

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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Report Originator	Martin Hammond SMT	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i>	
Wards Affected	ALL	18 th September 2018	
Title	RESPONSES OF THE EXECUTIVE TO REPORTS OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide responses from the Executive Committee to reports from Research and Development Committee in relation to:

- Library Provision in Rothwell and Desborough
- Constitution Amendments
- Ward Initiative Fund – Review of Restrictions
- Car Parking Charging Strategy

2. INFORMATION

2.1 In line with the Council's Constitution, scrutiny committees may submit recommendations for proposals to the Executive Committee for consideration, with a response of the Executive then submitted to the next available meeting.

2.2 At its meeting held on 12th June 2018, the Research and Development Committee submitted recommendations on four items to the Executive Committee. These are detailed below:

Minute No.	Subject	Recommendation to Executive
18.RD.08	Library Provision in Rothwell and Desborough	That the Research and Development Committee recommend to the Executive Committee that it consider the capital purchase of Rothwell and Desborough library buildings and that it call an emergency meeting to make a decision on the matter prior to the 25 th June deadline set by Northamptonshire County Council.
18.RD.10	Constitution Amendments	That the Committee recommended to the Executive Committee that it approved the proposed amendments to the Constitution, and recommended them to Council, subject to the inclusion of the comment regarding the proposed reduction in speaking times as outlined above (18.RD.05).

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18.RD.11	Ward Initiative Fund – Review of Restrictions	<p>That the Committee recommended to the Executive Committee that the following amendments be made to the Ward Initiative Fund guidelines:-</p> <p>Removal of the following prohibitions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Any request where the beneficiary has received or is set to receive funding from any other scheme of the Borough Council or County Council; and ii) The Ward Initiative Fund will not substitute itself as a provider/funder of services when another public provider cuts such a service; and iii) Where appropriate, to enable Ward Initiative Fund payments to be made upon receipt of quotes or pro forma invoices to enable fund recipients to receive payment in a timely fashion.
18.RD.13	Car Parking Charging Strategy	<p>That based on the manifestos for both the administration and opposition at the 2015 Borough Council elections, that the Executive Committee reviews and revises downwards the cost of car parking charges in Kettering town centre.</p>

2.3 At its meeting on 11th July, the Executive Committee considered the recommendations of the Research and Development Committee as follows.

Minute No.	Subject	Response of the Executive
18.EX.21	Library Provision in Rothwell and Desborough	<p>The Chair of the Executive decided not to convene an urgent meeting of the Executive after discussions with officers and members of the County Council about their intended approach had clarified that there was no immediate prospect of closure and that the County Council were prepared to consider leasing options as well as sale options. Given that both groups looking to provide ongoing library services had submitted a proposal to lease their respective buildings, the Executive Committee felt there was no case to offer to buy the buildings in order to preserve the continuation of a library service.</p> <p>During discussion members commented that the two business plans were very well put together and</p>

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		<p>felt that the best way forward would be for the community groups to rent the buildings from NCC to keep operating costs to a minimum.</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION</u> That the Executive noted the report, endorsed the approach taken to date and advise the Research and Development Committee accordingly.</p>
18.EX.19	Constitution Amendments	<p>Members discussed the proposed amendments and supported the proposal (as reported) in respect of speaking time as it would enable more people to be involved in speaking during the meetings.</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION</u> That the Executive recommended to Council that it approves the proposed amendments to the Constitution</p> <p>This matter was subsequently determined at full Council in July in accordance with recommendations of the Executive Committee.</p>
18.EX.20	Ward Initiative Fund – Review of Restrictions	<p>The Executive Committee endorsed the recommendations from this committee, with the exception of removing part b (“The Ward Initiative Fund will not substitute itself as a provider/ funder of services when another public provider cuts such a service”) which would potentially conflict with the Council’s Golden Rules,</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION</u> That the Executive agreed to amend the Ward Initiative Fund guidelines to remove the following prohibitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Any request where the beneficiary has received or is set to receive funding from any other scheme of the Borough Council or County Council; and b) Where appropriate to enable Ward Initiative Fund payments to be made upon receipt of quotes or pro forma invoices to enable fund recipients to receive payment in a timely fashion.

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18.RD.13	Car Parking Charging Strategy	<p>Members heard that in November 2017, the Executive Committee received a report on car parking charges, following the Finance Portfolio Holder's commitment that the current car parking strategy would be looked at, and form part of the 2018/19 budget process.</p> <p>A new car parking charging strategy was approved at that meeting by members of the Executive Committee, in effect the new strategy made parking for longer periods more flexible (and cheaper) by introducing new price bands.</p> <p>During discussions members concluded that they were not prepared to revisit the decision in such a short time.</p> <p><u>RESOLUTION</u> That the Executive considered the recommendation from the Research and Development Committee and decided at this time to not make any changes in respect of the cost of car park charges in Kettering Town Centre</p>
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3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT

3.1 None

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None

5. FINANCIAL RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None

6. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None

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7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None

8. RECOMMENDATION

That the Research and Development Committee note the responses of Executive to the recommendations by itself made on 12th June 2018.

Background Papers: None

Title

Date

Contact Officer

Previous Minutes/Reports: None

Ref:

Date: