

PROGRESS ON DECISIONS

Item	Progress
<p>CCTV Evaluation (Minute 308/04)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the proposal to evaluate the existing CCTV systems be agreed, with the evaluation costs of £8,000 being funded from the Crime and Disorder Reserve.</p> <p>(2) That the Town and Parish Councils and Chambers of Trade, where applicable, be approached, with a view to providing a contribution towards the costs of evaluation. (CE)</p>	<p>Returns exceeded the budget provision. Discussions planned with the Police to consider the way forward.</p>
<p>Taxi Voucher Scheme (Minute 483/04)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That, as part of the Environmental Services Committee's overall responsibility for the Taxi Voucher Scheme, a further report be prepared after the completion of 3 full years operation of the scheme. (HRHM) 	<p>Report to be considered by Environmental Services Committee on 7 July 2005</p>
<p>Implementing Electronic Government – Councillor Web Pages (Minute 45/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the Council's Committee Management Information System be developed for the purposes of complying with Implementing Electronic Government Requirement R6. (HAMS) 	<p>Implemented</p>

<p>Community Transport – Longer Term Funding (Minute 145(1)/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the Rochford and Rayleigh Association for Voluntary Services be encouraged to establish a Community Transport Trust as soon as possible.</p> <p>(2) That, subject to (1) above, the Council commit to a five-year support plan for Community Transport as indicated in the report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and subject to Essex County Council funding continuing at expected levels.</p> <p>(3) That, for the present time, the taxi voucher scheme be retained and expanded, although, where necessary, an alternative provision be considered in six months time. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>Report to be considered in September 2005 as to whether Taxi Vouchers be accepted by Community Transport provider.</p>
<p>National Non-Domestic Rate – Discretionary Rate Relief (Minute 147/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That Discretionary Relief be awarded based on the criteria set out in the report.</p> <p>(2) That Discretionary Relief should be awarded for a fixed period for no longer than three years.</p> <p>(3) That authority to award Discretionary Relief be delegated to the Corporate Director (Finance and External Services).</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p>

<p>(4) That any case which the Corporate Director (Finance and External Services) considers includes circumstances not covered by the criteria set out in the report, be referred to Policy & Finance Committee for decision.</p> <p>(5) That the working of the revised procedural arrangements be reviewed in one year's time. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Will be reviewed April 2006</p>
<p>Retirement Age (Minute 148/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the retirement age for employees remains at 65 years.</p> <p>(2) That staff are permitted to work beyond the age of 65 (on an annual fixed-term basis) up to the age of 70 where a business case for this exists and subject to annual Performance Development Review.</p> <p>(3) That this policy is kept under review in the light of changing legislation. (CD(LP&A))</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented</p> <p>Under review with legislation expected within 18 months</p>
<p>Housing Benefit Performance Standards – 2005 Review (Minute 150/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the new Housing Benefit Performance Standards be adopted.</p> <p>(2) That the reporting cycle be July/December until all Standards are met. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Implemented for July</p>

<p>Market Town Health Check Study (Minute 151/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That in the planned future reviews of its own Strategies and Action Plans, particularly the Local Development Framework and the development of the Council's own vision as a District as a whole, the District Council considers the suggestions made in the Study and determines the most appropriate course of action for the Authority. (CE)</p>	<p>See item 10 on the agenda</p>
<p>Council Tax Improvement Plan (Minute 153/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That, subject to the deletion of actions 8.5, 16.5, 16.6 and 19.4, the revised action plan for Council Tax Service Improvement, as set out in the report, be endorsed</p> <p>(2) That the action plan be reviewed again in October 2005 and April 2006. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Reports will be prepared accordingly</p>
<p>Revenue and Benefits – Capacity Building and Service Enhancement (Minute 154/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That, subject to a specific clause precluding operation of the service overseas, the telephone calls management project, as set out in the exempt report, be adopted as a twelve month pilot with a review and report back to this Committee after six months operation. (HRHM)</p>	<p>Implemented and six monthly review planned for 15 November 2005</p>

<p>From Full Council</p> <p>Development of Council Owned Land (Minute 600(I7)/03)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the land designated in respect of the four sites be transferred to the Swan Housing Group at nil cost, subject to planning permission and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the Hardwick House scheme – supporting people revenue funding. For the Tylney Avenue scheme – conclusion of the investigation into a possible covenant and any necessary statutory notice provisions relating to the former playspace. <p>On such terms and conditions as the Head of Legal Services considers appropriate in accordance with the general consent and to secure the provision of the approved housing scheme. (HHHCC/HLS)</p>	<p>Implemented with the exception of Tylney Avenue. Way forward on release of covenant and development of Tylney resolved at Community services Committee 1st March 2005 minute 84/05. Revised scheme proposals received from Swan Housing Group, to be considered by Housing Best Value Sub Committee before recess.</p>
<p>Budget Strategy 2004/04 - 2008/09 (Minute 46/04)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That, subject to full funding being available from external sources, officers progress the introduction of a free and independent housing advisory service within the District. (HHHCC) 	<p>Options for the provision of a more independent service are being investigated as part of the work to prepare for the housing stock ballot. It is anticipated that initial proposals will be ready for consideration by November 2005.</p>

