

SIGNIFICANT OFFICER DECISIONS

16 MAY TO 15 JUNE 2014

DECISIONS

12/14 – 13/14

DATE OF PUBLICATION:

18TH JUNE 2014

DEADLINE FOR MEMBER CALL-IN:

5.00pm on 25th June 2014

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SIGNIFICANT OFFICER DECISIONS

BACKGROUND

About this document

Slough Borough Council has a decision making process involving an Executive (Cabinet) and a Scrutiny Function. Part 3 of the Council's Constitution sets out the Responsibility for Functions and Scheme of Officer Delegation. This document lists the decisions taken by officers under this scheme during the period stated.

Distribution

The schedule is circulated monthly to all Members and published on the website. This document, and any reports relating to individual decisions, are published on the Council's website in accordance The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

Decisions included in the Schedule

The definition of the categories for 'Significant' Officer Decisions to be included in the Schedule are set out below:

1. Tenders/Contracts over £50,000 or 'sensitive' excluding individual social services care packages and school placements.
2. Exemptions to Competitive Tendering.
3. Redundancies/Early Retirements above 5 in Service area*
4. Decision to commence formal organisational restructuring/consultation.
5. Consultation responses other than technical responses where officers asked for Member views.
6. Write-off of individual debts between £5,000 and £15,000.
7. Decisions arising from external report on significant Health and Safety at Work Act risk.
8. Compulsory Purchase Orders.
9. Action with regard to Petitions in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme
10. Any exceptions made to the Council's agreed tender procedure as set out in Financial Procedure Rules
11. Consultancies over £5,000 (excluding cover for established posts) or any consultancy/employment offered to former Senior Officers of the Council of 3rd tier and above.
12. Other decisions such as those with political, media or industrial relations implications that Directors consider Members should be aware of.
13. Appointments to casual vacancies on committees, sub committees, Panels, Working Parties and outside bodies
14. Specific decisions that have been delegated to a particular officer by resolution at a Cabinet meeting to be taken following consultation with the relevant Commissioner

*Decisions taken on the Redundancy/Early Retirement of a senior level officer to be reported to Group Leaders, Cabinet and Employment and Appeals Committee.

Call-in

Any Member of the Council may call-in an officer decision specified in this Schedule by following the procedure set out in paragraph 21 of Part 4.5 of the Council's Constitution. Member call-ins must be submitted in writing to the Head of Democratic Services and state the reasons why the request to have the matter considered by Scrutiny has been made. The call-in must be received within five working days of delivery of the publication of the decision (by 5.00pm). Members call-ins of officer decisions will be submitted to the next Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration and dealt with in the same way as other post decision call-ins.

Exempt information

Any supporting reports considered by the decision-maker will be published on the website in a separate appendix, unless they contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

Further information

The schedule will be published monthly. A copy can be obtained from Democratic Services at St Martin's Place, 51 Bath Road on weekdays between 9.00 a.m. and 4.45 p.m. or Tel: (01753) 875120, email: nicholas.pontone@slough.gov.uk.

A copy will be published on Slough Borough Council's Website: www.slough.gov.uk

Ref	12/14
Title of decision	Arrangements for New Free Schools
Date decision taken	01/05/2014
Decision maker	Chief Executive, Ruth Bagley
Portfolio	Leader of the Council and Commissioner of Finance and Strategy & Commissioner for Education & Children
Details of decision taken	Exercise of delegation to enable Chief Executive to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Education on the delivery of free schools in Slough
Reasons for taking decision	Pursuant to the decision of Cabinet, delegation to Chief Executive following consultation with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member to enter into an arrangement and or facilitate discussions to deliver approved secondary Free Schools and associated facilities in Slough
Options considered	n/a as an exercise of Cabinet delegated authority
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	Declaration that there are no disclosable pecuniary interests or non-statutory disclosable interests
Reports considered	Cabinet: 14.4.2014/ Agenda item 10 Re: Arrangements for New Free Schools

