

**EXECUTIVE
16 FEBRUARY 2010
5.00 - 6.20 PM**



Present:

Councillors Bettison (Chairman), Ward (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Ballin, Dr Barnard, Birch, Mrs Hayes, Kendall and McCracken

39. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

40. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive on 19 January 2010 together with the accompanying decision records be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

41. Executive Decisions

The Executive considered the reports submitted on the items listed below and the decisions taken are recorded in the decision sheets attached to these minutes and summarised below:

Item 5: Medium Term Objectives - Overview & Scrutiny Response

RESOLVED that the Council's Key Objectives be approved as set out at Appendix 2 of the report.

Item 6: Capital Programme 2010/11 - 2012/13

RESOLVED that:

- 1 General Fund capital funding of £8.069m for 2010/11, in respect of those schemes listed in Annexes A – E of the report, be recommended to Council.
- 2 In addition to the capital funding of £8.069m for 2010/11, the release of £1.28m in respect of new affordable housing resulting from the LSVT in 2008 be recommended to Council.
- 3 The inclusion of an additional budget of £1m for 'Invest To Save' schemes, based on the underlying principles set out in the Capital Strategy approved by the Executive on 15 December 2009 be recommended to Council
- 4 Those schemes that attract external grant funding are included within the 2010/11 capital programme at the level of funding received be recommended to Council.

- 5 The release of £3.1m from s106 monies to fund capital projects outlined in paragraph 5.10 be recommended to Council.
- 6 That capital schemes that require external funding can only proceed once the Council is certain of receiving the grant, be agreed.
- 7 The indicative programme for 2011/12 and 2012/13 in the light of resources available and spending priorities in December 2010 be reviewed.

Item 7: Revenue Budget 2010/11

RESOLVED that, in recommending to Council a budget and Council Tax level for 2010/11:

- 1 No changes to the budget proposals are required as a result of the budget consultation (section 7.1 of the report) be agreed.
- 2 The provision for inflation of minus £0.068m (section 7.2 of the report) be agreed;
- 3 The changes to the budget proposals as set out in Annexe A and Annexe D and in section 7.3 of the report be agreed;
- 4 The Council should fund the Schools budgets at the level set out in section 8.1 of the report subject to any amendments made by the Executive Member for Education be agreed;
- 5 Includes a general contingency of £1.000m, use of which to be authorised by the Executive Member for Finance, Resources and Assets and Chief Executive (section 9.5);
- 6 Subject to the above recommendations confirms the draft budget proposals, including changes to incorporate current information in section 7.3 (Annexe D);
- 7 The total expenditure before allowance for loss of interest from any use of balances of £74.581m, as shown in Table 6 (section 10) be agreed;
- 8 The contribution to be made from revenue balances to support revenue expenditure of £0.557m be agreed;
- 9 The Council's total requirement for the Collection Fund, excluding Parish Council precepts, be set as £74.030m;
- 10 The Council Tax for the Council's services for each Valuation Band be set as follows:

Band	Tax Level Relative to Band D	£
A	6/9	729.30
B	7/9	850.85
C	8/9	972.40
D	9/9	1093.95
E	11/9	1337.05

F	13/9	1580.15
G	15/9	1823.25
H	18/9	2187.90

- 11 The Council approves the following indicators, limits, strategies and policies included in Annexe E be recommended:
- The Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2010/11 to 2012/13 contained within Annexe E(i);
 - The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy contained within Annexe E(ii);
 - The Treasury Management Strategy Statement, and the Treasury Prudential Indicators contained in Annexe E(iii);
 - The Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator in Annexe E(iii);
 - The Investment Strategy 2010/11 to 2012/13 and Treasury Management Limits on Activity contained in Annexe E(iv);
 - The revised Treasury Policy Statement contained in Annexe E (v). This revision nominates the Governance and Audit Committee to be responsible for examining and assessing the effectiveness of the Treasury management Strategy and Policies;
- 12 The Council approve the payment of £1.162m for the surrender of the lease of Enid Wood House as set out in section 11.3.3;
- 13 The virements relating to the 2009/10 budget as set out in section 15 be approved.

