
Council



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Referral of Recommendations from Cabinet	
Report No:	COU/SE/16/015	
Report to and date:	Council	27 September 2016
Documents attached:	Appendix A: Report No: CAB/SE/16/045 20 September 2016	

(A) Referral from Cabinet: 6 September 2016

1. Annual Treasury Management Report: 2015/2016

Portfolio Holder: *Cllr Ian Houlder*

Report No:
[CAB/SE/16/039](#)

**Treasury Management
Sub-Committee Report
No:** [TMS/SE/16/003](#)

RECOMMENDED:

That the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2015-2016, attached as Appendix 1 to Report No: TMS/SE/16/003, be approved.

- 1.1 The Council's Annual Treasury Management Report for 2015-2016 was attached at Appendix 1 to Report No: TMS/SE/16/003. The report included tables which summarised the interest earned during 2015-2016 on the various treasury investments held by the Council; investment activity during the year and the investments held as at 31 March 2016.
- 1.2 The budgeted income from investments in 2015-2016 was £255,850 (average rate of return of 1.5%). Interest actually earned during the year totalled £402,622 (average rate of return of 0.769%); and over achievement of interest of £146,000, but an under achievement of 0.731% on average rate of return. This was primarily due to higher cash balances being held during the year than originally budgeted for.

- 2.3 The Council in February 2005 established the Interest Equalisation Earmarked Reserve to help smooth out the fluctuations in returns. The excess over budget achieved in 2015-2016 had been transferred to this reserve resulting in a balance of £353,331 as at 31 March 2016.

2. West Suffolk Joint Pay Policy Statement: 2016/2017

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Ian Houlder

Report No:
[CAB/SE/16/041](#)
[Appendix 1](#)

RECOMMENDED:

That the West Suffolk Joint Pay Policy Statement for 2016/2017, as contained in Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/SE/16/041, be approved.

- 2.1 Section 38/11 of the Localism Act 2011 requires local authorities to produce a Pay Policy Statement annually. A joint Pay Policy Statement for 2016/2017, attached as Appendix 1 to Report CAB/SE/16/041, has been produced for St Edmundsbury Borough and Forest Heath District Councils, which reflects the shared workforce, and the single Pay and Reward Strategy in place for the two West Suffolk councils. The Statement also incorporates the outcomes of the 2013 collective agreement which established a modern reward framework for the integrated workforce.

3. Land at Cavendish Road, Clare: Development Brief

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Alaric Pugh

Report No:
[CAB/SE/16/043](#)

**Sustainable
Development Working
Party Report No:**
[SDW/SE/16/007](#)
and [Appendix A](#)

RECOMMENDED:

That the Development Brief for Land at Cavendish Road, Clare, as contained in Appendix A to Report No: SDW/SE/16/007, be adopted as non-statutory planning guidance.

- 3.1 The site, referred to as Land at Cavendish Road, Clare, is one of two allocated sites within the Rural Vision 2031 document and is referred to in Policy RV11b. The site is 2.2 hectares in size, surrounded by hedges on all four sides and is located to the east of Clare on the A1092 and next to the Stour Valley Community School.

- 3.2 Policy RV11b sets out that the site is allocated for approximately 64 dwellings and states that planning applications for the site should only be determined once the Development Brief has been adopted by the local Planning authority.
- 3.3 The draft Development Brief has been prepared by consultants acting on behalf of Land Charter Homes. Public consultation was carried out between 9 May and 5 June 2016. Officers are satisfied that the draft Development Brief has been prepared in accordance with the Vision 2031 Development Plan, Core Strategy and the Council's Protocol for Preparing Development Briefs. A request has been made for the Council to adopt the Development Brief as informal planning guidance.
- 3.4 The main cause for concern in allocating this site centred on pedestrian and cycle access from the site to the town centre. This issue was debated extensively during the Examination in Public of Rural Vision 2031. The Inspector in his report accepted that Policy RV11b made it clear that development of the site must include enhancements to pedestrian and cycle access to the town centre (the Inspector's conclusions on this issue are quoted verbatim in paragraph 1.2 of Report No: SDW/SE/16/007). The principal reason for the Development Brief therefore was to seek these enhancements.
- 3.5 From the beginning the developer has worked extensively with various parties, including the highway authority, the Town Council and the Clare Society, to understand what options existed to improve cycle and pedestrian access and for the delivery of these. Options put forward are detailed in Report No: SDW/SE/16/007.
- 3.6 The draft Development Brief sets out a strategy for Sustainable Urban Drainage and a Landscape Strategy and provides guidance on other matters relating to ecology and parking options.
- 3.7 The Sustainable Development Working Party had welcomed the proposals contained in the draft Development Brief and commended the early initiative taken by the developers to satisfy the requirement that there needed to be enhancements to pedestrian and cyclist access to and from the site. The expeditious response and assistance given by Highways Officers towards meeting this need and providing a solution was similarly felt to be exemplary. These comments were subsequently endorsed by the Cabinet. Members of the Working Party had made detailed observations in relation to the draft Development Brief as follows:
- (i) the document did not acknowledge the proximity of the site to the Stour Valley or the Clare Castle Country Park which were both highly attractive locations to live near; and
 - (ii) it was suggested that as Black Poplar trees were native to the locality there could be an opportunity to include this species in a future landscaping scheme.

(B) Referral from Cabinet: 20 September 2016

(This referral has been compiled before the meeting of Cabinet on 20 September 2016 and is based on the recommendations contained within the report.)

1. Consideration of: Approach to Delivering a Sustainable Medium Term Financial Strategy 2016-2020; Four-Year Settlement Offer from Central Government; and Economic Development and Growth Funding Requests

Portfolio Holder: *Cllr Ian Houlder*

Report No:
[CAB/SE/16/045](#)

**(Overview and
Scrutiny Committee
Report No:**
[OAS/SE/16/022](#))

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) The approach to delivering a sustainable medium term financial strategy 2016 -2020 as set out in Report No: OAS/SE/16/022, be supported.**
- (2) Government's offer of a four-year Finance Settlement be accepted, and the Head of Resources and Performance (Chief Financial Officer) be authorised to advise Government of Council's decision.**
- (3) That the Council's existing Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) document and the approach paper (Report No: OAS/SE/16/022) be recognised as the Council's Efficiency Plan, for the purposes of accepting any four-year Finance Settlement under ~~(1)~~ (2) above.**
- (4) Approval be given to an allocation of £250,500 from its Strategic Priorities and MTFS Reserves, as SEBC's share towards funding the in-year (and in some cases future years) Economic Development and Growth funding requests outlined in Appendix 2 to Report No: CAB/SE/16/045.**

- 1.1 On 20 September 2016, the Cabinet will consider Report No: CAB/SE/16/045 during joint informal discussions with Forest Heath District Council's Cabinet. For ease of reference, the report is attached as Appendix A to this report. Attached as Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/SE/16/045 is Report No: OAS/SE/16/022, which was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14 September 2016. Having identified a minor typographical error to Recommendation (3) above as indicated, the Committee has recommended approval to Cabinet of the first three recommendations detailed above. The fourth recommendation above is contained in Report No: CAB/SE/16/045 only.

- 1.2 In accordance with Access to Information regulations, the summons and papers for this Council meeting have been despatched prior to Cabinet's consideration of Report No: CAB/SE/16/045 due to take place on 20 September 2016. Any amendments or additions made by Cabinet to the above recommendations will be notified prior to the meeting of Council.