

SIGNIFICANT OFFICER DECISIONS

**16 NOVEMBER 2013 TO 15
DECEMBER 2013**

DECISIONS

60/13 – 63/13

DATE OF PUBLICATION:

Tuesday 17th December 2013

DEADLINE FOR MEMBER CALL-IN:

5.00pm on 24th December 2013

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SIGNIFICANT OFFICER DECISIONS

BACKGROUND

About this document

Slough Borough Council has a decision making process involving an Executive (Cabinet) and a Scrutiny Function. Part 3 of the Council's Constitution sets out the Responsibility for Functions and Scheme of Officer Delegation. This document lists the decisions taken by officers under this scheme during the period stated.

Distribution

The schedule is circulated monthly to all Members and published on the website. This document, and any reports relating to individual decisions, are published on the Council's website in accordance The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

Decisions included in the Schedule

The definition of the categories for 'Significant' Officer Decisions to be included in the Schedule are set out below:

1. Tenders/Contracts over £50,000 or 'sensitive' excluding individual social services care packages and school placements.
2. Exemptions to Competitive Tendering.
3. Redundancies/Early Retirements above 5 in Service area*
4. Decision to commence formal organisational restructuring/consultation.
5. Consultation responses other than technical responses where officers asked for Member views.
6. Write-off of individual debts between £5,000 and £15,000.
7. Decisions arising from external report on significant Health and Safety at Work Act risk.
8. Compulsory Purchase Orders.
9. Action with regard to Petitions in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme
10. Any exceptions made to the Council's agreed tender procedure as set out in Financial Procedure Rules
11. Consultancies over £5,000 (excluding cover for established posts) or any consultancy/employment offered to former Senior Officers of the Council of 3rd tier and above.
12. Other decisions such as those with political, media or industrial relations implications that Directors consider Members should be aware of.
13. Appointments to casual vacancies on committees, sub committees, Panels, Working Parties and outside bodies
14. Specific decisions that have been delegated to a particular officer by resolution at a Cabinet meeting to be taken following consultation with the relevant Commissioner

*Decisions taken on the Redundancy/Early Retirement of a senior level officer to be reported to Group Leaders, Cabinet and Employment and Appeals Committee.

Call-in

Any Member of the Council may call-in an officer decision specified in this Schedule by following the procedure set out in paragraph 21 of Part 4.5 of the Council's Constitution. Member call-ins must be submitting in writing to the Head of Democratic Services and state the reasons why the request to have the matter considered by Scrutiny has been made. The call-in must be received within five working days of delivery of the publication of the decision (by 5.00pm). Members call-ins of officer decisions will be submitted to the next Overview & Scrutiny Committee for consideration and dealt with in the same way as other post decision call-ins.

Exempt information

Any supporting reports considered by the decision-maker will be published on the website in a separate appendix, unless they contain exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) and that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

Further information

The schedule will be published monthly. A copy can be obtained from Democratic Services at St Martin's Place, 51 Bath Road on weekdays between 9.00 a.m. and 4.45 p.m. or Tel: (01753) 875120, email: nicholas.pontone@slough.gov.uk.

A copy will be published on Slough Borough Council's Website: www.slough.gov.uk

Ref	60/13
Title of decision	Appointment to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date decision taken	6th November 2013 (reported now as not included in Oct-Nov Schedule)
Decision maker	Assistant Director Professional Services
Portfolio	Performance & Accountability
Details of decision taken	That Councillor Davis be appointed to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with immediate effect under Council Procedure Rule 1.2 (vi) following the resignation of Councillor Small.
Reasons for taking decision	N/A
Options considered	None.
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	None.
Reports considered	None.

Ref	61/13
Title of decision	Whitby Road/Woodlands Avenue Proposed 20mph zone
Date decision taken	18th November 2013
Decision maker	Assistant Director Enforcement & Regulatory Services
Portfolio	Social & Economic Inclusion
Details of decision taken	To seek approval to consult residents on the introduction of the proposed 20mph zone with associate traffic calming and pedestrian and cycle crossing improvements.
Reasons for taking decision	The Whitby Road/ Woodlands Avenue area has been identified as having a high number of pedestrian, cycle and speed related collisions. Residents have also complained that drivers are using these roads to rat run between Farnham road and the A4. A 20mph zone is recommended for this area consisting of road humps and raised platforms at the road entrances and 20mph signs to reduce traffic speeds and to reduce the incentive to travel along these roads as a rat run. This will reduce collisions and reduce the severity of injuries caused through collision.
Options considered	Proposed work include introduction of speed cushions, speed humps and crossing tables through out the zone. Upgrading existing speed humps etc in the area. Introducing a 20mph speed limit in the area and implementing 20mph roundels on signs and road markings. Improve road crossing sites for pedestrians.
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	None.
Reports considered	None.

Ref	62/13
Title of decision	Wheeled Bin Tender Outcome
Date decision taken	20th November 2013
Decision maker	Waste & Environment Manager
Portfolio	Environment and Open Spaces
Details of decision taken	Decision to award contract for two year for provision of grey, red and green wheeled bins to set specification. Provision to be in accordance with call off requirements and restocks. The company which provided the best overall product to meet the specification and with the most effective cost regime was deemed to be SSI Schaefer Ltd.
Reasons for taking decision	To ensure that wheeled bins meet all of the various European standards, safety tests and quality assurance performance marks for wheeled bins. To ensure consistency in wheeled bins used across the fleet including reduction in need for spares and aesthetics.
Options considered	No alternatives available.
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	None.
Reports considered	None.

Ref	63/13
Title of decision	Council Tax Support Scheme
Date decision taken	11th December 2013
Decision maker	Director of Customer & Community Services (Acting Chief Executive w/c 9 th December 2013)
Portfolio	Finance & Strategy
Details of decision taken	<p>To remove the word 'maintenance' from the policy and to amend the sentence to read correctly in the absence of the word.</p> <p>The minutes of the Cabinet meeting of 10th December 2012 state that amendments may be made by the Chief Executive or the Section 151 Officer.</p> <p>The amendment has been discussed with the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council.</p>
Reasons for taking decision	There was an oversight in the original documentation.
Options considered	None.
Details of any conflict of interest, disclosable pecuniary interest or non-statutory disclosable interest declared	None.
Reports considered	<p>A copy of the policy which was attached to the report with the track changes shown is available from the following link:</p> <p>http://www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=SD969&ID=969&RPID=10963787&sch=doc&cat=13198&path=13198</p>

Petitions

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme and the schedule of Significant Officer Decisions please find below a list of petitions submitted to the Council and a summary the response provided. Further details of the petitions can be found on Slough's website: <http://www.slough.gov.uk/services/2026.aspx>

None.