FINANCE AND PROPERTY ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, 1st October, 2008

Present: Cllr P F Bolt (Chairman); Cllr Mrs F A Kemp (Vice-Chairman); Cllr F R D Chartres, Cllr J R H Clements, Cllr Mrs C A F Grant, Cllr P J Homewood, Cllr D Lettington, Cllr Miss A Moloney and Cllr H S Rogers.

> Councillors Aikman, Mrs Anderson, Baldock, Balfour, Cure, Court, Coffin, Miss Sergison and Worrall were also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

> Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Luck, Ms Spence and Sullivan.

PART 1 - PUBLIC

FP 08/054

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Personal interests were declared in relation to the item on Financial Arrangements with Parish Councils by the following Members on the grounds of membership of the Parish Councils specified:

Councillor Chartres (Ightham) Councillor Homewood (Aylesford) Councillor Mrs Kemp (Trottiscliffe) Councillor Miss Moloney (Snodland) Councillor Worrall (West Malling)

Councillor Worrall also declared a personal interest in the item on the Review of Existing Grants of Discretionary Rate Relief on the grounds of membership of Age Concern Malling.

FP 08/055

MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the notes of the meeting of the Finance and Property Advisory Board held on 9 July 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET

FP FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH PARISH COUNCILS 2009/2010

Decision Notice D080160MEM

Further to Decision Number D080145CAB, the report of the Director of Finance set out allocations to Parish Councils based on the increase in budget for 2009/10 which equated to the percentage cash increase received by the Borough Council in its Revenue Support Grant for 2008/09. It was noted that the application of the increase of 0.4% to the annual budget for the scheme resulted in an unallocated balance of £2,405.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the revenue budget be allocated to Parish Councils on the basis set out in Annex 2 to the report; and
- (2) the unallocated balance of £2,405 be transferred to the capital grant provision for Special Works Projects.

FP RURAL RATE RELIEF - RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST 08/057

Decision Notice D080161MEM

The report of the Director of Finance referred to the requirement to review the Council's rural settlement list and recommended that the current list should be retained unaltered for the financial year 2009/10.

RECOMMENDED: That the current rural settlement list remain in force for the financial year 2009/10.

FP APPLICATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF 08/058

Decision Notice D080162MEM

The joint report of the Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance gave details of existing grants of, and new applications for, discretionary rate relief including an update on Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) registrations.

RECOMMENDED: That the position regarding Plaxtol Cricket Club, as set out at paragraph 1.1.3 of the report, be noted and 20% discretionary relief be granted, time limited to 31 March 2010.

FP REVIEW OF EXISTING GRANTS OF DISCRETIONARY RATE 08/059 RELIEF - PROGRESS REPORT

Decision Notice D080163MEM

Further to Decision Number D080093MEM(1) the report of the Director of Finance explored the means by which savings to the Council might be achieved from 1 April 2010 in respect of the cost of granting discretionary rate relief to various organisations within the Borough. A number of options were put forward which varied in approach between sharing the burden between all organisations and affording 'protection' to those within certain categories.

It was considered that further information was required before deciding on the future course of action.

RECOMMENDED: That further information be sought and reported back to the Advisory Board in relation to:

- (1) the application of the overall rural rate relief policy; and
- (2) details of the recipient organisations in terms of number of members, whether any discounts are applied to certain categories of membership, whether they are the sole facility in their locality and the extent to which they contribute to the Council's key priorities.

FP GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE SETTING OF FEES AND 08/060 CHARGES

Decision Notice D080164MEM

Consideration was given to a set of guiding principles to be taken into account in the setting of fees and charges following receipt of the Audit Commission's publication entitled "Positively Charged - Maximising the Benefits of Local Public Services Charges".

RECOMMENDED: That the guiding principles detailed in paragraph 1.4.1 of the report be adopted to aid and inform decisions on charging for services, together with the list of questions needing to be considered and answered as part of the decision making process set out at Annex 2 to the report.

