



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Executive Meeting

AGENDA

No 2 Committee Room
Town Hall
Stockport

Meeting: Monday, 12 July, 2010
Tea: 5.00 pm
Business: 6.00 pm

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 June, 2010.
(Enclosed)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and officers to declare any interests which they may have in any of the items on the agenda for this meeting.

3. URGENT DECISIONS

To report any urgent action taken under the Constitution.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public are invited to put questions to the Chair and Executive Councillors on any matters within the powers and duties of the Executive, subject to the exclusions set out in the Code of Practice. (Questions must be submitted no later than 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting on the card provided. These are available at the meeting and at local libraries and information centres. You may also submit your question by e mail to democratic.services@stockport.gov.uk).

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PUBLIC INTEREST TEST

To consider whether it is in the public interest to exclude the public during the consideration of items (if any) included on the agenda which are 'not for publication'.

Key Decisions

6. CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE 4 (2) DIRECTIONS IN ALEXANDRA PARK, EDGELEY; CALE GREEN; COMPSTALL; MARPLE BRIDGE; MELLOR/MOOREND; STATION ROAD/WINNINGTON ROAD, MARPLE CONSERVATION AREAS (RGN 179)

Report of the Executive Councillor (Regeneration)

(Enclosed)

7. TO CONSIDER ANY POLICY FRAMEWORK BUSINESS WHICH NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

General Items

8. REDUCTION IN GOVERNMENT GRANTS FOR 2010/11

Report of the Executive Councillor (Finance)

(Enclosed)

9. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Report of the Leader of the Council

(Enclosed)

10. TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES ON:-

- (a) Matters (if any) referred to the Executive Meeting
- (b) Any called-in Executive Decisions

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যদি এই খবরগুলি সম্পর্কে আপনার কোন সাহায্য দরকার হয় তবে বিনা খরচে আপনার জন্য দোভাষীর ব্যবস্থা করা হতে পারে। মেহেরবানী করে স্টকপোর্ট ইন্টারপ্রিটিং ইউনিটে ফোন করুন টেলিফোন নম্বর, 0161 477 9000.

اگر آپ کو ان معلومات کے بارے میں مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو مفت ترجمانی کی سروس دستیاب ہے۔ براہ مہربانی انٹرپرائٹنگ یونٹ کو 0161 477 9000 پر فون کریں۔

خدمات ترجمہ رایگان این اطلاعات در صورت نیاز موجود میباشد. لطفا با شماره تلفن 0161 477 9000 با واحد ترجمہ (اینترپرائٹنگ یونیت) ما تماس بگیرید.

تنوفر خدمت ترجمہ شفویة اذا تطلبت مساعدة في فهم هذا المعلومات. نرجو الاتصال اربن رینیول علی رقم الهاتف: 0161 477 9000

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Meeting: 14 June, 2010

At: 6.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillor Dave Goddard (Leader of the Council (Chair)) in the Chair; Councillor Sue Derbyshire (Deputy Leader of the Council and (Finance)) (Vice Chair); Councillors Stuart Bodsworth (Environment), Martin Candler (Customer Focus), Helen Foster-Grime (Communities), Kevin Hogg (Regeneration), John Pantall (Adults & Health), John Smith (Leisure); Mark Weldon (Children & Young People) and David White (Transportation).

1. MINUTES

The Minutes (copies of which had been circulated) of the meeting held on 19 May, 2010 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors and officers were invited to declare any interests which they had in any of the items on the agenda.

The following interest was declared:-

Personal Interest

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Interest</u>
Martin Candler	Agenda Item 11 'Secondary School Re-organisation in Stockport (Minute 10) as a Governor at Marple Hall School.

3. URGENT DECISIONS

No urgent decisions were reported.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Three questions had been received prior to the meeting from questioners who were not present at the meeting and in accordance with the procedure for asking questions it was stated that written responses would be provided.

Ten questions were asked in connection with Item 11 on the agenda on 'Secondary School Re-organisation in Stockport':-

The first question asked for a guarantee that teachers would stay at Offerton School until her daughter had completed her GCSEs in 2012. If not, could a guarantee be

given that suitable replacements would be employed long term rather than different teachers each week.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that it was not possible to restrict the movement of teachers from the school. The Council would prioritise the education of pupils at the school and work with neighbouring schools to ensure continuity of provision.

The second question asked whether a parent's child would be safe in a school environment described as 'beyond economical repair' for the next two years and, if not, could she be provided with a place at an alternative school.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that health and safety considerations were the highest priority when consideration was given to the deployment of available resources in schools.

The third question related to the proposals to remove the poorest accommodation from Marple Hall and Werneth Schools which would lower their intake of students. Although the figures for schools' capacity shows that there should be enough spaces for children in the east of the borough, the action to remove the poorest accommodation would take the spaces available below the number of spaces required.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that the Council would not remove more places from Werneth and Marple Schools than was necessary to accommodate any pupils from Offerton School who wanted to attend those schools. There were 2,000 spare places in schools in the east of the borough in 2014 so there would be room for pupils from Offerton.

The fourth question asked for a guarantee on the quality of education in the remaining time left at Offerton School, the provisions being made to re-school the remaining students at Offerton School, whether there should be an intake for Offerton School this September and the chances of the school staying open.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that the local authority would work alongside the school to protect the quality of education in the school. There was space in other schools to take pupils from Offerton. Although the admission limit needed to be raised in some cases, the net capacity was there. No decision had yet been taken to close the school. It was proposed that a public consultation exercise would be carried out with regard to the possible closure, as was required by the statutory procedure.

The fifth question referred to the average class size in other schools. The questioner asked for a guarantee that teachers would maintain standards at Offerton School for the next two years and that a meeting be held for concerned parents.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that any school could advise interested parents of the average class size in their school/year group. The teachers at Offerton School would be professional in their approach to the job and there would be meetings organised during the consultation period for parents to give their views.

The sixth question asked for a guarantee that a parent's daughter who would start Year 11 in September would receive the quality and stability of teachers to keep the same standard of education that she was used to.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that the plan was that there would be a full staff complement during next year when the school would have all five year groups in the school. Teachers often moved schools during their careers so the local authority was not in a position to guarantee stability of staffing, but it would work hard to ensure that the quality of teaching for pupils was maintained.

The seventh question asked when it was proposed that Offerton School would be closed, whether the building and staff would be maintained up to the closure, how many places were available for each year at the other schools, whether parents would have to apply for places, whether siblings would be kept at the same school and whether the work would be completed in the other schools in time to accommodate the children from Offerton School.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that the proposed closure of the school was subject to public consultation. If the final decision was for closure, this would not occur before July 2012. The building would be maintained up until closure and the education of pupils safeguarded, Parents would have to apply for places at other schools in the standard way (a 'hotline' telephone number was available) and the same admissions criteria regarding siblings would apply as with any application to a school. Every attempt would be made to try and ensure that siblings attended the same school.

The eighth question asked in the light of the proposed closure, what the Council intended to use the land for.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that no decision had yet been taken on the future use of the land as it had not yet been decided whether or not the school would close.

The ninth question asked that, as the report offered little detail of any plans as to what would happen to students of Offerton School after any closure decision, if consideration of the report could be postponed until the autumn so proposals on how students would be dealt with could be included in the report to assist parents in the consultation process.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that the plan was the outcome of discussions with Headteachers and Officers over the past eighteen months. The report was not intended to offer a plan for implementation, it requested permission to consult on the proposed closure based on the known difficulties surrounding the school in terms of its future viability. The proposed closure of the school, scheduled for July 2012, offered ample time to consider in detail with the other secondary schools in the Borough the best way of meeting the educational needs of the pupils of Offerton and the most appropriate phasing of any closure. He would not be recommending that consideration of the report be postponed until the autumn.

The tenth question asked what active steps the Executive would be taking to ensure that any stakeholder group who may wish to offer alternative strategies were assisted in preparing submissions.

The Executive Councillor (Children and Young People) advised that Council Officers would engage in any constructive discussion about meeting the needs of the pupils of Offerton and would advise the Executive of suggestions made during the consultation process.

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PUBLIC INTEREST TEST

No 'not for publication' items were included on the agenda.

Key Decisions

6. AMALGAMATION OF ST JOSEPH'S RC INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS, REDDISH (CYP31)

The Executive Councillor (Children & Young People) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) inviting the Executive Meeting to consider a proposal for St Joseph's RC Infant and Junior Schools to become a single primary school for children aged 3 to 11.

Following a formal consultation exercise undertaken with staff, governors, parents, pupils and a wide range of interested parties, the two governing bodies had agreed to proceed to the next stage to becoming a single primary school. The proposals had the support of the Diocese of Salford.

RESOLVED - (1) That approval be given to the publication of statutory proposals to close both St Joseph's RC Infant and Junior Schools, Reddish, with effect from 31 December 2010, linked to a statutory proposal by the Diocese of Salford to establish a new primary school in their place with effect from 1 January 2011, subject to approval from the Secretary of State for Education to establish the new school with exemption from competition.

(2) That the Corporate Director, Children & Young People, in consultation with the Executive Councillor (Children & Young People) be authorised to take any necessary further action or decisions subject to there being no significant objections during the representation period following the publication of the statutory proposals.

7. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT REVIEW

The Executive Councillor (Regeneration) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) seeking the approval of the Executive to present the Local Development Framework – Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for adoption by the Council Meeting. The SCI had been updated so that it was consistent with new legislation.

RESOLVED – That the Council Meeting be recommended to adopt the Local Development Framework – Statement of Community Involvement.

8. POLICY STATEMENT – CONTRACT PARKING PERMITS

The Executive Councillor (Transportation) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing a policy statement for the contract parking permit process. The process aimed to provide a transparent, fair, contract permit system that reflected the pay and display parking costs to the cost of a permit and continued to give a significant discount which took into account the needs and benefits of the customer, and supported the regeneration and transportation policies of the Council.

RESOLVED – (1) That the policy statement for Contract Parking Permits be adopted.

(2) That the use of the proposed permit price calculation formula be accepted.

(3) That the proposed discounts of 30% for a twelve months' permit and 20% for a six and three months' permit be introduced using the proposed incremental introduction process outlined in the report.

(4) That a one year trial of the three day permits (Monday- Wednesday and Wednesday-Friday) be introduced.

(5) That the improvement in publishing the way in which permits are priced be carried out.

(6) That the Corporate Director, Communities, Regeneration and Environment, in consultation with the Executive Councillor (Transportation) be authorised to negotiate contract parking where it is part of a package of measures used to encourage inward investment to the Borough.

(7) That the proposed changes be advertised and the charges implemented immediately thereafter.

General Items

9. SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT – THE TRANSFORMATION OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND INTRODUCTION OF PERSONALISED BUDGETS - FINAL REPORT OF THE ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE.

The Lead Councillor (Councillor Susan Ingham) of the Scrutiny Review Panel attended the meeting to present the final report of the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee's review which had been undertaken into Self Directed Support - The Transformation of Adult Social Care and Introduction of Personalised Budgets.

RESOLVED - (1) That the Corporate Director, Adults & Health be requested to prepare within eight weeks, a response to the review for presentation to the Executive Meeting by the Executive Councillor (Adults & Health).

