

SIGNIFICANT OFFICER DECISIONS

16 DECEMBER 2016 TO
15 JANUARY 2017

DECISIONS

01/17 – 02/17

DATE OF PUBLICATION:

23rd January 2017

DEADLINE FOR MEMBER CALL-IN:

5.00pm on 30th January 2017

CONTACT:

Nick Pontone

Senior Democratic Services Officer

01753 875120

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	01/17
Title of decision	To agree the award to Slough Borough Council from the Housing and Technology Fund (DoH) for people with learning disabilities
Date decision taken	6 th January 2017
Decision maker	Director of Adult Social Care
Portfolio	Health & Social Care
Details of decision taken	<p>Three applications were submitted to the Department of Health's Housing and technology fund for people with learning disabilities in October 2016. The applications were for funds to purchase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moving and handling equipment for the borough's in-house residential and replacement care services; (Slough only) • twenty smartphones and/or tablets on to which software applications to help people learn and develop independent living skills can be downloaded (Slough only) • Capital funding to enable up to 10 Berkshire residents with LD to purchase their own homes (Slough bid on behalf of Berkshire LAs and CCGs) <p>All three applications were successful resulting in an award of £1,355,600 to Slough Borough Council. This funding needs to be spent by March 2018</p>
Reasons for taking decision	The bids were submitted as part of the ongoing work of Slough's Learning Disability Change Programme which aims to maximise independence for people with learning disabilities in Slough and the Berkshire wide Transforming Care Programme which aims to reduce the need for inpatient beds often away from the family home.
Options considered	The Housing and Technology Fund for people with learning disabilities provided an opportunity for Slough Borough Council to apply for extra funding to support the Learning Disabilities Change Programme and Berkshire wide Transforming Care Programme.
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	None identified

Reports considered	None
---------------------------	------

Ref	02/17
Title of decision	Appointment to the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee
Date decision taken	12 th January 2017
Decision maker	Assistant Director Strategy & Engagement
Portfolio	Finance & Strategy
Details of decision taken	The Councillor Sharif be appointed to the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rules Part 4.1 Paragraph 1.2 (vi) of the Council's Constitution.
Reasons for taking decision	To fill the vacancy following the resignation of Councillor Hussain from the Committee.
Options considered	N/A
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>

16-20 – Parking Issues at Lismore Park

This petition was received on 15th December, 2016.

As Slough Borough Council has not taken any actions following the complaint letter recently sent, the Residents of Lismore Park have completed a petition for the extension of the double yellow lines (in the three most problematic areas on the estate) to prevent nuisance parking. This petition was responded to by the Team Leader, Parking Services on 5th January 2017

Thank you for the submission of the above petition.

The pavement parking ban was introduced in this area to protect the pavements, and ensure that they were safe for their primary purpose which is the safe passage of pedestrians, especially vulnerable users. With reference to Grasmere Avenue and Moray Drive, bays were placed half on the pavement on roads where the pavement width was wide enough, and this scheme has only been introduced in the Central Ward and parts of Elliman Ward which were previously in the Central Ward, therefore Moray Drive was not included in this scheme. The pavement parking ban will not be revoked on Lismore Park.

The carriageway was left unrestricted to allow for some parking, and we rely on drivers to park considerately as we cannot regulate all parking on the public highway. However as concerns have now been raised about the safe passage of vehicles on the carriageway and the increased traffic to the area, this location is already on our waiting list for the restrictions to be reviewed along with other requests for new and amended restrictions around the borough.

When the list is reviewed, we will carry out site visits to assess the area. If a scheme is appropriate and we gain approval to carry out a formal consultation, a public notice will be placed in the local press and displayed on street with details of how to view plans and make representations. Unfortunately we cannot provide timescales at present as we have recently reviewed the process to implement such projects, and must advise that the process to introduce new restrictions can be a lengthy one due to the legal process involved. In the meantime we recommend that any dangerous parking is reported to The Police.