FP FINANCIAL PLANNING AND CONTROL 08/061

Decision Notice D080165MEM

The report of the Director of Finance provided information on the Council's key budget areas of salaries, major income streams and investment income together with variations agreed to the revenue budget and identified through budgetary control. This was summarised to provide an indicative overall budget position and used to update the Medium Term Financial Strategy in response to the severe financial pressure facing the Council. An update was also given on capital

expenditure and variations agreed in relation to the approved capital plan.

RECOMMENDED: That the contents of the report be noted and endorsed.

FP MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND INITIAL BUDGETARY 08/062 GUIDANCE

The joint report of the Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance gave details of the factors considered likely to impact on the Council's finances for both the forthcoming budget cycle and the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). Attention was drawn to the effects of the slow down in the economy, spiralling energy prices and rising inflation which combined to place the Council's budget and MTFS under further severe pressure. The Director of Finance explained the significant drop in the Council's income levels and the emergence of a new funding gap in the order of £450,000 to £650,000 to be addressed if the Council was to achieve its financial objectives set out in the MTFS.

Details were given of preliminary budgetary guidance which had been issued to Chief Officers involving the imposition of a general limit on 2009/10 expenditure and reiteration of the objective to maximise income subject to market conditions, opportunities and comparable charges elsewhere.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the broad objectives of the Medium Term Financial Strategy set out at paragraph 1.2.2 of the report be reaffirmed in principle;
- (2) the financial challenges posed by the current economic climate be acknowledged together with the consequent need to address a new funding gap of around £450,000 to £650,000 by 2009/10; and
- (3) the budgetary guidance issued to Chief Officers preparing and considering estimates and fees and charges for 2009/10, as set out at paragraph 1.4.2 of the report, be endorsed.

*Referred to Cabinet

FP HOUSING AND COUNCIL TAX BENEFITS AND WAR PENSIONS 08/063

Further to the Cabinet's decision on 2 April 2008 regarding possible options for addressing the 2008/09 funding gap, the report of the Director of Finance reviewed the current arrangements for disregarding certain war disablement and war widow's pensions in housing and council tax benefit calculations. A number of options were considered but it was noted that Government subsidy for the local scheme was effectively capped at 75% of the expenditure, giving no recognition to the fact that the Council had a higher proportion of residents who were eligible for help under the local scheme than authorities elsewhere operating similar local schemes.

- (1) the local scheme be retained in its current form; and
- (2) representations be made to the Government pointing out the effects of its policy and urging that national support should not be capped at 75%.

*Referred to Cabinet

FP 08/064

REALLOCATION OF GRANTS TO ALTERNATIVE SCHEMES

Decision Notice D080166MEM

The joint report of the Director of Finance and Chief Leisure Officer gave details of requests from two capital grant recipients to use their grants to finance alternative capital schemes.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the change of purpose of the 2007/08 grant awarded to the Royal British Legion (Hildenborough Branch) be approved to help finance the cost of upgrading the hot water system as outlined in the report;
- (2) before determining the application from Hadlow Parish Council, clarification be sought from the Parish Council regarding:
- (a) the respective works funded by the annual revenue grant for maintenance of churchyards and the current request to use the 2007/08 capital grant to help finance the cost of cemetery improvements;
- (b) its intentions concerning graveyard memorial testing and an assurance that if this virement were allowed, there would not be a separate application for monies towards such testing; and
- (3) any balance of grant be carried forward to assist in funding the 2008/09 applications.

