



EXEMPT

CABINET

A G E N D A

Date: Thursday, 21st February 2008

Time: 6.00pm

**Venue: The Earl Baldwin Suite
Duke House, Clensmore Street,
Kidderminster**

Cabinet

The Cabinet Members and their responsibilities:-

Councillor J-P Campion	Leader, Strategic Overview & Direction
Councillor M J Hart	Deputy Leader, Property & Operational Services
Councillor S J M Clew	Planning, Regeneration & Prosperity
Councillor N J Desmond	Community & Leisure Services
Councillor Mrs A T Hingley	Housing, Health & Rural Affairs
Councillor J Holden	Finance & Corporate Affairs

SCRUTINY OF DECISIONS OF THE CABINET

The Council has two Scrutiny Committees that have power to investigate policy issues and question members of the Cabinet who have special responsibility for a particular area of the Council's activities. The Cabinet also considers recommendations from these Committees.

In accordance with Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, and Standing Order B4, any item on this agenda may be scrutinised by the Scrutiny Committees if it is "called in" by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Corporate Service and Performance Scrutiny Committee and any other three non-Cabinet members.

The deadline for "calling in" Cabinet decisions is Tuesday 4th March 2008.

Councillors wishing to "call in" a decision on this agenda should contact Mrs Diana Glendenning, Senior Committee Officer, Telephone 01562-732763 or e-mail: diana.glendenning@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Urgent Key Decisions

If the Cabinet needs to take an urgent key decision, the consent of the Scrutiny Committee Chairman must be obtained. If the Scrutiny Committee Chairman is unable to act the Chairman of the Council or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairman of the Council, must give consent. Such decisions will not be the subject to the call in procedure.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - GUIDANCE NOTE

Code of Conduct - Members are reminded that under the Code of Conduct it is the responsibility of individual Members to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest in any item on this agenda. A Member who declares a personal interest may take part in the meeting and vote, unless the interest is also prejudicial. If the interest is prejudicial, as defined in the Code, the Member must leave the room. However, Members with a prejudicial interest can still participate if a prescribed exception applies or a dispensation has been granted.

Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 - If any Member is two months or more in arrears with a Council Tax payment, they may not vote on any matter which might affect the calculation of the Council Tax, any limitation of it, its administration or related penalties or enforcement.

For further information: -

If you have any queries about this Agenda or require any details of background papers, further documents or information you should contact Diana Glendenning, Senior Committee Officer. Telephone : 01562-732763, e-mail diana.glendenning@wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Documents referred to in this agenda may be viewed on the Council's website - www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/council/meetings/main.htm

(MAP OF VENUE)

**Wyre Forest District Council
Cabinet
21/02/2008
Earl Baldwin Suite, Duke House, Kidderminster**

PART 1

Open to the Press and Public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, to invite Members to declare the existence and nature of any personal or personal and prejudicial interests in the following agenda items. Members should indicate the action they will be taking when the item is considered.

Members are also invited to make any declaration in relation to Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(See guidance note on cover.)

3. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Cabinet held on the 24th January 2008. (Attached) [Minutes 24th January 2008](#)

4. CALL INS - a verbal update will be given on any decisions which have been "called in" since the last meeting of the cabinet.

5. ITEMS REQUIRING URGENT ATTENTION

Any item which, in the opinion of the Chairman requires consideration at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with the Council's Scheme for Public Speaking at Meetings of Full Council/Cabinet, to allow members of the public to present petitions, ask questions, or make statements, details of which have been received by 9 am on Monday 18th February 2008.

7. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

John-Paul Campion

7.1. FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2008/2011

To receive reports from the Head of Financial Services regarding the following:

- (a) Proposed Decision and Reports recommended to Council (approved at the Cabinet meeting on 20th December 2007). (Attached)
[Financial Strategy 2008-2011](#)
[Financial Strategy - Appendix 1](#)
[Financial Strategy - Appendix 2](#)
- (b) Recommendations of the Corporate Service and Performance Scrutiny Committee from its meeting on 5th February 2008. (Attached)
[Recommendations Financial Strategy](#)
- (c) Consultation on the Cabinet's Financial Strategy 2008/2011. (Attached)
[Consultation on the Cabinets Financial Strategy 2008-2011](#)
[Appendix 1a Budget Consultation](#)
[Appendix 1b Budget Consultation](#)
- (d) Final Determination of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2008/2011. (Attached)
[Final Determination of the LG Finance Settlement](#)
- (e) Income Service Options 2008/2009. (Attached)
[Income Service Options 2008-2009](#)
[Income Service Options Appendices](#)
- (f) Prudential System of Local Government Finance and The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Report 2008/2009. (Attached)
[Prudential System of LG Finance](#)
[Prudential System of LG Appendices](#)
- (g) Report of the Head of Financial Services in respect of Section 25-28 of the Local Government Act 2003. (Attached)
[Sections 25-28 LGA Report](#)

7.2 BUDGET MONITORING - THIRD QUARTER 2007/2008

To consider a report from the Head of Financial Services that outlines the monitoring of the Revenue Budget and Capital Programme in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003 and Comprehensive Performance Assessment guidelines. (Attached)

[Budget Monitoring](#)

[Budget Monitoring - Appendices 1 - 6](#)

[Budget Monitoring - Appendix 7](#)