Item 8: CAA Action Plans

RESOLVED that:

- 1 The Comprehensive Area Assessment actions included in the body of the report and Use of Resources – Response to Audit Recommendations (Appendix 1) be approved..
- 2 The Governance and Audit Committee are invited to receive the Use of Resources response to audit recommendations.

Item 9: Local Area Agreement Refresh

RESOLVED that:

- 1 The updated targets for inclusion in the refreshed Local Area Agreement for submission to GOSE on 12 March 2010 be agreed;
- 2 Delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive (in consultation with the Leader and Bracknell Forest Partnership board members) to finalise the agreement of any outstanding targets for the Local Area Agreement refresh, be agreed.

Item 10: Site Allocations Development Plan Document

RESOLVED that:

- 1 The proposed consultation approach and the accompanying consultation document be endorsed.
- 2 Minor changes to the consultation document be agreed with the Executive member for Planning and Transport and Economic Development in consultation with the Chief Officer Planning and Transport.

Item 11: North Bracknell Bus Contracts

RESOLVED that:

- 1 A contract for operation of buses as follows, as specified in the invitation to tender, be awarded to the company submitting the lowest tender:
 - BFC 46 : Bracknell – Binfield
 - BFC 47 : Bracknell – Bullbrook
 - BFC 48 : Bracknell – Ascot
 - BFC 49 : Bracknell – Wokingham
 - BFC 50 : Bracknell – Winkfield
 - BFC 51 : Bracknell – Wexham Park Hospital
 - BFC 52 : Bracknell – Bullbrook / Binfield / Warfield (early evening)
 - BFC 53 : Bracknell – The Parks
 - BFC 54 : Bracknell – Warfield
- 2 The combined bid for operation of the above services as a single contract from the contractor identified in the confidential annexe (available to members of The Executive only) be accepted.

LEADER

Minute Annex

Bracknell Forest Council Record of Decision

Work Programme Reference	I020893
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1. **TITLE:** Medium Term Objectives - Overview & Scrutiny Response

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Chief Executive's Office

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To advise the Executive of Overview & Scrutiny's response to the Medium Term Objectives.

4 **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

That the Council's Key Objectives be approved as set out at Appendix 2 of the report.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

It is essential that the Council sets out its vision and Key Objectives for the organisation. Whilst the Executive has previously agreed the Medium Term Objectives and associated Key Objectives for 2008-11, it is vital to ensure that these stay focused and relevant to prevailing conditions.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** None

10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I019099
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1. **TITLE:** Capital Programme 2010/11 - 2012/13

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Corporate Services

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To approve the Council's Capital Programme.

4 **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

1 General Fund capital funding of £8.069m for 2010/11, in respect of those schemes listed in Annexes A – E of the report, be recommended to Council.

2 In addition to the capital funding of £8.069m for 2010/11, the release of £1.28m in respect of new affordable housing resulting from the LSVT in 2008 be recommended to Council.

3 The inclusion of an additional budget of £1m for 'Invest To Save' schemes, based on the underlying principles set out in the Capital Strategy approved by the Executive on 15 December 2009 be recommended to Council

4 Those schemes that attract external grant funding are included within the 2010/11 capital programme at the level of funding received be recommended to Council.

5 The release of £3.1m from s106 monies to fund capital projects outlined in paragraph 5.10 be recommended to Council.

6 That capital schemes that require external funding can only proceed once the Council is certain of receiving the grant, be agreed.

7 The indicative programme for 2011/12 and 2012/13 in the light of resources available and spending priorities in December 2010 be reviewed.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

The reasons for the recommendations are set out in the report.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The alternative options are considered in the report below.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** Open consultation. All views welcome.

10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I019101
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1. **TITLE:** Revenue Budget 2010/11
2. **SERVICE AREA:** Corporate Services
3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To recommend to Council the annual budget.

