

Decisions of the meeting of the CABINET held
at 9.30am on Tuesday 11 June 2013 at the
Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton

Present

Councillor M S Robson (In the Chair)

Councillor	J Noone	Councillor	Mrs S Shepherd
	B Phillips		P R Wilkinson

Also in Attendance

Councillor	K Billings	Councillor	N Knapton
	D Blades		Mrs C Patmore
	Mrs C S Cookman		M Rigby
	Mrs B S Fortune		Mrs I Sanderson
	B Griffiths		Mrs M Skilbeck
	Mrs J Griffiths		T Swales
	K G Hardisty		Mrs J Watson

CA.1

NORTH YORKSHIRE HOME CHOICE - ALLOCATIONS POLICY REVIEW

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Council shares a joint housing allocation scheme and policy with a number of Local Authorities and Housing Associations across York and North Yorkshire. This scheme, known as 'North Yorkshire Home Choice' had been operating since June 2011. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) had undertaken an evaluation of the scheme, and in response to that evaluation, a number of local policy changes had been considered by the Partnership.

In addition, since Home Choice was first introduced, the Government had made a number of changes to the law and statutory guidance regarding both housing allocations and the way that housing benefit was paid to social housing tenants. Further amendments were proposed in response to these wider national policy changes. This report outlined the consultation process that had led to these proposed changes, explained the changes in full and recommended that the revised Common Allocations Policy was adopted as corporate policy for Hambleton.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the Housing Act 1996; the Homelessness Act 2002 and the Localism Act 2012.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to adopt the revisions to the North Yorkshire Home Choice Allocations Policy shown at Appendix B of the report as Council policy.

CA.2

HOUSING BENEFIT OVERPAYMENTS POLICY

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report presented the Housing Benefit Overpayment Policy for consideration.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To ensure that the Council has a policy to enable any overpayment of Housing Benefit is recovered from the claimant as quickly as possible.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to approve the Housing Benefit Overpayment Policy as set out in Annex A of the report.

CA.3

TEMPORARY RELIEF TO BUSINESS RATEPAYERS POLICY

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report presented the Temporary Relief for Business Ratepayers Policy for consideration.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable the Council to maintain tighter controls over the awarding of relief to Business Ratepayers as it directly affected the income to the Council.

THE DECISION:

That Council be recommended to approve the Temporary Relief for Business Ratepayers Policy as set out in Annex A of the report.

The meeting closed at 10.30am.

Leader of the Council

AGENDA ITEM NO:

**(CA.4 to CA.12)
Decisions taken under Cabinet
authority to take effect on 24 June 2013)**

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Mrs C Patmore
M Rigby
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Mrs M Skilbeck
T Swales
Mrs J Watson

CA.4 **MINUTES**

THE DECISION:

That the decisions of the meeting held on 16 April 2013 (CA.82 – CA.88), previously circulated, be signed as a correct record.

CA.5 **EMPLOYEE ISSUES**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report considered the annual pay award to staff, the grading structure, training and car leasing.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To take account of the significant changes over the last few years during which time no pay increase had been awarded.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) on conclusion of the national pay negotiations an additional pay award be made which will supplement the national pay award but not exceed a combined total of 2%;
- (2) this increase be applied to all employees and all spinal column points from 1 April 2013, the details to be determined by the Chief Executive;
- (3) from 1 April 2014 all staff be moved to the top of their grade and negotiations be commenced with trade unions on the removal of the incremental pay structure;
- (4) Members note the introduction of professional trainees; and
- (5) Members agree in principal to the introduction of a car leasing scheme for employees subject to a further report being brought to Cabinet.

CA.6

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION – WELCOME TO YORKSHIRE

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought approval for increasing the Council's annual subscription to Welcome to Yorkshire.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

Cabinet was satisfied that the subscription to Welcome to Yorkshire would enable the Council make a valuable contribution to the economic development and tourism for Yorkshire.

THE DECISION:

That the annual subscription to Welcome to Yorkshire be increased to £10,000 per year.

