

## **UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS TO BE MADE UNDER REGULATION 11 (SPECIAL URGENCY)**

#### **The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012**

Notice is hereby given under the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 (“the Regulations”) regulation 11 (special urgency), that the following key decision will be made by the Cabinet on Thursday 16 March 2023:

#### **Housing Revenue Account 2023/24 - Update**

The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee has been informed by notice in writing of the matter about which the decision is to be made and has agreed that the decision is urgent and cannot be reasonably deferred. Tenant safety is of paramount importance to the Council, and this has meant that work on delivering safety measures relating to mould and damp issues following a recent stock survey have continued at pace, including over and beyond the budget-setting period. As a result of this, and other recent external developments, the HRA revenue budget set for 2023/24 is now insufficient to support the required level of service for tenants and a decision is required urgently to deliver the necessary safety measures.

#### **NOTICE OF KEY DECISION(S)**

Uttlesford District Council intends to take key decisions on the issue set out below.

Key decisions are decisions which:

- Are likely to result in the Council incurring expenditure or making savings in excess of £100,000 subject to the following:

#### Key Decision Notice

- Decisions on the acquisition or disposal of land or of an interest in land will be key decisions if their value exceeds £500,000<sup>1</sup>.
- Are likely to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in Uttlesford.
- Relate to the adoption or revision of plans and policies which would have a significant impact on the way in which the Council carries out its statutory functions.
- Relates to consideration by the Cabinet of proposals which would have a significant impact on the provision of services to the public or on the operational management of the Council.

Decisions to be taken in private are also listed (this is where specific exemptions apply under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

A list of the documents forwarded to the executive for consideration in connection with the key decisions is included in the plan. Copies or extracts of these documents or any questions regarding the items listed should be addressed to the contact officer shown in the final column.

Documents are available from the Council Offices, London Road Saffron Walden CB11 4ER. All documents and decisions are also published on the Council's website [www.uttlesford.gov.uk](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk) or are available from Democratic Services 510430/548/460 or by contacting [committee@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:committee@uttlesford.gov.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> Please note, the following are not key decisions:

- Loans or borrowing decisions made in accordance with the Treasury Management Policy.
- Decisions relating to the engagement of staff unless falling within paragraph 4.
- Contract awards or renewals for vehicles, plant, machinery, goods, supplies and services where budget provision has been made and the award or renewal is within budget.
- Contract awards where the decision to let the contract has already been treated as a key decision.
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**Key Decision Notice (Special Urgency):****Published on 10 March 2023**

Decision	Decision maker	Date of decision	Brief information about the item and details of the decision for consideration	Portfolio Holder	Contact officer from where the documents can be obtained
Housing Revenue Account 2023/24 - Update	Cabinet	16 March 2023	<p>In August 2022, the Council referred itself to the Regulator for Social Housing in respect of a potential breach of the Home Standard. Since then, significant work has been undertaken at speed in order to identify, understand and rectify the underlying issues in accordance with a detailed 'Path to Compliance Action Plan'.</p> <p>In addition, in December 2022, the Council committed to undertake a full stock condition survey of its entire housing stock. This was primarily to understand the extent of any issues</p>	Cllr Neil Hargreaves, Portfolio Holder for Finance and the Budget	<p>Jody Etherington, Assistant Director of Finance</p> <p><a href="mailto:jetherington@uttlesford.gov.uk">jetherington@uttlesford.gov.uk</a></p>

Key Decision Notice

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			<p>concerning damp and mould, which has been a focus of all landlords nationally following the tragic death of Awaab Ishak in Rochdale. This work commenced in January 2023, and although it is not anticipated to conclude until early 2023/24, interim findings have now allowed officers to begin to project the cost implications to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) of dealing with the sizeable number of category 1 and 2 hazards (i.e. the most serious types) which have been identified.</p> <p>The pace of all of this work has been such that the full financial implications were not fully developed at the time of setting the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2023/24. As such, the revenue budget which was approved by Council is no longer sufficient to support the level</p>		

Key Decision Notice

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			<p>of service which the Council's tenants deserve and require.</p> <p>Cabinet is therefore recommended to approve additional one-off revenue expenditure of up to £1 million during 2023/24, to be funded by a reduction in revenue contributions to capital.</p>		