

DECISION SESSION - EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS AND HOUSING.

TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2011

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 15 March 2011. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in a key decision, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group no later than 4pm on the second working day after this meeting.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Laura Bootland.

4. UPDATE ON PRIVATE SECTOR STRATEGY.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Member noted the overall progress made to date in delivering the Private Sector Housing Strategy.

That the Executive Member approved Option 1 as outlined in paragraph 17 of the report to approve the refreshed action plan with the addition of the sixth aim.

REASON: So that the Council can encourage the private sector housing stock to be maintained and reduce carbon emissions.

5. REMOVAL OF PRIVATE SECTOR RENEWAL FUNDING - IMPACT ON THE YORK HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Executive Member noted the impact of the private sector renewal funding on service delivery both within the council and with the council's partnering organisation the York Home Improvement Agency.

(ii) That the Executive Member approved Option 1 as outlined in paragraph 15 to not renew the York Home Improvement Agency contract on its expiry.

REASON: To ensure that the Council does not incur unnecessary financial expenditure.

6. ACHIEVING THE DECENT HOMES STANDARD.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Executive Member noted that the Council has met the decent homes standard in line with the Governments December 2010 target.

(ii) That the Executive Member approved Option as outlined in paragraph 12 to continue to maintain the York Standard, as set out within the Housing Capital Programme, as the way forward when developing the revised Housing Revenue Account Business Plan.

REASON: To ensure that the Council maintains its housing stock to an excellent standard.

7. DECORATION VOUCHER & DISTURBANCE ALLOWANCE SCHEME ALLOWANCES.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Member approved Options 1 & 2 as set out in the report to change the way Decorations and Disturbance allowances are provided.

REASON: To ensure that the Council provides a value for money efficient service.

8. INTRODUCTION OF TENANT INSPECTORS

RESOLVED: That the Executive Member approved Option 1 and specifically endorsed the proposed structure for reporting recommendations that are set out in paragraph 11.

REASON: By introducing the service it will encourage customer involvement in shaping the housing service and will provide the service with greater transparency.

9. ANNUAL HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE REPORT

RESOLVED: That the Executive Member:

(i) Noted the review of the 2010/11 and the proposals for 2011/12.

(ii) Approved the allocation of budgets for 2011/12.

(iii) Approved the implementation of the proposed programme.

(iv) Approved the reserve list of schemes.

(v) Approved the additional £823k capital

and revenue scheme programme.

(vi) Noted that the Executive would be asked to approve the use of £657k from contingencies.

(vii) Approved the use of preformed speed cushions that are bolted to the roads surface and other such industry wide innovations that will improve City road surfaces.

REASON: To ensure delivery of highway maintenance services in an efficient and cost effective manner.

10. SNOW WARDENS

RESOLVED: (i) That the Executive Member agreed the scope of the Snow Warden role and approved the use of funding as set out in paragraph 15.

(ii) That the Executive Member recommended that Officers look into the possibility of creating a link with Community Payback to cul-de-sacs and streets with many elderly residents to identify ways they could help the elderly to clear snow.

REASON: To enhance the winter maintenance resilience at a local level.

11. PUBLIC PROTECTION LEGAL ACTIONS

RESOLVED: That the Executive Member approved the report and the continuation of the current policy.

REASON: So that the Executive Member reviews formal enforcement activity undertaken by Environmental Health, Trading Standards, and Licensing Services.

12. 2010/11 QUARTER 3 PERFORMANCE REPORT.

RESOLVED: That the Executive Member noted the report.

REASON: To keep the Executive Member informed on service performance.