

COUNCIL MEETING 20th APRIL 2005

AGENDA

PART I

Open to Press and Public

1. **PRAYERS**

To be said by the Reverend Stephen Owens, Far Forest Church, Kidderminster.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, to invite Members to declare the existence and nature of any personal or personal and prejudicial interests in the following agenda items. Members should indicate the action they will be taking when the item is considered.

Members are also invited to make any declaration in relation to Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(See guidance note on first page.)

4. **MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23rd February 2005. (Pages 1- 29)

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

In accordance with the Council's Scheme for Public Speaking at Meetings of Full Council, to allow members of the public to present petitions, ask questions, or make statements, details of which have been received by 9am, Monday 18th April 2005. (See front cover for contact details.)

6. **QUESTIONS**

To receive questions submitted in accordance with Standing Order A5 by Members of the Council, details of which have been received by 9am, Monday 18th April 2005, and the replies of the Leader of the Council, or appropriate Cabinet Member.

7. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

To receive such communications as the Chairman of the Council may desire to put before the Council, which are not already included within the agenda.
(Pages 30-32)

8. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT

To receive announcements and any matters for report from the Leader of the Council. (Verbal report)

9. REVIEW OF RESTRICTION ON NUMBER OF TAXI LICENCES ISSUED WITHIN WYRE FOREST DISTRICT.

To consider a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment on the outcome of a survey by independent transport consultants on whether there is significant unmet demand for Hackney Carriage services in the District and to decide future policy in respect of Hackney Carriage numbers.
(Pages 33-40)

10. POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK – MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE A DECISION BY COUNCIL

a) Recommendations from the Planning (Development Control) Committee - 8th March 2005

(Page 41)

- Review of procedure for determining planning applications requiring Section 106 obligations

b) Recommendations from the Cabinet – 17th March 2005

(Pages 42-43)

- Amendment to Scheme of Delegation to Officers – Surrender of Leases and Tenancies
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire "Social Enterprise" Support Partnership – Memorandum of Understanding

A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding, referred to in the above section, has been posted on the Council's website and is included in the Cabinet agenda for 17th March 2005. Public inspection copies are available on request. (See front cover for contact details)

c) **Recommendations from the Cabinet – 14th April 2005**

(Pages 44-47)

- Amendment to Scheme of Delegation to Officers - Delivering Efficiency Savings in Local Government - Annual Efficiency Statements
- Supporting People - 5 Year Strategy
- Kidderminster Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy
- Worcestershire Local Transport Plan 2 (LTP2) 2006/2011 Consultation Draft February 2005
- Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework – Statement of Community involvement (SCI)

As this agenda has been issued before the Cabinet meets on 14th April 2005, the recommendations, which have been included, are as proposed in the relevant reports to the Cabinet. Copies of the documents, referred to in the above section, have been posted on the Council's website. Public inspection copies are available on request. (See front cover for contact details) An update will be given at the Council meeting.

11. MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. D1 (1)

No Motions have been received, in accordance with Standing Order No. D1 (1).

12. URGENT MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. D1 (7)

To consider any Motions in the order in which they have been received which, by reason of special circumstances, should be considered as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Standing Order No. D1(7).

13. AMENDMENT TO SCHEME OF DELEGATION - TEMPORARY STOP NOTICES

To consider a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment, which informs Members of a new tool available for enforcing against breaches of planning control – Temporary Stop Notices. Approval is sought to amend the Scheme of Delegation to Officers to make provision for the serving or withholding of Temporary Stop Notices. (Pages 48-50)

14. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

To approve the Calendar of Meetings for the municipal year 2005/2006. (Pages 51-56)

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider passing the following resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting during consideration of an item containing “exempt” information:

“DECISION:

Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of “exempt information” as defined in paragraph 13 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.”

PART 2

Not Open to Press and Public

16. MINUTES

To confirm the ‘exempt’ minutes of the Council meeting held on the 23rd February 2005. (Page 57)

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
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**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN
23RD FEBRUARY 2005 (6.00 P.M.)**

PRESENT:

Councillors: J C Simmonds (Chairman), Mrs P V Hayward (Vice-Chairman), Mrs M B Aston, J Baker, G W Ballinger, A J Buckley, J-P Campion, S J M Clee, N J Desmond, Mrs I M Dolan, J W Dudley, Mrs H E Dyke, P Dyke, Mrs J Fairbrother-Millis, B T Glass, P B Harrison, M J Hart, Mrs S M Hayward, Mrs A T Hingley, J Holden, Mrs L Hyde, M B Kelly, Mrs R L Lewis, Miss M A Mason, Miss S C Meekings, Mrs F M Oborski, M M G Oborski, M W Partridge, Mrs A R A Poole, Mrs J L Salter, J A Shaw, M J Shellie, K J Stokes, R Wheway, A D Williams and S J Williams.

CM.764 PRAYERS

Prayers were said by the Reverend Mary Austin, Trinity Church, Kidderminster.

CM.765 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Mrs M H Baillie, Mrs L Edginton, M A W Hazlewood, W G Jones, C D Nicholls and Mrs P A Rimell.

CM.766 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The following Councillors declared a personal interest in agenda item 10a, The Budget Proposals 2005/2008 (Minute CM 773 refers):

- Councillor J W Dudley, in view of being a director of Opportunity Bewdley.
- Councillors N J Desmond, Mrs H E Dyke, Mrs L Hyde, Mrs F M Oborski, M J Shellie and J C Simmonds in view of their membership of Wyre Forest Community Housing Management Board.

CM.767 MINUTES

DECISION:

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2004 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CM.768 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public had asked to participate at this meeting of the Council.

CM.769 **QUESTIONS**

The Council received a report setting out a range of questions from Councillors, directed at the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members. The questions and answers are set out in full in Appendix 3 (attached).

CM.770 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Council received a list of functions attended by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman since the Council's last meeting.

The Chairman made the following announcement:

Local Transport Plan

A public consultation on the Local Transport Plan would be held by Worcestershire County Council on 1st March 2005 at Kidderminster Town Hall. There would be an exhibition and officers would be available to answer questions. A members' and stakeholders' session would be held from 3 to 5pm and a public session from 6 to 8pm.

CM.771 **LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT**

The Leader of the Council made the following announcements:

a. Members' ICT Training

Members' ICT training sessions would be held on 2nd and 3rd March 2005 in the Training Room at the Council's New Street Offices, Stourport-on-Severn. Written details of the arrangements were being circulated.

b. Wyre Forest District Housing Strategy

The Council's Housing Strategy had been deemed fit for its purpose by the Government Office for the West Midlands. This was a considerable achievement as the only other authority in the area to achieve similar recognition was Wychavon District Council.

c. OFTEL Radio Licensing Programme – Successful Bid

The ACE FM bid, supported by the District Council, for a local radio station licence for the Wyre Forest area had been successful. Negotiations were in progress to see if the station could be sited in Kidderminster town centre. This would complement the Worcestershire Hub to be located in Kidderminster Town Hall.

d. Jill Turberfield

Mrs Jill Turberfield, the Chief Executive's Personal Assistant, was leaving after approximately 20 years' service with the Council. Members expressed

their appreciation for her work, particularly the assistance she had given to Councillors in that time, and the Council recorded its sincere thanks to Mrs Turberfield.

e. Wyre Forest Highways Partnership Unit Manager

The Leader welcomed the appointment of Mr Andrew Broome as Acting Wyre Forest Highways Partnership Unit Manager. He had met him on two occasions so far and was impressed by Mr Broome's positive attitude to his work.

f. Community Strategy

The Wyre Forest Community Strategy had been shortlisted for the Government's Publication of the Year Award. The judges had been pleased with the photography and format.

g. Buckingham Palace Garden Parties

Only two Councillors' names had been submitted to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party this year. The successful Members were Councillors S J Williams and A D Williams, both of whom would be accompanied by their wives.

CM.772

POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK – MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE A DECISION BY COUNCIL

a. Recommendation from the Ethics and Standards Committee – 2nd November 2004

Protocol for Relationships between Members and Officers of the Local Authority

The Council considered a recommendation from the Ethics and Standards Committee to adopt a Model Protocol for Relationships between Officers and Members of the Local Authority. The Protocol had been issued by the Association of Council Secretaries and Solicitors to reflect the changes introduced by the Local Government Act 2000.

DECISION:

The Protocol for Relationships between Members and Officers of the Local Authority, which has been adapted for the District Council, as circulated to Party Group Rooms, be adopted.

b. Recommendation from the Licensing and Environmental Committee – 24th January 2005

Licensing Fees and Charges.

It was noted that recommendations from the Licensing and Environmental

Committee on licensing fees and charges had been incorporated in the Cabinet's income service options. These formed part of its budget proposals referred to at Minute CM 773a below.

c. Recommendations from the Cabinet – 16th December 2004

Interim Compact with Community Action Wyre Forest

The Council considered a recommendation from the Cabinet to adopt an interim compact (agreement) entitled 'Wyre Forest Working Together' which had been developed in partnership with Community Action Wyre Forest (CAWF).

DECISION:

- 1. The interim Compact with Community Action Wyre Forest (CAWF), as referred to in the report to the Cabinet on 16th December 2004, be endorsed and adopted.**
- 2. Cabinet be advised of progress made in the development of other local Compacts via Wyre Forest Matters, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the Worcestershire Partnership.**

Draft Consultation Strategy 2005 - 2008

The Council considered a recommendation from the Cabinet to adopt the Draft Consultation Strategy 'Building a Better Future Together' 2005-2008.

DECISION:

The draft Consultation Strategy 'Building a Better Future Together' 2005-2008, as referred to in the report to the Cabinet on 16th December 2004, be endorsed and adopted.

Parish Charter

The Council considered a recommendation from the Cabinet to adopt a recommendation from the 12th October 2004 Housing, Health and Rural Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel, as set out in the decision below.

DECISION:

The Parish Charter for Worcestershire, as referred to in the report to the Cabinet on 16th December 2004, be endorsed and signed on behalf of the District Council.

d. Recommendations from the Cabinet – 17th February 2005

Draft Local Development Scheme

The Council considered a recommendation from the Cabinet to adopt a

revised Local Development Scheme for the Wyre Forest District.

DECISION:

- 1. The Local Development Scheme for the Wyre Forest District be based on the draft dated 2nd December 2004 as amended by Appendices 1 and 2 of the report to the Cabinet on 17th February 2005.**
- 2. Subject to not receiving any notification from the Secretary of State, under Regulation 11 (3b or 3c) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, the submitted Local Development Scheme shall have effect from 27th March 2005.**

Implications of The Children's Act 2004 on District Councils

The Council considered a recommendation from the Cabinet to designate a lead Councillor and a lead officer to 'champion' Children's Services.

DECISION:

- 1. The report be noted.**
- 2. The Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services and the Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services (or his authorised representative) be lead Councillor and lead officer, respectively, for Children's Services and to ensure that the requirements of the Children's Act 2004 are carried through.**
- 3. The Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services (or his authorised representative) represent the Council on the Children's Fund Board.**

North Worcestershire Care And Repair Agency Advisory Board

The Council considered a recommendation from the Cabinet to adopt a recommendation from the Housing, Health and Rural Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel from its 19th January 2005 meeting, as set out in the decision below.

