

Enquiries regarding this Agenda:
Steven Lincoln (01284) 757108

Cabinet

***Wednesday 17 September 2008 at 5.00 pm
in the Council Chamber, Borough Offices, Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds***

CONSTITUTION: *Leader of the Council: Councillor John Griffiths
Joint Deputy Leaders of the Council: Councillors Nigel Aitkens and
Sara Mildmay-White*

<i>Councillors:</i>		<i>Portfolios:</i>
Nigel Aitkens	-	Economy and Asset Management
Lynsey Alexander	-	Culture and Sport
Terry Clements	-	Transport and Planning
Paul Farmer	-	Resources and Efficiency
John Griffiths	-	Rural Affairs and External Relationships
Sara Mildmay-White	-	Community
David Ray	-	Performance and Organisational Development
Peter Stevens	-	Environment and Street Scene

QUORUM: *Three Members*

***Please switch off mobile phones during the
meeting, unless exceptional circumstances
require otherwise.***

Agenda

Procedural Matters

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes

To confirm the minutes of the meetings held on 30 July 2008 (copy attached).

3. Declarations of Interests

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the Agenda ***no later than when that item is reached*** and, when appropriate, to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.

Part 1 – Public

(Forward Plan reference (where applicable) shown in brackets)

Corporate Priority: Raising Corporate Standards and Efficiency

4. Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 3 September 2008

Chairman – Mark Ereira-Guyer;

Contact Officer – Adriana Stapleton

Telephone: 01284-757613

e-mail: adriana.stapleton@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z227** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

On 3 September 2008, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the following items:-

- (1) Presentation from Suffolk NHS Primary Care Trust;
- (2) Annual Report on the Impact of the West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership and Community Strategy;
- (3) Supporting People;
- (4) Responding to the Staff Survey;
- (5) Cabinet Forward Plan: September to December 2008;
- (6) Work Programme; and
- (7) Local Government Review and the Scrutiny Work Programmes.

Recommendation:

The report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be **NOTED**.

5. Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Responding to the Staff Survey (Sep 08/08)

Cabinet Member – David Ray;

Contact Officer – Louise Hammond

Telephone: 01284-757008

e-mail: louise.hammond@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z228** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

On 23 April 2008 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a presentation from Ipsos MORI on the final report of the 2007 Staff Survey. At that time it was agreed that an action plan be developed. The results of the survey have since been further analysed and considered, in order to provide a framework of key areas and action to be further developed through consultation and engagement with staff, and this was considered by the Committee on 3 September 2008.

Since the survey there had been considerable change, and the move to West Suffolk House and Local Government Review make this a period of complex and substantial change and uncertainty for staff. It is, therefore, important that the response to the survey be developed and adapted to fit the current environment, and how it will change during this period, with appropriate actions being included.

Recommendation:

The Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the Potential Key Action Areas arising from the 2007 Staff Survey, as set out in Appendix A to Report Z190, be approved.

6. Report of the Policy Development Committee: 10 September 2008

Chairman – Ian Houlder;

Contact Officer – Adriana Stapleton

Telephone: 01284-757613

e-mail: adriana.stapleton@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z229 TO FOLLOW**.

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

On 10 September 2008, the Policy Development Committee will consider the following items:-

- (1) Housing Strategy;
- (2) Homelessness Strategy;
- (3) National Fraud Initiative (NFI) Strategy 2008;
- (4) Discretionary Rate Relief for Charitable and Non-Profit Making Organisations;
- (5) Cabinet Forward Plan: September to December 2008;
- (6) Work Programme;
- (7) Local Government Review and the Scrutiny Work Programmes;
- (8) Delivering a Sustainable Budget 2009/2010;
- (9) The Service Plan and Budget Development Process;
- (10) Service Delivery Review Panel: Review of Terms of Reference; and
- (11) Cemeteries Service Review: Update.

Recommendation:

The report of the Policy Development Committee be **NOTED**.

7. Report of the Policy Development Committee: National Fraud Initiative Strategy

Cabinet Member – Paul Farmer;

Contact Officer – Jon Snares

Telephone: 01284-757239

e-mail: jon.snares@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z230 TO FOLLOW**.

8. Report of the Policy Development Committee: Discretionary Rate Relief Review for Charitable and Non Profit Making Organisations

Cabinet Member – Paul Farmer;

Contact Officer – Liz Watts

Telephone: 01284-757252

e-mail: liz.watts@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z231 TO FOLLOW**.

