

## **NOTICE OF POLICY DECISIONS**

The Policy and Finance Committee made the following decisions at its meeting on 13 September 2005:-

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Decision</u></b>
<b>Essex Countywide Concessionary Travel Scheme</b> (Minute 333/05)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) That the Council agrees to an initial commitment to remaining in the existing Countywide Scheme.</li><li>(2) That the final decision be taken at the January Budget Meeting.</li><li>(3) That the Local Government Association (LGA) be required to ensure that individual Councils are fully funded under the Government protocols for policy changes.</li><li>(4) That a press release be issued at the appropriate time indicating that proceeding with a Countywide Scheme will involve additional costs for the District Council. (HRHM)</li></ul>
<b>Star Partnership Youth Football Project</b> (Minute 334/05)	That support funding of £10,000 per annum be committed for three years from the Crime and Disorder contribution within current estimates, subject to the overall project being successful in its bid submission. (CD(F&ES))

**Item**

**Decision**

**Commissioning a Patient-led NHS – Informal Consultation**

(Minute 335/05)

That the Essex Strategic Health Authority be advised that this Council wishes to see the retention of a Primary Care Trust for Castle Point and Rochford (and specifically not a body that includes Southend) to ensure best fit with other local structures, particularly Local Strategic Partnerships, and to ensure effective communication with local people. This Council is concerned that the options appear to preclude the previously established localism agenda, and would suggest that any review include partner organisations to facilitate consideration of the possibilities for rationalisation across public bodies. (HHHCC)

**Land North of Featherby Way**

(Minute 336/05)

That the land north of Featherby Way, Rochford, be retained in Council ownership. (HLS)

**Citizens Advice Bureau Rochford Office**

(Minute 337/05)

That, subject to the grant of planning approval and a clear indication in lease documentation that ownership of the premises (including the extension) remains with the Council throughout and at lease conclusion, a new lease be granted to the Citizens Advice Bureau for a term of 21 years at a market rental and on such other terms and conditions as the Head of Legal Services considers appropriate. (HLS)

**Corporate Governance Inspection – Consultation**

(Minute 339/05)

That the officer comments within the Committee report form the basis of this Council's response to the Audit Commission, subject to the following:-

- Inclusion of the words 'and it should be recognised that all Councils are democratically elected' at the end of the final line under report paragraph 3.5.
- Inclusion of the sentence 'Citizens have the right to elect the Council's Administration and this right should not be diminished by this process' at the end of the officer comment under paragraph 3.8.

**Item**

**Decision**

- Inclusion of the words 'publicly and transparently' after the word 'demonstrate' in the final line of the officer comment under paragraph 5.6.
  
- Inclusion of an observation that the nature of the inspection arrangements within the consultation paper can be seen as typifying concerns that the Council has about retention of local control and the low level of trust that the Government appears to have in local authorities. Constant detailed questioning of a Council's every move can also have implications for the Council's relationship with the electorate. (CD(F&ES))

**Learning and Skills  
Council 'Making It Happen'  
Consultation Report**  
(Minute 340/05)

That the officer comments within the Committee report form the basis of this Council's response to the consultation paper, subject to the inclusion of comment around the fact that the intent of the 'Making it Happen' document does not seem to be matched by the reality of reduced funding for further/higher education and to the incorporation of figures to highlight this. (CE)

The above decisions will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of five working days after the publication of this Notice, unless referred to Full Council by a minimum of 3 Members or called in by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

**Signed** .....  
Head of Administrative and Member Services

**Dated**.....15 September 2005.....