Forest Heath & St Edmundsbury councils

Forest Heath District Council St Edmundsbury Borough Council

West Suffolk working together

Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee Decisions Notice (Published: Thursday 13 December 2018)

The following decisions were taken by the Joint Executive (Cabinet) Committee on **Tuesday 11 December 2018** and, if not called in by Councillors, will come into operation on Friday 21 December 2018. This procedure does not however, apply to decisions that have been recommended to either Forest Heath District Council (FHDC) or St Edmundsbury Borough Council (SEBC) respectively for a final decision (and which are also indicated within the decisions below). An executive committee decision may be called in, in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules contained within Part 4 of each Council's Constitutions, by at least five Councillors submitting the required call-in request form to the Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services) (e-mail: <u>democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk</u>) **by 5.00 pm on Thursday 20 December 2018**.

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 <u>firstname.surname@westsuffolk.gov.uk</u>. Alternatively, you may also contact the relevant Portfolio Holder on the telephone number listed against their name, or via email using the format <u>firstname.surname@stedsbc.gov.uk</u> or <u>firstname.surname@forest-heath.gov.uk</u> Contact may also be made via Democratic Services, 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. 7 | None | Recommendations of the St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath | West Suffolk Housing Strategy A review of West Suffolk's | To continue with the current | Portfolio Holders: SEBC Cllr Sara |
| CAB/JT/18/051 | | Overview and Scrutiny Committees: 7 and 8 November 2018 - West Suffolk Housing | Housing Strategy was due in 2018. By adopting this new Strategy, the Councils' would be | Housing Strategy and Tenancy Strategy. | Mildmay-White 01359 270580 |
| | | Strategy and West Suffolk Tenancy Strategy 2018 - 2023 | aligning their priorities for housing with the Strategic Framework 2018-2020 and | However, this meant that the Councils' | SEBC Cllr Susan Glossop 01284 728377 |
| | | RECOMMENDED TO SEBC AND FHDC COUNCILS: (18 and 19 December 2018) | responding to new legislation and additional duties, such as the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and the revised National | strategies would not be consistent with new legislation or | FHDC Cllr Lance Stanbury 07970 947704 |
| | | That the West Suffolk Housing Strategy 2018-2023, attached as | Planning Policy Framework 2018. | duties or with its Strategic Priorities. | |

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| | | Appendix 1 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/051, be adopted. and RESOLVED: That the West Suffolk Tenancy Strategy 2018-2023, attached as Appendix 2 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/051, be adopted. | West Suffolk Tenancy Strategy A review of West Suffolk's Tenancy Strategy was due in 2018. The Localism Act 2011 required local authorities to produce a Tenancy Strategy that outlined how councils and registered providers approached issues which affected tenants living in their area. | | Officers: Julie Baird Assistant Director (Growth) 01284 757613 David Collinson Assistant Director (Planning and Regulatory Services) 01284 757306 Davina Howes Assistant Director (Families and Communities) 01284 757070 Simon Phelan Service Manager (Strategic Housing) 01638 719440 |

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| Item No. 8 CAB/JT/18/052 | None | Recommendations of the Forest Heath Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 28 November 2018 - Treasury Management Report 2018/2019 Investment Activity (1 April to 30 September 2018) RECOMMENDED TO FHDC COUNCIL: (19 December 2018) That, subject to the approval of Council, the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2018-2019 and Investment Activity (1 April to 30 September 2018), being Report No: PAS/FH/18/040, be approved. | The Cabinet was required to consider the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2018- 2019, prior to seeking its approval by Council. The report also summarised the investment activities for the period 1 April to 30 September 2018. | Options for the management of Council investments were formally considered within the Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy. This included key strategies in respect of the Council's borrowings, the continuation of in- house management of funds and the approach to be adopted in establishing the credit worthiness of potential counterparties. The changing nature of the economic climate required that these key areas were subject to on-going review. | Portfolio Holder: FHDC Cllr Stephen Edwards 01799 530325 Chairman of Committee: FHDC Cllr Louis Busuttil 01638 810517 Officer: Greg Stevenson Service Manager (Finance and Performance) 01284 757264 |

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| Item No. 9 CAB/JT/18/052 | None | Recommendations of the St Edmundsbury Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee: 28 November 2018 - Treasury Management Report 2018/2019 - Investment Activity (1 April to 30 September 2018) RECOMMENDED TO SEBC COUNCIL: (18 December 2018) That, subject to the approval of Council, the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2018-2019 and Investment Activity (1 April to 30 September 2018), being Report No: TMS/SE/18/004, be approved. | The Cabinet was required to consider the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report 2018- 2019, prior to seeking its approval by Council. The report also summarised the investment activities for the period 1 April to 30 September 2018. | Options for the management of Council investments were formally considered within the Annual Treasury Management and Investment Strategy. This included key strategies in respect of the maintenance of the Council's debt free status, the continuation of in- house management of funds and the approach to be adopted in establishing the credit worthiness of potential counterparties. The changing nature of the economic climate required that these key areas were subject to on-going review. | Portfolio Holder: SEBC Cllr Ian Houlder 01284 810074 Chairman of Committee: SEBC Cllr Sarah Broughton 01284 757264 Officer: Greg Stevenson Service Manager (Finance and Performance) 01284 757264 |

