Progress on Decisions made by Full Council/The Executive

From Full Council

	Item		ess/Officer Com	ments
Who	Whole Essex Community Budget (Minute 223/12)		Amber	Green
Resolved				X
(1)	That the principles behind the Whole Essex Community Budget submission to Central Government and contained in the individual business cases be supported.	Much work is now focusing on the Local Econom Partnership for Essex, Kent and East Sussex and the resources it will have available.		
(2)	That the Council's commitment to work with the County Council and other partners in progressing the delivery of the business cases, with any detailed resource implications specifically related to this Council being reported back for consideration and approval by the Council prior to implementation, be confirmed.			
(3)	That this Council work with Essex County Council and other Essex partners on the pursuit and negotiation with Government of a 'Deal' for economic growth, with any finalised draft agreement being reported back for consideration and approval by the Council prior to any formal commitment being given to entering into any such agreement. (CE)			

	Item	Progr	ess/Officer Com	ments
	London Southend Airport and Environs Joint Area Action Plan –		Amber	Green
Pre-	Submission Plan (Minute 274(2)/12)		X	
Resc	blved		L	
(1)	That the London Southend Airport and Environs Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) be published for public consultation under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, and that, following consultation, the plan be submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, prior to Examination in Public, under Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.	The JAAP was submitted on 17 December and it anticipated the public examination will be held over three days in April on dates to be determined.		
(2)	That the inclusion of any minor amendments, which may result from <i>inter alia</i> analysis of the representations from public consultation and any additional evidence considered, be delegated to the Head of Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation. (HPT)			

	Item		s/Officer Comm	nents
Cour	ncil Tax Discounts and Exemptions (Minute 212/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Resc	Resolved			
(1)	That, with effect from 1 April 2014, the Council Tax discount for unoccupied and furnished properties (second homes) be reduced from 10% to nil (Class A and Class B of the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012).	Implemented with e	effect 1.4.13	
(2)	That, with effect from 1 April 2014, the Council Tax discount for vacant properties, which are in need of major repair, be reduced from 100% for 12 months to 50% for 12 months (Class D of the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012).	As above.		
(3)	That, with effect from 1 April 2014, the Council Tax discount for empty and unfurnished dwellings be reduced from 100% for up to six months to 100% for up to one month (Class C of the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012). This discount will only apply immediately following a period when the property was occupied for a minimum of six weeks. It will also be restricted to a maximum of two awards in any one financial year.	As above		
(4)	A Council Tax premium be introduced to be set at 50% and charged in addition to the 100% Council Tax charge for existing properties that have been empty and substantially unfurnished for two years or more (Section 11B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992). (HCS)	As above		

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	Item		Progress/Officer Comments		
Dive	rsion of Footpath 36, London Southend Airport (Minute /13)	Red	Amber	Green	
Reso	olved			X	
That the Public Path Diversion Order for Footpath 36 made on 12 April 2013 be confirmed and referred to the Secretary of State for determination. (HLEMS)		Secretary of State is to be arranged to			
Allo	cations Document (Minute 239/13)	Red	Amber	Green	
Reso	olved		X		
(1)	That the schedule of modifications to the Allocations Submission Document (April 2013) be accepted for consultation as part of the examination process, as set out in the report. That, following this consultation, the representations received will be sent to the Planning Inspector to be considered before he finalises his report on the soundness of the Allocations Document. (HPT)	Consultation on modifications to the plan is due to be completed on 17 January 2014 and it is anticipated that following receipt of the inspector's final report the plan can be adopted on 25 Februar 2014.			
Hock	kley Area Action Plan (Minute 240/13)	Red	Amber	Green	
Resc	olved		X		
(1)	That the schedule of modifications to the HAAP Submission Document (November 2012) be accepted for consultation as part of the examination process, as set out in the report. That, following this consultation, the representations received will be sent to the Planning Inspector to be considered before he finalises his report on the soundness of the HAAP. (HPT)	Consultation on modifications to the plan is due to be completed on 17 January 2014 and it is anticipated that following receipt of the inspector's final report the plan can be adopted on 25 Februa 2014.		and it is the inspector's	