DECISION:

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Rural Affairs be appointed to represent the Council on the North Worcestershire Care and Repair Agency Advisory Board.

Suspension of Standing Order D4 (4)**DECISION:**

In accordance with Standing Order H4, Standing Order D4(4) be suspended for the following item of business to permit Group Leaders to exceed the specified length of time for speeches when responding to the Cabinet's budget proposals.

a. The Cabinet's Budget Proposals of 22nd February 2005

The Council considered the Cabinet's budget proposals from its meeting on 22nd February 2005, copies of which were circulated at the meeting.

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs presented the Cabinet's budget proposals. He advised that the budget proposals had been developed over a series of Cabinet meetings (16th December 2004, 13th January and 17th and 22nd February 2005). He thanked Cabinet Members, the Corporate Management Team, especially the Head of Financial Services, and all those officers and members involved in this lengthy process. He paid tribute to the excellent budget scrutiny exercise, which had been carried out by the Finance and Corporate Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel and its Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, despite the constraints imposed by the tight timetable. He expressed appreciation to Group Leaders for participating in the budget scrutiny. The Leader of the Council endorsed these sentiments.

The Chairman of the Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group also thanked the members and officers involved in the budget scrutiny exercise. He commended the progress made and the good work undertaken there, which could be built on next year.

The Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs pointed out that this was a three year balanced budget, designed to bring long-term stability, which would result in an increase of 3.9% in the District Council's element of the Council Tax for 2005/06. When account had been taken of the precepts of Worcestershire County Council, West Mercia Police and the Hereford and Worcester Combined Fire Authority, there would be a 4% increase overall (as compared with 8% in 2003/04). This would amount to a £47 rise for a Band D property. He stressed that this would be the lowest increase since the introduction of the Council Tax in 1990. He then took Members through the key items within the proposed budget, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 (attached), pointing out, initially, the amendments made by the Cabinet at its meeting on 22nd February 2005 in the light of proposals arising from the scrutiny process. (Cabinet Minute CM 763a refers). The Leader of the Council also highlighted key aspects of the budget.

A detailed debate ensued on the budget proposals, during which amendments proposed by the Independent Kidderminster Hospital and Health Concern Group and the Labour Group were unsuccessful. Copies of the main proposals

from those groups were circulated at the meeting. It was noted that amendments put forward by the Liberal Group had been incorporated into the Cabinet's proposals.

DECISION:

1. Council Tax Levy 2005/2006

Approval be given to a Council Tax for Wyre Forest District Council on a Band D Property of £174.66 for 2005/2006 (£168.04 2004/2005) an increase of 3.94% (£6.62 over 2004/2005).

Page references in the following decisions refer to the pink budget book circulated with the Cabinet agenda for its 16th December 2004 meeting.

2. Three Year Budget And Policy Framework 2005/2008

2.1 The following General Fund Revenue Budget be approved including Expenditure and Income Service Options identified in Appendices 1 and 2 (attached) :-

	Revised 2004/05 £	2005/06 £	2006/07 £	2007/08 £
Net Expenditure on Services (as per paragraph 4.1, of the Budget & Policy Framework Report Page 3)	11,886,610	12,445,840	13,210,590	13,826,510
<u>Less</u> Capitalisation of Revenue Expenditure (as per paragraph 10 of Budget & Policy Framework Report Page 7)		266,000		
Income Service Options identified in Appendix 2 (attached)	-	40,910	100,490	100,490
	<u>11,886,610</u>	<u>12,138,930</u>	<u>13,110,100</u>	<u>13,726,020</u>
<u>Add</u> Expenditure Service Options identified in Appendix 1 (attached)	-	465,500	459,160	477,310
<u>Less</u> Use of Reserves	<u>546,320</u>	<u>521,180</u>	<u>1,045,870</u>	<u>1,211,480</u>
Net Expenditure	11,340,290	12,083,250	12,523,390	12,991,850
<u>Less</u> Business Rate, Government Grant and Collection Fund Surplus (Page 3) Assumes 2½% increase in grant 2006/07 onwards	<u>5,656,510</u>	<u>6,126,470</u>	<u>6,268,870</u>	<u>6,424,590</u>
Council Tax Levy	<u>5,683,780</u>	<u>5,956,780</u>	<u>6,254,520</u>	<u>6,567,260</u>
Wyre Forest District Council Tax Level assuming 3.94% increase for 2005/06 and 5% 2006/07 onwards	£168.04	£174.66	£183.39	£192.56

- 2.2 Efficiencies be promoted within the Council through organisational change in accordance with 'Gershon' principles, including the completion of an annual efficiency statement to enable us to divert funding to front line services and away from bureaucracy, together with the need in future years to maintain a balanced and sustainable budget.
- 2.3 The Council's policy relating to Working Balances, Reserves and Provisions be reaffirmed and the amount of Reserves and Provisions available for use in the budget process be noted. (pages 22-23).
- 2.4 The Council's updated Medium Term Finance Strategy be reaffirmed. (pages 24-30)
- 2.5 The Capitalisation of revenue expenditure be approved as identified in paragraph 10.2 of the Budget Strategy Report (page 7) in order to generate additional revenue resources in 2005/2006. This has been accounted for by means of a Capital Service Option.
- 2.6 The Council's participation at future Local Government Association annual conferences be restored.
3. Council Tax Base (Pages 39-43)
 - 3.1 Approval be given to a Council Tax base for Wyre Forest District of 34105, as detailed in the report on Calculation of Council Tax Base 2005/2006 (page 39).
 - 3.2 Council Tax discounts for second homes and long term empty properties continue at 25% for 2005/2006 onwards.
4. Capital Programme 2005/2006 Onwards (pages 44-60)
 - 4.1 The Base Capital Programme and Vehicles and Equipment Renewal Schedule be approved as set out in appendix 5 of the Cabinet's budget proposals circulated at this Council meeting.
 - 4.2 The availability of the unallocated Capital Receipts and the ability to use Prudential Borrowing for new Capital Service Options be noted.
 - 4.3 Capital Service Options and associated funding be approved as identified in the schedule of proposed Expenditure Service Options set out in Appendix 1 (attached).
 - 4.4 An updated Capital Programme (including proposed Capital

Service Options) be approved as at Appendix 5 of the Cabinet's budget proposals circulated at this Council meeting.

- 4.5 The Council's Capital Strategy 2004/2008 (page 49) be reaffirmed.
- 4.6 Delegated authority continue to be given to the Head of Financial Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs, to determine the most advantageous option of how to fund vehicle and equipment renewals in order to obtain value for money, by means of either medium term borrowing (based upon anticipated life of vehicle and equipment) or by leasing.
- 4.7 The Council continue to dispose of surplus assets in order to generate new usable capital receipts, where this is proven to be economically viable in accordance with the Asset Management Plan.
5. Prudential System Of Local Government Finance and The Treasury Management Strategy Report 2005/2006 (Pages 61-73 and Agenda Item 10c, Minute CM 773c below refers)
 - 5.1 The Prudential Indicators and limits within Sections 3-6 of the Report (page 61) be adopted.
 - 5.2 The Treasury Management Strategy 2005/2006 within Sections 7-11 and associated Prudential Indicators within Section 12 of the report (page 61) be approved.
 - 5.3 The amendments to Prudential Indicators, identified in Appendix 1 of the report circulated at this Council meeting, be approved.
 - 5.4 The consequential list of Prudential Indicators and Limits as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report circulated at this Council meeting, be approved.
6. Expenditure Service Options (pages 74-90)
 - 6.1 Expenditure Service Options and associated funding be approved as identified in Appendix 1 (attached).
7. Income Service Options (pages 91-114)
 - 7.1 Income Service Options and associated fees and charges be approved as identified in Appendix 2 (attached).
 - 7.2 The schedule of car parking charges and authority to amend the car parking places order be approved (as set out in Cabinet Agenda Item 7(e) of its 17th February 2005 meeting).

8. Risk Management and the Budget Process (pages 115-121)

8.1 The Budget Risk Management process identified in the Risk Management and Budget Report be endorsed and the Budgetary Response to identified risks be noted and endorsed, as detailed on the Budget Risk Matrix at Appendix 1 of the report (page 120).

8.2 Ongoing Budget Risk be monitored quarterly as part of the Budget Monitoring process.

9. Key Commitments 2005/2006

9.1 Approval be given to the following Key Commitments for 2005/2006 :-

- 1. Financial Accountability**
- 2. Environment and Economic Regeneration**
- 3. Worcestershire Hub**
- 4. Single Site (office centralisation)**
- 5. Kidderminster Cinema**

9.2 The strategic statements for each Key Commitment as set out in Appendix 4 of the Cabinet's budget proposals, circulated at this Council meeting, be approved.

b. Report of the Head of Financial Services - Sections 25-28 Local Government Act 2003

The Council considered a report from the Head of Financial Services in respect of new duties placed on local authorities in respect of budget setting and monitoring, copies of which were circulated at the meeting. This detailed his opinion on the budget proposals recommended by the Cabinet on 22nd February 2005.

DECISION:

The Head of Financial Services' opinion on the budget proposals recommended by the Cabinet on 22nd February 2005, as set out in paragraph 4 of the report, be noted.

c. Consequential Amendments to Prudential Indicators

The Council considered a report from the Head of Financial Services on proposed changes in Prudential Indicators as a consequence of the Capital Service Options for 2005/2006 onwards, copies of which were circulated at the meeting. This item of business was dealt with in conjunction with the budget proposals at Minute 773a above and the outcome is recorded at decisions 5.3 and 5.4. above.

CM.774 COUNCIL TAX 2005/2006

The Council considered a proposed formal resolution for setting the Council Tax 2005/2006. It was noted that this included parish precepts and the precepts of Worcestershire County Council, West Mercia Police Authority and the Hereford and Worcester Combined Fire Authority.

