

Merton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet on Monday 17 February 2014

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

3.	Minutes of the previous meeting	<p>RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2014 are agreed as a correct record.</p>
5.	Reference from the Overview and Scrutiny Commission - pre decision scrutiny of the Business Plan 2014-2018	<p>RESOLVED: That the Cabinet</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) acknowledges Scrutiny's support on savings CS60, CS61, CS62, CS63, CS64, CS65, CS66, CS67 , CS68, CS70, CS71 , CS72 , CS73 , CS74 , CS75, EV01, CH6, CH5, CH9, CH10, CSF01, CSF02 2) agrees to give further thought to savings proposal CS63 over changing its risk rating to "medium", prior to Council 3) agrees to withdraw savings proposals CS69, and EV03-EV07 4) agrees to defer savings proposals EV10, and CSF03 until next year 5) notes the views expressed by scrutiny on CH6 and in paragraph 2.12 6) agrees to adopt a general principle of bringing forward budget savings whenever that can be done, including for the financial year 2014/15. 7) agrees with the proposal of the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Panel on proposal EV02, rather than the recommendation contained within paragraph 2.13 of the report

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4.	Business Plan 2014-18	<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) agrees to amend, as appropriate, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) to incorporate its decision, taken previously on <i>the Overview and Scrutiny Commission - pre decision scrutiny of the Business Plan 2014-2018</i>, for the Council in March 2014 2) having considered all of the information in the report, and noted the positive assurance statement given by the Director of Corporate Services based on the proposed strategy, the Council Tax in 2014/15, equating to a Band D Council Tax of £1,102.26 be approved and recommended to Council for approval. This represents a Council Tax freeze; 3) resolves that the Business Plan 2014-18 including the General Fund Budget and Council Tax Strategy for 2014/15, and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for 2014-2018 as submitted, be approved and recommended to Council for approval subject to any proposed amendments agreed at this meeting; 4) having considered all of the latest information and the comments from the scrutiny process, the Capital Investment Programme (as detailed in Annex 1 to the Capital Strategy); the Treasury Management Strategy (Section 5), including the detailed recommendations in that Section, incorporating the Prudential Indicators and the Capital Strategy (Appendix 12) as submitted and reported upon be approved and recommended to Council for approval, subject to any proposed amendments agreed at this meeting;

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		<p>5) notes that the GLA precept that was agreed by the London Assembly on the 14 February, be incorporated into the draft MTFS;</p> <p>6) notes that there may be minor amendments to figures in the report as a result of new information being received after the deadline for dispatch and that this will be amended for the report to Council in March;</p> <p>7) in respect of the new business rates reliefs announced in the Autumn statement 2013, agrees the Retail Property Discount Policy and the Retail Premises Re-Occupation Policy set out in Appendices 12(a) and 12(b).</p>
6.	To confirm an Article 4 Direction (offices to residential) for Merton	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>1) That Cabinet confirm the adoption of Non-immediate Permanent Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights for the conversion of offices (B1a Use Class) to residential use (C3 Use Class) for Wimbledon Town Centre and the Industrial Estates at Willow Lane, Garth Road, South Wimbledon (Morden Road), Durnsford Road, Dundonald Road, Plough Lane and Prince George’s Road (Colliers Wood).</p> <p>2) That the Article 4 Direction, would come into force on 06 March 2015.</p>

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7.	Financial Monitoring - December 2013	<p>RESOLVED: That Cabinet -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) note the financial reporting data relating to revenue budgetary control, showing a forecast underspend at year end of £1,070k (which is 0.65% of the gross Council Budget) after allowing for a £512k transfer to the Capital Programme, £1,500k transfer to balancing the budget reserve, £1,742k carry forward of Public Health funds and consider any relevant action they may wish to take in respect of variations; 2) approve adjustments and capital virements detailed in Appendix 5b and the Current Capital Programme as detailed in Appendix 5a and the new budgets identified in paragraph 4.3.; 3) note current progress to date on savings; 4) note the latest position with regard to the collection of miscellaneous debt, as at the end of December 2013; and 5) note the Cashflow Statement attached as Appendix 11 to the report.