7.3 BENEFITS SERVICE – LOCAL HOUSING ALLOWANCE - SAFEGUARD AND DIRECT PAYMENT POLICY

To consider a report from the Head of Financial Services that recommends to Council that the Benefits Service - Local Housing Allowance - Safeguard and Direct Payment Policy - February 2008 be approved. (Attached)

[Benefits Service - Local Housing Allowance](#)

7.4. SCHEME OF DELEGATION TO OFFICERS - AMENDMENT REGARDING THE INSTITUTING OF FORM N322 IN ROUTINE MATTERS FOR THE RECOVERY OF HOUSING BENEFIT OVERPAYMENTS

To consider a report from the head of Financial Services that recommends to Council:

1. Authority be delegated to the Benefit Manager to authorise Court documents for the instituting of court proceedings for the recovery of Housing Benefit Overpayments.
2. The Scheme of Delegation of Officers, contained In the Council's Constitution be amended accordingly. (Attached)
[Scheme of Delegation to officers -](#)

8. PROPERTY AND OPERATIONAL SERVICES *Marcus Hart*

8.1. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACT 2004 PART VI

To consider a report from the Head of Property and Operational Services that recommends to Council that the Scheme of Delegation be amended in relation to the management and enforcement of traffic regulations under the Traffic Management Act 2004 Part VI. (Attached) [Traffic Management Act 2004 Part VI](#)

9. COMMUNITY AND LEISURE SERVICES *Nathan Desmond*

9.1. PROPOSED LOCAL NATURE RESERVE AT MOORHALL MARSH

To consider a report from the Head of Community and Partnership Services which recommends to Council that Moorhall Marsh be declared a nature reserve and the management plan be endorsed. (Attached)
[Proposed Local Nature Reserve at Moorhall Marsh](#)
[Proposed Local Nature Reserve at Moorhall Marsh Appedix A](#)
[Proposed Local Nature Reserve at Moorhall Marsh Appedix B](#)
[Proposed Local Nature Reserve at Moorhall Marsh Appedix c](#)

The appendices to this report have been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request. (See front cover for details)

10. PLANNING, REGENERATION & PROSPERITY *Stephen Clee*

10.1 WYRE FOREST DRAFT RURAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY

- (i) To consider a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that recommends that the Draft Rural Economic Strategy Scoping Paper be approved as the basis for development of a draft strategy document and subsequent public consultation. (Attached)
[Rural Economic Strategy](#)
[Rural Economy Strategy - App 1](#)
- (ii) To consider the recommendations of the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee from the meeting held on 7th February 2008. (Attached)
[Recommendations WF Draft Rural Economic Strategy](#)

The appendices to this report have been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request. (See front cover for details).

**10.2 WEST MIDLANDS ECONOMIC STRATEGY (WMES) DELIVERY FRAMEWORK :
CONSULTATION DRAFT**

- (i) To consider a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that advises Members of the purpose and scope of a District Rural Economic Strategy and seeks agreement for the development of a draft Strategy document and subsequent public consultation. (Attached)
[W M Economic Strategy](#)
[WMES - Appendix 1](#)
[WMES - Appendix 2](#)
[WMES - Appendix 3](#)

- (ii) To consider recommendations from the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee from the meeting held on 7th February 2008. (Attached)
[Recommendations from C and R Scrutiny Cttee - WMES](#)

The appendices to this report have been circulated electronically and a public inspection copy is available on request. (See front cover for details).

11. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

11.1. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CORPORATE SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 5th February 2008

Re : Grants to Voluntary Organisations (Attached) [Grants to Voluntary Bodies 05.02.2008](#)

11.2. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CORPORATE SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 18th FEBRUARY 2008

- (i) Re : Corporate Plan (*To follow*)
- (ii) Re : No Barriers Review Panel (*To follow*)

11.3. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 7th February 2008

Re : The Planning Bill (Attached) [Recommendations from C and R - The Planning Bill](#)

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BEWDLEY MUSEUM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

12.1. BEWDLEY MUSEUM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

To consider a report from the Head of Community and Partnership Services that recommends to Council that the amendments outlined in the report be made to the Bewdley Museum Management Committee Constitution and Terms of Reference and referred to the Charity Commission for information. (Attached) [Bewdley Museum Report](#)

13. TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERS TO BE OF SO URGENT A NATURE THAT IT CANNOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC:

To consider passing the following resolution:

"That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of "exempt information" as defined in paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

PART 2

Not open to the Press and Public

15. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Exempt minutes of the Cabinet held on the 24th January 2008.
(Attached) [Exempt Minutes 24th January 2008](#)

16. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

John-Paul Campion

16.1. HOUSING BENEFIT OVERPAYMENT DEBT - WRITE OFF OF AMOUNTS OUTSTANDING

To consider a report from the Head of Financial Services that asks the Cabinet to give consideration to writing off an amount relating to Housing Benefit Overpayment. (Attached)
[Housing Benefit Overpayment Debt](#)

**17. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
PROPERTY & OPERATIONAL SERVICES
PLANNING, REGENERATION & PROPERTY**

John Paul Campion
Marcus Hart
Stephen Clee

17.1. COMMUNITY ASSETS - SALE OF LAND, BEWDLEY

To consider a joint report from the Chief Executive and Head of Property and Operational Services regarding the sale of land in Bewdley. ***(To follow)***

18. TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN, BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, CONSIDERS TO BE OF SO URGENT A NATURE THAT IT CANNOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING.