

## COUNCIL DECISIONS - 12 JUNE 2013

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	SUBJECT AND DECISION	DECISION REFERRAL	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION
1(b).	<p><b>Minutes</b></p> <p>That the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 15 May 2013 and 22 May 2013 be approved and signed by the Mayor as correct records, subject to the names of the mover and seconder of the motion at Minute CL07 of the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2013 being amended to the 'Mayor' as the mover and 'Councillor Marland' as the seconder.</p>		Democratic Services Manager
1(c).	<p><b>Disclosure of Interests</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive declared an interest in Item 7 (Returning Officer's Fees) as the Council's Returning Officer.</p>		Democratic Services Manager
4(b)	<p><b>Questions from a Members of the Public –</b></p> <p>Councillor Brock to supply a copy of the NHS England response to the Willen Surgery issue to the questioner for information.</p>		Democratic Services Manager
4(a)	<p><b>Assessment of Complaints – Localism Act Section 28 Arrangements and Working Group</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the 'Nolan Principles' contained within the Guidance to the Code of Conduct be updated to reflect the 14th report of the Committee for Standards in Public Life.</li> <li>2. That the Guidance to the Code of Conduct be removed from the Constitution, to aid its expeditious updating.</li> <li>3. That the Standards Committee's Terms of Reference be amended to provide for the delegation of the initial determination of a complaint to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with an Independent Person.</li> </ol>		Principal Solicitor

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4(b)	<p><b>Acquisition and Disposal of Land and Buildings Procedure Rules</b></p> <p>That the revised Acquisition and Disposal of Land and Buildings Procedure Rules be recommended to the Council for approval and inclusion in the Constitution.</p>		Democratic Services Manager
5(a)	<p><b>Members' Questions</b></p> <p>(a) Councillor Barney to request a briefing on child sexual exploitation protection measures in place in Milton Keynes, if required.</p> <p>(b) With regard to Ward Based Budgets, the Leader to be informed of the process for approving and monitoring the implementation of specific schemes being progressed by Council departments, in order that he may inform Councillor Ferrans.</p> <p>(c) Councillor Marland to be informed of progress on the transfer of the Laurels Site at New Bradwell to a housing co-operative.</p> <p>(d) Councillor Bald to be briefed and Councillor M Burke to be informed of progress in refurbishing the bin cupboards at Bradwell.</p> <p>(e) Councillor D McCall to be informed of the programme for the replacement of missing road signs and the number of signs replaced by 31 March 2013.</p>	<p>-</p> <p>-</p>	<p>Councillor Barney / Corporate Director Children and Families</p> <p>CLT Support Manager / Assistant Director (Public Realm)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Housing)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Housing)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Public Realm)</p>



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5(b)(ii)	<p><b>Homelessness, Housing and New Build</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That this Council notes the recent BBC investigation which revealed that last year the Council spent £1.4million on placing homeless families into temporary accommodation and that this is the worst local authority performance in England outside of London.</li> <li>2. That this Council also notes that many of these temporary placements were in accommodation outside of Milton Keynes and that this may have a detrimental impact on families who are separated, and on children's education.</li> <li>3. That this Council further notes that this situation is as a result of not having enough social housing places available in the City, that Milton Keynes is one of few authorities to house more qualifying tenants in the private rented sector than the social housing sector, and that as a result of the 'Bedroom Tax' and other changes to benefits, demand for Council and social housing is likely to rise in the future.</li> <li>4. That this Council therefore resolves: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) to request the Cabinet to take immediate action on the recommendations made by the Homelessness Review Group when the Group reports to them in the near future;</li> <li>(b) to request the Cabinet to adopt a policy which ensures people adversely affected by the changes to benefits will not lose their homes and add to the burden on current waiting lists for property;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>Democratic Services Manager</p>



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5(b)(iii) (cont)	<p>(a) The Milton Keynes Meals on Wheels service charge covers a hot, two course meal, plated if required, a welfare check and medication prompt if needed, which receives much positive feedback from service users;</p> <p>(b) Some authorities do not contract a hot meal service; some providing only frozen meals, or signposting to suppliers, costs will therefore vary across councils and comparing price alone is misleading.</p> <p>3. That this Council also notes that charges for the laundry service, Community Alarm, Telecare and Telehealth are uplifted by CPI each year in line with the Council's Charging Policy. These services along with the Meals-on-Wheels service make up the flat rate charges subject to annual uplift. The Council also recognises that:</p> <p>(a) Milton Keynes' Laundry Service includes door to door collection/return washing, drying and ironing of standard items and for service users with incontinence problems there is no charge. Some authorities do not offer a Laundry Service, some refer clients to local laundrettes, few offer a service comparable to Milton Keynes;</p> <p>(b) 'Homecare' is not subject to the Flat Rate Charging Policy, and forms part of assessed packages of care. Social Care Assessments are free to all and 43% of all those in receipt of support packages pay nothing, whatever support they receive, or whatever it costs.</p>		

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5(b)(iii) (cont)	<p>4. That this Council therefore resolves to request the Cabinet:</p> <p>(a) to undertake a full review of adult social care flat rate services and charges, benchmarked against other comparable authorities, and with the outcome of the review being made available to the Budget Review Group and Health and Adult Social Care Select Committee;</p> <p>(b) to undertake a value for money assessment on the Meals on Wheels contract; and</p> <p>(c) if value for money savings can be identified, to negotiate with current contractor with a view to reducing any excessive cost and passing savings to service users.</p>	Cabinet	Democratic Services Manager
-	<p><b>Procedural Motion</b></p> <p>That Council Procedure Rules 11 and 13.6[a] be waived in order to allow the a revised motion in respect of the Closure of Willen Village Surgery to be submitted and also to allow amendments to be moved of which notice has not been given by the deadline in the Constitution.</p>		-
5(b)(iv)	<p><b>Closure of Willen Village Surgery</b></p> <p>Motion withdrawn</p>		-
5(b)(v)	<p><b>Closure of Willen Surgery</b></p> <p>Motion withdrawn</p>		-

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-	<p><b>Closure of Willen Village Surgery</b></p> <p>“That the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. notes with regret the closure in April of the popular GP Surgery at Willen and the lack of prior notice given to patients registered there;</li> <li>2. commends the public for the way they have coped with the disruption and distress caused by these events;</li> <li>3. believes that in such circumstances, it would have been better to allocate patients to other practices on a geographic basis rather than a surname basis (for the travel convenience of patients, especially those with limited mobility and to ensure all members of a household get allocated to the same practice) and requests that the Cabinet Member provides feedback to the relevant authorities on this point;</li> <li>4. in particular notes the distress caused by suggesting that surgeries as far away as Bletchley were accepting registrations when in fact all Willen patients had been re-allocated more locally;</li> <li>5. is also concerned about the piles of uncollected post inside the surgery building, including urgent medical information;</li> <li>6. calls for the owner and leaseholder of the surgery to give firm public assurances that medical information posted to the surgery will be processed appropriately;</li> <li>7. recognises and appreciates the work carried out by Healthwatch:MK in handling patient enquiries, and notes the efforts made to get all patients registered with other GPs as speedily as possible, yet believes NHS England should have taken responsibility for answering patients' concerns;</li> </ol>	<p>Cabinet member for Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Corporate Director Community Wellbeing</p> <p>Corporate Director of Community Wellbeing</p>

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-	<p>8. criticises NHS England for being so unwilling to answer questions from media, members of the public and officials which only served to heighten inevitable concerns;</p> <p>9. asks the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee to review whether there are any lessons for the Council to be learned from the closure, with or without input from NHS England;</p> <p>10. notes the scarcity of available places at alternative practices in the immediately surrounding area, and the apparent absence of ongoing liaison over the needs of the borough as it changes; and</p> <p>11. calls on the Chief Executive in conjunction with the Cabinet Member to press NHS England for a long-term plan for GP facilities to meet the growing needs of Milton Keynes' residents, including the likelihood of Willen Village Surgery re-opening in time, and to set up a mechanism for discussing changes due to the growth of the city in future.</p> <p><b>Other Action:</b> That officers investigate the possibility of revising bus routes to assist patients from the former Willen Surgery to attend the alternative surgeries.</p>		<p>Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>Corporate Director Community Wellbeing</p> <p>Assistant Director (Public Realm)</p>
6.	<p><b>Armed Forces Covenant</b></p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>		-
7.	<p><b>Returning Officer's Fees</b></p> <p>That the Buckinghamshire scheme for Election fees be adopted for 2013/14.</p>		CLT Support Manager / Elections Officer
8.	<p><b>Ward Based Budgets</b></p> <p>The outturn position of the Ward Based Budgets for 2012/13 was noted.</p>		-

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9.	<p><b>Quarterly Report on Special Urgency Decisions</b></p> <p>The Council noted that in accordance with Access to Information Procedure Rule 17.3, that the Provisions for Special Urgency, as set out in Access to Information Procedure Rule 16, were used once during the period 1 March 2013 to 31 May 2013, for the agreement of the Management Arrangements of Older Peoples Day Services with Milton Keynes Council.</p> <p>The Council also noted that in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16.1, the Cabinet member, when making the decision on the Management Arrangements of Older Peoples Day Services decided, with the consent of the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, to waive the call-in process as failure to make the decision would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests by jeopardising the Council's ability to provide a continuation of the existing service.</p>		-