

17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 56

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: TARGETED BUDGET MANAGEMENT
(TBM 5)

AUTHOR: JEFF COATES

THE DECISION

1. That the forecast outturn position for the General Fund, which is an overspend of £2.413m be noted;
2. That the forecast outturn for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), which is an underspend of £0.150m be noted;
3. That the forecast outturn position for the Dedicated Schools Grant which is an underspend of £0.309m be noted;
4. That the forecast outturn position on the capital programme be noted; and
5. That the following changes to the capital programme be approved:
 - The variations and reprofiles in Appendix 3 and the new schemes as set out in Appendix 4.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. Budget monitoring is a key element of good financial management, which is necessary in order for the council to maintain financial stability and operate effectively.
2. The capital budget changes are necessary to maintain effective financial management.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The provisional outturn position on council controlled budgets is an overspend of £2.413m. Any underspend at year-end would release one off resources that can be used to aid budget planning for 2014/15. Any overspend will need to be funded from general reserves which would then need to be replenished to ensure that the working balance did not remain below £9.000m.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services
Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to:

- (i) any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision or,
- (ii) the decision being called in for review by 5 Members from two or more Groups represented on the Council.

17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 57

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL INCLUSION - DEBT
COLLECTION AND RECOVERY POLICY

AUTHOR: NIGEL MANVELL

THE DECISION

1. That the Corporate Debt Collection & Recovery Policy at Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
2. That the proposed Action Plan at Appendix 2 to the report be approved; and
3. That it be noted that the policy and its effectiveness would be the subject of ongoing review and any necessary amendments reported back to the committee for consideration.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

Effective Income collection and recovery is critical to the council's financial resilience and enables it to resource and provide essential services. However, members will want to know that the approach and ethics that are applied when collecting income, particularly in relation to vulnerable groups and or those in financial difficulty, supports the council's Corporate Plan Priorities. The approach has been developed in the proposed policy statement that will be used by the income collection teams across the council and which requires the committee's approval.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The authority is not required to have a collection and recovery policy but not to do so could mean that collection units take different and possibly counter-productive approaches to collection and recovery. Good practice requires that a corporate approach is adopted and endorsed by members.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



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17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 58

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: IMPROVING THE CUSTOMER
EXPERIENCE

AUTHOR: RACHEL CONWAY

THE DECISION

1. That a £273,000 “invest to save” customer access project to make it easier to access parking services online and through smart phones be approved; and
2. That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director Finance & Resources to authorise further customer access invest to save projects within the parameters set out in paragraph 7.2 of the report.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. This report requests the approval of invest to save to deliver a programme of work to enhance access to services. This investment will result in savings and efficiencies both to individual services and the council as a whole, whilst improving and modernising the customer experience.
2. Projects will be assessed on individual merit through a governance framework, and delegated authority to the Executive Director of Finance & Resources is requested to make further investments for customer experience projects that result in savings.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

1. Four delivery options have been considered; the preferred option is to develop a programme of work service by service. Option One was to do nothing or deliver a smaller programme, this would require fewer resources, but would not deliver benefits within the timeframe or scale required. Doing the minimum would deliver some benefits, but would not optimise the corporate potential of cross service transactions or consistent governance to deliver CEM consistently for customers.
2. The second and preferred option will bring a wide variety of benefits by making frequent customer transactions easier and more efficient for the customer however they choose to access services. As more services use the CEM it will reduce the need for customers to follow up queries. The customer experience will be enhanced by a better website that is easier to navigate for use by both customers and staff. Moving through services establishes an approach and new skills that will be repeated. It will also allow us to develop and build a corporate view of shared customer information including equalities and customer feedback. This option will ensure each project has a sound business case and create sufficient resources to ensure the implementation of projects and ongoing support.