9. Report of the Policy Development Committee: Delivering a Sustainable Budget 2009/2010

Cabinet Member – Paul Farmer;

Contact Officer – Liz Watts

Telephone: 01284-757252

e-mail: liz.watts@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z232 TO FOLLOW**.

10. Report of the Policy Development Committee: The Service Plan and Budget Development Process

Cabinet Member – Paul Farmer;

Contact Officer – Liz Watts

Telephone: 01284-757252

e-mail: liz.watts@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z233 TO FOLLOW**.

11. Report of the Policy Development Committee: Service Delivery Review Panel – Revised Terms of Reference

Cabinet Member – David Ray;

Contact Officer – Liz Curtis-Woods

Telephone: 01284-757681

e-mail: liz.curtis-woods@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z234 TO FOLLOW**.

12. Boundary Committee Review of Suffolk: Borough Council's Response (Sep 08/09)

Cabinet Member – John Griffiths;

Contact Officer – Mike Dawson

Telephone: 01284-729009

e-mail: mike.dawson@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z235 TO FOLLOW**.

13. Grant Panel: 9 September 2008 (Sep 08/05)

Cabinet Members – Paul Farmer;

Sara Mildmay-White

Contact Officer – Mike Dawson

Telephone: 01284-757060

e-mail: mike.dawson@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z236 TO FOLLOW**.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

On 9 September 2008, the Grant Panel will consider the following items:-

- (1) Grant Policy: Rural Areas Community Initiatives Fund;
- (2) Grant Schemes: Financial Details; and
- (3) Applications for Project Funding: 2008/2009.

Recommendations:

Recommendations for this meeting of the Panel will follow as Report Z236.

14. Budget Monitoring 2008/2009: To 31 July 2008

Cabinet Member – Paul Farmer;

Contact Officer – Liz Watts

Telephone: 01284-757252

e-mail: liz.watts@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z237** attached

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

The Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee has responsibility to scrutinise detailed budget monitoring reports based on budgets allocated to Heads of Service. The Cabinet receives a summary report which provides an overview of the Council's financial position.

Appendix A, page 1, is the General Fund Budget Monitoring Summary report which shows an estimated underspend of £677,000. Appendix A, pages 2 and 3, provides an explanation of the major budget variances over £10,000.

Appendix B is the Capital Budget Monitoring Report which shows net capital expenditure of £4,761,000 for the period, compared to a full year capital budget of £29,889,000. This substantial underspend on the Capital Programme is due to a number of factors, including delays in some major projects and some timing issues relating to the completion of stage payments. It should also be noted that capital expenditure budgets are not profiled and many of the schemes included in the programme are not due to commence until later in the financial year. The Capital Disposals Programme shows capital receipts for the period of £1,770,000 against a full year disposals estimate of £10,160,000.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet is requested to **NOTE** the Budget Monitoring Report for the period ended 31 July 2008.

15. Capital Programme Review

Cabinet Member – Paul Farmer;

Contact Officer – Mike Dawson

Telephone: 01284-757060

e-mail: mike.dawson@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z238 TO FOLLOW**.

16. Asset Management Plan: 6 Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds (Sep 08/13)

Cabinet Member – Nigel Aitkens;

Contact Officer – Betty Albon

Telephone: 01284-757307

e-mail: betty.albon@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z239** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

An Asset Management Plan (AMP) and service review of the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) and Shopmobility was undertaken in 2005 and the concluding report

was presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Cabinet on 19 September 2007 (Report Y239 refers) agreed the outline terms for the sale and leaseback of 6 Angel Hill to the Town Trust, which was endorsed by Council on 2 October 2007 (Minute 53(B)(7) refers). It was agreed that the purchase would proceed as soon as the Trust had obtained Listed Building Consent for the conversion works to the upper floors.

The Trust proposes to purchase the freehold of 6 Angel Hill and the Council will take a simultaneous commercial lease back of the ground floor and basement for 10 years, with flexible terms to give the Council freedom on future service delivery options and with internal repairing and external decorating responsibilities only. The Trust will be responsible for all costs in repairing and refurbishing the upper two floors for onwards leasing as two flats.

