

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council – Decisions taken by the Strategy and Resources Committee on Wednesday, 27 January 2016

This notice was published 29 January 2016

Decisions will come into force, and may be implemented, on the expiry of 5 working days from the date of this notice unless called in by the Audit, Crime & Disorder and Scrutiny Committee.

NOTE: The following represents a summary of the decisions taken by the Committee. It is not intended to represent the formal record of the meeting (for which reference should be made to the minutes) but to facilitate the call-in process.

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
1.	Question Time	A written question had been submitted by a member of the public in connection with Item 13 (Horton Chapel) to which a verbal answer was provided to both the written and verbal supplementary question. No further questions were asked or had been submitted.
2.	Declarations of Interest	Declarations of interest were made in respect of items 4 (Fees and Charges 2016/17), 5 (Capital Programme), 6 (Revenue Budget 2016-17), 8 (Performance Management Monitoring) and 13 (Horton Chapel) on the Agenda as set out below the relevant Minute.
3.	Pay Award 2016-17 and Pay Policy 2016-20	The Committee: (1) Agreed a 1.5% pay award for 2016/17 as recommended by the Joint Staff Committee on 13 October 2015; (2) Agreed the Pay Policy 2016/20 with a full review of the Council's pay structure and performance pay scheme as recommended by the Joint Staff Committee on 13 October 2015
4.	Fees and Charges 2016/17	The Committee agreed the fees and charges for 2016/17 subject to the approval of

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		Council.
5.	Capital Programme 2016-17	<p>The Committee agreed:</p> <p>(1) To submit the Capital Programme for 2016/17 as identified in section 4 of the report to Council for approval on 11 February 2016;</p> <p>(2) To confirm that it supported all of the schemes included in the provisional programme for 2017-19 as identified in section 5 of the report</p> <p>The Committee:</p> <p>(3) Noted that schemes for 2017-19 were provisional pending an annual review of funds available for capital investment.</p>
6.	Revenue Budget 2016-17	<p>The Committee recommended the 2016/17 service estimates for approval at the budget meeting of the Council on the 11 February 2016</p> <p><i>Note: it was highlighted that since publication of the agenda, there had been a change in the financial situation regarding variation in pay, pension (IAS19) & support service recharges costs which had reduced to £220K. An equivalent £180K had been drawn down from the Corporate Project Reserve set out in the report as £127K (which now stood at - £53K) to fund this. The overall net effect on the base position for 2016/17 was therefore Nil.</i></p>

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7.	Borough Insight Contract	<p>The Committee agreed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Borough Insight should continue as a printed magazine delivered to households and venues in the Borough three times a year; (2) The contract for the production, delivery and advertising management of the printed magazine should be awarded to Frontline; (3) The Council should continue to produce e-Borough Insight in-house and endeavour to increase the number of residents subscribing to it.
8.	Performance Management Monitoring - Progress Report 2 2015/16	<p>The Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Received Performance Management Progress Report Two, 2015/16; (2) Did not identify any issues requiring action over and above that set out in the Progress Report.
9.	Blenheim Road - Renovation of Properties for Temporary Accommodation	<p>The Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Recommended to Council the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The £200,000 of capital reserves previously approved for the demolition of 1-3 Blenheim Road; and

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UP to a further £173,500 from S106 affordable housing developer contributions. To bring 9 x 1 bedroom flats at Blenheim Road into use as temporary accommodation, subject to first entering into a full repairing Agreement to Lease with a Social Housing Provider. (2) Authorises the Head of Housing and Environmental Services to negotiate and agree terms of the agreement for lease with the Social Housing Provider, following consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Director of Finance and Resources and the Chairman of the Strategy and Resources Committee.
10.	Residential Property Acquisition Fund	<p>The Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Recommended to Council the creation of a residential property acquisition fund of £3 million for the purchase of properties to use a temporary accommodation; (2) Approved the use of New Homes Bonus up to a maximum of £2 million, £275,000 capital reserves and the remainder to be funded from available Section 106 funds;

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		<p>(3) Approved the decision making process for this fund as set out in the report subject to the decision to purchase a property being made by the Head of Housing and Environment in consultation with the Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Resources, Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the Chairman of Strategy and Resources Committee, the Vice Chairman of the Strategy and Resources Committee and the Chairman of the Social Committee.</p>
11.	Private Sector Leasing Scheme	<p>The Committee:</p> <p>(4) Noted the report and endorsed its support for the establishment of a Private Sector Leasing Scheme;</p> <p>(5) Authorised the Head of Housing and Environmental Services to take leases of up to 15 private residential properties on such terms as he considers appropriate, following consultation with the Director of Finance and Resources, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and either one of the following: the Chairman of Strategy and Resources Committee, the Vice Chairman of the Strategy and Resources Committee or the Chairman of the Social Committee;</p> <p>(6) Receive a review of the operation of the scheme within 12 months of its operation</p> <p><i>Note: The Committee wished to record its thanks to all the officers involved in bringing forward options to assist the Council in improving the quality of life for vulnerable residents and reducing the financial risk associated with its obligations in relation to homelessness.</i></p>

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12.	Land on Longmead Estate	This item was withdrawn.
13.	Horton Chapel	<p>The Committee:</p> <p>(1) Noted the position to date;</p> <p>(2) Authorised Officers, following consultation with the Chairman of the Strategy and Resources Committee, to finalise a pack of information to be available for anyone interested in putting forward a bid for the building: such pack to be available by the end of February 2016;</p> <p>(3) Agreed the allocation of funds as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to £450,000 to be available to any purchaser to be expended on the refurbishment and renovation of Horton Chapel; • Up to a further £1 million to be available to any purchaser proposing a wholly community/charitable end use for the building; • Any mixed use incorporating community/charitable uses and commercial use to be entitled to a sum between the above figures depending on the nature of the mix proposed, with the intention that it be limited to a sum up to £500,000 in addition to the sum at (a)

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional sums to be held at this point as a contingency and to meet the cost of all professional advice and assistance. (4) Agreed that bids be invited for community/charitable proposals to be submitted by the end of June 2016; and (5) Agreed that a further report be brought to the Committee at its meeting on 28 June 2016 to update on progress and to consider whether/when/how marketing for commercial bids should commence.
14.	Exclusion of Press and Public	<p>The Committee resolved to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended) and that pursuant to paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the said Schedule 12A the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.</p> <p><i>Note: Members of the Committee were reminded of the need for confidentiality in respect of those items not considered in public</i></p>
15.	ICT Shared Service	<p>The Committee agreed a way forward as set out in the Minutes.</p> <p><i>Note: The details are considered officially sensitive at this time and the Minute for this item will be exempt from publication</i></p>

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16.	Land in West Ewell	<p>The Committee agreed a way forward as set out in the Minutes.</p> <p><i>Note: The details are considered officially sensitive at this time and the Minute for this item will be exempt from publication.</i></p>
17.	Procurement	<p>The Committee agreed a way forward as set out in the Minutes.</p> <p><i>Note: The details are considered officially sensitive at this time and the Minute for this item will be exempt from publication</i></p>