

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISION OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE**

Decision Made: 16 December 2015

**MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2016-17 ONWARDS**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the latest information in regard to the budget strategy for 2016/17 onwards.

**Decision Made**

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) That the Committee agree to continue to plan on the basis of the revised SRP set out at Appendix A to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources, including the revised resource and expenditure budgets as detailed in the report;
- 2) That the allocation of funding to assist the loss of council tax income by Parish Councils as set out in Appendix B to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources be agreed;
- 3) That the savings and efficiencies of this Committee as set out in Appendix C to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources be agreed;
- 4) That the Committee accepts the proposed savings and efficiencies from all service committees as set out in Appendix D to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources; and
- 5) That the Employment Committee be requested to consider a comparative analysis of the pay policy and current levels of pay at Maidstone Borough Council in advance of this Committee's meeting in February 2016 and produce a report to Policy and Resources Committee on any financial consequences of its decision as part of the strategic budget planning process.

<p>Should you wish to refer this decision to Council, please submit a Decision Referral Form, signed by five Councillors, to the Head of Finance and Resources by: 30 December 2015</p>
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**COUNCIL TAX - TAX BASE 2016-17**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the information available on the Tax Base as at 17 October 2015 for Council Tax purposes. Identify potential changes to that Tax Base that can be expected in the forthcoming year and agree the Tax Base for 2016/17.

**Decision Made**

That the Committee agrees:

- 1) Pursuant to this report and in accordance with the Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, that the amount calculated by this Authority as its Council Tax Base for the year 2016/17 will be 58525.4; and
- 2) In accordance with the Local Authority (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, that the amount calculated by this Authority as the Council Tax Base for each parish area for the year 2016/17 will be as identified in Appendix B to the report of the Head of Finance and Resources.

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**PROJECTED COLLECTION FUND ADJUSTMENT ACCOUNT  
2015/16**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the projected balance on the collection fund adjustment account for the year - 2015/16.

**Decision Made**

That:

- 1) The Committee agrees the Council Tax projection of £1.017m (Maidstone's share £0.169m) as detailed in the report of the Head of Finance and Resources and as a result agree the distribution of the surplus set out in paragraph 3.7 of the report; and
- 2) The Committee also agrees the Business Rate projection of £0.681m (Maidstone's share £0.272m) as detailed in the report of the Head of Finance and Resources and as a result agrees the distribution of the surplus set out in paragraph 3.13 of the report.

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**COMMITTEE**

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**TOWN CENTRE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2020**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the vision, plan and programme of projects to develop, improve and enhance Maidstone Town Centre.

**Decision Made**

That:

- 1) The priority areas set out in Section 6 of the report of the Director of Planning and Development be approved;
- 2) The draft 5 year investment and action plan be approved;
- 3) The formation of a Town Centre Strategic Advisory Board be approved; and
- 4) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee be nominated as members of the Town Centre Strategic Advisory Board.

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**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**RECORD OF DECISION OF THE**

Decision Made: 16 December 2015

**URGENT REFERENCE FROM COMMUNITIES, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 8 DECEMBER 2015:  
MAIDSTONE'S APPROACH TO THE SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the Reference from Communities, Housing and Environment Committee relating to Maidstone's approach to the Syrian refugee crisis.

**Decision Made**

That:

- 1) Maidstone Borough Council commits to take part in the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Scheme;
- 2) That, as per paragraph 4.1 of the report of the Head of Housing and Community Services, the Council's offer is 6 single males over the five year period, to be reviewed annually with an aim of increasing this through the lifetime of the scheme if viable;
- 3) The Council investigate options for the provision of housing, including the purchase of property from capital funds; and
- 4) Syrian refugees should be accepted as soon as suitable housing is available.

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**BUSINESS PLAN FOR LAND AND PROPERTY FOLLOWING ITS  
ACQUISITION**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the business plan for the development of land and property in partnership with another organisation

**Decision Made**

That:

- 1) The draft Business Plan at Appendix 1 to the exempt report of the Interim Director of Planning and Development be approved;
- 2) Delegated authority be given to the Interim Director of Planning and Development or Chief Executive to finalise the Business Plan in consultation with the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee;
- 3) The short term holding strategy and capital expenditure is approved as set out in paragraph 2.10 of the exempt report of the Interim Director of Planning and Development;
- 4) Delegated authority be given to the Interim Director of Planning and Development or Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee to agree, and enter into, a Management Agreement/or lease with our partner for its use of the car park; and
- 5) Approval is given for decisions relating to the project which must be taken by each Council to be made in co-located meetings of this Committee and the relevant KCC committee advising the Cabinet Member, subject to KCC's agreement.

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**DEVELOPMENT OF THE MALL**

**Issue for Decision**

To consider the proposals for the development of the Mall including refurbishment of the bus station.

**Decision Made**

That:

- 1) The Committee notes progress made with the significant project towards the comprehensive refurbishment and development of the Mall as part of the Council's 5 year Town Centre Development Plan;
- 2) Subject to a detailed business case and an appropriate commercial agreement, Committee endorsed the principle of the Council investing in this project, as detailed in the exempt report of the Interim Director of Planning and Development;
- 3) The Committee agree that officers progress the specific business case for the acquisition of a building detailed in the exempt report of the Interim Director of Planning and Development as part of this proposed investment;
- 4) The Committee agrees that officers work closely with the respective stakeholders to develop the specification for a transport facility as detailed in the exempt report and report back on options for its delivery; and
- 5) The Committee requests that officers report back with further proposals and the business case to support capital investment to deliver the major scheme.

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