Due to the lengthy consultation process in obtaining Listed Building Consent, which involved such bodies as English Heritage, consent has only recently been obtained. In the meantime, the residential market has declined considerably. Market effects in the last 6 months mean that it is too risky for the Trust to pay the agreed purchase price now, undertake all the works, then hope to sell immediately to recoup the outlay. However, the Trust remains totally committed to this project, but is extremely nervous of being put at undue risk in an uncertain market. A revised proposal has been discussed, to reflect the poorer market conditions and to try to limit the exposure of the Trust, while continuing to protect the Council from expenditure on maintenance.

Recommendation:

Subject to the approval of full Council, the Council accept the revised Bury Town Trust proposals for the sale of 6 Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds, with a simultaneous leaseback of the ground floor and basement.

**17. Haverhill Community Football Project Appointment of Consultant:
Exemption to Contract Procedure Rules**

Cabinet Member – Lynsey Alexander;

Contact Officer – Howard Cook

Telephone: 01284-757097

e-mail: howard.cook@stedsbc.gov.uk

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

Suffolk Football Association has been providing assistance to Haverhill Rovers Football Club in the preparation of the Development Plan required for the final stages of the funding bid to the Football Foundation for the Haverhill Community Football Project. This Plan still requires further work as did the Business Plan and funding bid application. As a result the assistance of an appropriate consultant was recommended by the Football Association to enable the funding bid to be submitted as soon as possible. The delay in submitting the funding bid could result in an increase in the building costs of the planned facilities for the project. The Football Association recommended that Propitch Ltd be appointed as this company had the necessary expertise of the funding bid process and had previously worked with officers.

Paragraph 2.2 of the Contract Procedure Rules, as contained within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, permits exemptions to the Contract Procedure Rules to be granted by a member of the Management Team where they are satisfied that the exemption is justified. In this case the Acting Chief Executive considered that the following two reasons were applicable:-

- (1) in the case of urgency, where following the rules would result in an unreasonable delay; and
- (2) in requiring the provision of goods, services or works of a specialist nature.

The cost of the work up to and including the funding bid submission is in the order of £7,000.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet is asked to **NOTE** the exemption to the Contract Procedure Rules, as contained within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, in respect of the appointment of Propitch Ltd to act as consultants to the Haverhill Community Football Project.

Corporate Priority: Securing a Sustainable and Attractive Environment

18. Sustainable Development Panel: 19 August 2008 (Sep 08/07)

Cabinet Members – Terry Clements; Peter Stevens *Contact Officer – Patsy Dell*
Telephone: 01284-757306
e-mail: patsy.dell@stedsb.gov.uk

Report **Z240** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

On 19 August 2008 the Sustainable Development Panel considered the following items:-

- (1) 'Building for Life' Policy;
- (2) Proposed Second Runway at Stansted Airport;
- (3) Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Minerals Specific Site Allocations Submission August 2008;
- (4) Forest Heath Local Development Framework Core Strategy – Final Policy Option Consultation August 2008;
- (5) St Edmundsbury Local Development Framework: Process Update; and
- (6) Suffolk Waste Core Strategy: Issues and Options Consultation.

Recommendations:

(a) **'Building for Life' Policy**

- (1) The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) 'Building for Life' criteria be used forthwith as a tool for the consideration of the design quality of proposals for new housing schemes in St Edmundsbury; and
- (2) any housing schemes funded by the Growth Area Fund should meet the 'very good', 'Building for Life' standard.

(b) **Proposed Second Runway at Stansted Airport**

(1) The Borough Council objects to the proposal to construct a second runway at Stansted Airport on the following basis:-

- (a) that although the existing and potential economic benefits to the Borough, and especially Haverhill, are recognised, the Borough Council remains unconvinced of the need for further expansion over and above the maximum use of one runway;
- (b) there remains a lack of commitment from the airport operator to create direct and attractive links to the airport from the St Edmundsbury area by public transport and that, should consent be granted for this proposal, there should be a requirement to provide an improved service from the Borough's main towns; and
- (c) that the Council has already strongly objected to the proposed revisions to airspace recently proposed by National Air Traffic Services (NATS) and, in the case of this proposal, does not believe that sufficient work has been undertaken to assess the capacity of the airspace that serves the airport, including the need for additional aircraft holds and the potentially unacceptable impact on the environment and residential amenity of residents of St Edmundsbury.

(2) the Borough Council be represented by the officers at the 'called-in' Planning Public Inquiry to present the Council's objections; and

(3) a letter be written to Stansted Airport requesting an explanation for the recent increase in noise levels in the south of St Edmundsbury.