DECISION:

The base amount of Council Tax for properties in Band D, before adding Parish and other precepts, be made up as follows:-

	2004/2005 (for comparison) £	2005/2006 £
Wyre Forest District Council:		
Net Expenditure	169.22	176.11
<u>Less Surplus on Collection Fund</u>	1.18 -	1.45 -
	<u>168.04</u>	<u>174.66</u>
	-----	-----
Worcestershire County Council	824.52	857.03
West Mercia Police Authority	137.69	143.17
Hereford & Worcester Combined Fire Authority	<u>56.48</u>	<u>59.05</u>
	<u>1,018.69</u>	<u>1,059.25</u>
	-----	-----
Base Band D Council Tax (excluding Parish Precepts)	1,186.73	1,233.91
	=====	=====

Parish etc. precepts be added to the total of £1,233.91 as follows:-

	<u>Parish Charge</u> £
The Charter Trustee Town of Kidderminster	3.74
The Parish of:-	
Upper Arley	28.53
Bewdley	14.44
Broome	13.66
Chaddesley Corbett	15.30
Churchill and Blakedown	13.16
Kidderminster Foreign	11.94
Ribbesford	-
Rock	10.27
Rushock	14.38
Stone	3.94
Stourport-on-Severn	19.98
Wolverley and Cookley	15.09

In consequence of the above decision the following decision be taken:-

1. The following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2005/2006, in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
 - (a) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act. £42,728,957.31
 - (b) Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3)(a) to (c) of the Act. £30,311,030.00
 - (c) The amount by which the aggregate at 1(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 1(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year. £12,417,927.31
 - (d) The aggregate of the sums, which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund, in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant, increased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its collection fund to its general fund, in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (Council Tax Surplus) and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its collection fund to its general fund pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) Directions under Section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 made on 7th February 1994 (Community Charge Surplus), the Collection Fund (General) (England) Directions 2002, the Collection Fund (Adjustment for Previous Years) (England) Directions 2000 and the Local Authorities (Alteration of Requisite Calculations)(England) Regulations 2005. £6,126,472.00
 - (e) The amount at 1(c) above less the amount at 1(d) above, all divided by 34,105 (the Council's tax base for the year), i.e. the basic amount of the Council Tax for the year, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act. £184.47

- (f) The aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act. £334,677.31
- (g) The amount at 1(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 1(f) above by 34,105 i.e. the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the Council's area to which no special item relates, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act. £174.66
- (h) The amounts given by adding to the amount in 1(g) above the amount of the special items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area listed below divided in each case by the tax base for that part of the Council's area, i.e. the basic amounts of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act:-

	<u>Special Item</u>	<u>Tax Base</u>	<u>Council Tax for Special Item</u>	<u>Total Basic Council Tax</u>
	£	£	£	£
The Charter Trustee Town of Kidderminster	66,500	17,774	3.74	178.40
The Parish of:-				
Upper Arley	9,300.00	326	28.53	203.19
Bewdley	53,200.00	3,684	14.44	189.10
Broome	2,200.00	161	13.66	188.32
Chaddesley Corbett	10,771.00	704	15.30	189.96
Churchill and Blakedown	9,635.00	732	13.16	187.82
Kidderminster Foreign	4,452.00	373	11.94	186.60
Rock	12,000.00	1,168	10.27	184.93
Rushock	1,050.00	73	14.38	189.04
Stone	1,000.00	254	3.94	178.60
Stourport on Severn	138,491.00	6,931	19.98	194.64
Wolverley and Cookley	26,078.31	1,728	15.09	189.75

- (i) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 1(g) and 1(h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a

particular valuation band divided by the number which, in that proportion, is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, i.e. the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in the different valuation bands, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act (listed in Appendix 1 – attached to this Resolution).

2. It be noted that for the year 2005/2006, the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

<u>Valuation Band</u>	<u>Worcestershire County Council</u>	<u>West Mercia Police Authority</u>	<u>Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
A	571.35	95.45	39.37
B	666.58	111.35	45.93
C	761.80	127.26	52.49
D	857.03	143.17	59.05
E	1,047.48	174.99	72.17
F	1,237.93	206.80	85.30
G	1,428.38	238.62	98.42
H	1,714.06	286.34	118.10

3. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 1(i) and 2 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2005/2006 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Appendix 2 (attached to this Resolution).
4. Authorisation of Officers to Collect and Recover Council Tax, Community Charge and General Rates

Mr. K. Bannister, Head of Financial Services; Mrs. J. Kitchen, Financial Services Manager (Accountancy and Revenues), Mrs. J. Hill, Financial Services Manager (Audit and Benefits); Mrs. T. Southall, Group Accountant; Mr. S. Edmonds, Group Accountant; Mr. P.B. McGill, Principal Revenues Officer; Mrs. F. Johnson, Senior Revenues Officer, Mrs. L. Hall, Mrs. S. Clayphan and Mrs. V. Sloane, Revenue Team Leaders; Miss C.S. Caygill, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; Mrs. N. Cummings, Litigation Solicitor; Mr. D. Scully, Litigation Solicitor; Mrs. J. Alexander, Commercial and Property Solicitor; and Mrs. B.M. Vickers, Legal Executive, appointed to the said offices under Section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, be hereby authorised:-

- (a) to demand, collect and recover any Council Tax, National Non-Domestic Rate, Community Charge or General Rates made by the Council under the Local Government Finance Acts 1988 and 1992 and the General Rate Act 1967;
- (b) to demand, collect and recover any penalties under Schedules 3 and 4 to the Local Government Finance Acts 1988 and 1992;
- (c) under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 and all other powers enabling them to prosecute and to appear on behalf of the Council at the hearing of legal proceedings in connection with the demand, collection and recovery of any Council Tax, National Non-Domestic Rate, Community Charge and General Rates made by the Council and/or any penalties imposed under the Local Government Finance Acts 1988 and 1992; and
- (d) to make such amendments to the Council Tax, National Non-Domestic Rate, and Community Charge as are authorised by the Local Government Finance Acts 1988 and 1992 and other legislation in force from time to time. Further, the Head of Financial Services, Financial Services Manager (Accountancy and Revenues) and Financial Services Manager (Audit and Benefits) be authorised to impose penalties in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Local Government Finance Act 1992, with regard to the supply of information for Council Tax purposes.

CM.775 MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. D1 (1)

No notices of motion were received in accordance with Standing Order D1(1).

CM.776 URGENT MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. D1 (7)

No notices of motion were received in accordance with Standing Order D1(1).

CM.777 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

DECISION:

Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of “exempt Information” as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

CM.778 **SUMMARY OF MINUTES**

The following proceedings were considered after the press and public had been excluded from the meeting. A summary of the minutes relating to these items has been made as 'exempt Information' would be disclosed if the minutes were published in full.

CM. 778a **MINUTES**

The exempt minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2004 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

CM. 778b **POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK – MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE
A DECISION BY COUNCIL**

Recommendations from the Cabinet – 16th December 2004

Provision of New Cemetery

The Council approved arrangements for the provision of a new cemetery.

The meeting ended at 8.45 p.m.

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
EXPENDITURE SERVICE OPTIONS 2005/2008**

AC NO.	ACTIVITY AND DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE OPTION	KEY	CHANGES IN RESOURCES		
			2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
			£	£	£
VARIOUS	<u>Capitalisation of Revenue Expenditure</u> Capitalisation of Revenue Expenditure identified in the 2005/06 budget - see page 7 of the budget report	C R M	266,000 6,650 -	- 13,300 -	- 13,300 -
CLACS C1	<u>Rowland Hill Public Conveniences Refurbishment</u> To provide clean public conveniences at the Rowland Hill Shopping Centre	C R M	20,000 500 -	- 1,000 -	- 1,000 -
CLACS D1	<u>Cemeteries/Churchyards Grants - S.136 & S.214 (B)</u> To review the S.136 & S.214 (B) grants to Parish, Town Councils and Churches - approve service option but increase proposal 1 from £500 to £600.	C R M	- 3,460 -	- 3,560 -	- 3,670 -
CLACS G2	<u>Bewdley Museum</u> To restore Bewdley Museum funding back into Base Budget.	C R M	- 117,420 5.60	- 120,740 5.60	- 124,300 5.60
CLACS H5	<u>Active Communities Post</u> To provide funding for this post for years 4 and 5 when the grant aid from Sport England reduces	C R M	- 11,360 1.00	- 17,640 1.00	- - -
CLACS H7	<u>Stourport Community Centre</u> To restore Stourport Community Centre funding back into Base Budget.	C R M	- 15,000 0.70	- 15,460 0.70	- 15,920 0.70
CLACS J1	<u>Spring Bedding</u> To permanently reinstate cuts made in 2002, in response to numerous requests.	C R M	- 12,710 -	- 12,530 -	- 12,900 -
CLACS J1	<u>White Wickets Changing Facility</u> To improve and modernise the changing facilities at White Wickets	C R M	46,000 1,150 -	- 2,300 -	- 2,300 -
CLACS J1	<u>Skateboarding</u> To provide resources to fund a programme of events for the Fun Box, particularly in Rural Areas	C R M	- 3,500 -	- 3,500 -	- 3,500 -
CLACS J1	<u>Spennells Playing Field</u> Provision of Youth Shelter in support of Aggborough/Spennells Community Action Group in providing teenage facilities on Spennells Estate.	C R M	10,000 250 -	- 500 -	- 500 -
CLACS L1	<u>Improvement to Car Parks</u> To carry out maintenance and improvement works to the Council's car parks to achieve 'secure car parks' status	C R M	20,000 500 -	- 1,000 -	- 1,000 -

CLACS M2	<u>Additional Cleansing Staff (3 Staff for 6 Months)</u> To supplement the work of the Streetscene Cleansing Team by providing additional resources for 6 months during the Summer season	C R M	- 34,060 1.50	- - -	- - -
CLACS OA	<u>Town Hall Arts Centre</u> To provide resources to take the proposed Arts Centre scheme forward to listed building planning application position. Expenditure subject to Council approval following consideration of a detailed business case. The necessary DDA works to the Town Hall will be progressed during 2005/06 from the Capital Programme provision.	C R M	- - -	- 82,000 -	- - -
CLACS OE	<u>Civic Hall, Stourport-on-Severn</u> Provide resources for redecoration and the improvement of lighting at the Civic Hall, Stourport-on-Severn	C R M	- 4,000 -	- - -	- - -
CLACS O	<u>Single Site</u> <u>a) Consultancy & Design Fees</u> To secure funding for the appointment of consultants and design professionals to assist in the next stage of the Single Site objective	C R M	- 25,000 -	- - -	- - -
CLACS O	<u>Single Site</u> <u>b) Contingency</u> A contingency sum in order to progress project.	C R M	- 20,000 -	- - -	- - -
PH&E A1	<u>Planning Policy Formulation - Bus Quality Partnership</u> To support the work of the Wyre Forest Bus Quality Partnership by providing match funding to incentivise improvements to public transport services	C R M	- 5,000 -	- 5,000 -	- 5,000 -
PH&E B4	<u>Conservation of the Historic Environment - Economic Regeneration of Stourport-on-Severn</u> To agree in principle to Compulsory Purchase Orders (approx.cost £0.5 million) in support of the promotion of the STC.4Local Plan redevelopment site and others, to underpin the Economic Regeneration of Stourport-on-Severn and the canal basins area, subject to back to back agreement for disposal.	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -
PH&E B4	<u>Conservation of the Historic Environment</u> To provide matchfunding of £60,000 in total for years two and three of a bid to English Heritage under a Partnership in Conservation Areas Scheme for Stourport-on-Severn (2007/08 and 2008/09)	C R M	- - -	- - -	30,000 750 -
PH&E C1	<u>Disability Discrimination Act - Access Officer</u> To investigate the need for a part-time DDA Access to operate on a shared basis across the Northern Officer Districts	C R M	- To be determined	- -	- -

