

PUBLICATION OF DECISION LIST NUMBER 07/23-24

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2023/24

Date Published: 11 July 2024

This document lists the decisions taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 9 July 2024. The list covers key and non-key decisions. These decisions will come into force within four working days of the date of this document (i.e. 17 July 2024) unless the Overview and Scrutiny Committee calls a decision in.

Cabinet decisions are subject to pre-implementation review through the following call-in procedure:-

Decisions that involve expenditure over £100,000 or that affect more than one ward can be called in. "Call-in" requires at least a quarter of the Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to request the "call-in", in writing, within four working days of the publication of the decision by the Cabinet, to be effective. A Notification of Call-in Form can be obtained from and should be completed, signed and returned to Governance Services. Either a special meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the "called-in" item(s) will be convened within three working days of the call-in request or the item will be placed on the Agenda of the next available meeting of the Committee, depending on which can be achieved earliest. The Call-In procedure does not apply where the decision being taken by the Cabinet is urgent.

Where the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is of the opinion that an executive decision which relates to an area covered by the Committee yet to be made or made but not yet implemented would be, contrary to the policy framework, or contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the Council's budget, then it should seek advice from the Monitoring Officer.

If you have any queries or wish to obtain further report information or information on a decision please refer to:

Clare Cade, Governance Services Manager at the Council Offices, Campus East,

Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6AE

e-mail c.cade@welhat.gov.uk

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT

FP2027 Hatfield Town Centre Public Spaces Protection Orders

Part 1 or 2 (Relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of Decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-In & Date to be called in by
Part 1	Hatfield Wards	None	Non-Key	Zoe Flaherty	Yes 17 July 2024

DECISION:

DECISION TAKEN:

Cabinet:

- a) Noted the evidence of ongoing anti-social behaviour and its impact on the locations;
- b) Noted the results of the public consultation;
- c) Approved the extension of the Hatfield Town Centre PSPO in the proposed area for a further 3 years.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The existing Hatfield Town Centre PSPO will expire at the end of the month. Following consultation the existing PSPO will be extended to include Strockbreach Road and French Horn Lane deal with anti-social behaviour.

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT

FP2065 Council Productivity Plan

Part 1 or 2 (Relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of Decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-In & Date to be called in by
Part 1	All wards	None	Non-Key	Richard Baker	Yes 17 July 2024

DECISION:

DECISION TAKEN:

Cabinet endorsed the Productivity Plan, and delegated authority to the Leader of the Council to make any changes required prior to its submission to Government.

REASON FOR DECISION:

In the Final Local Government Finance Settlement 2024/25, dated 5 February 2024, the Government set out its expectation that Local Authorities would be required to set out and share productivity plans.

The Council already had clear transformation plans in place for service change and improvement, and strategies for delivering sustainable budgets as set out in its medium-term financial strategy. The productivity plan contains details of the plans and strategies already in place.

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT

FP2049 Minister House General Fund Appropriation

Part 1 or 2 (Relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of Decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-In & Date to be called in by
Part 1	Hatfield South West	None	Non-Key	Geoff Sampson	Yes 17 July 2024

DECISION:

DECISION TAKEN:

Cabinet approved the appropriation of land from the General Fund to the HRA at a value of £215k.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The redevelopment of Minister House was delivered as part of the Council's Affordable Housing Programme and had provided much needed high-quality homes in Hatfield. As part of this project, a new substation was required to be built to serve the development. The land on which the substation had been built forms part of the Council's General Fund, as that land is no longer required for its previous purpose, and will remain the site of the new substation, the land is required to be appropriated from the General Fund to the council's housing revenue accounts.

The market value for this transfer has been agreed and approved by the Section 1 5 1 Officer, and this decision will ensure that lead is the land is held in the appropriate accounts.

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT

FP2063 - Howard House Refurbishment

Part 1 or 2 (Relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of Decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-In & Date to be called in by
Part 1 & 2	Handside Ward	None	Non-Key	Andrew Harper	Yes 17 July 2024

DECISION:

DECISION TAKEN:

Cabinet agreed that the pre-contract services agreement for the development of Howard House was awarded to Equans Regeneration Limited.

REASON FOR DECISION:

A tendering process took place with regard to the establishment of Howard House in Welwyn Garden City. There were 6 bidders, Howard House is a complex building in terms of ownership and responsibilities. The report asked for approval to the award for a precontract agreement to Equans for the design of a extensive works and to determine costings. Once a design and costings have been to determined, there will be another Cabinet report towards design and build for the refurbishments

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT

APPROVAL OF HIGHVIEW (HATFIELD) PSPO

Part 1 or 2 (Relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of Decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-In & Date to be called in by
Part 1	Hatfield	None	Non-Key	Zoe Flaherty	Yes 17 July 2024

DECISION:

DECISION TAKEN:

Cabinet noted the evidence of ongoing anti-social behaviour and its impact on the location, and the results of the public consultation which supported the introduction of a PSPO.

Cabinet approved the introduction of a PSPO within the proposed area for a period of 3 years commencing on 31st July 2024.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The area of Highview (Hatfield) had been experiencing an increase in anti-social behaviour and residents and businesses in the area had raised concerns.

Following a consultation, the feedback showed there was support for a PSPO for the area.

The Council would always aim to help those in need and the PSPO was to be put in place to ensure residents safety.

SUBJECT / TITLE OF REPORT

REVIEW OF THE TENANCY STRATEGY AND TENANCY POLICY

Part 1 or 2 (Relevant exempt Paragraph)	Wards affected by the Decision	Interest declared in respect of the Decision	Category of Decision (i.e. Key, Non- Key, Urgent)	Contact Details	Eligible for Call-In & Date to be called in by
Part 1	All	None	Non-Key	Sue McDaid	No

DECISION:

DECISION TAKEN:

Cabinet recommended the Policy and Strategy to Full Council for approval.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The Tenancy Strategy set out the Council's commitment as a provider of social housing for the provision of high quality housing, thriving neighbourhoods and sustainable communities and expected approach towards tenancies.

The Council were required to consult with registered providers such as Housing associations, as they are required in law to have regard to the strategy. The consultation took place from the 2nd February to the 1st March 2024 and included 19 registered providers in the borough and private landlords and agents as well as the Residents Panel. Responses were received from 7 registered providers with stock levels of between 25 and 700 properties locally. All of them were in support of the tenancy strategy and the move to ending the use of flexible fixed term tenancies.

100% of the registered providers use assured lifetime tenancies and 43% currently offer flexible fixed term tenancies, although of these, 50% intend to stop using them in the next five years.

Cabinet approved the ending of fixed term tenancies last year, so all tenants would have lifetime secure tenancies. The tenancy policy sets out the Council's approach to tenancy and their management.