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| Item No. 10 CAB/JT/18/054 | None | West Suffolk Local Development Scheme (LDS) December 2018: Adoption RECOMMENDED TO SEBC AND FHDC COUNCILS: (18 and 19 December 2018) That the West Suffolk Local Development Scheme (LDS), as set out in Working Paper 1 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/054, be adopted. | A review of the existing FHDC and SEBC Local Plans was now required to meet the Councils' ambitions and to safeguard communities from speculative unsustainable growth/development in the wrong locations and without the necessary strategic infrastructure. The Local Plan would provide a positive, flexible and deliverable planning policy framework for West Suffolk. Before starting work on the West Suffolk Local Plan, the Councils' had reviewed and update the Local Development Scheme, which sets out what Development Plan documents were to be produced, their subject matter and broad timetable for their preparation including consultation, examination and adoption. | None. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 required Local Planning Authorities to prepare, maintain and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS). | Portfolio Holders: FHDC ClIr Lance Stanbury 07970 947704 SEBC ClIr Susan Glossop 01284 728377 Officer: Marie Smith Service Manager (Strategic Planning) 01638 719260 |

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| Item No. 11 CAB/JT/18/055 | None | West Suffolk Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) December 2018: Adoption RECOMMENDED TO SEBC AND FHDC COUNCILS: (18 and 19 December 2018) That the West Suffolk Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), as set out in Working Paper 1 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/055, be adopted. | A review of the existing FHDC and SEBC Local Plans was now required to meet the Councils' ambitions and to safeguard communities from speculative unsustainable growth/development in the wrong locations and without the necessary strategic infrastructure. The Local Plan would provide a positive, flexible and deliverable planning policy framework for West Suffolk. Before starting work on the West Suffolk Local Plan, the Councils' had reviewed and updated its Statement of Community Involvement which explained how they would engage local communities and other interested parties in producing their Local Plan and determining planning applications. | None. The preparation and publication of a Statement of Community Involvement was a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. | Portfolio Holders: FHDC Cllr Lance Stanbury 07970 947704 SEBC Cllr Susan Glossop 01284 728377 <u>Officer:</u> Marie Smith Service Manager (Strategic Planning) 01638 719260 |
| Item No. 14 CAB/JT/18/057 (with Exempt Appendices) | None | Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Revenues Collection Performance and Write-Offs RESOLVED: That the write-off of the amounts | The total amounts detailed in the decision were to be written- off. The detailed reasons for the decisions were included in Exempt Appendices 1 to 3 to Report No: CAB/JT/18/057. | The West Suffolk Councils currently use the services of the ARP Enforcement Agency to assist in the collection of | Portfolio Holders: FHDC Cllr Stephen Edwards 07904 389982 |

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| | | detailed in the exempt Appendices to Report No: CAB/JT/18/057, be approved as follows: 1. Exempt Appendix 1: FHDC Council Tax totalling £48,553.67. 2. Exempt Appendix 2: FHDC Business Rates totalling £2,551.59. 3. Exempt Appendix 3: FHDC Housing Benefit Overpayment totalling £4,562.16. | | business rates and also had online tracing facilities. It was not considered appropriate to pass the debt onto another agency. In the event that a written-off debt became recoverable, the amount would be written back on and enforcement procedures would be re-established. | SEBC Cllr Ian Houlder 01284 810074 <u>Officer:</u> Greg Stevenson Service Manager (Finance and Performance) 01284 757264 |
| Item No. 17 CAB/JT/18/058 | None | Investing in our Commercial Asset Portfolio (para 3)RECOMMENDED TO SEBC COUNCIL: (18 December 2018)(1)The proposal to purchase the property at 33-35 High Street, Haverhill for a sum of £365,000 (Three Hundred and Sixty Five Thousand Pounds) excluding VAT, fees and Stamp Duty Land Tax, to be funded from the Investing in the Growth | Ownership of this property will help deliver both strategic place shaping and investment opportunities for the Council, helping to deliver on the masterplan through re- development of the site. Whilst this acquisition will not immediately contribute to the revenue target of the Growth Investment fund (depending on the nature of any meanwhile use), it fits with the intention to achieve a blended return through the delivery of wider | The Council could have decided not to purchase this property investment; however, this would not deliver strategic improvements or enable an opportunity to be taken to potentially provide additional residential accommodation | Portfolio Holder: SEBC Cllr John Griffiths 07958 700434 <u>Officer:</u> Ian Gallin Chief Executive 01284 757009 |

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| | | Agenda Fund, be approved. (2) a capital budget of £376,400 be established, to be made available to facilitate the purchase, including fees and Stamp Duty Land Tax, to be funded from the Investing in our Growth Agenda Fund; | strategic benefits and ultimately will provide a source of revenue for the Council through renting out the commercial element(s). | within Haverhill town centre. | |
| | | (3) the options for due diligence costs of £20,000 and the holding costs associated with the purchase at (1) above, and as detailed in paragraph 3.7 of Report No: CAB/JT/18/058, be funded from the Strategic Priorities and Medium Term Financial Strategy Reserve; | | | |
| | | (4) it be noted that a further report, detailing options for the site will be submitted; and | | | |
| | | (5) it be noted that should the purchase be made, the Council's Section 151 Officer will make the necessary changes to the | | | |

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| | | Council's prudential indicators as a result of Recommendation (2) above. | | | |

Leah Mickleborough Service Manager (Democratic Services) and Monitoring Officer

13 December 2018