(2) That gratitude be recorded for the work undertaken by the Scrutiny Review Panel examining Self Directed Support: The Transformation of Adult Social Care and the Introduction of Personalised Budgets for their excellent work.

10. SECONDARY SCHOOL RE-ORGANISATION IN STOCKPORT

The Executive Councillor (Children & Young People) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) in connection with the organisation of secondary schools in Stockport, particularly in the east of the borough. It centred around proposals to:-

- Modify provision at Marple Hall School, whilst removing further excessive capacity.
- Remove excessive capacity at Werneth High School.
- Modify provision at Stockport School to reinstate capacity.
- Undertake public consultation on the proposed closure of Offerton School.

It was reported that Stockport's secondary schools faced significant challenges in terms of the quality and suitability of their accommodation and excessive surplus places, which would increase from 16% to 23% between 2010/11 and 2014/15. The reduced number of students would mean that funding levels would decrease and this would have an adverse effect on the schools' viability and would limit their ability to make improvements to the quality of outcomes for young people and to expand the services they offered to their communities.

RESOLVED – (1) That the general direction of the secondary strategy be noted and supported.

(2) That approval be given to public consultation being undertaken on the proposal to close Offerton School.

(3) That approval be given to the ring fencing of capital receipts from the proposed closure of Offerton School as the core funding for investment in secondary schools.

11. REVENUE OUTTURN 2009/10

The Executive Councillor (Finance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out the 2009/10 outturn position on the Council's revenue account.

It was reported that before any additional transfers, there was an overall surplus of £1.994m. The net cash limit surplus of £0.071m largely arose within the Communities Portfolio, offset by a deficit within the Transportation Portfolio arising from winter maintenance pressures. The cash limit positions at outturn took into account amounts appropriated into portfolio reserves to deal with 2010/11 budget pressures and spending plans. There was a non-cash limit surplus of £1,923m which was largely the result of a substantial VAT rebate, along with surpluses from Treasury Management activities and Housing Benefit subsidy.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That approval be given to -

- the treatment of portfolio cash limit surpluses and deficits, as set out in Section 3 of the report;
- the treatment of the non cash limit surplus as set out in Section 4 of the report;
- the appropriations to or from general fund balances and earmarked reserves as set out in Section 8 of the report, including the establishment of a new Medium Term Financial Strategy Reserve worth £1.041m; and
- the Corporate Director, Business Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor (Finance) being authorised to make any amendments to the outturn, reserves and/or balances position arising from the finalisation of the 2009/10 Statement of Accounts subject to any further amendments being reported to the Executive at the earliest opportunity.

12. CAPITAL OUTTURN 2009/10

The Executive Councillor (Finance) submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) updating the Executive with regard to progress in achieving the outputs and outcomes of the 2009/10 Capital Programme and seeking approval for amendments to the three year programme to reflect changes in available funding and expenditure profiles of schemes.

It was reported that the Quarter Four Capital Programme for 2009/10 was £94.911m and the outturn for the year was £90.788m. The variation of £4.123m was largely associated with schemes within the Children and Young People and Finance Portfolios. £2.830m of the unused resources would be carried forward and expenditure re-phased within the three year programme. Most of the remaining balance was within the Children and Young People's Portfolio and these schemes were in the process of being reviewed.

RESOLVED – (1) That the changes to the Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix One to the report, be approved.

(2) That the resourcing of the Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix Two to the report, be approved.

(3) That the progress on capital schemes, as set out in Appendix Three to the report, be noted.

(4) That the Prudential Indicators, as set out in Appendix Four to the report, be noted.

(5) That the Corporate Director, Business Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor (Finance) be authorised to make any final changes to the capital outturn, resourcing and prudential indicators.

13. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT OUTTURN 2009/10

The Executive Councillor (Finance) submitted a joint report (copies of which had been circulated) of the Executive Councillors (Finance) and (Communities) providing details of the outturn position for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) in 2009/10. The outturn position showed an operational surplus of £0.541m against the budgeted surplus of £0.118m, a favourable variation of £0.423m.

It was reported that as at 31 March 2010, HRA balances (excluding those arising from water charges) amounted to £1.235m, this being £0.570m higher than that deemed necessary by the Corporate Director, Business Services to support the 2010/11 HRA budget. The report proposed that these surplus balances should be retained and carried forward in to 2010/11 whilst the Council awaited the results of the current consultation on the future of the Council Housing finance system.

RESOLVED - (1) That the 2009/10 HRA outturn position be noted.

(2) That the treatment of balances, as set out in paragraph 2.7 of the report, be approved.

14. 'PROSPECTUS FOR COUNCIL HOUSING: A REAL FUTURE' – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION

The Executive Councillor (Communities) submitted a joint report (copies of which had been circulated) of the Executive Councillors (Communities) and (Finance) providing details and analysis of the prospectus for Council Housing which had been issued for consultation in March 2010 by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The prospectus outlined the dismantling of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) subsidy system and the introduction of a system of self financing from April 2011 on a voluntary basis.

RESOLVED - (1) That the issues contained within the report be noted.

(2) That the subsidy review 'offer' outlined in the report be accepted.

(3) That the Corporate Director, Business Services and Service Director (Regeneration) in consultation with the Executive Councillors (Communities) and (Finance) be authorised to submit the final response to the consultation offer.

15. DUTY TO RESPOND TO PETITIONS

With the agreement of the Executive, this item was withdrawn.

16. OFFERTON PARK PARISH COUNCIL – COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW (See Minute 10 of 19 May 2010)

The Leader of the Council submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) setting out draft terms of reference for a Community Governance Review in respect of the Offerton Park Parish Council, which included options for the consultation exercise to be undertaken within the parish. The report also set out a proposed timetable for the review in order to ensure that any final decisions following the review could be in place for the local elections in May 2011.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the terms of reference and proposed timetable appended to the report be commended to the Council Meeting for approval.