3. The third option is to provide holistic services through common transactions like a bereavement or change of address, and proactively join up services around customer groups. This would tackle the problem of customers repeating information and reduces duplication between services. It would offer small savings across many services that are likely to result in efficiencies and would lead to a longer period to pay back investment as savings emerge over time.
4. The final option was to combine two and three and prioritise services with frequent customer transactions and develop customer information for use across the board. However this would require an increased level of investment and added risks and complexities to deliver a larger programme of work.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



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17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 59

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: GREATER BRIGHTON CITY DEAL AND ECONOMIC BOARD

AUTHOR: NICK HIBBERD

THE DECISION

1. That the contents of the report be noted and the work of the City Deal Project Boards, to secure a City Deal agreement for the Greater Brighton City Region be endorsed;
2. That it be agreed that through the City Deal negotiation process, the Executive Director Environment Development & Housing in conjunction with the Director of Finance & Resources should enter into detailed negotiations with Government in relation to the New England House and Preston Barracks sites, in order to facilitate their development as Growth Hubs and to report back to Policy & Resources Committee on the implications and any necessary asset management and investment decisions; and
3. That it be recommended to Full Council on 30 January 2014 the establishment of the Greater Brighton Economic Board, details of which are set out in Appendix 2 of the report, to 'go live' in April 2014.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. Due to the economic benefits that are anticipated to come from the City Deal, Policy & Resources Committee is asked to endorse the continued work of officers to secure an agreement for the Greater Brighton City Region. Based on the available data, it is estimated that successfully establishing the Innovation Technology Growth Hubs could deliver up to 5,000 net new jobs and an annual GVA impact of up to £230m to the City Region.
2. The establishment of the Greater Brighton Economic Board will not only stand the City Region in good stead for accessing funds and freedoms from Government in the future but, it will also bring together sustainable economic development and growth across the functional economic area by coordinating economic development activities and investment at the regional level. This approach will be more strategic and streamlined, efficient and effective. Policy & Resources Committee is therefore asked to recommend the establishment of the Board to Full Council, as the formal decision-making arrangement for economic development for Greater Brighton.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Brighton & Hove City Council was not obliged to bid for a City Deal but it was judged to offer the potential for considerable economic benefits to the City and the wider economic area. City Deal agreements are the mechanism for harnessing the

additional powers, responsibilities, flexibilities and freedoms needed at a local level to unlock growth.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 60

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: FALMER RELEASED LAND & SITE
ADJACENT TO COMMUNITY STADIUM

AUTHOR: RICHARD DAVIES

THE DECISION

1. That the Executive Director Environment Development & Housing, Executive Director Finance & Resources and Head of Law be authorised to enter into negotiations with The Community Stadium Limited ("TCSL") regarding the proposed redevelopment of the Falmer Released Land, as shown on the annexed plan, with TCSL and to agree that proposed Heads of Terms are brought back to the Committee for final approval; and
2. That the Executive Director Environment Development & Housing, Executive Director Finance & Resources and Head of Law be authorised to enter into negotiations with TCSL regarding the proposed construction of a hotel on the land adjacent to the Community Stadium shown on the annexed plan and to agree that proposed Heads of Terms are brought back to the Committee for final approval.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

1. Disposal of the FRL to TCSL would provide a focused approach that may offer a quicker route to redevelopment, rather than seeking a preferred developer through a tender process. However, whilst TCSL may be seeking freehold ownership of the site, it is recommended that in negotiations with TCSL, the council explore all options with them, including disposal and a Joint Venture vehicle where the council retains an investment stake and revenue stream. It is therefore, recommended that the council enter into negotiations with TCSL for Heads of Terms for the redevelopment of the FRL.
2. This approach would also provide a structure for early engagement of key stakeholders in the redevelopment process and offer the possibility of an earlier capital receipt or revenue stream for the council than through a tender process for a preferred developer.
3. Reassurance that the council is satisfying its section 123 obligations and maximising any revenue stream or capital receipt will be gained through an independent valuation to be commissioned by the council following member agreement of the Heads of Terms.
4. This recommended approach would continue the council's previous support for providing match day and event parking on FRL and a permanent home for the Bridge, whilst also protecting the council's financial position regarding any lease or disposal to TCSL.
5. The land adjacent to the Community Stadium being proposed for the hotel

development is in the ownership of the council and part of it is included within the existing stadium lease to TCSL. Previously, this site was identified for development to provide accommodation for City College. However, this proposal was withdrawn in the light of a change to the previous further education capital funding programme.

