



PUBLICATION OF DECISION LIST NUMBER 9/10-11

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2010/11

Date Published: 7 January 2011

This document lists the decisions taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 4 January 2011. The list covers key and non-key decisions. These decisions will come into force within ten working days of the date of this document (i.e. 21 January 2011) unless the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee calls a decision in.

Cabinet decisions are subject to pre-implementation review through the following call-in procedure:-

Decisions that involve expenditure over £100,000 can be called in. "Call-in" requires at least a quarter of the Members of the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee to request the "call-in", in writing, within four working days of the publication of the decision by the Cabinet, to be effective. Where the appropriate Committee has been previously involved in the decision which is being "called-in", the request should be made by Members of one of the other two Overview and Scrutiny Committees. A Notification of Call-in Form can be obtained from and should be completed, signed and returned to Graham Seal, Head of Committee Management. The meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the "called-in" item(s) must take place within twenty working days of the publication of the decision by the Cabinet. The Call-In procedure does not apply where the decision being taken by the Cabinet is urgent.

Where an Overview and Scrutiny Committee is of the opinion that an executive decision which relates to an area covered by that Committee yet to be made or made but not yet implemented would be, contrary to the policy framework, or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the Council's budget, then it should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer and/or Director (Finance and Operations).

If you have any queries or wish to obtain further report information or information on a decision please refer to:

Graham Seal, Head of Committee Management at the Council Offices,
Campus East, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6AE
Telephone number (01707) 357444 or e-mail g.seal@welhat.gov.uk

INDEX OF PUBLISHED CABINET DECISIONS

List Ref.	Decision Made by	Date of Decision	Part 1/2	Subject/Title of Report	Category of Decision	Affected Wards	Eligible for Call-In & Date Decision must be called in by (If applicable)	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Page No.
1/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Review of the Financial Procedure Rules	Budget and Policy Framework Recommendation to Council	All	No	Resources	1
2/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	General Fund Budget 2011/12 Capital Programme – 2010/12 to 2015/16 Estimates Draft Housing Revenue Account Budget – 2011/12 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2011/12 Medium Term Financial Strategy	Key Forward Plan Ref: FP471, FP440 and FP439	All	Referred for consideration to the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 January 2011 as part of the budget setting process	Resources	2-3
3/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Council Tax Base 2011/12	Key Forward Plan Ref: FP441	All	No	Resources	4
4/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Welwyn Hatfield Community Chest	Non-Key	Hollybush, Brookmans Park & Little Heath and Panshanger Wards	No	Social	5

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5/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Formal Objections to the Proposed Resident Permit Parking Schemes in Old Hatfield (Area B01) and Park Meadow (Area B03)	Non-Key	Hatfield East Ward	No	Environment	6
6/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Council Tax on Long Term Empty Properties	Non-Key	All	No	Resources	7
7/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Appointment of Valuers for General Fund Asset Valuations	Non-Key	All	No	Resources	8
8/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Council's Achievements List	Non-Key	All	No	Resources	9
9/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	1	Review of Current Pension and Redundancy Policies	Non-Key – Urgent Verbal Item	All	No	Resources	10
10/9/10-11	Cabinet	4 January 2011	2	Award of Contract - Community Alarm Units	Non-Key	All	No	Social	11

LIST REFERENCE: 1/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT
Review of the Financial Procedure Rules

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Budget and Policy Framework Recommendation to Council	Pam Kettle 01707 357275 p.kettle@welhat.gov.uk Tracy Fortune 01707 357219 t.fortune@welhat.gov.uk	No	Resources

DECISION:
The proposed change to Financial Procedure Rules to reflect the removal of the £30,000 minimum limit for approval of the release of capital funds was agreed for recommendation to the Council for approval.

BACKGROUND:
Report of the Director (Finance and Operations) to the Cabinet item 6(a) refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 2/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT
General Fund Budget 2011/12 Capital Programme – 2011/12 to 2015/16 Estimates Draft Housing Revenue Account Budget – 2011/12 Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2011/12 Medium Term Financial Strategy

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Key Forward Plan Ref: FP471, FP440 and FP439	Pam Kettle 01707 357275 p.kettle@welhat.gov.uk Tracy Fortune 01707 357219 t.fortune@welhat.gov.uk Keith Reynoldson 01707 357297 k.reynoldson@welhat.gov.uk	Referred for consideration to the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 January 2011 as part of the budget setting process	Resources

DECISION:
The Cabinet agreed the recommendations set out in the report of the Director (Finance and Operations) on the General Fund budget 2011/12, Capital Programme 2011/12 to 2015/16, Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2011/12 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2011/12 to 2014/15 and in the joint report of the Director (Strategy and Development) and Director (Finance and Operations) on the Housing Revenue

Account budget for 2011/12 for reference to the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 January for consideration and for report back to the special Cabinet meeting on 25 January 2011.

