

Record of Cabinet decisions

Tuesday, 17 August 2010

3.00pm to 3.06pm

Date of publication: 18 August 2010

Subject to call-in these decisions will be effective from 26 August 2010

Present:	Councillor Rodney Chambers	Leader of the Council
	Councillor Jane Chitty	Portfolio Holder for Strategic Development and Economic Growth
	Councillor Howard Doe	Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Services
	Councillor Phil Filmer	Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services
	Councillor Tom Mason	Portfolio Holder for Adult Services
	Councillor Mike O'Brien	Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Enforcement
	Councillor Les Wicks	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services
	Councillor David Wildey	Portfolio Holder for Children's Social Care

In Attendance: Neil Davies, Chief Executive
Robin Cooper, Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture
Rose Collinson, Director of Children and Adults
Mick Hayward, Chief Finance Officer
Wayne Hemingway, Cabinet Coordinator
Richard Hicks, Assistant Director, Customer First, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance
Anthony Law, Acting Head of Democratic Services
Deborah Upton, Assistant Director, Housing and Corporate Services

Leader's Announcement

The Leader referred to Cabinet's decision on 8 June 2010 to defer consideration of the new petitions scheme, whilst clarity was sought on the Government's future intentions for the duty for Councils to establish a scheme for handling petitions. He advised that he had received a letter from Eric Pickles MP (Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government), which stated that the Government was still considering the full set of priorities under the Big Society agenda and until then the Council would not receive a definitive answer on the future of the new petitions scheme.

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The Leader stated, therefore, that until such clarity was provided in line with decision no. 67/2010, the Council's existing petitions scheme would continue as normal.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Janice Bamber (Customer First and Corporate Services) and Jarrett (Finance).

Record of decisions

The record of the meeting held on 20 July 2010 was agreed and signed by the Leader as correct.

The Leader reported that with regards to the Future of Strood Environmental Enhancement Scheme, Cabinet decision no. 103/2010 should have referred to the Temple Street car park rather than Commercial Road car park.

Declarations of interest

There were none.

Rochester Riverside Phase 1 Development

This report provided details of a decision made by the Leader, using his urgency powers, to enable the Council to extend the exclusivity agreement with Crest Nicholson until 24 September 2010 for the entirety of Phase 1 of Rochester Riverside.

In addition, the report set out a proposal to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to make any further changes to the exclusivity agreement with Crest Nicholson, until 17 December 2010.

Decision number: ***Decision:***

	The Cabinet noted the use of the Leader's urgency powers to extend the nine month Exclusivity Agreement to 24 September 2010 with Crest Nicholson for the entirety of Phase 1 of Rochester Riverside.
118/2010	The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to make any further changes to the Exclusivity Agreement with Crest Nicholson, as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report, until 17 December 2010.

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Reasons:

The use of the Leader's urgency powers and the delegation to the Chief Executive means that the opportunity for development activity at Rochester Riverside with the Council's preferred developer is retained and that momentum is maintained on this flagship regeneration project.

Recruitment Freeze

This report presented information on vacancies that officers had requested approval to commence recruitment for, following the process agreed by Cabinet on 7 January 2003 (decision number 9/2003).

Appendix 1 to the report provided details of the posts and included supporting Portfolio Holder comments.

Decision number:

Decision:

119/2010

The Cabinet agreed to unfreeze the following posts, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, to enable officers to commence the recruitment process:

Business Support

- a) Political Assistant to Labour Group
- b) Lawyer – Adult and Children's Services
- c) Register Compiler X 2

Regeneration, Community and Culture

- d) Receptionist
- e) Receptionist/Administrator
- f) Receptionist/IT Administrator.

Reasons:

The posts presented to Cabinet support the efficient running of the Council.

Gateway 4 Contract Review: Corporate Building, Window and Public Toilet Cleaning Contract

This report set out a review of the corporate building, window and public toilet cleaning contract. Two companies had been contracted to provide corporate cleaning services from August 2009 for an initial period of three years. The report set

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out a detailed analysis of the contractors' performance to date together with the lessons learned during this period.

It was noted that the Procurement Board had considered this report on 21 July 2010 and additional information, as requested by the Procurement Board, in relation to costs was set out in an exempt appendix.

Decision number: **Decision:**

The Cabinet noted the report and that the contract will continue to the end of its full term on 17 August 2012.

Reasons:

The continuation of the contract will ensure all contracted sites are maintained at standard of expectation required by both internal and external stakeholders (Council and general public).

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Leader of the Council

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Date

Wayne Hemingway/Anthony Law, Cabinet Coordinators

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