

MEETING OF THE CABINET – 9TH FEBRUARY, 2011

NOTICE OF DECISIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Cabinet, at its meeting held on the 9th February, 2011, made the decisions indicated in respect of the items listed:

Item

Decision

Revenue Budget Strategy
and Setting the Council Tax
2011/12

(1) That the Council be recommended to approve:-

- (a) The budget requirement for 2011/12, and service allocations as set out in the report submitted to the meeting.
- (b) That the statutory amounts required to be calculated for the Council's spending; income and use of reserves; budget requirement and; transfers to and from its collection fund as referred to in Section 67(2)(b) be now calculated by the Council for the year 2011/12 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 as shown in Appendix 2 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (c) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts in Appendix 2 of the report submitted to the meeting, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, agrees the following levels of Council Tax for Dudley Council services for 2011/12.

Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£	£	£	£
750.26	875.30	1000.34	1125.39
E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£
1375.47	1625.56	1875.64	2250.77

Plus the amounts to be notified for the Police, and Fire and Rescue Authority precepts.

- (2) That the Cabinet Members, Chief Executive and Directors be authorised to take all necessary steps to implement the proposals contained in the report submitted to the meeting, in accordance with the Council's Financial Management Regime.
- (3) That the Council reminds the Chief Executive and Directors to exercise strict budgetary control in accordance with the Financial Management Regime and care and caution in managing the 2011/12 budget, particularly in the context of commitments into later years and the impact that any overspending in 2011/12 will have on the availability of resources to meet future budgetary demands.
- (4) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) set out as Attachment A to the report submitted to the meeting be approved, including the revised budget for 2010/11 summarised in paragraph 18 of the MTFS.
- (5) That for furnished but unoccupied properties (except where the liable person resides at another property which is job related), e.g. second homes, the council tax discount be reduced from 25% of the applicable charge to 10% with effect from 1st April 2011.
- (6) That the Treasurer be authorised to convert the cost of Compensatory Added Years (CAYs) previously awarded to employees into funded benefits where appropriate, and to notify the West Midlands Pension Fund accordingly.
- (7) That the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Personnel, Legal and Property, be authorised to determine all applications for voluntary redundancy including those where there are pension implications, up to a maximum of £6m for direct redundancy costs and £2.5m for the capitalised cost of pension strain.

Deployment of resources:
Housing Revenue Account
and Public Sector Housing
Capital

- (1) That a rent increase for Housing Revenue Account dwellings on 4th April 2011 with an average increase of £4.52 (6.7%) and a maximum increase of £7.05 in line with government rent guidance, as outlined in paragraph 4 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (2) That an increase of 4.6% in service charges, as outlined in paragraphs 6 and 8 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (3) That the removal of charges for communal aerals, as outlined in paragraph 6 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (4) That an increase of 10% in heating and lighting charges for sheltered housing from an average weekly charge of £8.89 to an average weekly charge of £9.78, as outlined in paragraph 7 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (5) That an increase from £1.70 to £1.90 for laundry tokens, as outlined in paragraph 9 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (6) That the increase of 6.7% to the current charge for pitch licences at Oak Lane, as outlined in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (7) That the introduction of water charges at Oak Lane at an initial rate of £6 per week, as outlined in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (8) That the leaseholders administration fee be maintained at current levels, as outlined in paragraph 11 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (9) That an increase of £1 per month for private Telecare clients, as outlined in paragraph 12 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.

- (10) That an increase of 8.3% for garage plot rent and access agreements, and the dates proposed for future increases, as outlined in paragraphs 14 and 16 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (11) That an increase in garage rents and the dates proposed for future increases, as outlined in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (12) That a further report be submitted to a future meeting outlining the impact of Housing Revenue Account funding reform, when the information is available, as outlined in paragraph 17 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (13) That a revised Medium Term Financial Strategy be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet, when the information is available, as outlined in paragraph 31 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (14) That the Council be recommended:-
 - (a) To approve the revised Housing Revenue Account budget for 2010/11 and the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2011/12, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (b) To approve the public sector housing revised capital budget for 2010/11 and the capital budget for 2011/12 and note the provisional programme for 2012/13 to 2015/16, as outlined in Appendix 2 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (c) To authorise the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services and the Director of Corporate Resources to bid for and enter into funding arrangements for additional resources to supplement investment in the public sector housing stock, as outlined in paragraphs 26 and 27 of the report submitted to the meeting.