PH&E K1	<u>Housing Enabling Function - Private Sector Housing Initiatives Officer</u> To provide match funding towards the appointment of a Private Sector Housing Initiatives Officer to assist the Council to develop and implement new initiatives required under the Regulatory Reform Order 2002 and forthcoming legislative changes under the Housing Bill.	C R M	- 12,480 1.00	- 15,920 1.00	- 2,820 1.00
PH&E K1	<u>Housing Enabling Function - Housing Capital Funding</u> To establish a five year programme of Housing Capital funding to assist in delivering the corporate objective of Enabling Community Wellbeing (to maintain a balanced housing market) and the implementation of the Council's Housing Strategy.	C R M	1,500,000 - -	2,000,000 50,000 -	2,000,000 150,000 -
PH&E K1	<u>Community Alarm Equipment</u> Extend Council Policy and provide a capital grant, out of "Right to Buy" receipts, to Wyre Forest Community Housing of £500,000 over a period of 7 to 8 years for the purchase of new and replacement equipment. Wyre Forest Community Housing in return will continue to provide a free lifeline service to users whose free service under the Housing Transfer arrangements is due to end on 31st March 2005.	C R M	70,000 1,750 -	70,000 5,250 -	70,000 8,750 -
SPU B1	<u>Regeneration and Economic Development Activities</u> To continue a budget for 2005/2007 for the Economic Development and Tourism Section to fund Wyre Forest District Council Business Grants, Business Support, Strategy Development, partnership projects and promotional activities.	C R M	- 50,000 -	- 40,000 -	- - -
SPU C1	<u>Neighbourhood/Street Wardens</u> Investigate the re-negotiation of the Transfer Agreement with Wyre Forest Community Housing on the "Right to Buy" proceeds and other alternatives in order to provide funding for Neighbourhood/Street Wardens. Make contingency provision in the 2007/08 Budget to ensure minimum contribution of £120,000 ie.an additional £60,000 over and above the current £60,000 rate relief funding. Request the Finance and Corporate Affairs Policy and Scrutiny Panel to carry out a detailed scrutiny exercise on future funding.	C R M	- - -	- - -	- 60,000 -
SPU D1	<u>Community Strategy</u> Through the Council's Community Leadership role and engagement in partnerships, to continue to provide funding towards the shared delivery of high level, strategic priorities, as set out in both the District and County ten year Community Strategies.	C R M	- 50,000 -	- - -	- - -

SPU E2	<u>Corporate Identity & Branding</u> To carry out a strategic review of promotional activity and branding opportunities.	C R M	- 10,000 -	- - -	- - -
SPU E2	<u>Shared Services</u> To provide a contribution towards the County wide shared services initiative in order to develop a business case for Revenues, Benefits and I.C.T.	C R M	- 20,000 -	- - -	- - -
SPU E2	<u>Civil Contingencies</u> To provide resources to carry out the new responsibilities on Civil Contingencies	C R M	- 20,000 -	- 20,000 -	- 20,000 -
SPU E2	<u>Grants to Voluntary Bodies</u> To approve in principle grant aid towards renovation of Kidderminster War Memorials.	C R M	To be determined when costs are known		
SPU E2	<u>Grants to Voluntary Bodies</u> To provide a Capital Grant to the Citizens Advice Bureau to contribute towards extending the CAB building in New Road, Kidderminster	C R M	25,000 630 -	- 1,250 -	- 1,250 -
SPU E2	<u>Grants to Voluntary Bodies</u> To increase the grants to Voluntary Bodies budget to enable the Cabinet to pump prime any suitable applications	C R M	- 1,000 -	- 1,000 -	- 1,000 -
FS A1	<u>Internal Audit</u> To provide additional funding in order for the Internal Audit Section to meet new statutory requirements in respect of the internal control framework. Delegated authority be given to the Chief Executive to implement revised structure proposals in accordance with Council policies.	C R M	- 30,000 -	- 30,000 -	- 30,000 -
L&D A3	<u>Land Charges</u> To update the existing MIS Land Charges system to meet Government NLIS Level 3	C R M	9,600 2,270 -	- 2,510 -	- 2,510 -
HR E1	<u>Computer Services</u> To identify resources for ICT investment including a Corporate and Benefits Workflow/Document Image Processing System (DIP).	C R M	250,000 6,250 -	- 12,500 -	- 12,500 -
HR E1	<u>Computer Services - Software Licenses</u> To update desktop software and network licenses	C R M	22,500 560 -	42,900 2,200 -	42,900 4,340 -
	TOTALS	C R M	2,239,100 465,500 9.8	2,112,900 459,160 8.3	2,142,900 477,310 7.3

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL
INCOME SERVICE OPTIONS 2005/2008**

ACT NO.	ACTIVITY AND DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE OPTION	KEY	CHANGES IN RESOURCES		
			2005/2006 £	2006/2007 £	2007/2008 £
CLACS A1	<u>Trade Waste</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 10,820 CR -	- 10,820 CR -	- 10,820 CR -
CLACS D1	<u>Cemeteries</u> Increase charges by 18% to make them more comparable with local authority rates	C R M	- 10,410 CR -	- 10,410 CR -	- 10,410 CR -
CLACS F1	<u>Play Leadership</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 770 CR -	- 770 CR -	- 770 CR -
CLACS H5	<u>Other Sports Facilities</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 1,370 CR -	- 1,370 CR -	- 1,370 CR -
CLACS I1	<u>Allotments</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 130 CR -	- 130 CR -	- 130 CR -
CLACS J1	<u>Parks and Open spaces</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 670 CR -	- 670 CR -	- 670 CR -
CLACS K1	<u>Leisure Services</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 430 CR -	- 430 CR -	- 430 CR -
CLACS L1	<u>Car Parks</u> Increase charges by 7% and review annually with effect from 01/10/2006	C R M	- 40,000 CR -	- 60,000 CR -	- 60,000 CR -
CLACS OA/OB	<u>Civic Halls</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 610 CR -	- 610 CR -	- 610 CR -
CLACS OL	<u>Weighbridge</u> To increase weighbridge charges from £5.00 inc VAT to £5.15.	C R M	- 610 CR -	- 610 CR -	- 610 CR -
CLACS Q1	<u>Control of rats and other pests</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 660 CR -	- 660 CR -	- 660 CR -
CLACS Q2	<u>Control of Dogs</u> Increase charges by 3.5% in accordance with Council policy	C R M	- 80 CR -	- 80 CR -	- 80 CR -
PH&E B1	<u>Development Control</u> To maintain Planning Application fees at statutory levels	C R M	To be determined by Government		
PH&E B1	<u>Development Control</u> To propose no increase to the charges for Planning enquiries	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -

PH&E C1	<u>Building Control</u> To propose no increase to Building Control charges	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -
PH&E C1	<u>Building Control</u> To propose no increase to the current charge for Building Control documents	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -
PH&E D1	<u>Planning, Health & Environment Administration</u> To propose no increase to the current charge for copy documents	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -
PH&E D1	<u>Planning, Health & Environment Administration</u> To propose no increase to the Administration charge re. Ordnance Survey Plan sales	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -
PH&E F1	<u>Consumer Protection</u> To increase fees for water sampling and Butcher's licences	C R M	- 160 CR -	- 160 CR -	- 160 CR -
PH&E G1	<u>Environmental Protection</u> To increase Air Pollution fees in line with inflation	C R M	- 750 CR -	- 750 CR -	- 750 CR -
PH&E I1	<u>Hackney Carriage/Private Hire</u> To increase fees in line with inflation to ensure the activity remains self financing	C R M	- 2,360 CR -	- 2,360 CR -	- 2,360 CR -
PH&E I2	<u>Licensing Activities (Other)</u> To increase charges in respect of other licensing functions in line with inflation	C R M	- 1,060 CR -	- 640 CR -	- 640 CR -
PH&E I2	<u>Licensing Activities (Liquor)</u> From 1st February 2005 the Council will be responsible for liquor licensing	C R M	To be determined by Government		
FS B1	<u>Council Tax/NNDR</u> Maintain the liability order costs in respect of Council Tax and NNDR at their current level as detailed below :- costs are as follows:- Summons Costs £25 Liability Order Costs <u>£20</u> <u>£45</u> The charges were increased in 2004/05 and are reviewed every 2 years.	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -

FS C3	<u>Concessionary Travel - WFDC Scheme</u> Maintain existing charge for bus permit at £6.00. To increase the cost of a single journey from 40p to 50p from 01/07/06. Last increase w.e.f. 01/07/02 from 35p to 40p. Increase to partially offset the Council's payments of revenue foregone to bus operators which have increased by 30% as a result of useage and revised calculations for reimbursement. Net cost of service 2005/06 £374,830. Carry out a full scrutiny exercise during the next municipal year to investigate moving to a National Scheme and to a Countywide Scheme from 1st April 2006.	C R M	- - -	- 40,000 CR -	- 40,000 CR -
L&D A1	<u>Elections and Electoral Registration</u> To maintain the sale of edited and full Electoral Registers at statutory levels	C R M	- - -	- - -	- - -
L&D A3	<u>Land Charges</u> To implement a differential charging structure to implement National Land Information Service	C R M	- 30,000 -	- 30,000 -	- 30,000 -
L&D A4	<u>Legal & Democratic Services Administration</u> To raise charges for the supply of minutes and agendas to outside bodies/companies in line with inflation	C R M	- 20 CR -	- 20 CR -	- 20 CR -
	TOTALS	C R M	- 40,910 CR -	- 100,490 CR -	- 100,490CR -

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING – 23RD FEBRUARY 2005

AGENDA ITEM 6

QUESTION TIME AT COUNCIL MEETINGS - STANDING ORDER A5

Questions by Councillor Mrs F M Oborski

To the Cabinet Member for Commercial Services

1. In view of the increasing problems and costs of waste disposal and recycling, does he agree with me that the work of the County District Joint Waste Management Group is of increasing significance?

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Commercial Services

I am not aware of the County/District Joint Waste Management Group but am aware of the Waste Forum which Officers and Members from this Council attend. I would agree that this Forum is of increasing significance.

Supplementary Question from Councillor Mrs F M Oborski

I would like to know why you do not attend meetings of the Forum? I have received the minutes of the meetings since June 2004 and note that there was only one occasion when an officer attended. Only the District Council was not represented.

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Commercial Services

That is a slight misrepresentation. Since being elected as a Cabinet Member, there have been 2 meetings that I have been unable to attend. The first was on 6th September 2004, which was during the CPA inspection week so neither I nor an officer was able to attend. I had hoped to attend the meeting on the 30th November 2004 but had to send my apologies at short notice. The minutes show I did send apologies. The Members' and Officers' Forum is of great use. It has been in operation for a number of years. I have been in contact with the Chairman, John Smith, as a result of him coming to see best practice in recycling at this Council. I have also had meetings with him to show that we are ahead of other authorities with regard to recycling. The next meeting of the Forum is on 3rd March 2005 and the Leader, Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services and I will be there and the Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services will be giving a presentation to that meeting.

To the Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services

2. This time last year the Liberal Group successfully moved that £50,000 be put into the budget to pay for Skateboarding facilities at Brinton Park. Will he now tell the Council:
 - a. Exactly what equipment is to be provided?
 - b. Where in the park it will be situated?

- c. **What consultation over equipment and layout has been carried out with young people?**
- d. **On what date the facility will open for use?**

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services

It was actually £60,000 that was allocated for skateboarding facilities at Brinton Park not £50,000 as stated in the first part of your question.