(c) **Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Minerals Specific Site Allocations Submission August 2008**

(1) Suffolk County Council be thanked for consulting the Borough Council on its Minerals Specific Site Allocations Submission document; and

(2) the suggested responses, contained in paragraph 3.6 of Report Z177, be approved as the Borough Council's formal response to the consultation on the Minerals Specific Site Allocations Submission document.

(d) **Forest Heath Local Development Framework Core Strategy – Final Policy Option Consultation August 2008**

Forest Heath District Council be informed that St Edmundsbury Borough Council:-

- (1) supports the proposed settlement policy that seeks to accommodate the majority of new housing development in the market towns and key service centres as detailed in paragraph 2.5 of Report Z178;
- (2) supports the use of the joint Employment Land Review to inform the District Council's employment policy; and
- (3) seeks more evidence that the proposed retail floorspace requirements will not have a detrimental impact on the retail economy of towns in St Edmundsbury.

19. Sustainable Development Panel: 11 September 2008

*Cabinet Member – Terry Clements;
Peter Stevens*

*Contact Officer – Patsy Dell
Telephone: 01284-757306
e-mail: patsy.dell@stedsbc.gov.uk*

Report **Z241 TO FOLLOW**.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

On 11 September 2008, the Sustainable Development Panel will consider report on 'Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Waste Issues and Options Report August 2008'.

Recommendations:

Recommendations from this meeting of the Panel will follow as Report Z241.

20. Tackling Climate Change in Suffolk: Development of the CRed Suffolk Climate Change Partnership

Cabinet Member – Peter Stevens;

*Contact Officer – Peter Gudde
Telephone: 01284-757042
e-mail: peter.gudde@stedsbc.gov.uk*

Report **Z242** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

In the Council's Climate and Energy Action Plan, the Council agreed to support partnership working across Suffolk to address the climate challenge. This county-wide partnership, called the CRed Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (CRed Suffolk), has been operating successfully since December 2006.

The current funding of CRed Suffolk finishes at the end of 2008. Furthermore, for the Partnership to operate effectively changes need to be made to its governance and delivery structures.

This report sets out proposals to formally establish the role of the Partnership and provide it with sufficient resources to make progress to tackle climate change in Suffolk in line with the new Local Area Agreement.

Recommendations:

It is **RECOMMENDED** that, subject to the approval of full Council, :-

- (1) the CRed Suffolk Climate Change Partnership (CRed Suffolk) be formally adopted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council as the appropriate mechanism for co-ordinated climate change action across Suffolk;
- (2) new delivery and governance proposals identified in the report to Suffolk Chief Executives' Group, attached as Appendix A to Report Z242 be supported; and
- (3) funding of £2,875 be identified from current balances to support the Partnership for the remainder of 2008/2009 and £12,857 a year be found from existing budgets for three years covering Local Area Agreement 2.

21. Refreshed St Edmundsbury Growth Area Programme of Development

Cabinet Member – Terry Clements;

Contact Officer – Patsy Dell

Telephone: 01284-757306

e-mail: patsy.dell@stedsb.gov.uk

Report **Z243** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

In August 2007 the Borough was provisionally declared a Growth Area by the Government, subject to the content of the final East of England Regional Spatial Strategy. In October 2007 the Council submitted a Programme of Development to the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) that included a bid for nearly £30 million of Government Growth Area Fund allocation. In December 2007 the Government announced that the Council had been allocated £2.02 million for 2008/2009 with a combined provisional allocation of £2.85 million for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011.

The Government has now asked growth areas to submit a refreshed Programme of Development by 1 October 2008 in order to secure the provisional Growth Areas Fund allocation and potentially secure additional funding from the Government's Growth Area Fund reserve of £172 million. The submission has to be in accordance with guidelines published by the Government in July 2008.

The Refreshed Programme of Development updates the existing document but has had to be prepared in accordance with updated guidance issued in late July 2008. For this reason, Cabinet is asked to note the working draft (**to follow as Appendix A**) and delegate approval of the final submission to the Acting Corporate Director for Environment in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation.

Recommendations:

- (1) That Cabinet agrees and supports the submission of the refreshed Programme of Development for the Growth Area Fund on 1 October 2008; and

- (2) The document attached as Appendix A is noted as work in progress with approval of the final submission to be delegated to the Acting Corporate Director for Environment in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation.

