

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Hugh Branney; George Clements; Allan Holliday; Peter Kane; Gillian Troughton

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Elaine Woodburn

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

START TIME: 10.00 AM

CLOSE TIME: 11.00 AM

CERTIFICATION: _____

Certified a true record of decisions taken at the meeting of the 19 November 13

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 1	
Subject: Statements of Decision	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0057	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: N/A

Context: To consider the statement of Executive decision made on 6 November 2013

Key Decision Status: No

Decision: That the Statement of Executive Decisions 6 November 2013 be signed as a correct record.

Explanation - N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 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: 19 November 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0058	

Portfolio Holder: N/A

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

Key Decision Status: No

Decision: There were no declarations of interest.

Explanation: N/A

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: N/A

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Tim Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 6		
Subject: Forward Plan		
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by:	
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0059	Full Executive	
Portfolio Holder: N/A		
Context: To consider the Forward Plan of Key Decisions November 2013–February 2014		
Key Decision Status: Yes		
Decision: That subject to the Disabled Facility Grants being put back to January the Forward Plan of Key decisions be noted.		
Explanation: N/A		
Alternative Options Considered: None		
Interests Declared: None		
Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Tim Capper	

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 7	
Subject: Millom Cemetery	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0060	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Peter Kane

Context:
Negotiations have reached in principle agreement over a the potential site and access arrangements meaning subject to Executive agreement the project can proceed to the physical development phase.

Key Decision Status: No

Decision
a) it be noted that the Environment Agency's confirmation that the Council's ground water assessment is satisfactory
b) the access arrangements be noted;
c) it be confirmed that the project can proceed to physical development, within the existing programme allocation;
d) it be noted that subject to c) being agreed a public drop in session will be held at Millom with representatives of the Town Council and St Georges Church.

Explanation Provision of space for the burial of the dead is a statutory obligation for the Council. Providing a locally based facility in the south of the Borough means residents will retain the option of being interred close to where they have lived and at the same time reduce pressure on available burial space elsewhere in the Borough

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Tim Capper
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 8	
Subject: Pension Scheme – Automatic Enrolment	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0061	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To advise Executive on the impact of automatic enrolment into a workplace pension legislation, (auto enrol). Once the results of the local government triennial pension scheme review (LGPS) are known, later in the month (November), a paper on the financial impact of this will be prepared for Members and an update of the implications of auto enrol, based on those figures will be included.

Key Decision Status: No

Decision: That (i) the feedback from Personnel Panel (PP) on this report (reported to PP 18 11 13) be received and noted;
(ii) option 2 – deferment in auto enrol date until October 2017 be approved;
(iii) the use of £2k in the current year and each year thereafter to fund software option/upgrades to the payroll system, which are necessary, as a result of auto enrol obligations placed on the authority be approved;
(iv) the contribution rate required to be paid by the authority is subject to change, see paragraph 3.4 be noted;
(v) Refer to Appendix A for summary of obligations

Explanation:
Since the staging process of auto enrol begun, in October 2012, 95% of employees have elected to remain in the pension scheme following auto enrol, i.e. only 5% have opted back out. If employees choose not to 'auto enrol' or do but then 'opt out' there is a duty to automatically enrol them back into scheme at regular intervals, usually every 3 years

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Darienne Law
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 9	
Subject: Quarter 2 Health and Safety Monitoring Report	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0062	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Peter Kane

Context: All Council activities have the potential to impact on Copeland Residents therefore it is important that activities are managed so they are carried out in a safe manner.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That the actions of the health and safety advisor post as an essential part of ensuring that Copeland as an employer complies with all relevant health and safety legislation and manages health and safety be noted.

Explanation: In accordance with the Councils performance procedures.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Pat Graham
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 10	
Subject: Capital Budget – Quarter 2 Summary Financial Report	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0063	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider the Capital Budget – Quarter 2 Summary Financial Report

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That

I. the approved gross capital budget of £3,872,464, £1,899,514 of which is funded by external income to give a net current capital budget of £1,972,950 be noted;

II. the authorised increase to the budget in relation to St Bees Playground Project, Whitehaven THI and Copeland Pool Fitness Extension to account for the external income now awarded (see paragraph 2.3) be noted;

III. the position as at 30 September 2013 (Quarter 2) of capital receipts for 2013/14 as set out in this report (See paragraph 5) be noted;

IV. it be noted that the forecast year-end variance on the overall Capital Programme 2013/14 is a gross underspend of £2,133,433 at 30 September 2013. This will result in a £1,109,800 underspend in external income to give a total net variance of £1,023,633. The majority of this underspend is expected to be carried forward to complete projects in 2014/15;

V. the required increase of £15k to the Beacon Lift replacement budget (within Operational Buildings) from the useable capital receipts reserve due to inflated costs to do the work since the budget was approved (See paragraph 4.5) be approved.

