



St. Helens Council

To: Overview and Scrutiny Commission Circulation

Democratic Services

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Our Ref: TM/SA
Your Ref:

17 September 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

Overview and Scrutiny Commission – 23 September 2010

Please find attached the undermentioned Item 9, which was marked “To Follow” on the Agenda for the above meeting.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
9	Forward Plan of Key Decisions	1

Yours faithfully

Tina Molyneux
Senior Democratic Services Officer

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Overview and Scrutiny Commission
23 September 2010

Wards Affected
ALL

Forward Plan of Key Decisions

1. Purpose

The Forward Plan for the 4-month period 1 October 2010 to 31 January 2011 was published on 16 September 2010.

The Plan contains all the key decisions which the Cabinet expects to make over the next four months. The Plan is rolled forward every month. It will next be published on 15 October 2010, and will then contain all the key decisions for the next 4-month period, i.e. 1 November 2010 to 28 February 2011.

The constitutional definition of a key decision is

- Any decision of the Cabinet incurring expenditure or making savings in excess of 10% of the relevant portfolio or £250,000, whichever is the smaller unless
 - (i) the specific expenditure or saving has previously been agreed by full Council;
 - (ii) it is a decision taken in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy

OR

- Any decision of the Cabinet which, in the view of the Leader, will have a significant effect on a significant number of people living or working in two or more wards of the Authority.

For the avoidance of doubt, any decision approving proposals for the making or amendment of a plan or budget which requires the approval of full Council shall be treated as a key decision.

2. Proposals

There are a number of key decisions expected within areas which will be subject to the Panel's key policy / strategy reviews. A brief description of each is attached at Appendix 1 for the Commission to consider.

3. Recommendation

The Commission is recommended to consider the Forward Plan and identify any issues of particular relevance to be taken into account in its key policy / strategy reviews.

Cath Fogarty
Assistant Treasurer, Regulation and Compliance

The contact officer for this report is Miss T Molyneux, Chief Executive's Department, Town Hall, St Helens, WA10 1HP. Tel: Direct Line St. Helens 01744 673324.

Background Documents open to inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

Nil

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION

23 September 2010

FORWARD PLAN

For the 4-month period 1 October 2010 to 31 January 2011, published on 16 September 2010.

This Plan contains all the key decisions which the Cabinet expects to make over the next four months. The Plan is rolled forward every month. It will next be published on 15 October 2010, and will then contain all the key decisions for the next 4-month period, i.e. 1 November 2010 to 28 February 2011.

The definition of a key decision is set out in the Council's Constitution and again at the end of this Forward Plan.

The decision in respect of each key decision is published within five days of its having been made. This is open for inspection at the Town Hall, St Helens and on the Council's website www.sthelens.gov.uk

The Law and the Council's Constitution both provide for urgent key decisions to be made, even though they have not been included in a Forward Plan. These decisions will be published in exactly the same way.

Key Decision	Decision Taker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	How to make Representations to the Decision Taker	Documents to be considered by the Decision Taker	Comments
To approve the Publication Core Strategy for publication to enable the public to make representations and then submit to the Secretary of State for Examination	Council	January 2011	Consultation undertaken with key stakeholders, Council Officers, Chief Officers. Six week period for public to make representations.	Contact Bob Hepworth, Director of Urban Regeneration and Housing, Town Hall, Victoria Square, St Helens, WA10 1HP Tel: 01744 673205 bobchepworth@sthelens.gov.uk or Councillor Andy Bowden, Portfolio Holder – Urban Regeneration and Housing cllrabowden@sthelens.gov.uk	Core Strategy Publication Version (January 2010)	The Local Development Framework: Core Strategy has undergone public consultation at Issues and Options (August 2005), Preferred Options (November 2007), Publication (May 2009) and Amendments to Publication (March 2010) stages. However, the revocation of Regional Spatial Strategy, which together with our local planning documents formed the Development Plan for the borough, has led to a need to re-appraise and amend the Publication Core Strategy. We have been advised by the Planning Inspectorate that any more changes will require re-publication, in effect repeating the Publication stage reached in May 2009. Following this re-publication, the Core Strategy will be submitted the Plan to the Secretary of State for Examination. The Secretary of State will appoint a Planning Inspector to examine the soundness of the plan. Part of this process will include a public hearing session in August 2011. The Inspectors Report will be received by March 2012 and will then be reported back to Full Council for adoption.

DEFINITION OF A KEY DECISION

- Any decision of the Cabinet incurring expenditure or making savings in excess of 10% of the relevant portfolio or £250,000, whichever is the smaller, unless
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