Corporate Priority: Creating a Prosperous Local Economy

22. Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party: 11 September 2008 (Sep 08/04)

*Cabinet Member – Sara Mildmay-White; Contact Officer – Mark Walsh
Telephone: 01284-757300
e-mail: mark.walsh@stedsbc.gov.uk*

Report **Z244 TO FOLLOW**.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

On 11 September 2008 the Bury St Edmunds Area Working Party will consider the following items:-

- (1) Engineering Services Work Programme;
- (2) St Andrews Street South, Bury St Edmunds: Street Furniture Proposal;
- (3) Revised Impact Management Strategy;
- (4) Cattle Market Redevelopment: Public Works Project Status Report;
- (5) Former Roy's of Wroxham Store, Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds; and
- (6) Cattle Market Redevelopment: Lettings Update.

Recommendations:

Recommendations from this meeting of the Area Working Party will follow as Report Z244.

23. Haverhill Area Working Party: 28 August 2008 (Sep 08/06)

*Cabinet Member – Nigel Aitkens; Contact Officer – Patsy Dell
Telephone: 01284-757306
e-mail: patsy.dell@stedsbc.gov.uk*

Report **Z245** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

On 28 August 2008 the Haverhill Area Working Party considered the following items:-

- (1) Location of temporary NHS GP led Health Centre on St Edmundsbury Borough Council Car Park rear of the Rose and Crown Hotel, Withersfield Road, Haverhill;
- (2) Haverhill Town Centre Management: Work Programme;
- (3) Queen Street Enhancement Scheme: Follow Up on Issues Raised;
- (4) Queen Street Enhancement Scheme: Use of Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) For Queen Street Shop Front/Shop Signage Improvement Grant Scheme;
- (5) Queen Street Enhancement Scheme: Timetable;
- (6) Queen Street Enhancement Scheme: Consultation Process;

- (7) Queen Street Enhancement Scheme: Proposals for Public Art;
- (8) Haverhill Bus Station: Update and Improvement Scheme;
- (9) Haverhill Leisure Centre Refurbishment;
- (10) Haverhill Community Football Project;
- (11) Haverhill Schemes: Updates;
- (12) A1307 'Summit' Meeting: Update and Agreed Actions; and
- (13) Suggestions for a Future Tour of New Developments and Sites in Haverhill.

Recommendations:

- (a) **Location of temporary NHS GP led Health Centre on St Edmundsbury Borough Council Car Park rear of the Rose and Crown Hotel, Withersfield Road, Haverhill**
 - (1) officers open formal discussions with Suffolk Primary Care Trust to determine Heads of Terms for a ground lease to install portable buildings and all necessary infrastructure in the car park area to the rear of the Rose and Crown Hotel, Haverhill; and
 - (2) a review be undertaken as to the feasibility of allowing all day parking in the Lower Downs Slade Car Park, Haverhill.
- (b) **Queen Street, Haverhill Enhancement Scheme: Use of Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) For Queen Street Shop Front/Shop Signage Improvement Grant Scheme**
 - (1) £25,000 Local Authority Business Growth Incentive (LABGI) funding be allocated towards the funding of the Shop Fronts/Shop Signage Improvement Scheme in connection with the Queen Street Enhancement Scheme; and
 - (2) the Economic Development team approach Suffolk County Council to request that it provides £25,000 match funding towards the scheme.
- (c) **Queen Street, Haverhill Enhancement Scheme: Consultation Process**
 - (1) the consultation process in respect of the Queen Street Enhancement Scheme, detailed in Section 3 of Report Z183, be approved; and
 - (2) the questions contained in the consultation response form be based on Appendix A to Report Z183, amended to take into consideration comments received from members of the Working Party, and approved by the Acting Corporate Director for Environment in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Working Party.
- (d) **Queen Street, Haverhill Enhancement Scheme: Proposals for Public Art**
 - (1) the establishment of a new Public Art Working Group on a 'task-and-finish' basis for the specific purpose of advising on, recommending and commissioning public art as part of the Queen

- Street Enhancement Scheme, as detailed in Section 2 of Report Z184, be approved;
- (2) the Terms of Reference for the Public Art Working Group be approved by the Area Working Party;
 - (3) Councillors Mrs Richardson and Mrs Rushbrook be the Area Working Party representatives on the Public Art Working Group and Councillor Mrs Rushbrook be Chairman;
 - (4) the Area Working Party be given delegated authority to appoint individuals and representatives of organisations to the Public Art Working Group;
 - (5) the budget for public art in Queen Street be established at a maximum of £20,000 (approximately 4%), as detailed in Section 3 of Report Z184, as part of the overall scheme budget of £490,000; and
 - (6) a further report be submitted to the Working Party outlining the issues involved in establishing a new, longer term advisory Public Art Panel, as an action following the adoption of the Haverhill Town Centre Public Realm Design Framework.

