

RECORD OF DECISION: EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS

Decision No: 1/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Meopham, Higham and Cobham Rural Housing Needs Surveys 2020

It was agreed:

That the outcome of the Rural Housing Needs Surveys undertaken in 2020 for Meopham, Higham and Cobham be noted and published on the Council's website.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

To fulfil the Council's statutory duty under the 1985 Housing Act to investigate housing needs and examine ways of meeting those needs.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

This decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of 5 working days after publication unless it is called in.

Decision No: 2/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Householder Extensions/Alterations Design Guidance Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Adoption

It was agreed:

That the responses received on the draft Householder Extensions/Alterations Design Guidance SPD consultation be noted and for the final Householder Extensions/Alterations Design Guidance document to be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), with delegated authority being given to the Assistant Director (Planning), in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Strategic Environment, to make final amendments to the document (including updated graphics).

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

To provide further detailed guidance on the adopted Local Plan Core Strategy (2014) policies, namely Policy CS19: Development and Design Principles.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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Decision No: 3/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Proposed amendments to the Constitution

It was agreed:

- 1) That a delegation be made to the Monitoring Officer to authorise employees to appear on behalf of the Council in the County Court and/or Magistrates' Court pursuant to S60 of the County Courts Act 1984 and S223 of the Local Government Act 1972, and
- 2) That a delegation be made to the Chief Executive and Directors to make urgent decisions on matters reserved to Council only where the urgent matter is of such a nature that it may be against the Council's interest to delay and where it is not practicable to obtain the approval of the Council.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

To provide expedient authority to staff to attend court where necessary and to avoid delay in decision making.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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Decision No: 4/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Member Training 2019-20 - Annual Report

It was agreed:

To approve the draft Member Training Plan 2021-22, as detailed in Appendix Five to the report, and accept the recommendations made by the Overview Scrutiny Committee, as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of the report.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

To ensure elected Members have the appropriate training and support to fulfil their roles.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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Decision No: 5/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) review

It was agreed:

To proceed with Making the Order and implement the changes to the five remaining Controlled Parking Zones in the Borough as per the Formal Consultation which commenced in September 2020.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

Extensive consultations during the review have shown residents still want to be part of a permit scheme. The schemes prioritise parking for residents in areas where all day parking from outside influences can have a detrimental affect on the residents' ability to park and therefore play an important role in traffic management in the borough.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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Decision No: 6/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Fire Door Procurement and Installation Programme

It was agreed:

The Director (Housing & Operations) in consultation with the S.151 Officer and Lead Member be given delegated authority to conduct the procurement process and award a contract using a procurement framework by way of mini tender as outlined in the report.

The Director (Housing & Operations) in consultation with the S151 Officer and Lead Member be given delegated authority to grant annual extensions to the contract awarded subject to satisfactory contractor performance.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

As a landlord, the Council has a statutory obligation to ensure its housing stock is safe and secure and following updated Government guidance on fire door requirements in multi-occupied buildings, a fully risk assessed programme of fire door installations has been established to ensure tenants are kept as safe as possible by maximising fire safety measures within these buildings in compliance with legislation.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

N/A

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

None

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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Decision No: 7/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Development on Land at Constable Road/Rembrandt Drive

It was agreed:

That authority be delegated to the Director (Planning and Development) in consultation with the Leader of the Executive and the Section 151 Officer, to award a build contract to Westridge Construction Limited following a selection process via the South East Consortium for 7 x 1 bed bungalows and associated parking, landscaping and improvements to the wider green space on land at Constable Road/Rembrandt Drive.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

To enable the construction of much-needed affordable housing stock and because the contract sum exceeds that for which officers' delegated authority exists.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

None - the successful tenderer has been determined through a selection process via the South East Consortium (SEC) in accordance with the Council's Constitution

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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Decision No: 8/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: South Thames Gateway (STG) Building Control Partnership Business Plan 2021-24

It was agreed:

1. To approve the proposed STG Building Control Partnership Business Plan 2021-24 (version 3), including the Financial Plan, and also the Delivery Plan (version 3), appended to it.
2. That the Secretary to the STG Joint Committee be notified accordingly.
3. To delegate to the Director (Planning and Development), in consultation with the Leader, the authority to approve any additional Gravesham contribution, to balance any deficit that may arise for the STG Building Control Partnership in 2020-21.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

The STG Building Control Partnership's Joint Committee's Constitution sets out the process for approval of the Partnership's business plan each year and the timing required to ensure that each partner authority is able to incorporate associated budget requirements into the financial planning process for the subsequent year. The Constitution requires each partner authority to advise the Secretary to the Joint Committee whether it approves or rejects the draft business plan by no later than 10 days before the Annual Meeting of the Joint Committee, which will take place in June 2021.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

The Leader of the Executive declared an 'other significant interest' (OSI) and left the meeting for this item.

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any) None

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Decision No: 9/C/2021
Decision taken by: Cabinet
Date: 04 January 2021

Topic: Wickes site, Stuart Road, Gravesend and Parrock Street Surface Car Park, Gravesend

It was agreed:

1. To authorise appropriate officers to procure market intelligence in respect of the housing demands and opportunities in respect of the two sites;
2. To authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Executive and the Strategic Environment Portfolio Holder to bring forward proposals for the production of a Town Centre Supplementary Planning Document at the earliest opportunity; and
3. To authorise the Director (Corporate Services), in her role as s.151 Officer, to identify the necessary funding required for this work and to build that into the forthcoming General Fund Budget proposals.

REASON/S FOR THE DECISION:

In order to identify the best approach to delivering development of these sites.

Alternative options considered and rejected: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (if any)

Given the report references the possibility of Rosherville Ltd being involved in these development, as Chair of the Rosherville Ltd Board, Cllr Lenny Rolles declared an 'other significant interest' (OSI) and left the meeting for this item.

DISPENSATIONS GRANTED (if any)

None

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