

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

HELD ON 22 OCTOBER 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Elaine Woodburn; Hugh Branney; George Clements; Allan Holliday, Gillian Troughton

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Peter Kane

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Walker Chief Executive; Pat Graham, Director of Services, Darienne Law, Head of Corporate Resources; Julie Betteridge, Head of Regeneration and Community; Keith Parker, Head of Neighbourhoods, John Groves, Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning; Tim Capper Democratic Services Manager; Barbara Green; Denise James, Member Services Officer

START TIME: 4.00PM

CLOSE TIME: 5.00 PM

CERTIFICATION: _____

Certified a true record of decisions taken at the meeting of the 22 October13

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Decision	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0042	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context: To consider the statement of Executive decision made on 27 August 2013

Key Decision Status: No

Decision: That the Statement of Executive Decisions 27 August 2013 be signed as a correct record.

Explanation - N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 1 November 2013	Contact Officers: Tim Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 3	
Subject: Declarations of Interest	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0043	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context: To note declarations of Disclosable and Non-Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Key Decision Status: No

Decision: Councillor George Clements declared a non disclosable pecuniary interest in this item due to being in the process or purchasing a piece of land.

Explanation: N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 October 2013	Contact Officers: Tim Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6	
Subject: Forward Plan August – November 2013	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0044	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context: To consider the forward plan of key decisions October 2013 – January 2014

Key Decision Status: No

Decision – That subject to the inclusion of the outcome of the Policy Development Groups being subject of a special meeting of the Executive the forward plan of Key decision October 2013 – January 2014 be noted

Explanation: N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 1 November 2013	Contact Officers: Tim Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Property Disposal Policy	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0045	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider a recommendation to agree a new policy document governing property disposals. Executive are also asked to rectify an anomaly in the current decision making process relating to the potential demolition of Council owned assets.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: a. That the Property Disposals Policy as appended to the report be agreed and replace the policy documents entitled;
(i)Property Tenure and Disposal Policy Statement dated 8/2/11, and
(ii)Reductions in Rental Payments Policy Statement dated 8/2/11

b. planning panel be recommended to recommend that Council approve the decisions regarding demolition of non-operational assets and this be delegated to the Head of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and the Head of Nuclear, Energy and Planning, and that Contract Procedure Rules be updated to reflect the delegated powers; and

c. actions referred to in paragraph 2.4 of the report be approved.

Explanation: The new policy is to replace the out-dated policy currently in place governing property tenure and disposals and rental concessions.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: Councillor George Clements declared a non disclosable pecuniary interest in this item due to being in the process or purchasing a piece of land

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 1 November 2013	Contact Officers: Darienne Law
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item:8	
Subject: Strategic Asset Management Strategy 2011 – 2015 Update	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0046	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider the updated strategic asset management strategy 2011-15.

Key Decision Status:

Decision: That the Strategic Asset management Strategy 2011-2015 Update be agreed.

Explanation: The Strategic Asset Management Strategy (SAMS) Update outlines best practice which will result in resource efficiencies and smoother working practices.

The way in which the Council manages its property portfolio to ensure best value and efficient and effective use of our assets has changed since the inception of the SAMS in 2011. The Council has adapted to reflect the need for change and to ensure that the Council's objectives are supported.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 October 2013	Contact Officers: Darien Law
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 9
Subject: Atrium Property Management System

Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0047	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider a proposal to release £20,000 of capital monies to fund a project for the implementation of an effective electronic property management system which will allow better management of the Council's property portfolio, enabling improved service provision.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That Executive agrees to the proposals outlined within the attached project brief and agrees to the release of £20,000 of capital monies to fund the project.

Explanation: The implementation of an effective electronic property management system will allow better management of the Council's property portfolio, enabling improved service provision.

