

**UPDATE/PROGRESS WITH MATTERS PREVIOUSLY CONSIDERED BY THE BOROUGH, ECONOMY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE EAB**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Lead Councillor</b>	<b>Action Agreed</b>	<b>Progress to date</b>
11 Jan 2016	Annual Parking Business Plan and Parking Tariffs	Kevin McKee (Parking Manager)	Cllr Matt Furniss	That the recommendations to the Executive (19/01/16) submitted in the report to the Board, be approved. No further action required.	At its meeting on 19 January 2016, the Executive approved the proposals in the Business Plan and the amended tariffs.
	General Fund Capital Programme (2016-17 to 2020-21)	Claire Morris (Head of Financial Services)	Cllr Nigel Manning (now Cllr Michael Illman)	With reference to Bid 19 PR304 – Fleet Renewals Programme, the Board raised concern at the level of expenditure on the renewal of the fleet and suggested further staging of expenditure be considered. In response, officers suggested that the Executive be requested to place PR304 on the provisional list of items subject to a further report to the Executive and that the fleet renewals programme expenditure be approved for 2016/17 only. The Lead Councillor for Housing and Social Welfare indicated that he would convey the Board's advice on PR304 to the Lead Councillor for Infrastructure and Environment.	The Executive recommended the Capital Programme (including the new bids) for approval by Council  The Executive also agreed to add item 19 (Fleet Renewals Programme), to the General Fund Capital Programme provisional list, and subject to a further report to the Executive, before being progressed.
	Service and Financial Planning – General Fund Budget 2016-17	Claire Morris (Head of Financial Services)	Cllr Nigel Manning (now Cllr Michael Illman)	The following comments were submitted to the Executive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Business Rates Reform announced in the Autumn Statement would be fiscally neutral for central government, rather than for individual councils. Under the reform proposed to business rates the Council would retain less business rate than</li> </ul>	The Executive noted the detailed comments from the EAB on the draft budget and recommended adoption of the Budget and Council Tax for 2016-17 to the Council

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				<p>currently. Members advised the Executive to protest to Government about the unfairness of the reform; the Lead Councillor for Housing and Social Welfare indicated his sympathy for the suggestion and undertook to take this request to the Executive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The New Homes Bonus would be withheld in 2017/18 if the Council had not submitted a Local Plan by the relevant deadline.</li> <li>• In reply to a question about the viability of addressing the deficit, the Board was reminded of the Council's transformation programme and the need to transform the Council's operations and services.</li> </ul>	
	Establishment of North Downs Housing Ltd – A Local Authority Wholly Owned Housing Company	Phil O'Dwyer (Director of Community Services)	Cllr Tony Rooth	<p>To submit the following comments to the Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) the Board's endorsement of the creation of a Wholly Owned Local Authority Housing Company;</li> <li>(ii) the Board's agreement with the four, draft company objectives, as detailed in the report;</li> <li>(iii) the Board's endorsement of the governance arrangements; and</li> <li>(iv) the Board's views on Directors of the Housing Company</li> </ul>	<p>At its meeting on 23 February 2016, the Executive noted the EAB's comments and approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) the setting up of a wholly owned local authority housing company limited by shares, provisionally called 'North Downs Housing Ltd' and a parent company called 'Guildford Holdings Ltd'.</li> <li>(2) the grant by the Council of a 25-year repayment loan of £1.8 million to the company at an initial interest rate of</li> </ul>

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					<p>6.5% to be drawn down in stages as required.</p> <p>(3) the investment of £0.6 million in equity shares of the company financed from the pre-April 2013 housing capital receipts reserve, to be drawn down alongside the loan.</p> <p>(4) a budget of £130,000 to be financed from the Council's invest to save reserve, to fund the start-up and business plan modelling costs for the companies.</p> <p>(5) authorised the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and the Leader of the Council,</p> <p>(a) to approve articles of association and such other documents as may be necessary to govern the companies and to manage the relationship between the Council and the Companies; and</p> <p>(b) the appointment of the first directors</p>
22 Feb 2016	Rural Economic Strategy	Chris Burchell (Local Economy Manager)	Cllr Richard Billington	The Board concluded there was a need for clear definitions, priorities, and measurables. In addition, there should be a mechanism to enable interested organisations to contribute to the development of the strategy and sources of funding should be explored.	A full-time Rural Economy Manager, Chris Stanton has been appointed and will draft a Rural Economic Strategy which will be subject to approval by the Executive in the next 4-6 months. In addition, a consultant has also been employed to undertake a mapping