- (d) To authorise the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing, to manage and allocate resources to the capital programme, as outlined in paragraph 28 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (e) To confirm that all capital receipts arising from the sale of the Housing Revenue Account assets (other than those specifically committed to support private sector housing) should continue to be used for the improvement of council homes, as outlined in paragraph 28 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (f) To authorise the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services to procure and enter into contracts for the delivery of the capital programme, as outlined in paragraph 29 of the report submitted to the meeting.

Capital Programme Monitoring

- (1) That current progress with the 2010/11 Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix A of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.
- (2) That the results of the Post Completion Review of capital projects, as set out in Appendix B of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.
- (3) That the Council be recommended:-
 - (a) That the extra Kickstart funding be noted and added to the Housing Assistance capital budget, as set out in paragraph 7 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (b) That the Adult Social Care grant allocations be noted, and the associated spend included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 8 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (c) That, subject to agreement at a West Midlands level, the Local Transport capital allocations be noted and the

associated expenditure included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report submitted to the meeting.

- (d) That, subject to the relevant element of the Revenue Budget Strategy being agreed, the capital expenditure to be funded from prudential borrowing be included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (e) That any expenditure funding from developers' "Section 106", towards green space, nature conservation, environmental protection and public realm improvements be included in the Capital Programme as appropriate, as set out in paragraph 11 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (f) That the 2011/12 grant allocations for schools' capital projects be noted and the associated spend included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 12 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (g) That the Treasurer be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to approve any Capital expenditure in furtherance of the current and future Corporate ICT Strategies, and amend the Capital Programme as appropriate, as set out in paragraph 13 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (h) That the Urgent Amendments to the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraphs 14-17 be noted.
- (i) That the Prudential Indicators as required to be determined by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and the Local Government Act 2003, as set out in Appendix C of the report submitted to the meeting, be agreed.

	(j) That the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy for 2011/12, and updated Policy for 2009/10, as set out in paragraph 22 of the report submitted to the meeting be approved.
2010 OfSTED Annual Assessment of Children's Services	That the contents of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.
Establishment of a Shadow Dudley Health and Well-Being Board	<p>That the Council be recommended:</p> <p>(1) That Council be recommended to appoint a Shadow Dudley Health and Well-Being Board with Membership and Terms of Reference, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report submitted to the meeting.</p> <p>(2) That the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services, be authorised to amend the Membership and Terms of Reference of the Board in accordance with any recommendations made by the Shadow Board.</p>
Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report	<p>(1) That the Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report for the period from the 1st October to the 31st December, 2010 be noted and its contents approved.</p> <p>(2) That the information contained within the Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report be referred to Select Committees to consider specific issues within their Terms of Reference.</p>
Exclusion of the Public	That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972, as specified below and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in disclosing the information is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure.

Description of Item

Relevant paragraph of
Part 1 of Schedule 12A

- (a) AA
- (b) PT

Staffing Issue (AA) –
Directorate of the Urban
Environment

That the termination of the contract of employment of the officer referred to in the report submitted to the meeting be approved, on the grounds of redundancy with effect from 16th February, 2011, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the report.

Staffing Issue (PT) –
Directorate of the Urban
Environment

That the termination of the contract of employment of the officer referred to in the report submitted to the meeting be approved, on the grounds of redundancy, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the report.

The details of each of the above items are set out in the reports submitted to the meeting of the Cabinet. Copies of the public reports may be obtained from Democratic Services in the Directorate of Corporate Resources (contact 01384 815235 or e-mail steve.griffiths@dudley.gov.uk) or on the Committee Management Information System on the Council's Website www.dudley.gov.uk and follow the links to Meetings and Decisions.

Except where matters have been referred to the Council, the decisions will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days of 10th February, 2011, unless a Select Committee objects to a decision and calls it in.

PHILIP TART
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

The Council House
Priory Road, Dudley, West Midlands

Dated: 10th February, 2011
(Display until: 18th February, 2011)