CA.7

ICT SERVICE SEPARATION AND 2013/14 CAPITAL PROGRAMME

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report provided an update on the separation of the ICT Shared Service arrangement with Richmondshire District Council and sought approval for the detailed 2013/14 ICT Capital Programme.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable the Council to retain its own ICT services and its own identity rather than a shared or mixed identity.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the progress of the ICT Separation Project with Richmondshire District Council be noted;
- (2) the ICT capital schemes for 2013/14 detailed in Annex A be approved for implementation.

CA.8

ALLOCATION OF SECTION 106 FUNDS

Easingwold Ward

The subject of the decision:

This report sought agreement of a schedule of how the Section 106 funds were matched to projects in the Easingwold Action Plan so that they would be timely and appropriate to maximise the effectiveness and use of the funds and agree this approach for other towns where significant S106 allocations were agreed.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable the Council to deliver a more strategic and efficient process for allocating future Section 106 either from LDF allocations or windfall sites.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) the Section 106 funding schedule at Annex A of the report be agreed;
- (2) this approach be replicated for other towns where significant S106 allocations are agreed; and
- (3) the Council agrees to release £100,000 of the Easingwold School Sports Hall funding to the new full size floodlit pitch.

CA.9 **TOUR de FRANCE**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

This report sought consideration of the Council's contribution to this event coming to the District and to Yorkshire.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To support the economic benefits to the District.

THE DECISION:

That:-

- (1) a one-off contribution be made of £20,000 to Welcome to Yorkshire's cost of organising the Tour de France;
- (2) a one-off contribution be made of £10,000 to North Yorkshire County Council's costs of organising the event; and
- (3) a one-off budget of £10,000 be created to support West Tanfield and organise legacy initiatives across Hambleton and that this be split 50:50.

CA.10 **NEW ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS – CHANGES TO COUNCIL COMMITTEE STRUCTURES**

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England had confirmed its recommendation that the number of Councillors on Hambleton District Council be reduced to 28 with effect from 2015. Although this was still subject to a simple parliamentary procedure which would not be completed until November 2013, the change was now almost certain to take place in 2015. This report considered how the Council should determine what, if any, alterations to Committee structures, etc., should take place as a result of the reduction in the number of Members.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To establish a Working Group which would make recommendations to Council on what Committee structures and other organisational matters may be required as a result of the reduction of Council Members to 28.

THE DECISION:

That a New Structures Working Group be established comprising 10 Members as set out in paragraphs 2.4 and 2.5 of the report and the Political Groups be asked to make their nominations.

CA.11

PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, SPORT AND RECREATION PLANS

Leeming Bar Ward

The subject of the decision:

This report sought endorsement of the Public Open Space, Sport and Recreation Action Plan for Scruton.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To comply with the Council's legal responsibility to ensure funding is used in a way consistent with the individual S106 Agreements.

THE DECISION:

That the Public Open Space, Sport and Recreation Action Plan attached at Annex B of the report be endorsed.

CA.12

CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT – ADJUDICATION JOINT COMMITTEE

All Wards

The subject of the decision:

The Council had recently introduced Civil Parking Enforcement in its car parks as part of a wider introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement throughout North Yorkshire. As part of the arrangements of Civil Parking Enforcement provision was made for "appeals" against Parking Contravention Notices to be made to an independent adjudicator. The adjudication system was operated by all of those Councils within the country who operate Civil Parking Enforcement. The adjudication system was overseen by a Joint Committee of all the participating Local Authorities. This report asked for authorisation for the Council to participate in the Joint Committee.

Alternative options considered:

None.

The reason for the decision:

To enable the Council to be part of an adjudication system as part of Civil Parking Enforcement.

THE DECISION:

That the Council becomes a party to the Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London Adjudication Joint Committee and the Portfolio Holder for Customer Services and Asset Management (or a substitute appointed by the Leader) be the Council's representative on the Joint Committee.

The meeting closed at 10.30am.

Leader of the Council