Ref	13/14
Title of decision	Contract Award: Transformation Programme and Development Manager, Children Looked After and Care Leavers.
Date decision taken	Contract offer made 9 th May subject to references. Award confirmed 21 st May 2014
Decision maker	Approval to seek bids to appoint external capacity was granted by the Corporate Management Team The decision to award the contract to Green Park was made by the interview panel consisting Jane Wood, Strategic Director Wellbeing, Sarah Richards, Strategic Director Resources and Kitty Ferris, Assistant Director Children, Young People and Families
Portfolio	Education & Children's Services
Details of decision taken	Time limited external contract awarded following competitive process, which invited bids from leading employment agencies. 13 bids were received from which 4 were invited to formal interview, and one contract awarded.
Reasons for taking decision	<p>Following the findings of the most recent Ofsted inspection of Children's social care services, published February 2014, the programmes of work required to deliver improved outcomes for children and young people have been revised and a new extensive programme of transformational change agreed.</p> <p>The primary objective of the transformation programme is to ensure that looked after children and care leavers are provided with a consistent and high quality experience throughout their journey in the care system and into adulthood. The scope of the programme includes young people on the edge of care and the development of approaches to maintain young people in the community wherever it is safe to do so.</p> <p>The following work streams will deliver the strategic objectives :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early identification and permanency planning • Young People on the edge of care and in care • Placement quality, choice and stability (to include improved local offer) • Educational Attainment • Good physical and emotional health • Care Leavers • Effective Corporate Parenting <p>In order to support the work streams and to build in sustainability and future proofing, work will be undertaken to develop an effective predictive models, bringing together financial activity, performance data and outcomes from a child's perspective. The offer for looked after children and care leavers must be financially sustainable and deliver value for money as well as quality experiences for children. The Looked After Children and Care Leavers Needs Assessment and Sufficiency Strategy provides much of the underpinning data and analysis.</p>
Options considered	The Corporate Management Team (CMT) considered that external capacity, skill and experience to the council, to deliver this extensive theme of the Children's Services agenda, is required. A business case to support the role through the Transformation Fund was approved by CMT accordingly.

Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	There are no conflicts of interest related to this matter
Reports considered	Background papers include the Invitation to Express Interest attached. The details of the candidates considered remain confidential to the bidders.

Petitions

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme and the schedule of Significant Officer Decisions please find below a list of petitions submitted to the Council and a summary the response provided. Further details of the petitions can be found on Slough's website:

<http://www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/mgePetitionListDisplay.aspx?bcr=1>

14-08 Dolphin Road Parking Issues

Petition Received – 29th April 2014

We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to:

- 1) Restore one hour parking bays at Dolphin Road.
- 2) Restore bus stop and bus shelter to its original location.
- 3) Move give way from Dolphin Road to new side road to ease traffic flow and make it safer for pedestrians and motorists.

Petition summary and background

- 1) One hour parking bays at Dolphin Road helped to reduce traffic congestion on Diamond Road during peak pray times at Diamond Road mosque.
- 2) Bus stop and bus shelter on Uxbridge Road layby opposite the mosque has been moved causing extra traffic delays around mosque at peak time.
- 3) New give way on Dolphin road is dangerous for pedestrians and cars and slows traffic flow.

Response Provided – 27th May 2014

Thank you for the petition that you have submitted in regard to the:

- removal of the one hour parking bays on Dolphin Road;
- relocation of the bus shelter on Uxbridge Road;
- change in priority of Dolphin Road.

In respect of the:

- removal of the one hour bays, I will recommend to the Commissioner that a public consultation is undertaken of the residents of Dolphin Road to determine whether they wish for a change to the traffic regulation order (TRO) to be made such that the replacement bays, that have been provided on the Access Road leading to the development, could be used for a period of 1 hour by non residents;
- relocation of the bus stop I have previously advised that for highway safety reasons the bus stop cannot be sited in the deceleration lane from the A412 Uxbridge Road and for this reason the bus stop has been relocated to the south side of the pedestrian crossing. A road safety audit

has been undertaken and its location is considered acceptable. The impact on traffic flows on A412 Uxbridge is considered minimal. Whilst I note your comments about the impact on the Mosque, the Mosque is not accessed from A412 Uxbridge Road and therefore the impact on it is very minimal;

- change in priority of traffic flow on Dolphin Road has been safety audited and the change of priority was considered acceptable. I have previously advised you for highway safety and highway legibility reasons the Council does not propose to change the priority at this junction.

14-09 Cippenham Lane Parking – 30 Minute Limit

Petition Received – 20th May 2014

We the undersigned are Customers, Residents and Retailers who regularly use and run businesses located at 3, 22, 24 and 26 Cippenham Lane, Slough.

We wish to make a request to Slough Borough Council to change the current ONE HOUR parking restrictions in place from Monday to Saturday 07.00 hrs to 20.00 hrs to:

Maximum 30 MINUTES parking restrictions from 06.00 hrs to 22.00 hrs Monday to Sunday (seven days), as these are now our trading hours.

The main reason for the change being that the lay-by is always occupied with vehicles, hence the customers are not able to stop/park and use the local shops, causing loss of business for us.

Response Provided – 13th June 2014

Thank you for your petition in which you have requested for the time limit within the limited waiting parking bays on Cippenham Lane to be reduced from one hour to 30 minutes.

I have added this location to our waiting list for your request to be considered. We will review the current scheme to try to address the issues you have highlighted, and then put the proposal out to a formal public consultation. If the result of the consultation is positive, we can take the scheme forward to implementation stage.

Due to lack of resourcing, we will be looking to review the current scheme within the coming months and hope to have it implemented by the end of the year.

I hope this information helps and please do not hesitate to contact me with any further enquiries.