(3) That the Council Meeting be requested to establish a Community Governance Review Committee (for the period of the Review) based on the political balance of the Council in order to progress the decision of the Council that the Offerton Park Parish be reviewed under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

(4) That the recommendations of the review be reported back to the Council Meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.02 pm.

STOCKPORT COUNCIL**REPORT TO EXECUTIVE MEETING – SUMMARY SHEET**

Subject: CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE 4(2) DIRECTIONS IN ALEXANDRA PARK, EDGELEY; CALE GREEN; COMPSTALL; MARPLE BRIDGE; MELLOR / MOOREND; STATION ROAD / WINNINGTON ROAD, MARPLE CONSERVATION AREAS

Report to Executive Meeting

Date: 12 July 2010

Report of: (a) Executive Councillor (Regeneration)

Key Decision: (b) **NO**

Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)

Summary:

The attached report of the Service Director (Regeneration), Communities Regeneration & Environment Directorate, summarises representations received from the public in response to the introduction of Article 4(2) Directions in specified conservation areas. It follows previous decisions by the Executive to authorise the Corporate Director of Environment and Economy in consultation with the Executive Councillor (Regeneration) to approve, where appropriate, the making of future Article 4(2) Directions in accordance with Article 4(2) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, in order to provide further protection to their special character and appearance. Confirmation of Directions is recommended for Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; and Station Road/Winnington Road, Marple Conservation Areas with confirmation of a Direction at Mellor/Moorend Conservation Area deferred pending further consideration and discussion.

Comments/Views of the Executive Councillor: (c)

I agree with the confirmation of the Article 4 (2) Directions in Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; and Station Road/ Winnington Road, Marple Conservation Areas and for further consideration to be given to the confirmation of the Mellor/Moorend Direction. The introduction of Article 4 (2) Directions is consistent with the Conservation & Heritage Strategy and is necessary to protect the special character and appearance of conservation areas in the wider public interest. I am also pleased that the outcome of the public consultation exercise has been documented and the views, concerns and comments of those affected have been acknowledged.

Recommendation(s) of Executive Councillor: (d)

I recommend that the Executive approves the confirmation of Directions in Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; and Station Road/ Winnington Road, Marple Conservation Areas in accordance with Article 4(2) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 and defers confirmation of the Article 4 (2) Direction for Mellor/Moorend Conservation Area pending further consideration and discussion with local members, residents and appropriate conservation/community organisations, and a further report be brought back before the executive in due course.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): (e)

Background Papers (if report for publication): *(f)*

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Paul Hartley
Tel: Ext 4563

'Urgent Business': *(g)* ***NO (please circle)***

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/Corporate Director - Business Services for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on _____ /will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

Meeting: 12 July 2010

EXECUTIVE

CONSIDERATION OF ARTICLE 4(2) DIRECTIONS IN ALEXANDRA PARK, EDGELEY; CALE GREEN; COMPSTALL; MARPLE BRIDGE; MELLOR / MOOREND; STATION ROAD / WINNINGTON ROAD, MARPLE CONSERVATION AREAS

Report of the Service Director (Regeneration), Communities, Regeneration & Environment Directorate

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

1. To consider the confirmation of existing Article 4(2) Directions in the following conservation areas : Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; Mellor/Moorend; Station Road / Winnington Road, Marple.

BACKGROUND

2. At its meetings on 13th March 2006, 30th October 2006 and 29th March 2007 the Executive resolved to designate 4 new conservation areas together with the review of a further 17 existing conservation areas as part of the 2005/06 and 2006/07 phases of a Borough-wide Conservation Area Review. Furthermore the Executive authorised the Corporate Director of Environment and Economy in consultation with the Executive Councillor (Regeneration) to approve, where appropriate, the making of a future Article 4(2) Direction with respect to the Conservation Areas in accordance with Article 4(2) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, in order to provide further protection to their special character and appearance.
3. Following the preparation of detailed character appraisals and management plans, Article 4(2) Directions have been made in respect of the following conservation areas: Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; Mellor/Moorend; and Station Road/Winnington Road, Marple. They are all subject to a statutory consultation period.
4. The purpose of this report is to summarise the representations received from the public in response to the Article 4(2) Directions and to make a recommendation regarding the confirmation of the Directions.

INFORMATION

5. Article 4(2) Directions were made on 8th April 2010. Representations have been received and these must be taken into account before the Directions can be confirmed. The Directions need to be confirmed, if at all, before six months expires from the date of the Directions being published and served on occupiers.

6. The Article 4(2) Directions apply only to dwelling houses within the six Conservation Areas and their effect is to withdraw permitted development rights for works which front a 'relevant location' (defined as a highway, public open space or waterway). This means that planning permission is required for extensions and alterations, changes to the roof, construction of a porch any other building in the curtilage, the provision of a hard surface; the removal or erection of a fence, gate, or any other means of enclosure; the replacement of windows, doors and painting or rendering of an external wall. There are no fees for applications required as a result of a Direction being in place.
7. The Article 4(2) Directions help in supporting the Council's duty to 'preserve and enhance' the character of the Conservation Area as required by Section 71 of the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Area) Act 1990. They are particularly appropriate where an appraisal of the area's special architectural and historic interest establishes the importance of special features which require special protection.
8. The Council must take representations into account in deciding whether to confirm the Directions. The Secretary of State advises authorities to pay particular attention to the views of occupiers and owners in the area covered by the direction.