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From The Executive

Item	Progres	Progress/Officer Comments		
Shared Service Working (Minute 171/10)	Red	Amber	Green	
Resolved		X		
(1) That, subject to the facility to be able to withdraw from discussions if at some point that becomes an appropriate course of action to protect this Council's interests, the potential merger of the service area identified in the exempt report be investigated. (HCS)	The shared service project remains on hold due to further clarity still being required on the impact or local authorities of the many potential changes to the administration of the Benefits system, and in particular, Universal Credit.			
Town Centre Plans – Hockley, Rochford and Rayleigh Area Action Plans (Minute 47/12) Resolved	Red Amber Green X			
That arrangements be made to progress the Town Centre Area Action Plans for Hockley, Rochford and Rayleigh, as set out in the report, with the aim being for the Hockley plan to be formally adopted by September 2013 and Rayleigh and Rochford by March 2014. (HPT)	Hockley - See comments on minute 240/13 above Rochford - The Rochford Area Action Plan Submission Document was submitted to the Government on 20 November 2013. Public examination is to take place in February 2014 and subject to the receipt of the inspector's initial findings and the need to advertise any modifications to the plan, it is expected the plan can be adopted in late summer/early autumn.			

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
	Rayleigh – The plan is due to be submitted in late March or early April, and following public examination and any further required consultation on modifications, it is expected the plan will be adopted by the end of 2014.		public ed consultation
Pet Memorial Area, Cherry Orchard Country Park (Minute 128/12)	Red	Amber	Green
Resolved		X	
That, subject to noting that the Portfolio Holder for Environment, in consultation with other Members, will be giving detailed consideration to the precise nature of memorial arrangements, a pet memorial area be constructed within Cherry Orchard Country Park as detailed in the report. (HES)	Wet weather has delayed ground works. The Pet Memorial Area will open in January once ground conditions have improved.		
Asset Review 2012 (Minute 261/12)	Red	Amber	Green
Resolved			
(1) That, with the exceptions of sites 4 (area A), 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12, the sites detailed in the appendix to the officer's report be brought forward for consideration for development and disposal, subject to legal process, negotiations and planning approval on a phased basis with target phasing as follows:-			ne.
2013/14: Site 2 2014/15: Sites 1 and 5 2015/16: Sites 3 and 6 2016/17 and beyond: Sites 4 (area B only) and 8			

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	Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
(2)	That options for site 7 be considered as part of the Rochford Town Centre Study.	Included in Town Centre Study.		
(3)	That site 12 be offered to Hockley Parish Council to be incorporated as part of Plumberow Mount Public Open Space on the same terms as the current lease with the Parish. (HLEMS)	Parish Council has accepted the arrangement, lease being amended accordingly.		
	ort of the Review Committee on how Voluntary and Community Groups	Red Amber Green		
Fun	ction in the District (Minute 22/13)			
Res	olved			
•	That the Council's website includes a page dedicated to information on voluntary organisations in Rochford District, with all future Rochford District Council grant aid forms, and to include a section providing the opportunity for groups to have their details in the maps section.	There is a live page on the website.		
•	That the Council reviews the use of the accommodation provided in Rochford and Rayleigh with the CAB to ensure the best use of space. (CE/HLEMS)	Review underway.		
Con	tract for the sale of Recyclable Materials (Minute 115/13)	Red Amber Green		
Res	olved			
(1)	That the Council enters into a contract with UPM for the sale of recyclable materials for a term of seven years at the fixed price identified in the exempt report commencing on 15 May 2015.	UPM has been notified of the decision to accept its offer. Since this time, however, UPM has had an internal re-organisation and is now trying to renegotiate on the basis of the current depressed		

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	ltem	Progress/Officer Comments		
(2)	That the decision in (1) above be taken as a matter of urgency and not subject to call in/referral because there is only a limited time period within which to accept the offer. The offer would be of significant benefit to the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. (HES)	economic climate. Officers are trying to enter discussions to resolve this issue and will be meeting with UPM before the next Executive.		
ICT	Security Policy and Practice (Minute 135/13)	Red Amber Green		
Res	olved			
(1)	That the updated Corporate Information Security Policy and Personal Commitment Statement, as attached to the report, be approved.	Implemented.		
(2)	That a standard approach to the use of IT by Members, as set out in paragraph 3.14 of the report, be implemented.			
(3)	That the Portfolio Holder for Service Development, Improvement and Performance Management be authorised to approve a specific procedure note around Members' use of IT, as set out in paragraph 3.15 of the report.			
(4)	That the Head of Information and Customer Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Service Development, Improvement and Performance Management, be authorised to implement a system of remote access to IT systems by officers should this be necessary once the Council's IT security submission has been assessed by the Cabinet Office. (HICS)			