The equipment that will be provided based on consultation is:-

- A 3 x 8 quarterpipe
- A 4 x 8 wedge
- A 3 x 8 driveway with a grind ledge
- A 2 x 8 central jump
- A 2x 4 driveway
- A 2 x 4 jump combo including grind rail and a 12" grind box
- A 4 x 12 half pipe with a 2 hipped quarter pipe at either end

I am sure you can visualise all this equipment.

As to where it will be situated, it will be situated on the tennis courts in Brinton Park as this is a less controversial site away from residential houses and it is a tarmaced area. This means the area will not have to be tarmaced and thus the money saved can be spent on equipment. We have consulted the Police and Friends of Brinton Park. Also consultation with young people has been extensive. Members of the Fun Box Committee were consulted in December 2004 and were given 3 designs to deliberate. They were also asked for any suggestions. As a result of this, a half-mini pipe and a grind box have been suggested and it has been agreed that these should be included into the tender details. Consultation had been extensive and all the ideas put forward by end users have been taken on board. Skateboard users were also asked to the meeting with the Fun Box Committee to see the 3 designs and a mock up and they were delighted.

I am cautious about dates following the problems with CCTV. The date that the facility will be open is anticipated to be June 2005. However this date is dependent on third party contractors completing their work. The skateboarding equipment is on track to be delivered at this time. I was perplexed when residents in the Brintons Park area showed me Liberal Party Focus leaflets that said that the facility would be open by Easter of this year. I never said that. Furthermore I consulted with Andrew Dickens, Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services and his department has never said that the facility would be open by Easter 2005. I have a very firm grip as Cabinet Member and I will not relax my grip until I get the job completed.

Reply from Councillor Mrs F M Oborski

You said it would be open last summer. I am glad to finally get a date from the Cabinet Member and hope he will consult the Skateboarding Sub Group.

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services

I am delighted to pass on the designs to the Youth Strategy Sub Group.

Questions by Councillor J A Shaw

With reference to the alleged plans for development at Astley Cross, Stourport:

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

3. Will you confirm that the following statement in the Conservative leaflet "Stourport Matters", January 2005 is untrue?

"Malvern Hills Liberal Democrats are proposing to release 200 hectares of Green Belt land adjoining Areley Kings to build a massive estate of 3000 houses.

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

4. Will you confirm that the following statement by Councillor Miss Maureen Mason in the same publication is also untrue?

"Malvern Hills District Council is ignoring our wishes and dumping their housing on Areley Kings pastoral surroundings."

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

In view of what was in the Express and Star Newspaper, I ask the Leader to answer any questions on this.

Answer from the Leader of the Council (Questions 3 and 4)

I gave a public statement about the inaccurate statement in the leaflet about Areley Kings. The inaccuracies were mine and I have taken full responsibility for my actions. I have apologised to the electorate and to Malvern Hills District Council."

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

5. Will you inform the Council of the planning designation of the land in question and the proposals in the Malvern Hills Local Plan to accommodate residential development?

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

Malvern Hills District Council published their Deposit Local Plan for comment in January and the land referred to is a piece of land of approximately 200 hectares running from Astley Burf to the River Severn. Malvern Hills District Council's first Deposit Local Plan was first published in January 2004 and Wyre Forest District Council did not make representations regarding this piece of land as it was land that was designated as open countryside. Open countryside is undeveloped land and can loosely be described as a green field site. Green field land close to a town centre is known as peripheral green field land, which this area is.

What has occurred since the Malvern Hills District Local Plan deposit is that 2 local landowners have filed 6 objections to the Local Plan. Malvern Hills District Council further

consulted with the Council, which sent a letter supporting Malvern Hills District Council policies against the objections, as we don't want development close to Bewdley and Stourport.

Supplementary Question from Councillor J A Shaw

You are the responsible Portfolio Holder responsible for organising the 2nd draft response to Malvern Hills District Local Plan. Were you in a position to explain the untruths in the leaflet and if not why did you not do so?

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

The information is in the public domain and went through the Cabinet in January 2005. I want it made clear to everyone in the Chamber that I am not involved in the County Council election or involved with these leaflets except when I help to deliver them. No one from the group consulted with me to ascertain whether what was contained in the leaflets was true. I was first aware of this when I got your questions. I had no knowledge of this. I introduced a report to Cabinet and the purpose was to get delegated powers to send a letter to Malvern Hills District Council clearly saying we supported them. I explained that this was pre-empted in the press. An article also appeared in the Shuttle on the 27th, which was a complete story of what the situation was, namely that we supported Malvern Hills District Council and extracts of information supplied were published in the Shuttle.

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

- 6. Will you outline, briefly, the steps in the planning process through which major developments, such as in this alleged plan, would be expected to go?**

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

The way it would occur at Malvern Hills District Council is that they would be using the old Local Plan method which was the same as we used for our Local Plan last year and this is how any scheme of any size would be dealt with. In September 2004 a new Act came in and thus Councils are moving from the system used for the old Local Plan to a new Local Development Framework.

We are currently in the middle, in a transitional format between the two systems, which means the only way a major development or change of designation can be dealt with is to go through this process. It cannot be done piecemeal.

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

- 7. Can you identify a development of 3,000 houses anywhere in Worcestershire, which was extra to the number of houses allocated to a district, and which went ahead without the support of the planning authorities. I ask for an answer, either "yes" or "no".**

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

No.

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

8. Do you agree with the comment of planning officer Paul Hill of Malvern Hills District Council, who said, in the Express and Star newspaper of 12th February 2005, that the suggestion of such a development

“flies in the face of local and national planning policy”?

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

I was the person that gave the Express and Star Paul Hill's telephone number and asked them to check the view of Malvern Hills District Council.

Supplementary question from Councillor Shaw:

I name 2 individuals - Councillor Clee and prospective parliamentary candidate - Mr Garnier. Can you confirm the subsequent position adopted by them?

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

When I answered the last but one question I said that we were in a transitional phase between two types of Plan. This phase allows the inspector to issue a binding report. This is not like the old days where an inspector reported to a Local Authority, which could then decide whether or not to accept the outcome in the report. Now the inspector writes a binding report.

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

9. Do you accept the assurances I have given to the people of Areley Kings that there will be no development on this land in the foreseeable future? I ask for an answer, either “yes” or “no”.

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

No.

To the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

10. Do you agree that the Conservative PPC should write a personal letter of apology to each resident whom he deceived into filling in a protest slip?

Answer from the Cabinet Member for Environment and Economic Regeneration

Mark Garnier would be happy to confirm that he would follow up in writing any confusion that occurred in the election process. On this occasion, Mark will contact people and write to them and there will be a subsequent leaflet going out by Ward Councillors.

To the Leader of the Council

11. **What steps has the Leader taken to apologise to the members and officers of Malvern Hills DC for the untruths committed against them?**

Answer from the Leader of the Council

This has already been answered.

To the Leader of the Council

12. **What steps is the Leader proposing to take to apologise to the people of Areley Kings for his part in this misrepresentation?**

Answer from the Leader of the Council

This has already been answered.

Supplementary question from Councillor Shaw:

Statutory Instrument 7575 200, binds Councillors to the Code of Conduct, which states that a Member in his official capacity must conduct himself in a manner that would not bring himself or his office into disrepute. Your conduct breaks that Code of Conduct.

Answer from the Leader of the Council

I disagree. Since this matter received such high profile, one or two residents in Astley were in contact with me. A leaflet from Malvern Hills District Council, similar to Newswyre, had informed residents of Holt and Shrawley that Worcester would sprawl out into the countryside near them. That was from the Leader of Malvern Hills District Council. Residents were confused. I did not think the leaflet helped at all.

To the Leader of the Council

13. **What steps is the Leader proposing to take to discipline Councillors, Dudley, Holden, Mason and Partridge for their roles in this misrepresentation?**

I intend to take no action against my colleagues. They might like to take action against me and I have answered those questions earlier. However, Councillor Miss Mason and Councillor Mike Partridge deserve praise for the work they are doing as Conservative Councillors in Areley Kings, not criticism.

**LIST OF FUNCTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN AND
VICE-CHAIRMAN 2004/2005**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>To be attended by</u>
<u>FEBRUARY</u>		
Thurs. 24 th Feb. (7.00 p.m.)	Rotary Centre Dinner (Ramada Hotel, Bewdley)	Chairman & Consort
Friday 25 th Feb. (1.30 p.m.)	Stourport Canal Basin Map Launch (Stourport Steamer)	Chairman & Consort
Sunday 27 th Feb. (2.15 p.m.)	Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving in the Year of the Volunteer (Worcester Cathedral)	Chairman & Consort
<u>MARCH</u>		
Wed. 2 nd March (6.30 p.m.)	Royal Navy Admiralty Board Presentation on "The Royal Navy Today" (Bank House Hotel, Bransford, Worcester)	Chairman & Consort
Thurs. 3 rd March (2.00 p.m.)	Citizenship Ceremony (County Hall, Worcester)	Chairman & Consort
Friday 4 th March (7.00 p.m.)	Kidderminster Choral Society – Concert (Kidderminster Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort
Sat. 5 th March (2.00 p.m.)	Wyre Forest Talking Newspaper Silver Jubilee (Baxter College, Kidderminster)	Chairman & Consort
Thurs. 10 th March (7.00 p.m.)	WASP Sports Awards 2005 (Sixways, Worcester Rugby Club)	Chairman & Consort
Friday 11 th March (7.30 p.m.)	Classical Music Society Concert (Kidderminster Library)	Chairman & Consort
Sunday 13 th March (3.30 p.m.)	Herefordshire Council - Civic Service (Hereford Cathedral)	Chairman & Consort
Monday 14 th March (2.00 p.m.)	Citizenship Ceremony (County Hall, Worcester)	Chairman & Consort
Wed 16 th March (3.30 p.m.)	Opening of Royal Forester Public House and Restaurant (Royal Forester, Callow Hill)	Chairman & Consort

Friday 18 th March (2.30 p.m.)	King Charles I High School Speech Day (Oldfield Hall, King Charles I School, Kidderminster)	Chairman & Consort
Friday 18 th March (7.00 p.m.)	Wyre Forest Young Voices Concert (Kidderminster Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort
Sat. 19 th Mar (7.30 p.m.)	Kidderminster Choral Society Concert (Kidderminster Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort
Tues. 22 nd March (2.00 p.m.)	Visit of Ambassador of El Salvador (Far Forest Friendship Club)	Chairman & Consort
Thurs. 24 th March (7.30 p.m.)	Worcestershire County Council Youth Dance Platform (Swan Theatre, Worcester)	Chairman & Consort
Thurs. 31 st March (7.30 p.m.)	Star Cabaret in aid of the Tsunami Appeal (Kidderminster Harriers Social Club)	Chairman & Consort