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIONS

9. The representations received can be summarised as follows :
 - (i) ALEXANDRA PARK, EDGELEY : of 392 properties affected by the Direction, no representations were received
 - (ii) CALE GREEN : of 261 properties affected by the Direction, 1 representation was received (in support)
 - (iii) COMPSTALL : of 151 properties affected by the Direction, 1 representation was received (in support)
 - (iv) MARPLE BRIDGE : of 167 properties affected by the Direction, 1 representation was received (in support)
 - (v) MELLOR/MOOREND : of 134 properties affected by the Direction, representations were received from 30 households (29 objections and 1 in support)
Objections were received from 11, 24, 26, 30, 34, 35, 38, 51, 55, 56, 57, 60, 68, 72, 74, 81, 97, 115 Moor End Road; Church House, Moor End Road; 6, 10, 11, 12, 27 Church Road; Lower Hall, Glebe Cottage, Mellor Hall and Mellor Hall Bungalow, Church Road; 9 Gibb Lane
 - (vi) STATION ROAD/WINNINGTON ROAD, MARPLE : of 90 properties affected by the Direction, no representations were received
10. The only area in which representations were received objecting to the Direction was Mellor/Moorend. The grounds of objection can be summarised as follows :
 - that additional controls are unnecessary and that there should be no restriction of homeowner's permitted development rights
 - that little significant change has occurred in the area to suggest that increased levels of control are required

- the level of alterations already undertaken means that the additional controls are too late
- the financial implications of increasing the workload to the planning service and the costs incurred by residents in submitting planning applications
- time delays resulting from awaiting permission to carry out works
- a potential negative impact on property values resulting from increased planning controls
- that there has been inadequate public consultation and insufficient time to respond
- that a proposal to introduce a Direction in 1997 was comprehensively rejected by residents
- the Council has not justified the need for the Direction and there should be a plan of preservation and enhancement prior to any changes in planning control

11. In addition a number of comments are made stating that that residents should be able to prune, remove/replace trees as necessary; that residents are more than capable of self governing and have done so effectively for many years; and concerns are raised over the visual impact of coloured litter bins, inappropriate highway maintenance and the poor condition of roads/footways.

DISCUSSION

12. There are a total of 37 Conservation Areas of special architectural or historic interest within the Borough. The areas were designated with the express purpose of preserving or enhancing their special character or appearance. Designation entails recognition of the significance of an area – that which gives it its special character – and then giving consideration to managing its future. Designation is not intended to prevent all change or adaptation but rather to make sure that any alterations which may impact upon its special character are carefully considered.
13. Article 4(2) directions are well-established means by which local planning authorities are able to manage change in conservation areas that otherwise would be harmful to their special character. The most significant threat to the character of conservation areas often comes from the simple loss of historic building details such as traditional windows and doors, boundary walls and roof coverings. Without the Direction householders could continue to carry out alterations to the parts of buildings that are open to public view irrespective of whether they are in keeping with the character and appearance of the conservation area. The control which the Direction gives to the Council in determining planning applications for this work is an important tool in ensuring that the character and appearance of the conservation areas is not prejudiced by unsympathetic works. The fact that uncontrolled work has already been carried out is not a sufficient reason to forgo control in future. The main consideration is to ensure that future work preserves or enhances the conservation areas, this can only be achieved through the exercise of planning powers.
14. In practice, Article 4(2) Directions do not involve increased resources or a huge increase in planning applications. Clear, concise controls backed up by guidance encourage owners to undertake sympathetic repair or replacement in matching

materials, which does not require planning permission. Where an application is required, there is no fee required as a result of a Direction being in place.

15. Extensive public consultation exercise was carried out in all of the Conservation Areas covered in this report prior to the making of the Direction to elicit the views of the public on designation or extension of boundaries and the introduction of a future Article 4(2) Direction. The consultation process involved letters being sent to all property owners and occupiers within the conservation area; public meetings and exhibitions; consultation with local community and voluntary groups; the issuing of a press release; and establishing publicly accessible web pages to help those who could not attend the meeting or exhibition to make their views known. Strong levels of public support were received in all cases and the results were reported to the Executive and published in a character appraisal and management plan.
16. The Directions were developed following an exhaustive process of survey, analysis and review and are considered to represent an appropriate balance between the public benefits of conservation area protection and respecting private interests represented by householders' permitted development rights.
17. The low number of representations received from householders to the introduction of the Article 4(2) Directions in Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; and Station Road/Winnington Road, Marple Conservation Areas provides further indication of the strong levels of public support recorded at earlier stages of the review process. The approved character appraisals and management plans identify the particular importance of distinctive building styles, architectural detailing, traditional materials, common boundary treatments and plot layouts to the special character of the conservation areas. There is firm evidence to suggest that permitted development that could damage the special character or appearance of the conservation area is likely to take place, and should therefore be brought within full planning control in the public interest through the confirmation of the Article 4(2) Directions.
18. The number of representations recorded at Mellor/Moorend Conservation Area following the introduction of the Article 4 (2) Direction indicates some public concerns warranting some further investigation, consideration and discussion prior to the completion of the statutory consultation period

RECOMMENDATION

- (i) That Article 4(2) Directions are confirmed for Alexandra Park, Edgeley; Cale Green; Compstall; Marple Bridge; Station Road / Winnington Road, Marple Conservation Areas
- (ii) That a decision to confirm the Article 4(2) Direction for Mellor/Moorend Conservation Area is deferred pending further consideration and discussion with local members, residents and appropriate conservation/community organisations, and a further report be brought back before the executive in due course.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Conservation Character Appraisals and Management Plans for each Conservation Area are available at : www.stockport.gov.uk/historicareas and selecting the Conservation Areas links

English Heritage Heritage at Risk Conservation Areas 2009 :
http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/Conservation_Areas_at_Risk/caar-booklet-acc.pdf/