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	Item	Progres	ss/Officer Comr	ments	
Wast	e Management and Street Cleansing Contracts (Minute 173/13)	Red	Amber	Green	
Resolved				X	
(1)	That the option to extend the waste management and street cleansing contracts is taken up with SITA UK Ltd on the terms detailed in paragraphs 4.1 and 5.1 of the exempt report.	company to draft an addendum to the existir			
(2)	That the renewal of the contracts be agreed as soon as possible to maximise possible savings.	contract. The capital expenditure has been identified wi			
(3)	That Rochford District Council purchase the vehicle fleet by way of borrowing.	the budget.			
(4)	That responsibility for bin replacements be transferred from SITA UK Ltd to the Council.	The Portfolio Holder has asked officers to investigate opportunities for improving the recycle			
(5)	That whether to introduce a rewards scheme to encourage an increase in dry recycling, based upon the Bracknell Forest Council model, be reviewed in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for the Environment, Leisure, Arts and Culture.	of textiles and a reward scheme with funding fithe DCLG grant.			
(6)	That the revised rectification and default procedure, as set out in the exempt report, be adopted.				
(7)	That a new clause be added to the contract to ensure that future efficiency savings are shared. (HES)				

Item	Progres	ss/Officer Comr	nents
Disabled Facilities Grants (Minute 177/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Resolved			X
 That the content of the report providing a further update on the Council's performance in relation to the processing of disabled facility grant applications and associated works be received, subject to:- Noting that the Portfolio Holder for Council Tax Collection, Benefits and Strategic Housing Functions is to ascertain from Essex County Council whether there are cases requiring occupational therapist assessment relating to the Rochford District that should be progressed and the extent of any broader pan Essex delays in cases. The Portfolio Holder to report back to the Executive on this subject, including the possibility of the District Council engaging an occupational therapist to address case backlogs should this be appropriate. 	Meetings have take officer level to high assessments to be backlogs of cases.	llight the need fo carried out pror	r O.T.
A review of the conditions provided to contractors appointed to install equipment to ensure such conditions are clear where a contractor is expected to acquire equipment in advance of their own remuneration. (HCS)	Completed.		

	Item		ss/Officer Comr	nents
Land	Adjacent to Hockley Woods (Minute 181/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Resc	Resolved			X
(1)	That an agent be appointed to approach the current owner to ascertain whether they are prepared to sell the area of land adjacent to Hockley Woods identified in the exempt report.	The estate is now		
(2)	That a further report be submitted setting out the agent's conclusions on the best terms available to purchase the area of land.	Francois, MP has set up a meeting for office Members with the Chief Estates Officer of Ministry of Justice on 5 February.		
(3)	That agent fees of up to £5,000 be funded on the basis set out in paragraph 8.3 of the exempt report. (HES)			
Polic	cy for Car Allowances (Minute 182/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Resc	olved			
(1)	That to promote the green travel agenda the following changes to the Council's car mileage scheme be introduced:-	New Scheme has	been implemente	ed.
	 Change the essential user lump sum payments to reflect CO² bandings rather than engine size, with a higher sum paid for cars with a lower emission rating; 			
	 Pay mileage rates for both essential and casual users at one single rate rather than different amounts, again based on CO² bandings rather than the engine size of the vehicle; 			

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	Item	Progres	ss/Officer Comr	nents
	 Change the essential user lump sum payments to reflect CO² bandings rather than engine size, with a higher sum paid for cars with a lower emission rating; 			
	 Pay mileage rates for both essential and casual users at one single rate rather than different amounts, again based on CO² bandings rather than the engine size of the vehicle; 			
	 Introduce a 1500 mileage threshold for authorised business journeys, with car users above this threshold to be designated essential users; 			
	 Those that are currently designated as essential users regardless of actual annual mileage to retain this designation until such time that they leave the Council or change roles. 			
(2)	That the new scheme be implemented with effect from 1 January 2014. (CE)			
Acac	ia House, Rochford (Minute 183/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Reso	Resolved			X
That	That Acacia House, Rochford be disposed of via auction. (HLEMS)			