APRIL 2005

Saturday 2 nd April (7.30 p.m.)	Redditch Borough Council Charity Civic Dinner (Town Hall, Redditch)	Chairman & Consort
Sunday 3 rd April (12.30 p.m.)	Kidderminster Carnival – Judging of Princess Contest (Kidderminster Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort
Sunday 3 rd April (3.00 p.m.)	Evesham Town Council - Civic Service (All Saints Church, Evesham)	Chairman & Consort
Thursday 7 th April (3.00 p.m.)	Opening of Treatment Centre by HRH The Duchess of Gloucester (Kidderminster Hospital)	Chairman & Consort
Friday 8 th April (6.45 p.m.)	Stourport-on-Severn Town Council Civic Charity Ball (Civic Hall, Stourport-on-Severn)	Chairman & Consort
Saturday 9 th April (7.00 p.m.)	Kidderminster Male Choir - Concert (Kidderminster Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort
Saturday 9 th April (12 noon)	Evesham Town Council Mayoress Charity Garden Party (Evesham Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort

Sunday 10 th April (11.00 a.m.)	Malvern Hills District Council Civic Service (The Parish Church of Clifton upon Teme)	Chairman & Consort
Wed. 13 th April (12.00 noon)	Funeral of the late Norman Broome (St. Mary & All Saints Church, Kidderminster)	Chairman & Consort
Wed. 13 th April (2.00 p.m.)	Citizenship Ceremony (County Hall, Worcester)	Chairman & Consort
Saturday 16 th April (8.00 p.m.)	Mayor of Tenbury's Charity Dinner (The Fountain Inn, Oldwood, Tenbury Wells)	Chairman & Consort
Tuesday 19 th April (7.30 p.m.)	Youth Makes Music 2005 (Kidderminster Town Hall)	Chairman & Consort
Wed. 20 th April (6.00 p.m.)	Full Council (Council Chamber, Civic Centre)	Chairman

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL
20TH APRIL 2005

Taxi Licensing

COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	OPEN ed Health and Wellbeing
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enabling Community Wellbeing
KEY PRIORITY:	Public Health
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Mrs. Maureen Aston
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health and Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Mark Kay – Extension 2580 Mark.Kay@wyreforestdoc.gov.uk
APPENDICES:	Appendix A – Report by Halcrow Group Ltd. (available in Group Rooms and a public inspection copy is available on request)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consider a report by Halcrow Group Ltd. as outlined in *Appendix A* and to decide Wyre Forest District Council's future policy in respect of Hackney Carriage numbers.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to **DECIDE** that:

- 2.1 The report of Halcrow Group Limited regarding its Hackney Carriage Unmet Demand Survey dated 31st March, 2005 be noted.
- 2.2 The current limit of 83 Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licences be increased to 93 with 10 additional Licences to be issued immediately by means of a ballot, as recommended in the report, but only for vehicles which comply with wheelchair local accessibility standards.
- 2.3 Authority be delegated to the Licensing and Environmental Committee to determine the manner in which the ballot will be conducted and to set local standards for wheelchair accessibility.
- 2.4 The requirements of the Department for Transport, as contained in its letter to the Chief Executive dated 16th June 2004, be noted.
- 2.5 The Head of Planning, Health and Environment be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to draw up a Deregulation Plan designed to:

- a) meet the Government's request to review the case for restricting the number of hackney carriage vehicle licences;
- b) make public the outcome of the review;
- c) provide a three-year phased approach to removing the numerical limits on hackney carriage licences after 1st April 2008;
- d) balance the needs of taxi users, licence holders and new entrants to the taxi industry;
- e) address any other related issues including vehicle safety, quality and service standards.

2.6 The Cabinet be authorised, after consultation with the Licensing and Environmental Committee, to approve the Deregulation Plan in respect of the deregulation of quantity control of hackney carriage licences.

3. **BACKGROUND**

3.1 The Office of Fair Trading published a market Study into the regulation of taxis and private hire vehicles in the U.K. in November 2003 and the written response from the Government requires those local Councils wishing to restrict the issue of taxi licences to identify and publish a justification of local policies to restrict taxi licences by 31st March 2005.

3.2 The Government has made it clear that in its own opinion restrictions should only be retained where there is shown to be a clear benefit for the customer and that Councils should publicly justify their reasons for the retention of restrictions.

3.3 The Office of Fair Trading has recommended that Local Authorities should not continue to restrict numbers because restrictions can:

- a) reduce the availability of taxis
- b) increase the waiting time for consumers
- c) reduce choice and safety for consumers
- d) restricts those wanting to set up a taxi business

3.4 Wyre Forest District Council has chosen to restrict the numbers of taxis operating within the District and so is now required to review its policy and to make that review public.

3.5 The 'taxi trade' has made clear its wish to stay within regulation and has agreed to fund a 'needs' Survey to assess what unmet demand, if any, there is within the Wyre Forest area.

3.6 Following Council's resolution on 8th December 2004 Halcrow Group Limited were appointed to conduct a 'needs' Survey and, if finding the existence of unmet demand, to justify the reasons for retention of quantity restriction, advise on a 3 year Deregulation Plan, and to produce a report by 31st March 2005.

4. **RELATED DECISIONS**

4.1 Licensing and Environmental Committee - 6th September 2004:

1. The Cabinet and the Council be recommended to continue restricting the number of taxi licenses issued and recognise the requirement for a needs survey to support this decision.
2. The Environment and Economic Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Panel be requested to consider the above recommendation in association with its review of the nighttime economy within the District.

4.2 The Environment and Economic Regeneration Policy and Scrutiny Panel considered reports at their meetings on 6th and 27th October 2004 and made specific recommendations.

4.3 Licensing and Environmental Committee -29th November 2004:

1. That a seminar be held to brief all Members on this matter prior to Council on the 8th December, 2004; and
2. At its meeting on the 8th December Council make a decision whether to continue with regulation or to deregulate Hackney Carriage Vehicle licensing.

4.4 Council – 8th December 2004:

1. The Head of Planning, Health and Environment in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services commission a study by independent transport consultants to:
 - a) determine whether or not there exists a significant unmet demand for hackney carriage services in the District of Wyre Forest taking into account any latent demand;
 - b) determine the number of additional licences required to meet any identified unmet demand;
 - c) if a need for additional licences is identified, then advise on a 3 year Deregulation Plan under which a specific number of new licences would be granted annually from 1st April 2005 to 1st April 2008, subject to approved local criteria including accessibility, suitability and age of vehicles;
 - d) justify the reasons for retention of quantity restrictions and how the numbers have been reached;
 - e) state why the removal of restrictions would lead to consumer detriment as a result of local conditions; and
 - f) Advise generally on any other matters relevant to restrictions on hackney carriage vehicles.

The Taxi Trade's offer to sponsor the study be accepted.

5. SURVEY RESULTS

Main Findings

- 5.1 A significant unmet demand has been identified which will require the Authority to issue Hackney Carriage licences on demand until demand has been met. The report calculates that 10 extra licenses are needed immediately.
- 5.2 The report does not expressly recommend that the Authority pursue a policy of deregulation, however it does confirm that the Authority retains the discretion to deregulate.
- 5.3 If the Council was to decide to pursue a policy of continuing licensing restrictions, then the Survey recommends that any new licences issued are for new wheelchair accessible vehicles and retaining the current regulations on vehicle type and colour.
- 5.4 If staying within regulation, the Survey suggests 3 methods of allocating licences
 - a. Issue licences from a waiting list
 - b. If no waiting list is available, interview and grade potential drivers against a set of predetermined criteria
 - c. Use a lottery system

It should be noted Wyre Forest District Council does not have a waiting list.

- 5.5 If the Authority is to pursue a policy of continued regulation, then the Survey suggests the following reasons for justifying any decision to stay in regulation:
 - i. The trade is overwhelmingly in support of retaining restriction and 100% of Hackney Carriage trade interviewed considered there to be sufficient Hackney Carriages available
 - ii. The trade and other respondents are of the opinion that removing the current limit will lead to congestion on existing taxi ranks
 - iii. Rural areas are mainly served by the private hire fleet and so entry control requirements would have a neutral effect on rural communities
 - iv. The current restriction is of benefit to the trade
 - v. If the numerical limit were to be removed, a significant number of Hackney Carriage drivers have indicated they will leave the trade
 - vi. A key component of the Local Transport Plan strategy is to foster good relations with the trade, work closely with them to obtain a general improvement in service delivery and customer care.

6. KEY ISSUES

- 6.1 The Council has to decide whether or not to remain within regulation or to deregulate basing its decision on the evidence contained within the Survey
- 6.2 If a decision is made to continue within regulation, then the Council will have to justify this decision based upon the suggested reasons contained within the Survey or upon other reasons as it sees fit. A decision will also be required as to how to allocate any new licences.
- 6.3 Members will have to make a judgement as to the validity of the suggested reasons for justifying staying within regulation. The Council's Head of Planning, Health and Environment, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, has considered the reasons suggested by the Consultants and would comment as follows:
- The reasons put forward are considered to be insubstantial, inadequate in the face of legal challenge and not robust enough to support the retention of regulation; they do not justify why regulation would be of benefit to the residents of Wyre Forest and are generally partial in favour of the taxi trade as they have been derived from survey responses principally from taxi drivers.
- 6.4 The Council could also consider following a path of phased deregulation which would involve issuing 10 additional Hackney Carriage licences immediately and then producing a 3 year deregulation plan which would see regulation of numbers phased out by 2008.
- 6.5 Such a deregulation plan could involve issuing a set number of licences in subsequent years, i.e. 2006 and 2007 and could also address other issues such as vehicle type, livery etc. and provide a mechanism to deal with applications in excess of the number of plates available.
- 6.6 If the Council followed the path of phased deregulation then current legal advice indicates that the Council would not have to justify its decision and this would address the concerns raised in paragraph 6.3.

7. OPTIONS

- 7.1 There are essentially 3 options open to the Council:
- The Council decides to discontinue regulation but insists that new licences issued should be for new wheelchair accessible vehicles only.
 - The Council decides to continue to operate a policy of regulation and makes arrangements to meet the significant unmet demand by the immediate issue of 10 additional Hackney Carriage plates. The Council could also insist that new licences issued be for new wheelchair accessible vehicles only; in which case the Council must decide the preferred method of allocation of any new plates. It is suggested that in this case this is by lottery due to the fact that the Council does not operate a waiting list and that developing an interview system would take too long. The organisation and running of such a lottery could be delegated to the Head of Planning, Health and Environment in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

- A 3 year plan for phased deregulation of number restriction.

7.2 If the Council decides to proceed with number restriction then it will have to publicly justify its reasons. Members will have to decide if the reasons for justification contained within the report are robust enough to support such an argument.

7.3 The option of a phased 3 year plan of deregulation would be an option as long as 10 additional Hackney Carriage licences are issued immediately to meet the unmet demand identified within the Halcrow Group Limited Survey.

The Council could then produce a 3 year deregulation plan which would address the issues of taking the Council out of regulation by 2008.

7.4 Such a deregulation plan would look at the phased release of licences during 2006 and 2007 taking account of the 10 licences to be granted in 2005.. The Plan would also consider issues relating to tighter quality control such as vehicle type, livery etc.

7.5 A 3 year phased deregulation plan would have the advantage of meeting the identified unmet demand but would give the trade and other stakeholders a lengthy period to consider what changes deregulation would bring.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 If a decision is made to stay within regulation, then another 'needs' Survey will be required within 3 years with no guarantee of how it will be funded.