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Paul Hartley on telephone number 0161 474 4563 or alternatively email paul.hartley@stockport.gov.uk

STOCKPORT COUNCIL**REPORT TO EXECUTIVE MEETING – SUMMARY SHEET****Subject: Reductions in Government Grants for 2010/11****Report to Executive Meeting****Date: 12 July 2010****Report of: (a) Executive Councillor (Finance)****Key Decision: (b) NO / ~~YES~~ (Please circle)**Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)**Summary:**

On 10 June 2010, Communities and Local Government (CLG) informed local authorities of the detail of the reductions to individual grant allocations for 2010/11. This announcement identified how local government will be making its contribution of £1.166bn to the overall cross government savings total of £6.2bn during the current financial year

The attached report details the reductions in grants payable to the Council during the current year, in total some £6.56m. The consequences of these grant reductions are that the Council's revenue budget and capital programme for 2010/11 require amending to balance planned expenditure with available resources. In addition, the Stockport Partnership's programme of PRG funded activities will also need to be revised. The purpose of the report is to explain how the grant reductions impact upon the Council and to ask the Executive to make the necessary adjustments to the revenue budget and capital programme.

Comments/Views of the Executive Councillor: (c)

While not wholly unexpected, the reduction of revenue and capital grants in the current year does provide a challenge for the Authority. The Executive will be reviewing a series of options in order to determine how best to make the necessary adjustments to the budget and capital programme, minimising the impact on service levels while preserving the overall financial standing of the Council. Discussions will also be held with partners to agree revisions to the PRG funded programme of activities.

Recommendation(s) of Executive Councillor: (d)

The Executive is recommended to;

- i. Note the reductions in revenue and capital grants for 2010/11;
- ii. Make the necessary amendments to the Council's revenue budget and capital programme for 2011/12 (and to the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2011/12 onwards as deemed appropriate); and
- iii. Endorse the revisions to the PRG funded programme agreed by the Partnership Board (to be made available at of before the Executive meeting)

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(e)**

All, in particular Corporate Resource Management and Governance

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Background Papers (if report for publication): **(f)**

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report

Officer: Steve Houston
Tel: Extn 4000

'Urgent Business': (g) ~~YES~~ / **NO (please circle)**

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The written consent of Councillor _____ and the Chief Executive/Monitoring Officer/Corporate Director - Business Services for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' was obtained on _____/will be obtained before the decision is implemented.

Reductions in Government Grants for 2010/11

Report of the Corporate Director, Business Services

1. Introduction and Purpose of Report

- 1.1 On 10 June 2010, Communities and Local Government (CLG) informed local authorities of the detail of the reductions to individual grant allocations for 2010/11. This announcement identified how local government will be making its contribution of £1.166bn to the overall cross government savings total of £6.2bn during the current financial year.
- 1.2 For Stockport this means reductions of grant monies in the following areas
- Revenue – Area Based Grant (ABG) of **£1.69m**, of which £1.49m relates to CYP funding
 - Revenue – 16-19 staff transfer (via Bury) of **£0.06m**
 - Revenue – Local Authority Business Growth Incentives (LABGI) of **£0.3m**
 - Revenue – Housing and Planning Delivery Grant of **£0.12m**
 - Capital – Integrated Transport Block (ITB) grant of **£1.13m***
 - Local Area Agreement (LAA) Performance Reward Grant (PRG) of **£3.26m** (50:50 Revenue/Capital)

In total, the reductions in grant funding for 2010/11 amount to **£6.56m** (revenue £3.80m and capital £2.76m)

(*Note - there may be a further reduction of £0.360m depending upon the treatment of the Greater Manchester fixed top slice)

- 1.3 Accompanying the reductions is the removal of ring fences from some revenue and capital grants. In addition, there are other reductions in spending by CLG and Department for Education (DfE) which may have implications for local authorities (e.g. Regional Development Agencies (RDAs))
- 1.4 The consequences of these grant reductions are that the Council's revenue budget and capital programme for 2010/11 require amending to balance planned expenditure with available resources. In addition, the Stockport Partnership's programme of PRG funded activities will also need to be revised. The purpose of this report is to explain how the grant reductions impact upon the Council and to ask the Executive to make the necessary adjustments to the revenue budget and capital programme.

2. Overview of Announcement

2.1 From the Government's perspective the key features of the action being taken include:

- no local authority will face reductions in revenue grant of more than 2%
- 'shielding the frontline has underpinned decisions on where savings can be found'
- 'government is reducing the management burden of authorities and giving councils the extra flexibility they need to concentrate on local priorities and protect the frontline'
- revenue and capital non-schools ring fencing will reduce this year from 10.7% to 7.7%
- 'councils have been given the flexibility they need to determine where they make savings'
- 'we are clear that no extra burden must fall on local taxpayers. We are committed to freezing council tax in England for at least one year, and seek to freeze it for a further year in partnership with local authorities'
- 'it is for local authorities to decide where their priorities and opportunities for efficiencies lie across the totality of their responsibilities'

2.2 Furthermore, the announcement stated that 'the Government expects local authorities will be able to make savings from efficiency measures, eliminating waste and, where necessary, reducing spending in areas that are lower priority for their communities. The fact that certain grants have been chosen for reduction does not mean that the Government expects there to be a direct correlation between grant reductions and local authority budget changes.'