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					exercise of the rural economy in Guildford and Surrey.
4 April 2016	The Future of Guildford Museum	James Whiteman (Director of Environment)	Cllr Geoff Davis (now Cllr Nikki Nelson-Smith)	The Board fully supported the recommendations for Executive's consideration on 19 April 2016 and subject to its approval, looked forward to the reinvention and development of Guildford Museum as part of Guildford's 'Heritage Quarter'.	<p>The Executive noted the EAB's comments and agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) To commission a feasibility and costing report for the proposed new build extension to the current Museum buildings and approved the vision of developing an updated and exciting museum offering at that site.</li> <li>(2) To transfer £240,000 from the provisional capital programme (ED18(p) Museum and Castle Development scheme to the approved capital programme to carry out the work referred to in paragraph (1) above.</li> <li>(3) To authorise the Director of Environment, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Economic Development, Heritage and Tourism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) to establish a Development Group, consisting of internal representatives and external partners, to assist in the delivery of improvements to the Museum; and</li> <li>(ii) to develop a fundraising strategy and related fundraising committee with a view to</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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					<p>identifying and securing external grants and funding for improvements to the Museum</p> <p>(4) To request the Museum Working Group to review and make recommendations on the future of the Victorian Schoolroom, including the possible sale of 39½ Castle Street, should the Schoolroom be discontinued.</p> <p>(5) To approve the Action Plan and request the Museum Working Group to continue its work to deliver the Action Plan.</p>
	Town Centre Regeneration Plan	Barry Fagg (Major Projects Portfolio Manager Interim)	Cllr Paul Spooner	The Board fully supported the proposals for the implementation and delivery of a Town Centre Regeneration Plan subject to Executive's approval at their meeting on 31 May 2016. [this item was subsequently deferred].	At its meeting on 27 September 2016, the Executive will be asked to approve the delivery of the Town Centre Regeneration Strategy.
13 April 2016	Proposed Submission Local Plan: Strategy and Sites	Stuart Harrison (Planning Policy Manager)	Cllr Paul Spooner	<p>The Board agreed to submit the following comments to the Executive:</p> <p>(1) To consider the Board's overwhelming concern about the lack of adequate infrastructure to support planned development particularly in its rural areas. Sufficient infrastructure should be delivered when needed to support the cumulative impact of</p>	<p>At its special meeting on 11 May 2016, the Executive noted the EAB's comments and recommended to full Council that the draft Local Plan: strategy and sites document be approved for public consultation, subject to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the removal of site allocation policy A43 Land around Burnt Common warehouse, London Road, Send, and</li> </ul>

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				<p>development in the future, in particular for sites that are too small to provide their own infrastructure directly themselves, but which cumulatively would have an impact.</p> <p>(2) To give assurance and guarantee that infrastructure improvements would be delivered in time to support planned growth.</p> <p>(3) To consider reviewing the methodology employed in the Green Belt and Countryside Study, specifically in relation to deciding between, low, medium and high sensitivity areas. This would ensure that it was defensible when examined by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(4) To support the strongest worded affordable housing policy we can have within the remit of sustainable development.</p> <p>(5) To safeguard green spaces and green approaches in Guildford Town and its surrounding countryside so to enhance the quality of life for all.</p> <p>(6) To review whether a higher windfall assumption is justified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• replacement of site allocation policy A43 with a new site to the east of Burnt Common Lane, south of Portsmouth Road, and north of the A3 known as Garlick's Arch, Send Marsh/Burnt Common and Ripley</li> </ul>

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23 May 2016	Implications for Guildford of the 'Surrey Infrastructure Study'	Neil Taylor (Director of Development)	Cllr Matt Furniss	The Board acknowledged that the Surrey Infrastructure Study had provided a useful framework to look at the infrastructural challenges that faced Guildford whilst also acknowledging the number of caveats that existed. The Board also recognised the significant work that had already been undertaken to bridge funding gaps and looked forward to the development and implementation of Guildford's Infrastructure Plan overall.	No update.
	Guildford Design Guide	Meave Faulkner (Design and Conservation Team Leader)	Cllr Paul Spooner	<p>The Board fully endorsed the following recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That a working group be established to oversee the emergence of the Guildford Design Guide, ensuring that it was comprised of enforceable policies that carried planning weight, rather than a guidance document per se.</li> </ul>	A working group has not yet been established owing to a lack of resources in the Design and Conservation Team. An update will be provided shortly.
11 July 2016	Stoke Park Masterplan	Paul Stacey (Parks and Landscape Manager)	Cllr Richard Billington	The Board fully endorsed the formation of a project board. The Parks and Landscape Manager would be invited back to the Borough, Economy and Infrastructure meeting in a year's time to look at setting up a project board and how to take this forward.	The Board will invite back Paul Stacey (Parks and Landscape Manager) to a meeting in approx. one year for an update on the establishment of a project board.

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	Guildford Town Centre Regeneration Strategy	Barry Fagg (Major Projects Portfolio Manager Interim)	Cllr Paul Spooner	<p>The Board fully supported the work plan and objectives for the regeneration of the town centre. The Board noted that the regeneration plan was to be considered by the Executive at its meeting on 27 September 2016. The Board recognised the short time frame left for members to have further significant input into the plan. Nevertheless, the Board requested that they had sight of the report and any associated private papers at its next meeting on 12 September 2016.</p> <p>[post-meeting note: It was agreed at the Joint Overview and Scrutiny and EAB Work Programme meeting that owing to the short-turn around the above topic would not be considered at the next meeting of the Board on 12 September 2016].</p>	The Executive would consider this item at their next meeting on 27 September 2016.