BACKGROUND:

Report of the Director (Finance and Operations) to the Cabinet item 7(a), 7(b), 7(c), 7(e) and 7(f) refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 3/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT								
Council Tax Base 2011/12								

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Key Forward Plan Ref: FP441	Farhad Cantel 01707 357011 f.cantel@welhat.gov.uk	No	Resources

DECISION:

The Council's Tax Base for 2011/12 was approved incorporating a collection rate of 98% making an effective base of 41934.7.
The amount calculated by the Borough Council as its taxbase for the year 2011/2012 would be 42790.5 and its constituent elements:-

	<u>100% TAXBASE</u>	<u>98% TAXBASE</u>
Welwyn Garden City	17888.5	17530.7
Hatfield	12101.9	11859.9
Welwyn	4345.1	4258.2
Ayot St Lawrence	65.3	64
Ayot St Peter	107.4	105.3
North Mymms	4313.4	4227.1
Essendon	429.9	421.3
Northaw & Cuffley	2980.2	2920.6
Woolmer Green	558.8	547.6
TOTAL TAXBASE	42790.5	41934.7

BACKGROUND:

Report of the Director (Finance and Operations) to the Cabinet item 7(d) refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 4/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT
Welwyn Hatfield Community Chest

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	Hollybush Brookmans Park & Little Heath and Panshanger Wards	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Paul Underwood 01707 357220 p.underwood@welhat.gov.uk	No	Social

DECISION:
Applications for community chest funding from the Hollybush Ward for £5184.75 for IT equipment at Creswick Playgroup, the Brookmans Park and Little Heath Ward for £5087.25 for seven benches for public areas and from the Panshanger Ward for £5000 for street snooker in Money Hole Park were approved.

BACKGROUND:
Recommendation of the Social Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 December 2010 to the Cabinet item 8 refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 5/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT								
Formal Objections to the Proposed Resident Permit Parking Schemes in Old Hatfield (Area B01) and Park Meadow (Area B03)								

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	Hatfield East Ward	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Martin Donohoe 01707 357550 m.donohoe@welhat.gov.uk	No	Environment

DECISION:
Having considered the objections received, the Cabinet authorised the Director (Finance and Operations) to arrange the sealing and implementation of the proposed Traffic Regulation Orders to provide residents permit parking schemes in Old Hatfield and Park Meadow, as set out in the Public Notice. The Cabinet's decision would be notified to the objectors.

BACKGROUND:
Recommendation of the Cabinet Housing and Planning Panel on 15 December 2010 to the Cabinet item 10 refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 6/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT								
Council Tax on Long Term Empty Properties								

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Farhad Cantel 01707 357011 f.cantel@welhat.gov.uk	No	Resources

DECISION:
The Cabinet agreed that 100% Council Tax be charged on long term empty properties with effect from 1 April 2011.

BACKGROUND:
Report of the Director (Finance and Operations) to the Cabinet item 12 refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 7/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT
Appointment of Valuers for General Fund Asset Valuations

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Kunjal Shah 01707 357454 k.shah@welhat.gov.uk	No	Resources

DECISION:
<p>The appointment of King Sturge at a reduced rate of £25,000 plus VAT for a three year contract was agreed.</p> <p>Due to the competitive negotiation achieved and level of specialist expertise required, an exception was made to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules to enable King Sturge to be appointed as valuers without undertaking a full procurement process because they had recently successfully provided valuation services to the Council and were familiar with the Council's property portfolio.</p>

BACKGROUND:
Report of the Director (Finance and Operations) to the Cabinet item 13 refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 8/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT
Council's Achievements List

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Nancy Sardari-Kermani (01707) 357271 n.sardari-kermani@welhat.gov.uk	No	Resources

DECISION:
The Council's achievements list for the period September to November 2010 was noted.

BACKGROUND:
Report of the Director (Strategic and Development) to Cabinet item 14 refers.

LIST REFERENCE: 9/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT
Review of Current Pension and Redundancy Policies

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
1	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Addy Olubajo 01707 357249 a.olubajo@welhat.gov.uk	No	Resources

DECISION:
The discretion to continue to award added years as part of redundancy payments to employees in the Council's pension and redundancy policies was removed with immediate effect as this was no longer affordable.

BACKGROUND:
This was a verbal report and an item of urgent business.

LIST REFERENCE: 10/9/10-11

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT								
Award of Contract Community Alarm Units								

Part 1 or 2 (relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Decision taken by	Date decision taken	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of decision (i.e. Key, Non-Key, Council, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-in & Date to be called in by	Appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee
2	All	Cabinet	4 January 2011	No	Non-Key	Andrew Harper 01707 357371 a.harper@welhat.gov.uk	No	Social

DECISION:
A three year contract for the supply of community alarm units was awarded to Tyntec and for the installation to Cartel.

BACKGROUND:
Exempt report of the Director (Strategy and Development) to Cabinet item 17(a) refers. As the report contains confidential/exempt information it is not available to the press or public.