- 4 **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

- 1 No changes to the budget proposals are required as a result of the budget consultation (section 7.1 of the report), be agreed.
- 2 The provision for inflation of minus £0.068m (section 7.2 of the report) be agreed;
- 3 The changes to the budget proposals as set out in Annexe A and Annexe D and in section 7.3 of the report be agreed;
- 4 The Council should fund the Schools budgets at the level set out in section 8.1 of the report subject to any amendments made by the Executive Member for Education be agreed;
- 5 Includes a general contingency of £1.000m, use of which to be authorised by the Executive Member for Finance, Resources and Assets and Chief Executive (section 9.5 of the report);
- 6 Subject to the above recommendations confirms the draft budget proposals, including changes to incorporate current information in section 7.3 (Annexe D);
- 7 The total expenditure before allowance for loss of interest from any use of balances of £74.581m, as shown in Table 6 (section 10 of the report) be agreed;
- 8 The contribution to be made from revenue balances to support revenue expenditure of £0.557m be agreed;
- 9 The Council's total requirement for the Collection Fund, excluding Parish Council precepts, be set as £74.030m;

- 10 The Council Tax for the Council's services for each Valuation Band be set as follows:

Band	Tax Level Relative to Band D	£
A	6/9	729.30
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E	11/9	1337.05
F	13/9	1580.15
G	15/9	1823.25
H	18/9	2187.90

- 11 The Council approves the following indicators, limits, strategies and policies included in Annexe E be recommended:
- The Prudential Indicators and Limits for 2010/11 to 2012/13 contained within Annexe E(i);
 - The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy contained within Annexe E(ii);
 - The Treasury Management Strategy Statement, and the Treasury Prudential Indicators contained in Annexe E(iii);
 - The Authorised Limit Prudential Indicator in Annexe E(iii);
 - The Investment Strategy 2010/11 to 2012/13 and Treasury Management Limits on Activity contained in Annexe E(iv);
 - The revised Treasury Policy Statement contained in Annexe E (v). This revision nominates the Governance and Audit Committee to be responsible for examining and assessing the effectiveness of the Treasury management Strategy and Policies;
- 12 The Council approve the payment of £1.162m for the surrender of the lease of Enid Wood House as set out in section 11.3.3;
- 13 The virements relating to the 2009/10 budget as set out in section 15 be approved.

7. REASON FOR DECISION

The recommendations are designed to enable the Executive to propose a revenue budget and Council Tax level for approval by Council on 3 March.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Background information relating to the options considered is included in the report.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** Open consultation. All views welcome.
10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Assistant Chief Executive
11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I020193
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1. **TITLE:** CAA Action Plans
2. **SERVICE AREA:** Chief Executive's Office
3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To agree the Area and Organisation Action Plans arising from the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

- 1 The Comprehensive Area Assessment actions included in the body of the report and Use of Resources – Response to Audit Recommendations (Appendix 1) be approved.
- 2 The Governance and Audit Committee are invited to receive the Use of Resources response to audit recommendations.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

It is important for the Council and the Partnership to take action on the areas of improvement identified.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** All Partners

10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Assistant Chief Executive

11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I020191
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1. **TITLE:** Local Area Agreement Refresh
2. **SERVICE AREA:** Chief Executive's Office
3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To agree the refresh of the Local Area Agreement.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes
5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

- 1 That the updated targets for inclusion in the refreshed Local Area Agreement for submission to GOSE on 12 March 2010 be agreed;
- 2 Delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive (in consultation with the Leader and Bracknell Forest Partnership board members) to finalise the agreement of any outstanding targets for the Local Area Agreement refresh, be agreed.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

Bracknell Forest Council has a duty to prepare a Local Area Agreement under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

It was agreed by Council in 2008 that functions relating to Local Area Agreements, as set out in Part 5 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, be designated as Executive functions.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

None. The recommendations meet the requirements set on local authorities by government.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** All Partners.
10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Assistant Chief Executive
11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I020082
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1. **TITLE:** Site Allocations Development Plan Document

2. **SERVICE AREA:** Environment, Culture & Communities

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To approve a draft version of the Site Allocations Development Plan Document for consultation.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

1 That the proposed consultation approach and the accompanying consultation document be endorsed.

2 Minor changes to the consultation document be agreed with the Executive member for Planning and Transport and Economic Development in consultation with the Chief Officer Planning and Transport.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

The SADPD is an important element in securing delivery of the vision set out in the Council's adopted Core Strategy and ensuring that we meet our obligations to secure a robust and flexible supply of land to meet the Borough's future development requirements.