Explanation:

In accordance with Council's monitoring procedures.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date:
29 November 2013

Publication Date:
22 November 2013

Recorded by:
Denise James

Call-in Period Expires on:
29 November 2013

Contact Officers:
Darienne Law

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 11	
Subject: Revenue Budget – Period 6 Summary Financial Report 2013/14	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0064	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider the Revenue Budget – Period 6 summary financial report 2013/14

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That

- (i) the risks to the budget as detailed in sections 2 and 4 of the report and the income projections in section 3 be noted;
- (ii) the approved net current revenue budget of £11,507m as set out in paragraph 1.4 of the report be noted;
- (iii) the projected year-end underspend of £89k against the current approved revenue budget of £11,507m being £16k under spend against Earmarked reserves and £73k underspend against base budget be noted
- (iv) the decision taken by Head of Corporate Resources, on outstanding debts totalling £15k be noted;
- (v) it be noted that the year-end forecast does not include any estimate of pension increases which may materialise as a result of the Triennial review, the results of which will be advised this month;
- (vi) the release of £35k from the Coastal Management Earmarked Reserve as detailed in paragraph 8.2of the report, to increase the current year budget from £11,507m be approved; and
- (vii) the release of £50k from the Weddicar Earmarked Reserve as detailed in paragraph 8.3of the report, to increase the current year budget from £11,507m be approved.

Explanation:
In accordance with Council's monitoring procedures.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Darienne Law
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 12	
Subject: Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy Mid-Year Review	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0065	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy Mid-Year Review

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That 1. the Mid-Year Review be noted; and
2. the forecast investment income currently in line with budget, subject to current economic conditions prevailing to year end be noted.

Explanation:
In accordance with Council's monitoring procedures.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Darienne Law
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 13	
Subject: Quarter 2 Council Plan Performance Report	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0066	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Allan Holliday

Context: To consider the Quarter 2 Council Plan Performance Report.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: It is recommended that the Executive considers the second quarterly performance against the Corporate Plan for 2013/15 and agrees the report.

Explanation:
In accordance with Council's monitoring procedures.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Penny Mell
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 14	
Subject: Information Security and Management	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by: Full Executive
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0067	

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Councillor Allan Holliday

Context: To consider a report providing Members with the progress made in developing the Councils approach to Information Security and Management following a recent audit and provides details of the new Information Management Strategy.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That the Information Security and Management Strategy be agreed and the progress made in developing the Councils approach to Information Security and Management be noted..

Explanation:

Information Management is recognised as a key enabler to support the delivery of the Councils corporate objectives and will provide a robust and consistent governance framework.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date:
29 November 2013

Publication Date:
22 November 2013

Recorded by:
Denise James

Call-in Period Expires on:
29 November 2013

Contact Officers:
Penny Mell

Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 15

Subject: Geological Disposal Siting Process Consultation Draft Response

Date of Decision: 19 November 2013

Decision made by:

Decision Reference: EXE/13/0068

Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Elaine Woodburn

Context: To consider the proposed response to the Government consultation 'Review of the Siting Process for a Geological Disposal Facility.'

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: That a) the proposed programme of activities to support and inform the development of the Council's response to the Government consultation 'Review of the Siting Process for a Geological Disposal Facility' be noted; and
b) the final response for submission by the deadline of 5th December be delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition Group.

Explanation: This report relates to Government proposals to find a solution for the disposal of UK higher level radioactive waste the vast majority of which is currently stored within the Borough on the Sellafield site.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: John Groves
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Copeland Borough Council

Statement of Executive Decision

Agenda Item: 16	
Subject: Parish Councils – Council Tax Support Scheme Grant 2014/15	
Date of Decision: 19 November 2013	Decision made by:
Decision Reference: EXE/13/0069	Full Executive

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Gillian Troughton

Context: To consider a report setting out various approaches to payments to Parish Councils for the Council Tax Support Grant.

Key Decision Status: Yes

Decision: The Executive are asked to approve:

- (i) a payment be made to Parish Councils in 2013/14 to reflect the loss of Council Tax income arising from the local CTS Scheme, reflecting one of the options set out in paragraph 2 of the report;
- (ii) the exact sum to be paid out to each parish be assessed in late December/early January 2013 following receipt of the final local government financial settlement for 2014/15, the tax base for individual parishes and decisions on the level of concurrent services grants to be paid in 2014/15;
- (iii) any amount of CTS grant agreed be paid to individual parishes be calculated in accordance with the criteria and method set out in paragraph 2.7 of the report;
- (iv) Parishes be advised and supported as set out in Para 3 of the report; and
- (v) the amount and method of allocation be reviewed again for 2015/16 in consultation with parishes.

Explanation:

This report will clarify the level of funding available to Parish Councils for 2014/15 and beyond with respect to the Council Tax Support (CTS) Scheme Grant, and assist the Parish Councils in planning their budgets and precepts accordingly for the benefit of their residents.

Alternative Options Considered: None

Interests Declared: None

Implementation Date: 29 November 2013	Publication Date: 22 November 2013	Recorded by: Denise James
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Call-in Period Expires on: 29 November 2013	Contact Officers: Darienue Law
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