

MEETING OF THE CABINET – 8TH FEBRUARY, 2012

NOTICE OF DECISIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Cabinet, at its meeting held on the 8th February, 2012, made the decisions indicated in respect of the items listed:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Revenue Budget Strategy and Setting the Council Tax 2012/13	(1) That the Council be recommended to approve:- (a) The budget requirement for 2012/13, and service allocations as set out in the report submitted to the meeting. (b) The acceptance of Council Tax Freeze Grant for 2012/13. (c) That the statutory amounts required to be calculated for the Council's spending, contingencies and contributions to reserves; income and use of reserves; transfers to and from its collection fund; and council tax requirement, as referred to in Section 67(2)(b) be now calculated by the Council for the year 2012/13 in accordance with Sections 31A, 31B and 34 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 as shown in Appendix 3 of the report submitted to the meeting. (d) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts in Appendix 3, 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 2012/13.

Valuation Bands

A	B	C	D
£	£	£	£
750.26	875.30	1000.34	1125.38
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.

- (e) The revision of 2011/12 budgets to reflect the variances set out in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (f) The allocation of New Home Bonus funding as set out in paragraph 30 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (g) The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) set out as Attachment A to the report submitted to the meeting.
- (2) That the appropriate Director, in consultation with their Cabinet Member, the Leader of the Council, and the Chief Executive be authorised to determine any application for a grant or loan from the Community Enterprise Fund, as set out in paragraph 30 of the report submitted to the meeting, from a social enterprise in the Borough.
 - (3) 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.
 - (4) That the Chief Executive and Directors be reminded to exercise strict budgetary control in accordance with the Financial Management Regime and care and caution in managing the 2012/13 budget, particularly in the context of commitments into later years and the impact that any overspending in 2012/13 will have on the availability of resources to meet future budgetary demands.
 - (5) That the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Human Resources, Law and Governance, be authorised to approve flexible retirements.

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

- (1) That a rent increase for Housing Revenue Account dwellings on 2nd April 2012 with an average increase of £5.54 (7.7%) and a maximum increase of £8.03 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 5.6% in service charges, as outlined in paragraphs 6 and 8 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (3) That an increase of 10% in heating and lighting charges for sheltered housing from an average weekly charge of £9.78 to an average weekly charge of £10.76, as outlined in paragraph 7 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (4) That an increase from £1.90 to £2.00 for laundry tokens, as outlined in paragraph 9 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (5) That the increase of 7.7% to the current charge for pitch licences at Oak Lane as outlined in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (6) That the maintenance of water charges at Oak Lane at the current rate of £6 per week, as outlined in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (7) That the leaseholders administration fee be maintained at current levels, as outlined in paragraph 11 of the report submitted to the meeting.
- (8) That an increase of £0.50 per month for private Telecare clients, as outlined in paragraph 12 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.
- (9) That the maintenance of garage rents at current levels and the dates proposed for future increases, as outlined in paragraph 13 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.

(10) That the maintenance of garage plot rent and access agreements at current levels, and the dates proposed for future increases, as outlined in paragraph 13 of the report submitted to the meeting, be approved.

(11) That the Council be recommended:-

(a) To approve the revised Housing Revenue Account budget for 2011/12 and the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2012/13, as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report submitted to the meeting.

(b) To approve the public sector housing revised capital budget for 2011/12 and the capital budget for 2012/13 to 2016/17, 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.
- (g) To approve the new Housing Revenue Account medium term financial strategy, as outlined in Appendix 4 of the report submitted to the meeting.

Update of the Council's Capital Strategy

That the Council be recommend to approve the draft Capital Strategy.

Capital Programme Monitoring

- (1) 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.
- (2) That the Council be recommended:-
 - (a) That current progress with the 2011/12 Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix A of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted, and that budgets be amended to reflect the reported variances.
 - (b) That the further allocation of Disabled Facilities Grant funding of £132,000 be noted and the associated expenditure included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 7 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (c) That the Street Lighting Energy Saving Programme be approved, as set out in paragraph 8 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (d) That subject to obtaining planning permission, the provision of Salt Barn and Waste Transfer building facilities and related works at Lister Road Depot be approved and included in the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 9 of the report submitted to the meeting.
 - (e) That the 2012/13 grant allocations for schools' capital projects be noted and the associated spend included in the

Capital Programme, as set out in paragraph 10 of the report submitted to the meeting.

- (f) That the urgent amendments to the Capital Programme, as set out in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the report submitted to the meeting, be noted.
- (g) 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, as amended, be agreed.
- (h) That the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy for 2012/13, be approved as set out in paragraph 17 of the report submitted to the meeting.

Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report

That the information contained within the Quarterly Corporate Performance Management Report be referred to Scrutiny Committees to consider specific issues within their Terms of Reference.

Housing Repairs and Maintenance: Procurement and Delivery of Services

- (1) That the progress made in respect of negotiations with the trade unions to create an organisation with agreed terms and conditions that is capable of change to meet the future needs of the service, be noted.
- (2) That officers be instructed to take the following actions on the conclusion of the ballot. Either:-
 - (a) To implement the new terms and conditions in the event of a successful ballot.
 - (b) In the event of a 'no' vote, to proceed with the procurement process for a joint venture organisation.

Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked after Children

- (1) That the report on Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked after Children be received and noted.

- (2) That further reports be submitted to the Cabinet on the action plan and progress monitoring on a regular basis.

Central Government Initiative; Troubled Families	That the full engagement of the borough in this initiative be approved.
Community Infrastructure Levy	That the preparation of a Community Infrastructure Levy for the Borough, to be in place prior to April 2014, be approved.
Exclusion of the Public	That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves 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.

<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Relevant paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A</u>
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Staffing Issues – Directorate of Children’s Services (JB)	1
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Staffing Issue (JB) – Directorate of Children’s Services	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.
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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 9th February, 2012, unless a Scrutiny Committee objects to a decision and calls it in.

PHILIP TART

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

The Council House
Priory Road,
Dudley,
West Midlands

Dated: 9th February, 2012

(Display until: 17th February, 2012)