

Date of committee: 14 March 2017
Date published (by email): 15 March 2017
Date of implementation: 23 March 2017

DECISIONS OF THE WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 14 MARCH 2017

The following decisions were made by the Executive Committee on 14 March 2017 and will come into force and may be implemented on 23 March 2017 unless the decision is called in for scrutiny.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a group of not less than four non-executive members (consisting of members from more than a single political group) may request the Chief Executive to 'call-in' a decision for scrutiny. The Chief Executive will be provided with a statement outlining the reasons for call-in when the request is made. The Leader of Council will also be notified of the call-in and the Chief Executive will determine a date for the meeting within 10 working days of the decision to call-in. The deadline for this request is **5pm on Wednesday 22 March 2017.**

The full call-in procedure is set out in the Constitution or for further information and advice please telephone Susan Carne on 01305 252216.

The full minutes of the Executive Committee held on 14 March 2017, including any recommendations to Council, will be submitted to the Council meeting on 4 April 2017.

The decisions set out within this document are divided into the following sections:

A Recommendations from scrutiny committees

B Executive Committee reports

5 SUPPORT FOR DORSET COUNTY MUSEUM'S 'TOMORROW'S MUSEUM FOR DORSET'

Decision

That the item be deferred and that a report with additional financial information be submitted to the next Executive Committee.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ALLOCATION OF DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN DORCHESTER

Decision

That the Committee agrees the recommendations of the member panel and that developer contributions collected in Dorchester be initially allocated as follows:

Project	Amount allocated
Maltings arts centre	£1 million
Great Field' Poundbury – new recreation facilities	£220,786
Shire Hall – educational and cultural facility	£84,000
Dorchester Rugby Club - clubhouse improvements	£150,000
Dorchester Town Football Club - artificial turf pitch	£252,000
Dorset County Museum – visual arts and performance area	£134,000
Dorchester Amateur Boxing Club – new club facilities	£25,000
Dorchester Town Council – climbing rock for Borough Gardens	£8,300
Total allocated:	£1,874,086

3. That the Committee agrees that the offers of funding as set out in recommendation 2 be limited to a 12-month period from the date of this committee meeting with the potential to extend the offer of funding for an additional 12-month period subject to a review by the Executive Committee of the progress made by each project against agreed targets.

4. That the Corporate Manager - Planning (Community and Policy Development) be given delegated authority to agree the terms of grant agreements in relation to the allocations set out in recommendation 2.
5. That the member panel be reconvened in September 2017 and February 2018 to monitor progress made by each of the projects in receipt of a grant and to make recommendations to the Executive Committee as to whether funding should be reallocated to alternative projects.

7 PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY ACCESS TO THE GRYPHON SPORTS CENTRE, SHERBORNE

Decision

- a) That the operation of the Gryphon Sports Centre service be transferred to The Gryphon School on 1st September 2017;
- b) That a one-off grant of £350,000 from the Corporate Projects Reserves be made to The Gryphon School on condition of both the transfer of the sports centre service to the school in accordance with the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) and the continuation of public access to the sports centre in accordance with The Gryphon School's specification for the service (appendix A);
- c) That the grant as set out in recommendation 2 (b) should also be conditional on The Gryphon School agreeing to an extension to the Joint Use Agreement for the Gryphon Sports Centre for a four-year period from August 2021 with the option to terminate the agreement at 12-months' notice by any party at any point after August 2021;
- d) That the Strategic Director and Section 151 Officer be given delegated authority to agree the terms of the revised Joint Use Agreement and the grant agreement.

8 RELEASE OF HOUSING RESERVES FUNDS FOR HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION INITIATIVES IN 2017-18

Decision

- (a) That the release of £50,000 from the West Dorset Housing Reserve to fund homelessness prevention work in 2017/18 be approved;
- (b) That delegated authority be given to the Head of Housing in consultation with the Housing Portfolio Holder to allocate the funds to appropriate prevention initiatives.

9 COUNCIL TAX DISCRETIONARY DISCOUNT

Decision

- (a) That the application for council tax discretionary discount at West Mills Road, Dorchester be rejected;

- (b) That the application for council tax discretionary discount at Harmshay, Marshwood be approved for the period up to 31st July 2017.

10 RATE RELIEF

Decision

- 1 That Committee agrees to use its powers under the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to award rates relief as follows:
 - I. That 50% discretionary rate relief be awarded to those ratepayers who are eligible to receive 50% mandatory rural rate relief from 1 April 2017
 - II. That relief of up to a maximum of £1,500 a year, be awarded from 1 April 2017 for 2 years to office space occupied by local newspapers. The relief is to be awarded as follows:
 - That a maximum of one discount be awarded per local newspaper title and per hereditament, for two years from 1 April 2017 (subject to state aid limits)
 - That the hereditament must be occupied by a local newspaper and wholly or mainly used as office premises for journalists and reporters
 - For the purpose of awarding the discount, the definition of “local newspaper” be considered to be a “traditional local newspaper” and that relief will not be available to magazines.