

RECORD OF DECISIONS - CABINET THURSDAY, 18 APRIL 2024

<p>Non-Key</p>	<p>7 - Designation of Debden Neighbourhood Plan Area</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. To designate the Parish of Debden as a Neighbourhood Development Plan Area. II. The Plan Area as submitted by Debden Parish Council should be supported and adopted as the Debden Neighbourhood Development Plan Area. 	<p>Reasons: The Council received an application from Debden Parish Council for the designation of a Neighbourhood Area on 26 January 2024. In accordance with The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations (Amended 2015 and 2016) the application is for the whole Debden Parish area and the Council is required to designate the specified area as a neighbourhood area.</p> <p>Other Options considered: None.</p> <p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: None.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: N/A.</p>
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<p>Non-Key</p>	<p>8 - Corporate Core Indicators - Target Setting 2024/25</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve the Corporate Core Indicator targets for 2024/25 as set out in the body of the report and Appendix A.</p>	<p>Reasons: The Corporate Core Indicators have been selected to enable the Corporate Management Team and Members to continue to focus on key areas of performance across the council.</p> <p>Other Options considered: None.</p>
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		<p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: None.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: N/A.</p>
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Non-Key	<p>9 - Climate and Biodiversity Action Plan</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>I. To note the achievements and progress made delivering the UDC Climate Change Action Plan in 2023/24 as set out in the report.</p> <p>II. To note highlights, arising issues, follow-on actions, and the updated Climate Change Action Plan proposed by the Climate Change, Lead Officer, to be delivered April 2024 to March 25 at Appendix 1.</p> <p>III. To approve the updated Climate Change Action Plan.</p>	<p>Reasons: The paper provided a highlight report on the UDC Climate Change programme including achievements over the last 12 months and presented the proposed updated Climate Change Action plan for April 2024 to March 25, which detailed key programme priorities, activities, and measures of success.</p> <p>Other Options considered: None.</p> <p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: None.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: N/A.</p>

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<p>Non-Key</p>	<p>11 - Car Park Update</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>I. Note the 6 months' notice period submitted by House Group Development Management Limited to end the management agreement for the Rose and Crown Car Park and that the Car Park will no longer be managed by the Council.</p> <p>II. Approve the following amended tariffs for Sundays and Bank Holidays in Fairycroft Car Park only:</p> <p>i. 50p for 1 hour</p> <p>ii. £1 for 2 hours</p> <p>iii. £1.50 for 3 hours</p>	<p>Reasons:</p> <p>The owners of the Rose and Crown car park have requested to end the current management arrangement and manage the car park directly. As per the agreement they have provided the council with 6 months' notice, the maintenance and operation of the car park will transfer to them from 1st October 2024.</p> <p>The new tariffs state that all car parks in Saffron Walden will be charged at a flat rate of £1.50 for a whole day's parking (8am – 6pm). Waitrose has requested that Fairycroft is excluded from this tariff and remains a short stay car park with a maximum stay of three hours, as set out in the management agreement with a separate set of tariffs for Sundays and Bank Holidays.</p> <p>Other Options considered: None.</p> <p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: None.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: N/A.</p>
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<p>Non-Key</p>	<p>12 - Amendments to the Councils Private</p>	<p>Reasons:</p>
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Sector Housing Enforcement Policy

RESOLVED to enable officers to discharge its duty and exercise powers under:

- i. The Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020
- ii. The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 & The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (Amendment) Regulations 2022
- iii. The Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) Regulations 2015 as amended by The Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2019

The Environmental Health (Protection) Service is responsible for enforcing legislation to ensure property standards are maintained. Enforcement powers that are available to the team are predominantly derived from the Housing Act 2004. However, the Housing & Planning Act 2016 introduced a range of measures to enhance the existing powers including the ability for the Council to issue Civil penalties of up to £30,000 as an alternative to prosecution for certain specified offences.

Other Options considered:

None.

Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet:

None.

In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest:

N/A.

