

SIGNIFICANT OFFICER DECISIONS

16 DECEMBER TO 15 JANUARY 2015

DECISIONS

01/15

DATE OF PUBLICATION:

21st January 2015

DEADLINE FOR MEMBER CALL-IN:

5.00pm on 28th January 2015

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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 submitting 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

Slough Borough Council Record of Significant Officer Decision

Ref	01/15
Title of decision	Public Spaces Protection Order in Restricted Area between Furnival Avenue and Birch Grove Cut
Date decision taken	25 th November 2014
Decision maker	Ginny de Haan, Head of Consumer Protection & Business Support
Portfolio	Social & Economic Inclusion
Details of decision taken	<p>To make a Public Spaces Protection Order (Henceforth referred to as a PSPO), in the Furnival Avenue and Birch Grove location, following a statutory consultation under Sections 59, 64 and 72 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The PSPO will relate to that part of Furnival Avenue and Birch Grove as shown edged blue on the plan at Appendix 1 ("the Restricted Area").</p> <p>The effect of the PSPO will be to restrict the public right of way over the Restricted Area between the hours of 6pm – 5am in winter and 9pm – 5am in summer. The winter and summer timings will mirror the Greenwich Mean Time and British Summer Time schedules. The PSPO will authorise the installation of fencing and a magnetic lock operated gate (identified by a red line on the Plan, which will enforce the restriction. The alternative route for pedestrians will be along Furnival Ave.</p>
Reasons for taking decision	<p><u>Reduction in ASB incidents</u></p> <p>Police crime data since May 2014, when the path adjacent to flats was blocked through a Gating Order, reveals that a total of 25 crimes were reported in the Faraday Road area. Although there is not enough detail available to attribute these crimes directly to the Restricted Area, door to door consultations also revealed that though there has been some reduction in ASB following the blocking of the path adjacent to the flats. The Restricted Area is still inviting ASB owing to its porous nature and residents have identified drug dealing as a specific problem.</p> <p>The continuing anti-social behaviour and drug dealing in the area are having a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality and justifies the restrictions of the proposed PSPO..</p> <p>Authorising the erection of a fence and gate (as per the PSPO) is justified on these grounds. This is because the likely effect of making the proposed PSPO on adjacent owners and occupiers and those in the locality is minimal.</p>
Options considered	<p>The statutory consultation period for the PSPO started on 31st October 2014 and ended on 21st November 2014. Tenants of the Housing Solutions flats as well as residents living in Birch Grove, Aspen Close and Rowan Way, who are in close proximity to the Restricted Area were consulted. Notices were also displayed on site for the benefit of the wider community. No objections were received.</p> <p>A review of the PSPO once made will be conducted six months after it is made in order to review the levels of ASB and ascertain the effect on neighbouring occupiers and owners.</p>
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	None
Reports considered	None

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>

None.