It was agreed by Executive in 2011 that a capital sum of £20,000 would be allocated to support the installation of an effective electronic property management system. This report is to inform Executive of the current position in this regard and ask for confirmation of the release of the capital sum to allow the proposals to be implemented.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 October 2013	Contact Officers: Darienne Law
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item:10	
Subject: Homelessness Strategy 2013-18	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:

Decision Reference: EXE/13/0048	Full Executive
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Portfolio Holder: Councillor George Clements
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Context: To consider a recommendation from Strategic Housing Panel to approve the Copeland Homelessness Strategy 2013 – 18 and action plan.

Key Decision Status: Yes

<p>Decision:</p> <p>a) the priorities and targets for the next five years in supporting residents at risk and experiencing homelessness and the pro-active partnership approach to preventing homelessness be noted;</p> <p>b) the Copeland Homelessness Strategy 2013 – 2018 and Action Plan as attached at Appendix A to the report be approved; and</p> <p>c) the monitoring of delivery actions and outcomes will be within the framework of the overarching Copeland Housing Strategy be noted.</p>

<p>Explanation:</p> <p>The Homelessness Strategy runs for five years and sets out the priorities and targeted action the Council will direct its limited resources to and how it anticipates working with landlords and other agencies to actively put in measures to support residents requiring housing options advice and support and prevent residents becoming homeless.</p>
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Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 October 2013	Contact Officers:
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 11

Subject: Old Whitehaven THI	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0049	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Hugh Branney

Context: Following on from Executive's previous endorsement of the Whitehaven Old Town THI Stage 2 funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for £659,200 and confirmation of its acceptance to take on the role and function of Accountable Body (28th May 2013), this report has come to inform Executive that grant offers from HLF and Britain's Energy Coast have now been made.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That a) grants of £659,200 from the Heritage Lottery Fund and £394,600 from Britain's Energy Coast be received and the previous agreement of £250,000 of Copeland Borough Council funds against the delivery of the Whitehaven THI Stage 2 programme be endorsed; and

b) the spend profile over the next 5 years associated to deliver the programme, on the basis of quarterly performance monitoring be approved and the carry forward at year end be agreed.

Explanation: The proposed Whitehaven Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) scheme aims to reconnect the fringe of the retail centre to the heart of the town, strengthening the connection of Albion Square and the harbour with the commercial core and thus increasing footfall into this marginal area of the town.

The THI scheme will upgrade prominent, historic buildings bringing floor space back into use, helping to increase the economic activity of the area, giving greater choice to residents, workers and visitors shopping in the town.

The scheme will increase heritage skills levels amongst the local building sector and local residents; bring historic buildings back into appropriate and sustainable use, and improve the public realm within the town.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 1 November 2013	Publication Date: 25 October 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 25 October 2013	Contact Officers: Julie Betteridge
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 12	
Subject: Business Rates Retention Scheme – Pooling Issues	
Date of Decision: 22 October 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0050	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton
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Context: To receive and update report on Business Rates Retention Scheme – Pooling Issues

Key Decision Status: Yes

<p>Decision: That</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) the contents of this report and that there are currently no recommendations being made for Copeland Borough Council to join the Cumbrian Pool be noted; and(ii) any decision to join the Pool at a later date if it becomes advantageous to do so be delegated to the Chief Executive and the S151 Officer in consultation with the Finance Portfolio Holder.

Explanation: Under the Business Rates Retention Scheme (BRRS) introduced from 1st April 2013, there is an opportunity for 2 or more authorities to voluntarily 'pool' their business rates. The advantage of pooling is that more of the growth in business rates income is retained locally and therefore benefits members of the Pool. However there is also a risk that the income from Business Rates will fall in the area and this would increase the financial risk to the Pool members.

The Cumbrian authorities have been working together to assess the options for a potential pool arrangement in Cumbria. Applications to join a Pool have to be made by 31st October 2013. Currently there are **no** proposals for Copeland Borough Council to join the Pool for the reasons set out in the report. However discussions are continuing with Government and members are informed of the options should there be a future opportunity to join the Pool that Copeland Borough Council may wish to take advantage of.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date:
1 November 2013

Publication Date:
25 October 2013

Recorded by:
Denise James

Call-in Period Expires on:
25 October 2013

Contact Officers:
Darienne Law