6. It is unlikely that an alternative user could be found for the proposed hotel site as it is intricately linked to the Community Stadium's operation and for this reason it is recommended that the option to dispose of or lease the land to TCSL for a hotel development should be explored further through discussions of Heads of Terms.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

1. A number of options are available for the council to consider that involve the following issues:
 - § value of the sites and the capital receipt that the council might reasonably expect to achieve or the potential to generate revenue;
 - § whether to work in partnership with TCSL to realise the regeneration opportunities for the Falmer area;
 - § whether the council considers it necessary to market the FRL to establish its market value or that this can be done through a comprehensive valuation assessment; and
 - § whether the council wishes to support: inclusion of the Stadium event and match day parking in any redevelopment of the FRL and re-providing accommodation for the Bridge, and the direct and indirect costs of these items.
2. In the long term, to achieve the redevelopment of FRL and wider strategic aspirations for the Falmer area, the council may consider the following options:
 - i. The council invites expressions of interest from the market for the redevelopment of FRL against an agreed Development Brief, which would incorporate the Planning Brief and set out more specific requirements for the FRL, including match day and event parking for the Community Stadium, a permanent home for the Bridge and the potential for student accommodation, in order to test the market and procure a development partner.
 - ii. The council disposes of the FRL to TCSL on terms to be agreed.
 - iii. The council enters into discussions with TCSL, with a view to reaching an agreement on a Joint Venture Vehicle where the council is part of the JV, whereby the JV vehicle delivers the redevelopment of the FRL so as to provide match day and event parking, replacement accommodation for The Bridge and potentially student accommodation.
 - iv. The council agrees a leasehold arrangement with TCSL for the site adjacent to the Community Stadium for the development of the proposed new hotel.
3. In seeking to redevelop the FRL, the council is obliged to satisfy the requirements of s123 Local Government Act 1972 regarding obtaining the

best consideration that can reasonably be obtained. If the council is minded to receive less than market value in order to deliver benefits for stakeholders, then if the reduced capital receipt is £2,000,000 or more below market value, an application to the Secretary of State for agreement is required.

4. To satisfy the s123 rules the council would normally issue an invitation to developers to bid to deliver the scheme. A valuation exercise will then be undertaken in respect of the best offer, to assess what amount would be deemed to be foregone within the meaning of the s123 provisions as a result of specifically requiring match and event day parking for TCSL and reprovision of The Bridge. This will not be a simple exercise and the outcome will be influenced by the planning assumptions.
5. In the event of the council wishing to dispose of the FRL directly to TCSL, a valuation exercise would need to be undertaken to establish the market value. Subject to the outcome of this valuation, an application under section 123 to the Secretary of State may be required.
6. In proposing a hotel development on the different site adjacent to the Community Stadium, TCSL wish to provide additional facilities for itself, both Universities, business users and visitors to the National Park amongst others. TCSL would undertake an independent hotel and economic impact study to verify that it does not compete with existing leisure market hotels in the city centre as part of the planning process.
7. If the council supports the proposal to develop a hotel adjacent to the Community Stadium to complement its activities, those of both Universities and other users, then it is proposed to bring back Heads of Terms for a leasehold agreement, yet to be negotiated, to this Committee for approval.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 61

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: RAMPION OFFSHORE WINDFARM

AUTHOR: ALAN BUCK

THE DECISION

That the committee notes the council's representations (appendices 1 and 2 of this report) to the Planning Inspectorate on the Rampion Offshore Windfarm and endorses these as representing the council's formal response to the Planning Inspectorate.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

In order to ensure that the submissions that have been made to PINS properly reflect the corporate views of the council.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The alternative option would have been to submit no representations to PINS, which would have meant that any views from this council would not have been considered in the Examination.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



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17 October 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 62

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: FIFA UNDER 20 FOOTBALL WORLD CUP 2017

AUTHOR: TOBY KINGSBURY

THE DECISION

The item was withdrawn.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

Following the decision of the FA to withdraw from the bidding process, the report was withdrawn from consideration at the meeting.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

There were no alternative options.

Proper Officer:

Date: 25.10.13

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