2.3 To some extent the savings have been found by reducing grants which have not yet been determined or allocated, or where there are underspends. However, it has proved necessary to reduce allocations included in grant determinations for 2010/11. The announcement stated that priority has been given to

- protecting the funding streams for schools and Surestart and 16-19 year olds
- not reducing funding in the specific grants and/or funding streams for adult social care, housing benefit administration, main programme funding for Supporting People and for the fire services

2.4 Emphasis is placed on the fact that the formula grant allocations have been retained, giving councils 'greater flexibility' to respond to the reductions in ABG and specific grants

3. Grant Reductions by Government Departments

3.1 There will be a £311m reduction in the overall amount available to local authorities through ABG from **DfE**. For each authority this will mean a cut of

24% in the total ABG for the year. However, the reduction is not differentiated in relation to particular spending lines – ‘it is for local authorities to manage the reduction across all their funding sources’.

Stockport’s 2010/11 budget includes £6.27m of DfE ABG which has been included in the CYP cash limit; the ABG funded activities are listed in Appendix One. ABG is not ring fenced but the Council’s approach has been to reflect the ABG on a ‘£ for £’ basis within cash limits. The reduction announced is £1.49m.

In addition, there has been a 24% reduction in the ‘special grant’ to support the transfer of staff from the LSC. This is administered by Bury and will mean a reduction of £0.06m for Stockport.

- 3.2 The Department for Transport (**DfT**) is making £309m savings from individual grants, primarily capital. The largest is the ITB, of which 25% will be reduced. (Not included in the individual figures released is the proposal to defer selected major schemes to the tune of £61.4m – discussions will be held with individual authorities).

For Stockport the ITB reduction is £1.13m, from a total of £4.53m (net of top slice. (There may be a further reduction of £0.360m depending upon the treatment of the Greater Manchester fixed top slice (Metrolink, GM Transport Fund and TIF))

- 3.3 The **CLG** element totals £533.5m. This includes the cancellation of Housing and Planning Delivery Grant (HPDG), Gypsy and Traveller Site Grant and Connecting Communities and other cohesion funding. There is also a reduction of £125m in LAA PRG, which is being achieved, in broad terms, by a 50% cut in ‘earned’ reward grant. The 2010/11 LABGI total of £50m is being withdrawn. Other ABG reductions include Supporting People Admin, Working Neighbourhood Fund and Prevent.

For Stockport this means reductions of

- £0.11m Supporting People admin ABG
- £0.06m Prevent ABG
- £3.26m LAA PRG
- £0.3m LABGI (which was being used as a general contribution to the revenue budget in 2010/11)
- £0.12m HPDG,

as well as lost opportunities to benefit from cancelled funding streams.

- 3.4 **DEFRA** has reduced the contaminated land capital grant yet to be allocated by £7.5m for the remainder of the year. There is no direct impact on the Council’s budget
- 3.5 The **Home Office** contribution of £6m will be achieved by a pro rata reduction in ABG. For Stockport this is worth £0.03m

- 3.6 In addition to the specific reductions applicable to local government both the DfE and CLG are significantly reducing spending in areas which may well have an impact on local authorities and their communities. CLG is making over £426m of savings which includes RDAs (£186m) and the National Affordable Housing Programme (£100m), while DfE is saving a further £359m. Consideration will need to be given on how these savings may impact upon Stockport.
- 3.7 Of the specific funding streams that have been 'un-ringfenced' the ones that apply to Stockport are detailed in Appendix Two.

4. Implications and Action Required

Revenue Budget

- 4.1 In relation to the revenue ABG cuts of £1.69m, which are permanent, consideration needs to be given to the extent to which the matching reductions in expenditure are to be found from the specific ABG funded services, relevant cash limits or from elsewhere within the Council's budget for 2010/11, and medium term financial plan for 2011/12 onwards.
- 4.2 Similarly, the impact of containing the loss of revenue monies in relation to the 16-19 staff transfer grant (£0.06m) and the HDPG (£0.12m) will need to be assessed and reported by the respective budget holders.
- 4.3 The Council's non cash limit budget for 2010/11 assumed a LABGI receipt of £0.3m, in effect a 'one-off' general contribution to the overall budget requirement. This means that either a compensating contribution is made from reserves and balances or specific expenditure reductions are found within the revenue spending plan.

Capital Programme

- 4.4 The reduction in the ITB funding will require an assessment of how the Council's ITB programme could be revised to accommodate such a loss of grant. Consideration could also be given, however, as to the possibility of moving resources from elsewhere within the Council's 2010/11 capital programme.

PRG – Partnership Programme

- 4.5 Stockport's 'entitlement' to PRG has been assessed by the Council as £6.52m, of which 50% would be paid in 2009/10 and the balance in 2010/11, and which would be split 50:50 capital and revenue. In line with the regulations the Council has claimed £5.52m and been paid 50% of that, £2.76m. The final claim of £1m will be submitted shortly and the announcement confirms that 50% of that will be paid, £0.5m, bringing the total available PRG to £3.26m.

- 4.6 Given the need to drive improvements across the Partnership, including resourcing the partnership arrangements and getting on with delivering schemes, the Partnership has made the following allocations

	Revenue	Capital	Total
	£m	£m	£m
Partnership Office (5 years)	1.000		1.000
Boost Centres		0.190	0.190
Dec 2009 Allocation Round	0.332	0.190	0.522
Feb 2010 Allocation Round	1.185	0.815	2.000
Total	2.517	1.195	3.712
Reduced PRG Available	1.631	1.631	3.262
Over (Under) Allocation	0.886	(0.436)	0.450

In overall terms there has been an 'over allocation' of £0.450m, although this includes very different revenue and capital positions. Unfortunately, attempts to seek some latitude regarding the revenue and capital split of the reduced grant has been responded to in a negative manner by CLG.

- 4.7 The Partnership Board will be considering the PRG position at a special meeting on 6 July, and will seek the Executive's endorsement of how it proposes to amend the programme of PRG funded activities and projects. In addition, of course, the Partnership will no longer have the expected balance of PRG resources to invest in initiatives aimed at improving outcomes in line with the Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement.