	Item	Progres	ss/Officer Comr	nents
Pooli	ng of Business Rates (Minute 202/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Reso	lved			
(1)(2)(3)	That the Council join a business rates pool. That a scheme similar to that in existence in Suffolk be pursued, on the basis that no authority can be worse off in the pool than they would have been outside it. That the Head of Finance, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources, be authorise to agree the development of the pooling proposal and governance arrangements. (HF)	The Government's Autumn Statement included announcements about a number of changes to business rates which are subject to final regulations, separate grant arrangements and confirmation of accounting treatment. This has introduced a level of uncertainty about the risks and benefits of pooling so the Essex Pool will not be going ahead.		
		This decision can r	now be deleted.	
	ultation from Essex County Council on 'Part Night' Street Lighting ate 203/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Reso	lved			
(1)	That the County Council be provided with the comments schedule, together with this Council's view that the exclusions policy should include the main town centre areas of Rayleigh, Rochford and Hockley, the areas around the railway stations and those footpaths across the District that run from the town centres and link the residential areas.	Implemented.		
(2)	That the decision in (1) above be taken as a matter of urgency and not subject to call-in/referral because of the consultation deadline set by the County Council. (CE)	Implemented.		

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	Item	Progres	ss/Officer Comr	nents
Grou	nds Maintenance Contract (Minute 204/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Resc	olved			
(1)	That the grounds maintenance contract be awarded to ISS Facilities Services – Landscaping at the per annum tender value identified in the exempt addendum to the report.	The contract was s being monitored.	successfully awa	rded and is now
(2)	That £55,000 of the original budget be set aside as a contingency reserve.			
(3)	That the contract commences on 2 December 2013. (HES)			
Revi	ew Committee Reports (Minute 226/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Resc	olved			
(1)	That recommendations (1) to (3), as set out in the exempt report on leisure service provision, be agreed. (HCS)	Recommendations	s agreed.	
(2)	That recommendations (1) to (3) and (5) to (11), as set out in the exempt report on woodlands, be agreed. Officers from the Council's Economic Development Unit to assist with sourcing funding options for the improvement of open spaces (recommendation (4)). (HES))	Implemented.		
(3)	That, subject to consideration being given to the introduction of a business card explaining the mobile payment system for distribution to local retailers, recommendations (1) and (3) to (5), as set out in the exempt report on car parks be agreed. Recommendation (2) be not agreed. (HPT)	Work in progress t	o develop a suita	able card.

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Progress on Decisions by Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Regeneration, Business Liaison and Tourism

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Wireless Broadband (01/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That Southend Borough Council be informed Rochford is, in principle, interested in being involved in their project to deliver wireless broadband across the Borough, with the scheme being expanded to include Rochford's residents. (HPT)	process is now b	is understood that being progressed to the of implementing	o find a suitable

Progress on Decisions by Portfolio Holder for Environment, Leisure, Arts and Culture

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Play Spaces Refurbishment Programme 2013/14 (01/08/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That £18,700 of this year's capital allocation is used to replace the play surface and refurbish the fire damaged play equipment at Sweyne Park. (HES)	Completed.		

	Item	Progress/Officer Comments		ments
Annu	al Open Spaces Programme 2013/14 (31/10/13)	Red Amber Green		Green
Decis	sion			X
(1)	To approve capital expenditure of £28,739 for a range of improvements across the Council's Open Spaces including the: Installation of bollards at Canewdon Green, and Replacement of specific litter bins and benches across open spaces.	To be completed	by the end of Ma	rch.
(2)	To withdraw the offer of match funding (£25,000) for the provision of a skateboard park at Canewdon Recreation Ground. (HES)			
Clima	ate Change Commitment (03/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decis	sion			
	the Climate Change Commitment 'ClimateCO ₂ de' is adopted in place of the r Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy 2008-13. (HES)		inge Commitment d has been publis	
Play	Space Refurbishment Programme 2013/14 (03/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decis	sion			
existii	capital expenditure of £28,000 is approved for the replacement of the ng woodchip surfacing in the play area at Rochford Recreation Ground with a safety surface. (HES)	Play surfaces are	e all in place.	

