

**LARGER PRINT COPY AVAILABLE  
PLEASE TELEPHONE: 01493 846325**

**THE EXECUTIVE**

**19 October 2005 – 6.30 pm**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Collins (in the Chair); Councillors Page, Shrimplin, Smith and Stone.

Councillors Castle and Williamson attended by invitation.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Coleman, Lawley and Wainwright.

Mr M Barrow (Corporate Director - Environment and Economy), Mr B Sharma (Corporate Director - Resources), Mr C Skinner (Head of Member and Legal Services), Mr M Burns (Head of Housing Needs and Welfare Services), Mr P Dawson (Head of Corporate Services), Mr R Neve (Head of Property Services), Mr W Flatman (Head of Financial Services), Mr R Hodds (Member Services Manager) and Mr S Mutten (Environmental Strategy Manager).

**1. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2005 were confirmed.

**2. FORWARD PLAN – 1 OCTOBER 2005 TO 31 JANUARY 2006**

Member noted the current position in relation to those items included on the Forward Plan for the period 1 October to 31 January 2006.

**3. ISSUES ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY COMMITTEES**

**(a) Homeselect**

Members considered the Senior Member Services and Scrutiny Officer's report on the review of Homeselect by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee had considered issues relating to key successes, problems and client feedback and had also considered the various factors affecting the performance of Homeselect.

On reference from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the Executive were now asked to consider the following recommendations:-

- (i) That the Occupational Therapist be required to be involved early in the process and be asked to view selective properties with disabled/vulnerable people prior to the property being allocated.
- (ii) The need to instigate a more proactive Homeselect system that encompasses both private and public sectors.
- (iii) The production of a flow diagram to assist people with choices/decisions they would need to make in respect of the system.
- (iv) The need to improve feedback which could include further consultation with the Community Empowerment Network/Clip Offices and to develop the Homeselect website in order to provide more realistic feedback.
- (v) The need to develop the IT system more clearly in order to assist people using the Homeselect system.
- (vi) The ability to make more than two bids.
- (vii) The ability to provide individual feedback.

The Head of Housing Needs and Welfare Services reminded the Executive that a Homeselect Partnership Board had been established to look at issues relating to the Homeselect system. It was anticipated that the Partnership Board would consider the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' recommendations with a view to expressing their comments direct to the Executive.

Members also gave consideration to the formulation of the Forward Plan and comments were expressed that the Plan should be more strategic and forward looking and should cover a longer period of time. It was suggested that there should be a rolling programme covering 12 months.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) That the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' recommendations as detailed in (i) to (vii) above be endorsed, and that further consideration be given to these recommendations once the issues identified had been considered by the Homeselect Partnership Board.
- (ii) That the Head of Member and Legal Services be asked to take the necessary action to prepare a Forward Plan, in consultation with the Leader, that is more strategic and forward looking with a view to providing a rolling programme over a period of 12 months.

**4. POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

Following discussions between the Leader, the Chairman of the Policy Development Committee, Head of Member and Legal Services and Member Services Manager it was suggested to the Executive that, in future, any items for consideration by Policy Development Committee will in the first instance be considered a group comprising the Chairman of Policy Development Committee, relevant Cabinet Member/Cabinet Support Member, relevant Head of Department and a representative from Member Services to formulate a work programme and terms of reference for each item identified for consideration. The relevant work programmes and terms of reference would then be

endorsed by both Cabinet/Executive prior to the item being considered by the Policy Development Committee.

The Executive was also asked to endorse the following issues to be considered by the Policy Development Committee:-

- Review of cultural activities/delivery in the Borough, including a review of the services currently offered by SeaChange.
- Upgrading of parks/open spaces in the Borough to include a review of the management of these areas.

In discussing the above proposal Members gave consideration to the inclusion of the Vice-Chairman of the Policy Development Committee in the group to consider formulating the work programme and terms of reference.

**RESOLVED:**

That the proposal in respect of the establishment of a group to formulate a work programme and terms of reference for each item identified for consideration by the Policy Development Committee be approved subject to the inclusion of the Vice-Chairman on this group, and that the issues to be considered as outlined above be approved.

**5. AMENDMENT TO CAPITAL PROGRAMME – APPROVAL OF VIREMENT OF FUNDS AND ADDITIONAL SPEND FOLLOWING OFFER OF LOTTERY FUNDING FROM “TRANSFORMING YOUR SPACE” PROJECT**

The Executive considered the Environmental Strategy Manager’s report which detailed that Big Lottery funding under the “Transforming your Space” Initiative was granted to three projects within Runham Vauxhall with a deadline for implementation by September 2006. A submission was made last week to the fund based on the approved long term Capital Programme proposals for Children’s Play. The panel were impressed by the work which had gone into the Play Strategy and they had therefore offered the £400,000 available to deliver what will be the bulk of the Council’s Capital Programme proposals for Children’s Play up to 2012. In return the Council would need to fund the eventual land acquisition and landscaping costs associated with the Runham Vauxhall park project.

**RESOLVED:**

That Council be recommended to agree that:-

- (i) To approve an increase to the Capital Programme by £224,000 to enable utilisation of £400,000 Lottery funding for implementation of the bulk of the outstanding seven year Capital Programme for Children’s Play provision.
- (ii) To approve the virement of the Council’s existing unspent Capital funding for Children’s Play for 2005/06 and 2006/07 currently £176,000 to fund future land acquisition and landscaping at Runham Vauxhall for which Lottery funding was originally approved.

**6. ITEMS DETERMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE CONSTITUTION**

The following items were determined by the Executive under the terms of the Constitution:-

- (a) Consultation on the framework for Comprehensive Performance Assessment of District Councils from 2006.
- (b) Use of Local Authority land for Affordable Housing.
- (c) Partnership working between Great Yarmouth Borough Council and Waveney District Council.

(In connection with this item Members considered the tabled comments of UNISON in respect of this proposed partnership.)

## **7. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 7.25 pm.