It is important that the local community and other stakeholders are properly engaged in the process of identifying locations for the Borough's future development. Production of the SADPD will also help the achievement of the Council's medium-term objective 3 - 'To promote sustainable housing and infrastructure development' which includes 'producing a Local Development Framework that protects the Green Belt and balances the demand for new housing with the need to protect the wider environment'.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

It is a statutory requirement under the planning regulations to carry out proper consultation on Development Plan Documents. There is an option of delaying production of the SADPD. This was considered by the Executive and Officers, particularly in light of indications that a Conservative Government would abolish Regional Spatial Strategies. However, in the absence of clarity on what would replace RSSs and the desire to maintain effective control over future development, it was agreed with the Executive that the Council should continue to plan for the quantum of development set out in the South East Plan to ensure that we are planning for change and not reacting to it.

The option of not identifying sites for future development would leave the Council vulnerable to the pattern of development in the Borough being led by developers and land owners

through planning applications and potentially costly planning appeals rather than through the plan-led system that forms the basis of the government's approach to planning.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** Determined by The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England)(Amendment) Regulations 2009
10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Director of Environment, Culture & Communities
11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I021456
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1. **TITLE:** North Bracknell Bus Contracts
2. **SERVICE AREA:** Environment, Culture and Communities
3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

To award a contract to provide local bus services on a number of routes, principally to the north of Bracknell.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** No
5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

- 1 A contract for operation of buses as follows, as specified in the invitation to tender, be awarded to the company submitting the lowest tender:

BFC 46 : Bracknell – Binfield
 BFC 47 : Bracknell – Bullbrook
 BFC 48 : Bracknell – Ascot
 BFC 49 : Bracknell – Wokingham
 BFC 50 : Bracknell – Winkfield
 BFC 51 : Bracknell – Wexham Park Hospital
 BFC 52 : Bracknell – Bullbrook / Binfield / Warfield (early evening)
 BFC 53 : Bracknell – The Parks
 BFC 54 : Bracknell – Warfield

- 2 The combined bid for operation of the above services as a single contract from the contractor identified in the confidential annexe (available to members of The Executive only) be accepted.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

While other bidders offered the lowest compliant individual price for each contract, the recommended contractor's price for operation of all the contracts at a combined price offers a significant saving compared to the individual lowest bids for the contracts, and a saving over any other operator's similar combined bid.

The tender submitted meets the requirements of the specification in the most cost effective manner.

These services contribute towards a number of the Council's medium term objectives, i.e.

- 1 "To build a vibrant Bracknell town centre that residents and businesses are proud of by ... improving access to the new town centre by providing ... more buses "
- 3 "To promote sustainable housing and infrastructure development by Implementing

the Local Transport Plan “

7 “Seek to ensure that every resident feels included and able to access the services they need”

9 “To promote independence and choice for vulnerable adults and older people”

The Departmental Service Plan includes a commitment to implement the Local Transport Plan, and recognises the performance indicator NI177 (local bus journeys made in the Borough.) Approximately 318,000 passenger journeys per year (17 % of the bus journeys made in the Borough) are made using these services.

8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

Acceptance of a higher priced tender offers no significant benefits to passengers.

Failure to let a contract will result in the loss of local bus service provision to many parts of the Borough, including rural areas, and to urban areas with a high concentration of senior citizens. Failure to let a contract will also risk the loss of external funding in the form of Rural Bus Subsidy Grant and contributions from neighbouring authorities, and will breach the planning agreement in respect of The Parks.

For each service, the option for operators to suggest alternative timetables was offered, and for many routes, quotes were also sought for an ‘Option B’ which involved a reduction to the existing timetable, in case the current level of service could not be continued within the existing budget. In the event, the recommended contractor’s bid is for ‘Option A’ for all services, and (with the exception of The Parks) no change to existing routes or timetables is proposed. Since this can be met within the existing budget, and no lower bids for an ‘Option B’ network were received, there is no direct need to consider service reductions. However, accepting service reductions and reducing costs further is an alternative that Members might consider.

9. **PRINCIPAL GROUPS CONSULTED:** None.

10. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Director of Environment, Culture & Communities

11. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None.

Date Decision Made	Date decision will be implemented
16 February 2010	26 February 2010

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