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Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Rochford Recreation Ground (03/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That the siting of a storage container at Rochford Recreation Ground for use by the football club be permitted in principle on the basis of an annual licence. (HES)	Licence issued.	Planning applicati	ion approved.
Re-Profiling Of The Lake At Cherry Orchard Jubilee Country Park (11/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			X
That capital expenditure of £20,000 is approved, to re-profile and lower the water level in the lake in order to create a more 'wildlife friendly' environment. (HES)	To be completed by the end of March.		
(Quotes are prov	ing to be favourab	le.
Revising Cemetery And Memorial Regulations (28/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That the cemetery and memorial regulations be updated as set out in the Rochford District Council Cemetery and Memorial Regulations 2013. (HLEMS)	Implemented.		

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Fees And Charges For Scrap Metal Dealers (19/11/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That the following fees are approved for the licensing of Scrap Dealers:-	Implemented.		
Site Licence - New £327, Renewal £260 Collectors Licence - New £217, Renewal £180 Variation of a Licence £63 Duplicate Licence £11 (HES)			
Lease Of Great Wakering Sports Hall (30/11/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
To lease the Great Wakering Sports Hall to Mr & Mrs Wilkinson, 5 Royal Mews, Southend on Sea, SS1 1DB for a period of 14 years with break clauses and rent reviews at three year intervals. (HCS)	Completed.		

Progress on Decisions by Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Sale of Land Fronting 65 Brocksford Avenue, Rayleigh (12/06/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			X
To dispose of land fronting 65 Brocksford Avenue, Rayleigh for vehicular access. (HLEMS)	In progress.		

= Target unlikely to be met. KEY

Amber = Slippage or holding factors are evident but recovery to meet target is planned.

Green = On target to meet the completion date or performance level required.

= Completed projects "greyed out" in reports.

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Renewal of Lease of ATC Hut and Surrounding Land at Connaught Road,	Red	Amber	Green
Rayleigh (22/08/13)			X
Decision			,
To grant a new lease of the ATC Hut and surrounding land at Connaught Road, Rayleigh to the East Anglia Reserve Forces and Cadets Association, for a term of seven years on a full repairing basis, at a rental of £603 increasing annually by the greater of RPI or 2%. (HLEMS)	Draft Lease and associated documents sent, awaiting response from the Cadets Association.		
Essex Procurement Hub (21/11/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That the Council becomes an Associate Member of the Essex Procurement Hub for a trial period of 12 months, with a review in Autumn 2014 on future membership. (HF)	The membership	will start on 1 Ap	ril 2014.

Progress on Decisions by Portfolio Holder for Overall Strategy and Policy Direction (Leader)

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Employee Green Car Salary Sacrifice Scheme (06/11/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
The Green Car Salary Sacrifice Scheme, as set out in this report, is adopted as an employee benefit. (HF)	Implemented.		

Progress on Decisions by Portfolio Holder for Planning, Transport and Heritage

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Hackney Carriage Licence Conditions Relating to Wheelchair Accessible	Red	Amber	Green
Vehicles (27/09/13)			
Decision			
The hackney carriage vehicle licence conditions are amended to remove condition 1.12 that requires proprietors with multiple vehicle licences to provide a wheelchair accessible vehicle for every third licence held. (HPT)	Implemented.		

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Suspension Of Parking Charges On Saturdays Before Christmas (16/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
That car parking charges in all Council car parks be suspended on the Saturdays during December, prior to Christmas – the dates are 7, 14 and 21 December 2013. (HPT)	Implemented.		

Progress on Decisions by Portfolio Holder for Service Development/Improvement and Performance Management

Item	Progress/Officer Comments		
Family Mosaic 'Drop In' Sessions At Rochford Reception (16/10/13)	Red	Amber	Green
Decision			
To approve the continuation of staff from Family Mosaic holding monthly drop in sessions in the interview room in the reception area at Rochford on the first Tuesday of every month from November 2013 to January 2014. (HICS)	A review is being carried out on the effectiveness of the drop-in sessions prior to consideration being given to a further extension in 2014.		