FP 08/065

ANNUAL EFFICIENCY GAINS

Decision Notice D080167MEM

The joint report of the Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Innovation and Improvement provided information on the details contained in the Backward Looking Annual Efficiency Statement submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for the year 2007/08 and the efficiency gains identified for the year 2008/09 as at the end of June 2008 (including those that could be rolled forward from 2007/08). Reference was also made to a consultation paper recently issued by DCLG setting out proposals for efficiency information to be included on council tax bills and/or in the council tax leaflet.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the content of the Backward Looking Annual Efficiency Statement 2007/08 be noted:
- (2) the Chief Executive and Director of Finance, in conjunction with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Innovation and Improvement, be authorised to approve the estimate of the likely efficiency gains to be achieved in 2008/09 due to be returned to the Department for Communities and Local Government in mid October 2008; and
- (3) the Director of Finance be granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Members for Finance and Innovation and Improvement, to respond to the Consultation Paper on Inclusion of Efficiency Information with Council Tax Demand Notices, emphasising in relation to this consultation and any future Government initiatives that the Council as an efficient and well-run authority has limited scope to make further savings.

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION

FP CAPITAL PROGRAMME: POST IMPLEMENTATION REVIEWS 08/066 MONITORING REPORT

The report identified the post implementation reviews carried out since the meeting of the Board in May 2008 and the capital schemes for which reviews were due.

FP BENEFITS UPDATE 08/067

The report provided information on current issues arising in the benefits field including performance of the benefits service, progress on the implementation of the eBenefits computer software, the benefits subsidy audit and changes to housing and council tax benefits in October.

FP BENEFITS INVESTIGATION SECTION INTERIM UPDATE 08/068

The report gave details of the work carried out by the Benefits Investigation Section from 1 April to 15 September 2008.

FP COUNCIL TAX AND BUSINESS RATES UPDATE REPORT 08/069

The report updated the Advisory Board on recent developments in respect of council tax and business rates.

FP MARKET TESTING OF BANKING AND CARD SERVICES 08/070

The Director of Finance advised that the Council's contract for banking services was due to expire on 31 March 2009 and an open tender exercise was being undertaken together with further market testing for payment card and merchant card services.

FP CAPITAL GRANTS MONITORING 08/071

Details were given of capital grants monitoring statements to 15 September 2008 in respect of capital grants to parish councils, voluntary organisations, village/community halls and historic buildings grants.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

FP EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC 08/072

The Chairman moved, it was seconded and

RESOLVED: That as public discussion would disclose exempt information, the following matters be considered in private.

PART 2 - PRIVATE

MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET

FP DEBTS FOR WRITE OFF

08/073 (Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 2 - Information likely to reveal information about an individual)

Decision Notice D080168MEM

Consideration was given to the writing-off of debts considered to be irrecoverable. Details were also given of debts under £1,000 which had been written-off in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 17.2 together with cumulative totals of debts written-off in the current and previous financial years and information on budgeted bad debt provision.

RECOMMENDED: That the five items shown in the schedule totalling £9,714.93 be written-off for the reasons stated.

FP PROPOSED NEW LEASE OF CAR PARK AT WEST STREET, 08/074 WROTHAM

(Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 3 - Financial or business affairs of any particular person)

Decision Notice D080169MEM

The report of the Central Services Director gave details of proposed terms and conditions negotiated with Kent County Council for renewal of the lease for the car park at West Street, Wrotham.

RECOMMENDED: That the proposed lease renewal detailed in the report be endorsed.

FP FREEHOLD DISPOSAL OF ELECTRICITY SUB-STATION SITE, 08/075 HIGH STREET, AYLESFORD

(Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 3 - Financial or business affairs of any particular person)

Decision Notice D080170MEM

The report of the Central Services Director gave details of the proposed freehold disposal to EDF Energy of the site of an electricity sub-station off High Street, Aylesford.

RECOMMENDED: That approval be given to the proposed disposal of the freehold interest in an electricity sub-station at High Street, Aylesford on the basis set out in the report.

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION

FP PROCUREMENT OF SECURITY SERVICES 08/076 (Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 3 - Financial or business affairs of any particular person)

The report of the Customer Services Manager gave details of the circumstances surrounding an exemption from tendering agreed under Contracts Procedure Rule No 13 in respect of the provision of security services on behalf of the Council.