Corporate Priority: Improving the Safety and Well Being of the Community

24. Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS): Free Swimming Programme

*Cabinet Member – Lynsey Alexander; Contact Officer – Neil Anthony
Telephone: 01284-757064
e-mail: neil.anthony@stedsb.gov.uk*

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has announced a new funding package to provide free swimming opportunities for the over-60 year olds and under-16 year olds for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011. The package also outlines opportunities for potential capital grants.

The Acting Chief Executive, under his delegated powers (Scheme of Delegation to Officers, Part 3 of the Council's Constitution), has accepted the grant of £33,664 to provide free swimming opportunities for the over 60s. The Head of Leisure Services will, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Culture and Sport, work in partnership with Abbeycroft Leisure to deliver this scheme.

The Council has also expressed an interest to receive a grant to provide free swimming opportunities for the under 16s. When a grant offer is received it is proposed that delegated authority is given to the Head of Leisure Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Abbeycroft Leisure to determine if the Council wishes to accept the grant, which must be accepted by 15 October 2008.

If the Council accepts these grants, the DCMS has also detailed potential opportunities for councils to receive capital grants to modernise swimming pool

provision. There is no indication at this stage as to what the likely level of grant funding will be, if any. If grant offers are made an initial response may be required by 15 October 2008. It is proposed that delegated authority is given to the Head of Leisure Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to submit applications for capital schemes.

Recommendations:

It is **RECOMMENDED** that:-

- (i) it be noted that the Acting Chief Executive utilised his delegated powers, as contained within the Council's Constitution, to accept the grant of £33,664 for free swimming opportunities for the over-60s; and
- (ii) delegated authority be given to the Head of Leisure Services, in consultation with the Portfolio for Culture and Sport and Abbeycroft Leisure, to determine acceptance of the grant for under-16s, and to submit applications to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport for capital schemes if appropriate.

**EXEMPT INFORMATION – EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC
TERMS OF FORMAL RESOLUTION**

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 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 paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act.

Part 2 – Private

**Corporate Priority: Improving the Safety and Well Being of
the Community**

**25. Havebury Housing Partnership: Changes to Transfer Agreement
(Sep 08/12)**

*Cabinet Member – Sara Mildmay-White; Contact Officer – Carole Herries
Telephone: 01284-757603
e-mail: carole.herries@stedsbc.gov.uk*

Report **Z246** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendation:

Havebury Housing Partnership (Havebury) has requested the Borough Council's consent to amend the original promise to tenants living in Unity properties in respect of the level of refurbishment carried out to their homes. This would

result in a change to the Transfer Agreement drawn up when the Borough Council's housing stock was transferred to Havebury.

Recommendation:

The Cabinet is recommended to reject Havebury's request and to maintain the promise made to tenants in the Transfer Agreement.

Corporate Priority: Raising Corporate Standards and Efficiency

25. Asset Management Plan: Nowton Court, Bury St Edmunds

Cabinet Member – Nigel Aitkens;

Contact Officer – Betty Albon

Telephone: 01284-757307

e-mail: betty.albon@stedsbc.gov.uk

Report **Z247** attached.

Summary and reasons for recommendations:

In accordance with the Asset Management Plan (AMP) Action Plan, all of the Council's property assets are being systematically assessed. The Council's ground lease portfolio was considered in August 2006 and it was concluded that poorly performing long ground leases should be sold when opportunities arose.

The tenant of Nowton Court and garden has asked to purchase the freehold. The AMP assessment processes and option appraisal have been undertaken and the conclusion is to sell the freehold on the basis of the terms negotiated. There is no conflict from a biodiversity, recreational or access point of view and Nowton Park will continue to be available for public use.

The reason for undertaking the AMP process and in recommending rationalisation of the portfolio is to make better use of property resources, in accordance with good asset management planning.

Recommendations:

- (a) Nowton Court, Bury St Edmunds and garden be declared surplus to the Council's requirements; and
- (b) the sale of the long leasehold interest of Nowton Court and garden to Euronite Ltd be approved, on the terms outlined in the report and in the Exempt Appendix 2 attached.