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	<p>iv. The Housing and Planning Act 2016 (Banning Order Offences) Regulations 2018</p> <p>II. Approve the revised Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy as set out in Appendix A.</p>	
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<p>Non-Key</p>	<p>13 - Empty Homes Policy</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve the Empty Homes Policy document.</p>	<p>Reasons: Making best use of existing homes is a key action in the Council’s Housing Strategy 2021 -2026. The Council has a strong commitment to bringing long[1]term empty homes back into use. Each empty home denies a household somewhere to live and returning empty homes to use has social, environmental, and financial benefits. The proposed Empty Homes Policy reflects the local and national perspective and outlines all available options to bring empty homes back into use.</p> <p>Other Options considered: None.</p> <p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: None.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest:</p>
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N/A.

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Non-Key	14 - Strategic Grants - Asylum Seeker and Refugee RESOLVED: I. To launch a strategic grants process for both Ukrainian and Asylum-Seeking cohorts across 3 domains of need. II. To extend the individual grants fund to asylum seeking communities from the Asylum Dispersal Grant to support with ad hoc funding requests and support to move into and furnish accommodation for a maximum of £1,500 per family.	Reasons: The report set out a case to move to strategic grants to support the integration of refugees into Uttlesford's community. Other Options considered: None. Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: None. In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: N/A.
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Non-Key	15 - Housing support under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme RESOLVED:	Reasons: To provide housing support to Ukrainian refugees living in Uttlesford. Other Options considered:
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	<p>I. To launch a rent assist offer (deposit, 6 week’s rent in advance and a council guarantee to fund the rent for the duration of the tenancy should the tenant default) to support Ukrainian guests to move into private rental properties.</p> <p>II. To use some of the Homes for Ukraine funds to act as a dedicated fund to bridge the gap between local housing allowance and market value rent.</p>	<p>None.</p> <p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: Councillor Reeve declared a non-registrable interest as he was personally supporting a Ukrainian family in the area. He recused himself from this item and left the room.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: None.</p>
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<p>Key</p>	<p>18 - Procurement of Housing Repairs, Maintenance and Capital Improvements provision from 2025</p> <p>RESOLVED to:</p> <p>I. Cabinet approve the mixed economy operating model (Option 11).</p>	<p>Reasons: This report follows the decision by Cabinet on 9th January 2024 not to continue with the Joint Venture (JV) arrangement with Uttlesford Norse Services Ltd (UNSL) from April 2025 and instead put in place a new operating model for the delivery of repairs, maintenance and capital improvements to Uttlesford District Council’s c.2800 council homes.</p> <p>Other Options considered: 11 Options were outlined in the report – Option 11 was recommended for approval.</p>
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	<p>II. Cabinet give delegated authority to the Interim Strategic Director, Housing, Health and Communities, the Chief Executive, the Strategic Director of Finance, Commercialisation and Corporate Services, and the interim Director of Property in consultation with the Cabinet Members of Housing and Finance, to develop the detailed service specifications/contracts in advance of the procurement process, to be brought back to Cabinet on 13 June 2024.</p> <p>III. Cabinet give delegated authority to the interim Director of Property to manage the procurement process, in consultation with the Chief Executive, Interim Strategic Director of Housing, Health and Communities, Strategic Director of Finance, Commercialisation and Corporate Services, the Council's Procurement Service and external</p>	<p>Any interest declared by any member of Cabinet: N/A.</p> <p>In respect of any conflict of interest declared, whether dispensation is in existence for that interest: None.</p>
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	<p>advisors as required.</p> <p>IV. Cabinet note the 'step-in' arrangements put in place by UDC (as delegated by Cabinet on 9th January) and the recommendation by officers that it is not appropriate to pursue a legal remedy against UNSL at this stage for service failure.</p> <p>V. Cabinet note the 'next steps' for the procurement process.</p> <p>VI. Cabinet delegate to the Interim Strategic Director, Housing, Health and Communities, the Chief Executive and the interim Director of Property in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing the formal consultation process and ongoing engagement arrangements with tenants and leaseholders.</p>	

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