5 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 5.1 The reductions in grants for 2010/11 present the Council (and partners) with a number of challenges. Once the relevant further analyses have been undertaken, implications discussed and options identified there need to be considered but quick decisions taken as to how to adjust the Council's revenue and capital budgets for 2010/11, together with the Partnership's PRG programme.
- 5.2 Therefore, the Executive is recommended to;
- i. Note the reductions in revenue and capital grants for 2010/11;
 - ii. Make the necessary amendments to the Council's revenue budget and capital programme for 2011/12 (and to the Medium Term Financial Plan for 2011/12 onwards as deemed appropriate); and
 - iii. Endorse the revisions to the PRG funded programme agreed by the Partnership Board (to be made available at or before the Executive meeting)

The table below lists the Children and Young People services funded by ABG

School Development Grant
Extended Schools Start Up Costs
Primary Strategy Central Co-ordination
Secondary Strategy Central Co-ordination
Secondary Strategy Behaviour & Attendance
School Improvement Partners
Education Health Partnerships
Choice Advisers
School Intervention Grant
14-19 Flexible Funding Pot
Extended Rights to Free Transport
Connexions
Children's Fund
DCSF – Child Trust Fund
Positive Activities for Young People
Teenage Pregnancy
Children's Social Care Workforce
Care Matters White Paper
Child Death Review Processes
DCSF – YP Substance Misuse
Designated Teacher Funding
Social Care Checks Funding
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services
Carers Grant
Young Persons Substance Misuse (Home Office)

Ring-fences removed from local government funding streams

Ring-fences removed from revenue grants in 2010-11

Revenue Grant	Department	National Total £m	Stockport Allocation £m
Youth Opportunity Fund	DfE	40.8	0.160
Think Family Grant	DfE	94.1	0.497
Challenge and Support Funding	DfE	3.9	NIL
AIDS Support	DH	25.5	0.054
Learning Disability Campus Closure Programme	DH	51.0	NIL
Stroke Strategy	DH	15.0	0.095
Bus Challenge and Kickstart	DfT	10.0	NIL
Animal Health and Welfare Enforcement	DEFRA	8.5	0.010
Waste Management Pilots	DEFRA	1.5	NIL
		250.3	0.816

Ring-fences removed from capital grants in 2010-11

Capital Grant	Department	National Total £m	Stockport Allocation £m
Fair Play Pathfinders	DfE	9.3	NIL
Fair Play Playbuilders	DfE	65.7	0.594
Innovation in Extracare Housing Grant	DH	3.0	0.020
Transformation in Adult Social Care Grant	DH	30.0	0.158
AIDS/HIV	DH	3.1	NIL
Common Assessment Framework	DH	21.0	0.713
Social Care IT Infrastructure	DH	17.0	0.090
De-trunking	DfT	27.2	NIL
Major Projects (GM Retaining Walls)	DfT	434.7	2.500
NEXUS (Tyne and Wear Metro)	DfT	34.0	NIL
Green Bus Fund	DfT	9.7	NIL
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	DEFRA	42.8	NIL
Coastal Change Pathfinders	DEFRA	4.6	NIL
Contaminated Land	DEFRA	10.0	NIL
Housing Market Renewal	CLG	236.0	NIL
		948.1	4.075

STOCKPORT COUNCIL**REPORT TO EXECUTIVE MEETING – SUMMARY SHEET****Subject:** Appointments to Outside Bodies**Report to Executive Meeting****Date:** 12 July 2010**Report of: (a)** **Leader of the Council****Key Decision: (b)** **NO / YES (Please circle)**Forward Plan General Exception Special Urgency (Tick box)**Summary:**

1. The Council's appointments to outside bodies for 2010/11 were approved at the Executive Meeting held on 19 May 2010. The following amendments to the agreed schedule are now proposed:-

Outside Body**Proposed amendment**

Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority

Replace Councillors Christine Corris and David White with Councillors Shan Alexander and Craig Wright

Stockport College Governing Body

Replace Councillor Dave Goddard with Councillor Sue Derbyshire

2. At the Executive Meeting held on 19 May 2010, the Council appointed Councillor Ann Smith and the Executive Councillor (Children & Young People) (or his representative) to the Governing Body of Stockport Academy. The Chair of Governors of Stockport Academy has pointed that there was an agreement between ULT and the Council for there to be two LA Governors at Stockport Academy for the first three years following its opening. This period expires on 31 August 2010. Ordinarily, a local authority is able to nominate one Governor to the Governing Body of an Academy and the Executive is requested to decide who it wishes to appoint to the Governing Body.

Comments/Views of the Executive Councillor: (c)

I commend the proposed amendments to the Council's appointments to outside bodies to the Executive.

Recommendation(s) of Executive Councillor: (d)

- (1) That the proposed amendments to the Council's appointments to outside bodies, as detailed in paragraph 1 above, be approved.
- (2) That one representative be appointed to the Governing Body of Stockport Academy.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee (if decision called in): **(e)**

Corporate, Resource Management and Governance

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Background Papers (if report for publication): **(f)**

None

Contact person for accessing
background papers and discussing the report
3137

Officer: David Clee
Tel: 0161 474

'Urgent Business': (g) YES

Certification (if applicable)

This report should be considered as 'urgent business' and the decision exempted from 'call-in' for the following reason(s):

The amendments to the nominations for appointment to the outside bodies concerned need to be made urgently and 'call-in' could potentially cause the Council not to be represented at meetings of some of the outside bodies.

The written consent of the Leader of the Council and the Monitoring Officer for the decision to be treated as 'urgent business' will be obtained before the decision is implemented.