8.2 The cost of the current Survey has been met by the trade in full.

8.3 The costs of any 3 year deregulation plan can be met from existing budgets.

9. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The grant of ten additional Hackney Carriage Vehicle licences

- A. Council resolved at its meeting on 8th December to commission the Halcrow Survey for the purpose of identifying any significant unmet demand for taxis
- B. At present the council has a discretion to refuse to grant a hackney carriage vehicle licence but only if it is satisfied that there is no significant demand for taxis which is unmet
- C. The Halcrow Survey has clearly identified the need for ten additional licences to meet demand
- D. If council does not resolve to issue the ten new licences immediately, the Licensing and Environmental Committee will not be able to refuse any new application for a licence until ten new licences have been issued. To do so would be to act unlawfully.

Staying in regulation

- A. If it is decided to stay in regulation regular surveys of unmet demand will have to be made at least every three years at considerable cost
- B. The council will have to report to the DfT that to do so will provide significant benefits to consumers. The survey has failed to identify any such benefits
- C. Even between three yearly surveys officers will have to continually review the numerical limits with the consequent use of resources
- D. It is clear from the survey that the present unmet demand has built up over the last three years. Thus unmet demand is being satisfied retrospectively. It is conceivable that even after the ten new licences have been issued new applicants could still apply for licences. If these were refused, there is every possibility that the refusal could be successfully appealed in the Crown Court with the council being ordered to pay costs

Controlled deregulation

- A. There would be no need for regular and expensive surveys
- B. Council would not have to justify its reasons to the DfT
- C. There would be a saving in resources as applications could be dealt with at Officer level rather than having to convene the Licensing and Environmental Committee
- D. Controlled deregulation will have the effect of anticipating and meeting the build up of significant unmet demand. This is likely to deter any further applications over and above the number to be issued each year as determined by council. It would also greatly increase the council's ability to successfully challenge any appeal in the Crown Court

10. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 10.1 The Survey does not give any indication of positive benefits to the consumers of Wyre Forest from staying in regulation and the reasons provided for 'justification' are not considered robust. Staying within 'regulation' would leave the Council open to legal challenge at any time in the future from persons wishing to enter the trade. The Council already has one application refused by the Licensing and Environmental Committee, where the applicant has the clear intention of appealing pending the outcome of the Council's decision on this report.
- 10.2 By pursuing a 3 year deregulation plan the Council would not have to justify its reasons for doing so and would be meeting the initial unmet demand and considering its actions over the coming 3 years.

11. CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The Council has to decide to either deregulate or stay within regulation and publicly justify its reasons for doing so or produce and follow a 3 year plan of phased deregulation.
- 11.2 If the Council decides to continue with its current policy of 'number restriction' then 10 Hackney Carriage Licences will have to be issued immediately but could be

subject to conditions as above. In addition Members will have to justify the reasons for staying within regulation.

- 11.3 Members must also agree a method of allocation, the implementation of which needs to be delegated to officers.
- 11.4 The Government is encouraging deregulation of hackney carriage vehicle licence numbers. Restrictions on numbers must be justified. It is felt that the deregulation plan is a responsible approach to deregulation.

12. **CONSULTEES**

- 12.1 Head of Planning, Health and Environment
Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Chief Executive
Head of Financial Services

13. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 13.1 Wyre Forest District Council Hackney Carriage Unmet Demand Study
– March 2005

12th April 2005

AGENDA ITEM 10(a)

COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL 2005

POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

MATTER WHICH REQUIRES A DECISION BY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT CONTROL) COMMITTEE – 8TH MARCH 2005

Purpose of Report

To consider a recommendation from the Planning (Development Control) Committee on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Would Councillors please note that the related report has not been re-circulated as it has already been sent to all Members via the Planning (Development Control) Committee agenda. In addition, a further copy of the agenda has been placed in Group Rooms. A public inspection copy is available on request. (See front cover for contact details.)

ITEM REVIEW OF PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING PLANNING APPLICATIONS REQUIRING A SECTION 106 OBLIGATION

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

The Planning (Development Control) Committee considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment regarding proposed changes to the way in which planning applications requiring a Section 106 obligation are handled, in order to improve performance.

**Chairman
Stephen
Williams**

The Council is recommended that:

Authority be delegated to the Head of Planning, Health and Environment, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to refuse planning applications where the Section 106 obligation is not completed within the time period notified to the Applicant.

The report is on page 145 of the Planning (Development Control) Committee agenda of 8th March 2005.

AGENDA ITEM 10(b)

COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20th April 2005

POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE A DECISION BY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET – 17th MARCH 2005

Purpose of Report

To consider recommendations from the Cabinet on matters outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Would Councillors please note that the related reports and documents have not been re-circulated as they have already been sent to all Members via the Cabinet agenda. In addition, a further copy of the Cabinet agenda has been placed in Group Rooms. A public inspection copy is available on request. The Memorandum of Understanding, referred to at item 2 below, has been posted on the Council's website. (See front cover for contact details.)

ITEM	RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL	CABINET MEMBER
<u>AMENDMENT TO SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS – SURRENDER OF LEASES AND TENANCIES</u>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services and approved the acceptance of surrenders of the tenancies of Units 8, 9 and 21 Hoobrook Enterprise Centre.</p> <p>The Cabinet proposes that the Scheme of Delegation is widened to allow the Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services to accept surrenders of leases and tenancies where advantageous to the Council.</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <p>The Scheme of Delegation to Officers be amended to give the Head of Cultural, Leisure and Commercial Services authority to accept surrenders of leases and tenancies where advantageous to the Council.</p>	John-Paul Campion

	The report is on page 47 of the Cabinet agenda of 17 th March 2005.	
<p>2.</p> <p><u>HEREFORDSHIRE AND WORCESTERSHIRE “SOCIAL ENTERPRISE” SUPPORT PARTNERSHIP</u></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment regarding the development of a Herefordshire and Worcestershire “Social Enterprise” Support Partnership. The Cabinet agreed to ask the Council to support the Partnership and its activities by approving a “Memorandum of Understanding”.</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <p>The Council sign up to the principles set out in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Social Enterprise Support Partnership’s draft Memorandum of Understanding, as detailed in the Appendix to the report to the Cabinet on 17th March 2005.</p> <p>The report is on page 52 of the Cabinet agenda of 17th March 2005.</p>	James Dudley

AGENDA ITEM 10(c)

COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20th April 2005

POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE A DECISION BY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET – 14th APRIL 2005

Purpose of Report

To consider recommendations from the Cabinet on matters outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

As this report has been issued before the Cabinet meets on 14th April 2005, the recommendations below are as proposed in the relevant reports to the Cabinet. An update will be given at the Council meeting.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Would Councillors please note that the related reports and documents have not been re-circulated as they have already been sent to all Members via the Cabinet Agenda. In addition, a further copy of the Cabinet agenda has been placed in Group Rooms. A public inspection copy is available on request. The documents referred to below have been posted on the Council's website. (See front cover for contact details.)

ITEM	RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL	CABINET MEMBER
<u>DELIVERING EFFICIENCY SAVINGS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ANNUAL EFFICIENCY STATEMENTS</u>	<p>The Cabinet will consider a report from the Chief Executive and the Head of Financial Services, which outlines the Council's approach for delivering annual efficiency savings, as required by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). The Cabinet will be asked to approve the 2005/06 forward-looking part of the Council's first Annual Efficiency Statement (AES) for submission to the ODPM and to delegate authority, as detailed below, for the submission of future AESs. Subject to the Cabinet's response to the report:</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <p>Authority be delegated to the Chief Executive and the Head of Financial Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs, to approve</p>	<p>MEMBER Clee John Campion</p>

	<p>and submit future Annual Efficiency Statements.</p> <p>The report is at Page 8 of the Cabinet agenda of 14th April 2005.</p>	
<p>2.</p> <p><u>SUPPORTING PEOPLE PROGRESS REPORT AND FIVE YEAR STRATEGY</u></p>	<p>The Cabinet will consider a progress report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment on the implementation of the Supporting People regime. The Cabinet will be asked to recommend the Council to approve a draft 5-year strategy prior to countywide consultation. Subject to the Cabinet's response to the report:</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The latest position regarding service reviews and the financial position of the Supporting People Service, as detailed in the report to the Cabinet on 14th April 2005, be noted. 2. The Draft 5-Year Strategy, as circulated separately from the report, be approved prior to the three-month consultation process. <p>The report is on page 17 of the Cabinet agenda of 14th April 2005.</p>	<p>Maureen Aston</p>
<p>3.</p> <p><u>KIDDERMINSTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION STRATEGY</u></p>	<p>The Cabinet will consider a report from the Chief Executive seeking a recommendation to Council for the approval of this strategy. Subject to the Cabinet's response to the report::</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <p>The Kidderminster Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy, as detailed in the report to the Cabinet on 14th April 2005, be approved.</p> <p>The report is on page 23 of the Cabinet agenda of 14th April 2005.</p>	<p>James Dudley</p>

<p>4. <u>WORCESTERSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2 (LTP2) 2006/2011 CONSULTATION DRAFT FEBRUARY 2005</u></p>	<p>The Cabinet will consider a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment on the content of the LTP2 draft consultation document and the key issues relating to the Wyre Forest District. The Cabinet will be asked to recommend a reply to the consultation. Subject to the Cabinet's response to the report::</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The comments set out in Appendix 1 of the report to the Cabinet on 14th April 2005, together with any other comments the Cabinet wishes to make, be approved as the District Council's response to the Draft Local Transport Plan 2, for submission to Worcestershire County Council. 2. The Head of Planning, Health and Environment be authorised to submit Wyre Forest District Council's representations on the Consultation Draft Local Transport Plan 2 to Worcestershire County Council by 29th April 2005. <p>The report is on page 33 of the Cabinet agenda of 14th April 2005.</p>	<p>James Dudley</p>
<p>5. <u>WYRE FOREST DISTRICT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI)</u></p>	<p>The Cabinet will consider a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment on the development of the draft SCI. The Cabinet will be asked to seek Council's approval for its content and the proposals to take it forward for a 6-week consultation period commencing on Thursday 28th April 2005. Subject to the Cabinet's response to the report::</p> <p>The Council is recommended that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Draft Statement of Community Involvement, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report to the Cabinet on 14th April 2005, be approved for the purposes of pre-submission public participation in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local 	<p>James Dudley</p>

	<p>Development) (England) Regulations 2004.</p> <p>2. The Head of Planning Health and Environment be authorised to make the appropriate arrangements to publish the Draft Statement of Community Involvement for a 6-week consultation period commencing on 28th April 2005.</p> <p>The report is on page 52 of the Cabinet agenda of 14th April 2005.</p>	
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AGENDA ITEM 10(c)

ADDENDUM

COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 20th April 2005

POLICY AND BUDGET FRAMEWORK

MATTER WHICH REQUIRES A DECISION BY COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CABINET – 14th APRIL 2005

Purpose of Report

To consider a recommendation from the Cabinet on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

As this report has been issued before the Cabinet meets on 14th April 2005, the recommendation below is as proposed in the relevant report to the Cabinet. An update will be given at the Council meeting.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Would Councillors please note that the related report has not been re-circulated as it has already been sent to all Members via the Cabinet agenda. In addition, a further copy of the Cabinet agenda has been placed in Group Rooms. A public inspection copy is available on request. The draft Wyre Forest District Community Safety Strategy (2005-2008) has been posted on the Council's website. (See front cover of Council Book for contact details.)