<p>Draft Animal Welfare Charter (Minute 555(13)(a)/04)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That literature be made available on the safety of animals in emergency situations. • That an article appear in Rochford District Matters advising residents that work is identified within the Local Plan on wildlife and conservation issues, together with guidance relating to the sensitive treatment of tree felling associated with planning applications. • That consideration be given to the possibility of extending the Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park and of developing wildlife walks at Foulness with observation posts in order to encourage greater appreciation of wildlife, particularly given aspirations to develop Rochford as a centre of leisure and tourism within the Thames Gateway South Essex. • That the Animal Welfare Charter be reviewed in 12 months' time. (HHHCC) 	<p>Good advice has been identified, produced by the Blue Cross. Article to appear in the Autumn edition of Rochford District Matters. Advice to be published on the web site. Leaflets to be distributed to key points when they arrive.</p> <p>Article to be included in Summer 2005 edition.</p> <p>Extension of Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park is included within the Council's corporate policy framework.</p> <p>To be reviewed December 2005</p>
<p>Timetable of Meetings 2005/06 (Minute 196(10)(a)/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the timetable of meetings 2005/06, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report, be adopted. (HAMS) 	<p>Implemented</p>

**The Local Authorities (Indemnity for Members and Officers) Order 2004
(Minute 196(15)(a)/05)**

Resolved

- (1) That the Council provides an indemnity in relation to any action or failure to act by any Member or officer which:-
- (a) is authorised by the Council;
 - (b) forms part of, or arises from, any powers conferred or duties placed upon that Member or officer at the request of or with the approval of the authority including acting as the Council's representative on an outside body;
 - (c) arises in respect of the cost of defending any claim for an allegation of defamation by a Member or officer acting in an official capacity (but not in respect of any punitive or exemplary damages or arising from malicious falsehood or injurious falsehood) or
 - (d) is in respect of any investigation, hearing or other proceedings for an alleged failure to comply with the Code of Conduct for Members but, if the Member is found to have breached the Code of Conduct, and where an appeal is unsuccessful, then that Member shall reimburse the authority or the insurer for their costs incurred in relation to those proceedings.

Such indemnity to include an act or omission subsequently found to be beyond the powers of the Member or officer in question, but only to the extent that the Member or officer reasonably and genuinely believed that the act or omission was within his/her powers at the time when he/she acted.

Implemented

<p>(2) That no indemnity be offered for legal representation to defend a criminal conviction unless specifically approved by the Council and then on a similar basis to that relating to Part 3 proceedings with regard to reimbursement.</p> <p>(3) That a revised Protocol for Outside Bodies taking these decisions into account be considered at a future meeting of the Finance & Procedures Overview & Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>(4) That the Local Government Association be approached to ascertain its views on the adequacy of the insurance provided and the possibility of the Association lobbying for improvements to the indemnity that can be made available to Members. (CD(LPA)).</p>	<p>Implemented</p> <p>Revised protocol to be considered by Finance & Procedures Overview & Scrutiny Committee in autumn cycle (HLS)</p> <p>Response awaited</p>
<p>Review of Partnership Arrangements (Minute 196(15)(b)/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That, in view of growing work commitments, the review of key partnerships be undertaken by the Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee, with officers reporting into that Committee at its first meeting of the new municipal year so that the detailed focus and work programme can be agreed. (CE)</p>	<p>Implemented. First report submitted to the Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21 June 2005.</p>
<p>Development and Access to Land at 5 Weir Pond Road, Rochford (Minute 196(15)(c)/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the land at the end of Oast Way, Rochford be sold to the Applicant at market value subject to the Applicant agreeing to meet the Council's legal fees, costs and valuation expenses and such other conditions as the Head of Legal Services considers appropriate. (HLS)</p>	<p>Sale Imminent.</p>

<p>High Hedges – Proposed Fees (Minute 197/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the fee for processing a high hedges complaint under the provisions of Part 8 of the Antisocial Behaviour Act 2003 be £320.00 with a concessionary charge of £100.00 for those on benefits or in receipt of State Pensions. (HPS)</p>	<p>Implemented</p>
<p>Kerbside Recycling Scheme (Minute 198/05)</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That a voluntary green waste kerbside collection service, as proposed by Greens of Maldon and set out in the exempt report, be introduced. (CD(F&ES))</p>	<p>Introduction of scheme agreed at Council of 28.4.05. Green Recycling are currently advertising the scheme, have been taking bookings since beginning of June, with first collections due to commence Monday, 4 July 2005.</p>