



*St Edmundsbury*  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# St Edmundsbury Borough Council

## Cabinet Decisions Notice

(Published: Wednesday 29 March 2017)

The following decisions were taken by the Cabinet on **Tuesday 28 March 2017** and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Thursday 6 April 2017. This procedure does not however, apply to decisions that have been recommended to Council for a final decision (and which are also indicated within the decisions below). An executive decision may be called in, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules contained within Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, by at least five Councillors submitting the required call-in request form to the Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services) (e-mail: [democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk)) by **5.00 pm on Wednesday 5 April 2017**.

Should you have a query regarding any of the decisions taken, contact should be made with the named officer in the first instance, either on the telephone number listed against their name, or via email using the format [firstname.surname@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@westsuffolk.gov.uk). Alternatively, you may also contact the relevant Portfolio Holder on the telephone number listed against their name, or via email using the format [firstname.surname@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@stedsbc.gov.uk). Contact may also be made via Democratic Services, St Edmundsbury Borough Council, West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk, IP33 3YU

Agenda Item and Report No.	Declarations of Interest/Dispensations Granted	Decision(s) (including recommendations to Council)	Reason(s) for Decision(s)	Other Options Considered and Reasons for Rejection	Contacts
Item No. 6 CAB/SE/17/018	None	<u>Enterprise Zones: Infrastructure Investment</u>  RESOLVED: That:  (1) a £4m revolving investment loan facility be agreed, as set out in Report No: CAB/SE/17/018, for infrastructure and associated works for Suffolk Park; and  (2) subject to the satisfaction of the Section 151 and Monitoring Officers that appropriate security is in place to protect the	Subject to due diligence procedures, the Cabinet has approved under previously given delegated authority, a £4 million revolving investment loan facility for infrastructure and associated works for Suffolk Park. The benefit of a revolving investment facility will enable funding decisions of up to £4m to be made (subject to appropriate checks and balances) on a quicker timeframe, thereby ultimately resulting in the faster occupation of the Enterprise Zone at Suffolk Park.	The alternative option is to not enter into a loan arrangement for the site and require the upfront infrastructure costs to be funded privately. This option was discounted for three reasons:  Firstly to speed up the provision of on-site infrastructure	<u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Alaric Pugh 07930 460899  <u>Officer:</u> Andrea Mayley Service Manager (Economic Development and Growth) 01284 757343

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		<p>Council's investment and due diligence highlighting no significant risks to the Council has been completed, delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Growth to enter into a loan agreement(s) with the developer.</p>		<p>which could result in the earlier occupation of the EZ than would otherwise be achieved, resulting in additional business rate income for the Council;</p> <p>Secondly, the Council has entered agreements with the Local Enterprise Partnerships and Department of Communities and Local Government to support the Enterprise Zones. This investment demonstrates our ongoing commitment which helps to encourage further inward investment into the borough.</p> <p>Thirdly, this option presents the opportunity to earn additional revenue income for the Council through interest receipts.</p>	

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<p>Item No. 7 CAB/SE/17/019</p>	<p>None</p>	<p><u>Development of a new Partnership Agreement with Abbeycroft Leisure</u></p> <p>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: (25 April 2017) That:</p> <p>(1) a new Partnership Agreement be entered into with Abbeycroft Leisure Ltd for a period of 15 years, with options to extend for 5 + 5 years , subject to the protections included in the Partnership Agreement; and</p> <p>(2) the Partnership Agreement is finalised in line with Report No: CAB/SE/17/019 and the Heads of Terms attached at Appendix 1.</p>	<p>The Cabinet agrees that the new Partnership Agreement with Abbeycroft Leisure has been developed in line with the previously approved principles and commitments of Cabinet and full Council, as set out in Section 2 of Report No: CAB/SE/17/019, and therefore satisfactorily supports the objectives and priorities of the Council and Abbeycroft regarding the promotion of health and wellbeing by supporting people to engage in physical activity.</p> <p>As part of the new Partnership Agreement, Abbeycroft has committed to deliver a zero management fee to the Council by 2022.</p>	<p>The existing Management Agreement and associated leases (that are out of date) are relied upon to manage the agreement with Abbeycroft and a competitive procurement process is entered into to identify a new partner.</p> <p><b>Implications:</b> Entering into a procurement exercise will take around 18 months having regard to the contract value and length and market testing. The procurement process and contract management will require additional resource in the Council.</p>	<p><u>Portfolio Holder:</u> Cllr Jo Rayner 07872 456836</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Jill Korwin Director 01284 757252</p>

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Item No. 8 CAB/SE/17/020	None	<p><u>Establishing a Mechanism for Investing in our Growth Agenda</u></p> <p>RESOLVED: That:</p> <p>(1) the strategic approach to investment planning (outlined in Report No: CAB/SE/17/020 and at Section 3) and the development of an overarching investment strategy for Council approval in due course, be supported and approved;</p> <p>(2) the principle of the Cabinet’s role in the leadership and decision-making in relation to the investment fund (outlined in Report No: CAB/SE/17/020 and at Sections 4 and 5), be supported and approved;</p> <p>(3) the transfer from the Strategic Priorities and Medium Term Financial Strategy Reserve, be noted, as detailed in paragraph 5.2 and 5.3 for the creation of a £1m revenue budget to support the capital investment fund; and</p> <p>(4) it be noted that prior to the adoption of the overarching investment strategy, referred at (1) above, that the current constitutional decision mechanisms will continue to</p>	<p>The Council has previously committed (with Forest Heath District Council) in its Medium Term Financial Strategy 2017-2020, its intention to facilitate sustainable growth that benefits our communities, including through investment, over the period of the strategy. This is in order to deliver the Council’s growth objectives as well as moving towards its goal of self-sufficiency.</p> <p>As part of the February 2017 Budget and Council Tax setting report, a £20 million revolving capital investment fund was created as a pending item within the Council’s capital programme, funded from external borrowing. The Cabinet has considered and supports the strategic approach to investment planning and the principle of the proposed governance for the aforementioned fund, which will enable the Council to be proactive as a new investment and growth opportunities arise. The creation of a £1 million revenue reserve budget to facilitate the fund’s next steps in delivering growth and investment opportunities has also been noted and supported.</p> <p>While the principles have been supported and agreed, further</p>	<p>The Council could choose not to proceed with the proposed approach and to continue ‘as is’. Section 2 of Report No: CAB/SE/17/020 sets out some limitations to the current approach.</p> <p>An alternative is that the Council could choose to hold additional council meetings to consider investment opportunities.</p> <p>Another alternative is for the Chief Executive to use his urgency powers to ensure opportunities are not lost, however this doesn’t provide the greatest level of democratic process or scrutiny.</p>	<p><u>Portfolio Holders:</u> Cllr Alaric Pugh 07930 460899</p> <p>Cllr Ian Houlder 01284 810074</p> <p><u>Officer:</u> Rachael Mann Assistant Director (Resources and Performance) 01638 719245</p>

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		operate.	approval will be required on certain elements of the overall approach to establishing a mechanism for investing in the Council's growth agenda, in due course.		

Karen Points  
Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services)  
29 March 2017