The meeting ended at 2045 hours

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080160MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Financial Arrangements with Parish Councils 2009/2010

(Report of Director of Finance) (Annex 1)

(Annex 2)

Further to Decision Number D080145CAB, the report set out allocations to Parish Councils based on the increase in budget for 2009/10 which equated to the percentage cash increase received by the Borough Council in its Revenue Support Grant for 2008/09. It was noted that the application of the increase of 0.4% to the annual budget for the scheme resulted in an unallocated balance of £2,405.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that:

- 1) the revenue budget be allocated to Parish Councils on the basis set out in Annex 2 to the report; and
- 2) the unallocated balance of £2,405 be transferred to the capital grant provision for Special Works Projects.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008.

[Councillor Worrall declared a personal interest in this item on the grounds of membership of West Malling Parish Council.]

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080161MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Rural Rate Relief - Rural Settlement List

(Report of Director of Finance)

The report referred to the requirement to review the Council's rural settlement list and recommended that the current list should be retained unaltered for the financial year 2009/10.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that the current rural settlement list remain in force for the financial year 2009/10.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008.

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080162MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Applications for Discretionary Rate Relief

(Joint report of Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Finance)
(Annex)

The report gave details of existing grants of, and new applications for, discretionary rate relief including an update on Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) registrations.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that the position regarding Plaxtol Cricket Club, as set out at paragraph 1.1.3 of the report, be noted and 20% discretionary relief be granted, time-limited to 31 March 2010.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008.

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080163MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Review of Existing Grants of Discretionary Rate Relief - Progress Report

(Report of Director of Finance)

(Annex 1)

(Annex 2)

(Annex 3)

Further to Decision Number D080093MEM (1) the report explored the means by which savings to the Council might be achieved from 1 April 2010 in respect of the cost of granting discretionary rate relief to various organisations within the Borough. A number of options were put forward which varied in approach between sharing the burden between all organisations and affording "protection" to those within certain categories.

It was considered that further information was required before deciding on the future course of action.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that further information be sought and reported back to the Advisory Board in relation to:

- 1) the application of the overall rural rate relief policy; and
- 2) details of the recipient organisations in terms of number of members, whether any discounts are applied to certain categories of membership, whether they are the sole facility in their locality and the extent to which they contribute to the Council's key priorities.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008 and to seek further information as a basis for a future decision.

[Councillor Worrall declared a personal interest in this item on the grounds of membership of Age Concern Malling.]

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080164MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Guiding Principles for the Setting of Fees and Charges

(Report of Director of Finance)

(Annex 1)

(Annex 2)

Consideration was given to a set of guiding principles to be taken into account in the setting of fees and charges following receipt of the Audit Commission's publication entitled "Positively Charged - Maximising the Benefits of Local Public Services Charges".

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that the guiding principles detailed in paragraph 1.4.1 of the report be adopted to aid and inform decisions on charging for services, together with the list of questions needing to be considered and answered as part of the decision making process set out at Annex 2 to the report.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008.

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman

Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080165MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Financial Planning and Control

(Report of Director of Finance)

(Annex 1)

(Annex 2)

(Annex 3)

The report provided information on the Council's key budget areas of salaries, major income streams and investment income together with variations agreed to the revenue budget and identified through budgetary control. This was summarised to provide an indicative overall budget position and used to provide an update to the Medium Term Financial Strategy in response to the severe financial pressure facing the Council. An update was also given on capital expenditure and variations agreed in relation to the approved capital plan.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that the contents of the report be noted and endorsed.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008.

