cabinet will make recommendations to the full Council on 16 November 2011
2	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Feedback from Consultation on the Draft Core Strategy	Non-Key*	Councillor C. B. Taylor	*Cabinet will make recommendations to the full Council on the final Core Strategy in the new year
3	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/13 – 2014/15 - Presentation on Bids and Savings	Non-Key*	Councillor R. Hollingworth	*Cabinet will make recommendations on the Budget in due course to the full Council on 22 February 2012
4	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Proposed Merger of North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnerships	Non-Key*	Councillor Mrs. M. A. Sherrey	*Cabinet will make recommendations to the full Council on 16 November 2011
5	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Single Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire	Non-Key*	Councillor R. Hollingworth	*Cabinet will make recommendations to the full Council on 16 November 2011
6	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Disposal of Recreation Road North Car Park (<i>this report will contain exempt information and be considered in private session</i>)	Key	Councillor Dr. D. W. P. Booth	
7	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Bromsgrove Partnership Annual Report 2010/11	Non-Key	Councillor R. Hollingworth	

8	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Corporate Data Backup	Non-Key	Councillor Dr. D. W. P. Booth	
9	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Finance & Performance Monitoring Report – Quarter 2 2011/12	Non-Key	Councillors R. Hollingworth & M. A. Bullivant	
10	Cabinet 2 November 2011	Cabinet 5 October 2011	Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy	Non-Key	Councillor Mrs. M. A. Sherrey	Delayed by officers for further consideration
11	Cabinet 2 November 2011		Update on Waste and Street Scene Publicity Plan	Non-Key	Councillor M. J. A. Webb	
12	Cabinet 7 December 2011		Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/13 – 2014/15 – Verbal update on the Budget position	Non-Key*	Councillor R. Hollingworth	*Cabinet will make recommendations on the Budget in due course to the full Council on 22 February 2012
13	Cabinet 7 December 2011	Cabinet 5 October 2011	Home Choice Plus Allocations Policy Review	Key	Councillor C. B. Taylor	Delayed by officers pending further information on financial implications
14	Cabinet 7 December 2011		Council Tax Base Calculation 2012/13	Non-Key	Councillor R. Hollingworth	
15	Cabinet 7 December 2011		Future Engagement with Parish Councils	Non-Key	Councillor M. A. Bullivant	

16	Cabinet 7 December 2011		Victoria Ground Capital Works	Non-Key	Councillor M. J. A. Webb	
17	Cabinet 4 January 2012		<i>No items listed at this stage</i>			
18	Cabinet 1 February 2012		Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/13 – 2014/15 (to make recommendations on the Capital and Revenue Budgets and on the Council Tax Level for 2012/13)	Non-Key*	Councillor R. Hollingworth	*Cabinet will make recommendations to the full Council on 22 February 2012
19	Cabinet 1 February 2012		Homelessness Grant - Performance of 2011/12 Schemes and Proposed Funding of Schemes for 2012/13	Key	Councillor C. B. Taylor	
20	Cabinet 7 March 2012		County Homelessness Strategy	Key	Councillor C. B. Taylor	

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KEY DECISION

Proposed to be made by
the Cabinet on
7th December 2011

<p>LEAD MEMBER/ PORTFOLIO HOLDER</p> <p>Cllr Kit Taylor</p>	<p>ITEM</p> <p>HOME CHOICE PLUS ALLOCATIONS POLICY REVIEW</p>	<p>WARDS AFFECTED</p> <p>All</p>
<p>DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE DECISION TAKER</p> <p>A Report to Request Approval of a revised Home Choice Plus allocations policy</p> <p>REPORT AUTHOR Andy Coel, Strategic Housing Manager and Amanda Glennie, Strategic Housing Officer</p>	<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>Home Choice Plus will have been in operation for 3 years in Oct 2011 and in view of changes in Government guidance and policy we have carried out a review of the way we prioritise applicants in need of housing and allocate properties. Some of the changes will ensure that the policy is compliant with current legislation.</p>	<p>REASONS FOR BEING ON THE FORWARD PLAN</p> <p>Significant effect on all wards</p>

<p>CONSULTATION DETAILS</p> <p>Stakeholders Home Choice Plus Partners – all Worcestershire local authorities (excluding Redditch) plus Stratford.</p>	<p>Method of Consultation</p> <p>On line Survey for applicants, members of the public, partners and other interested bodies.</p>	<p>Consultation period or dates</p> <p>June – July 2011</p>
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DECISION TO BE MADE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
N/A

KEY DECISION

Proposed to be made by
the Cabinet on
2nd March 2012

<p>LEAD MEMBER/ PORTFOLIO HOLDER Kit Taylor</p>	<p>ITEM COUNTY HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY</p>	<p>WARDS AFFECTED All</p>
<p>DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE DECISION TAKER The County Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>REPORT AUTHOR Andy Coel Strategic Housing Manager</p>	<p>SUMMARY The report introduces a revised and updated County Homelessness Strategy for approval. The Strategy sits under the County Homelessness Strategy and sets out the County’s goals and aspirations for preventing homelessness or meeting the needs of those who become homeless. The Strategy will be in two parts – the Countywide element and then a series of local Action Plans for each partner local authority.</p>	<p>REASONS FOR BEING ON THE FORWARD PLAN The Strategy is relevant for anyone who is facing homelessness or actually homeless across this District.</p>

CONSULTATION DETAILS	Method of Consultation	Consultation period or dates
<p>Stakeholders Service users, partners and other stakeholders</p>	<p>Paper and telephone survey of those who have accessed housing options services across the County. Interviews of homeless households. Countywide Home Truths event for stakeholders.</p> <p>Draft report circulated to partners and stakeholders</p>	<p>July – Sept 2011</p> <p>Oct – Nov 2011</p>

DECISION TO BE MADE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Other local authorities across the County.

KEY DECISION

Proposed to be made by
the Cabinet on
1st February 2012

LEAD MEMBER/ PORTFOLIO HOLDER	ITEM	WARDS AFFECTED
<p>DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE DECISION TAKER</p> <p>A report to confirm expenditure of grant for 2011/12 and request for homelessness grant funding of schemes for 2012/13</p> <p>REPORT AUTHOR Andy Coel, Strategic Housing Manager and Amanda Glennie, Strategic Housing Officer</p>	<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>The report will provide Members with a progress report on schemes currently in place in the District for 2011/12 and seeks Members approval for the award of grant to specific schemes during 2012/13 recommended by the Homelessness Strategy Steering Group.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>REASONS FOR BEING ON THE FORWARD PLAN</p> <p>Significant effect on all wards</p>

<p>CONSULTATION DETAILS</p> <p>Stakeholders Registered Housing Providers, Charities, CAB, Supporting People, Childrens Services, Specialist housing organisations.</p>	<p>Method of Consultation</p> <p>Consultation with Homelessness Strategy Steering Group</p>	<p>Consultation period or dates</p> <p>Nov – Dec 2011</p>
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DECISION TO BE MADE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
N/A