ITEM **DRAFT WYRE** **FOREST DISTRICT** **COMMUNITY** **SAFETY** **STRATEGY (2005** **TO 2008)**

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

The Cabinet will consider a report from the Chief Executive seeking approval for this draft strategy, produced by the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership. The Cabinet will be asked to recommend the Council accordingly. Subject to the Cabinet's response to the report:

CABINET
Nathan
MEMBER
Desmond

The Council is recommended that:

The Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership's draft Community Safety Strategy for the period 2005 to 2008, as circulated as a separate appendix to the report to the Cabinet on 14th April 2005, be approved.

The report is at Page 80 of the Cabinet agenda of 14th April 2005.

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING
20TH APRIL 2005

Amendment to Scheme of Delegation to include Temporary Stop Notices

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:	A Better Environment
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Delivering Quality Services
KEY PRIORITY:	Best Practice
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor James Dudley
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Head of Planning, Health and Environment
CONTACT OFFICER:	Clare Eynon – Extension 2515 Clare.Eynon@wyreforestdc.gov.uk
APPENDICES:	None

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the new tool available for enforcing against breaches of planning control – Temporary Stop Notices.
- 1.2 To amend the Scheme of Delegation to Officers, Planning (Development Control) Committee and Planning (Enforcement) Committee which was adopted in July 2003.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Council is asked to DECIDE that:

- 2.1 **Delegated powers be given to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Head of Planning, Health and Environment to serve or withhold a Temporary Stop Notice following consultation with the Chairman or in his absence the Vice Chairman of the Planning (Enforcement) Committee.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The current Scheme of Delegation was adopted in July 2003 and refers to the different tools available for enforcing planning control, including Breach of Condition Notices, Enforcement Notices and Stop Notices.

- 3.2 Section 52 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 gives Local Planning Authorities a new power for enforcing planning control - a 'Temporary Stop Notice' Such powers became effective from 7th March 2005.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1 Local Planning Authorities are able to issue a Temporary Stop Notice where they consider that there has been a breach of planning control and it is expedient in the interests of safeguarding the amenity of the area that the activity that amounts to the breach should stop immediately.
- 4.2 Unlike a Stop Notice the new Temporary Stop Notice takes effect immediately but only lasts for a period up to 28 days. During the 28 day period the Local Planning Authority must consider whether it is appropriate to take enforcement action. The Notice must set out the activity that the Local Planning Authority thinks is a breach of planning control and also the reasons for issuing the notice.
- 4.3 ODPM Circular 02/2005 gives further guidance on Temporary Stop Notices.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Circular 02/2005 sets out the circumstances in which a claim for compensation may be made against a Local Planning Authority. It states that a person who at the time the temporary stop notice is served has an interest in the land may be entitled to compensation for any loss or damage directly attributable to the prohibition effected by the notice.
- 5.2 Compensation is only payable if:
- the activity specified in the notice was the subject of an existing planning permission or is permitted development
 - the LPA later issue a Lawful Development Certificate confirming that the development was lawful
 - the LPA withdraws the temporary stop notice
- 5.3 Compensation is **not** payable where the LPA subsequently grant retrospective planning permission for the activity specified in the notice.
- 5.4 There is a 12 month time limit running from the date the notice ceased to have effect, or the date it was withdrawn, for claiming compensation for loss or damage due to a temporary stop notice.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A Temporary Stop Notice may not prohibit the use of a building as a dwellinghouse. It also cannot prohibit the stationing of a caravan where it is the main place of residence by the occupier.

- 6.2 There is no right of appeal against a Temporary Stop Notice, however the validity and propriety of the Local Planning Authority's decision to issue the notice may be challenged by judicial review.
- 6.3 Temporary Stop Notices are subject to Section 3 of the Human Rights Act 1998 and are compatible with the Convention rights. The Local Planning Authority however must be satisfied that immediate cessation of the activity is expedient in the circumstances and must set out its reasons for this decision on the face of the notice.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 Circular 02/2005 advises that because the issue of a notice may have immediate serious consequences on a business, Local Planning Authorities should ensure that a quick but thorough assessment of the likely consequences of issuing a temporary stop notice is available. It also states that it should not be necessary to carry out a detailed cost/benefit assessment but consideration should be given to potential costs to the person who will be served with the notice, balanced against the damage to the amenity of the area from allowing the activity to continue. It will not therefore be appropriate to use it in every case where a breach of planning control is identified.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 To avoid any unnecessary delay in the service of Temporary Stop Notice resulting from the 6-8 week period between Planning (Enforcement) Committee meetings, it is considered essential that delegated powers be extended to the Head of Planning Health and Environment Division to enable unauthorised development to cease where it is causing serious harm to the amenity of an area.

9. CONSULTEES

- 9.1 Head of Legal and Democratic Services

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Executive report 12th June 2003
Council Report 16th July 2003
ODPM Circular 02/2005

DRAFT
CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2005/2006

MAY 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	3	4 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny Committee <i>(for call-in purposes only)</i>	5 Worcs. County Council Elections	6	7	8
9 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	10 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee 6 pm Planning (DC) Committee	11	12 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee	13	14	15
16	17 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee	18 6 pm Annual Council	1 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee	20	21	22
23 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental Committee 6 pm Misc Functions	24 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee	25	26 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee 6 pm Cabinet <i>WCC</i>	27	28	29
30 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	31 10.30 am Licensing Sub Committee 6 pm Housing Health and Rural Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel <i>Bewdley Town Council Planning/Council meeting</i>					

JUNE 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny	2 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning Enforcement	3		5
6 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental (main committee)	7 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning DC	8 6 pm Environment & Economic Regeneration Policy & Scrutiny Panel	9 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing	10 2 pm Wyre Forest Highways Partnership Forum	6	12
13 CMT/Cabinet Briefing	14 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Audit Panel	15 6 pm Commercial Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	16 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for Call in purposes	17	18	19
20 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	21 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Ethics & Standards	22 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	23 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing	24	25	26
27 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	28 10.30 am Licensing	29 6 pm Environment & Economic Regeneration Policy & Scrutiny Panel	30 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet			

JULY 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning DC	6	7 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing	8	9	10
11 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	12 10.30 am Licensing	13	14 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Commercial & Leisure Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	15	16	17
18 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental (main committee) 6 pm Kidderminster Education Foundation Working Group	19 10.30 am Licensing	20 6 pm Council	21 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for Call in	22	23	24
25 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	26 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Housing, Health & Rural Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	27 6 pm Planning Enforcement	28 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet	29	30	31

AUGUST 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning DC	3	4 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing	5	6	7
8 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	9 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	10 6 pm Environmental & Economic Regeneration Panel	11 10.30 am Licensing	12	13	14
15	16 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Audit Panel	17 6 pm Commercial Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	18 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	19	20	21
22 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	23 10.30 am Licensing	24	25 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet	26	27	28
29 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	30 10.30 am Licensing	31				

SEPTEMBER 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing	2	3	4
5 Licensing & Environmental (main committee)	6 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning DC	7	8 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Community & Leisure Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	9	10	11
12 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	13 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Audit Panel	14 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	15 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning Enforcement	16	17	18
19	20 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Ethics & Standards	21 6 pm Council	22 10.30 am Licensing	23	24	25
26 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	27 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Housing, Health & Rural Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	28	29 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet	30		

OCTOBER 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning DC	5	6 10.30 am Licensing	7	8	9
10 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	11 10.30 am Licensing	12 6 pm Environmental & Economic Regeneration Panel	13 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing	14	15	16
17 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental (main committee)	18 10.30 am Licensing	19 6 pm Commercial Services Policy & Scrutiny	20 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	21	22	23
24 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	25 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	26	27 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Planning DC	2	3 10.30 am Licensing	4	5	6
7 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	8 10.30 am Licensing	9 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	10 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Planning Enforcement 10.30 am Licensing	11	12	13
14 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	15 10.30 am Licensing	16 6 pm Council	17 10.30 am Licensing	18	19	20
21 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	22 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Housing, Health & Rural Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	23 6 pm Environmenta l & Economic Regeneration Policy & Scrutiny Panel	24 <i>CMT</i> 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Cabinet	25	26	27
28 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental (main committee) 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	29 10.30 am Licensing 6 pm Audit Panel	30				

DECEMBER 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	6 6 pm Planning DC	7	8 <i>CMT</i>	9	10	11
12 6 pm Budget Task & Finish Group	13	14 6 pm Council	15 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	16	17	18
19 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	20 6 pm Ethics & Standards	21 6 pm Commercial Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	22 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Cabinet	23	24	25
26 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	27 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	28 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	29	30	31	

JANUARY 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	3 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	4	5 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Community & Leisure Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	6	7	8
9 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental (main committee) <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i> 6 pm Budget Task & Finish Group	10 6 pm Planning DC	11	12 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	13	14	15
16	17	18 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	19 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Planning Enforcement	20	21	22
23 6 pm Budget Task & Finish Group	24 6 pm Housing, Health & Rural Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	25	26 6 pm Cabinet	27	28	29
30 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	31 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel					

FEBRUARY 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2 <i>CMT</i>	3	4	5
6 6 pm Budget Task & Finish Group <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	7 6 pm Planning DC	8 6 pm Environment & Economic Regeneration Policy & Scrutiny Panel	9	10	11	12
13 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	14 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	15 6 pm Commercial Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	16 <i>CMT</i> 5 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for Call in 6 pm Cabinet	17	18	19
20 6 pm Cabinet (if required)	21	22 6 pm Council <i>Subject to C.C. meeting on 16.02.05</i>	23	24	25	26
27	28 6 pm Audit Panel					

MARCH 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Planning Enforcement	3	4	5
6	7 6 pm Planning (DC)	8 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny Committee	9	10	11	12
13 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	14 6 pm Ethics & Standards	15	16 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	17	18	19
20 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	21 6 pm Audit Panel	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 6 pm Housing, Health & Rural Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	29 6 pm Environment & Economic Regeneration Policy & Scrutiny Panel	30 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Cabinet	31		

APRIL 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3 10.30 am Licensing & Environmental	4 6 pm Finance & Corporate Affairs Policy & Scrutiny Panel	5 Commercial Services Policy & Scrutiny Panel	6	7	8	9
10 <i>CMT/Cabinet Briefing</i>	11 6 pm Planning (DC)	12	13 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Planning Enforcement	14 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	15	16
17 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	18	19 6 pm Council	20 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny for call in	21	22	23
24 6 pm Miscellaneous Functions	25	26 6 pm Environmental & Economic Regeneration Policy & Scrutiny Panel	27 <i>CMT</i> 6 pm Cabinet	28	29	30

MAY 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	2	3 6 pm Cabinet Scrutiny (for call in purposes)	4 DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 6 pm Annual Council	18 6 pm Planning DC	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Bank Holiday Offices Closed	30	31				