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman

Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080166MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Reallocation of Grants to Alternative Schemes

(Joint report of Director of Finance and Chief Leisure Officer)

Consideration was given to requests from two capital grant recipients to use their grants to finance alternative capital schemes.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that:

- 1) the change of purpose of the 2007/08 grant awarded to the Royal British Legion (Hildenborough Branch) be approved to help finance the cost of upgrading the hot water system as outlined in the report;
- 2) before determining the application from Hadlow Parish Council, clarification be sought from the Parish Council regarding:
- a) the respective works funded by the annual revenue grant for maintenance of churchyards and the current request to use the 2007/08 capital grant to help finance the cost of Cemetery improvements;
- b) its intentions concerning graveyard memorial testing and an assurance that if this virement were allowed, there would not be a separate application for monies towards such testing; and
- 3) any balance of grant be carried forward to assist in funding the 2008/09 applications.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008 and to seek further information from Hadlow Parish Council.

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR Innovation and Improvement

Decision No: D080167MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Annual Efficiency Gains

(Joint report of Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Innovation and Improvement)

(Annex 1a)

(Annex 1b)

(Annex 2)

The report provided information on the details contained in the Backward Looking Annual Efficiency Statement submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) for the year 2007/08 and the efficiency gains identified for the year 2008/09 as at the end of June 2008 (including those that could be rolled forward from 2007/08). Reference was also made to a consultation paper recently issued by DCLG setting out proposals for efficiency information to be included on council tax bills and/or in the council tax leaflet.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Innovation and Improvement resolved that:

- 1) the content of the Backward Looking Annual Efficiency Statement 2007/08 be noted;
- 2) the Chief Executive and Director of Finance, in conjunction with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Innovation and Improvement, be authorised to approve the estimate of the likely efficiency gains to be achieved in 2008/09 due to be returned to the Department for Communities and Local Government in mid October 2008; and
- 3) the Director of Finance be granted delegated authority, in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Members for Finance and Innovation and Improvement, to respond to the Consultation Paper on Inclusion of Efficiency Information with Council Tax Demand Notices, emphasising in relation to this consultation and any future Government initiatives that the Council as an efficient and well-run authority has limited scope to make further savings.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008.

Signed Cabinet Member for O Baldock Innovation and Improvement:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080168MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Debts for Write Off

(Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 2 - Information likely to reveal

information about an individual)

(Report of Director of Finance)

(Annex)

Approval of the writing-off of debts considered to be irrecoverable. Details were also given of debts under £1,000 which had been written off in accordance with Financial Procedure Rule 17.2 together with cumulative totals of debts written off in the current and previous financial years and information on budgeted bad debt provision.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that the five items shown in the schedule totalling £9,714.93 be written off for the reasons stated.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008 (contains exempt information).

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman

Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080169MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Proposed New Lease of Car Park at West Street, Wrotham (Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 3 - Financial or business affairs of any particular person)

(Report of Central Services Director) (Annex)

Consideration was given to proposed terms and conditions negotiated with Kent County Council for renewal of the lease for the car park at West Street, Wrotham.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that the proposed lease renewal detailed in the report be endorsed.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008 (contains exempt information).

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance:

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008

RECORD OF DECISION

Decision Taken By: CABINET MEMBER FOR

Finance

Decision No: D080170MEM Date: 1st October 2008

Decision(s) and Reason(s)

Freehold Disposal of Electricity Sub-Station Site, High Street, Aylesford

(Reason: LGA 1972 Sch 12A Para 3 - Financial or business affairs

of any particular person)

(Report of Central Services Director) (Annex)

The report gave details of the proposed freehold disposal to EDG Energy of the site of an electricity sub-station off High Street, Aylesford.

Following consideration by the Finance and Property Advisory Board, the Cabinet Member for Finance resolved that approval be given to the proposed disposal of the freehold interest in an electricity sub-station at High Street, Aylesford on the basis set out in the report.

Reasons: As set out in the report submitted to the Finance and Property Advisory Board of 1 October 2008 (contains exempt information).

Signed Cabinet Member for D Aikman Finance

Signed Leader: M Worrall

Signed Chief Executive: D Hughes

Date of publication: 03 October 2008