

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**MATTERS WHICH REQUIRES DECISIONS BY COUNCIL –**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET**

**Purpose of Report REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

To consider a recommendation from the Cabinet on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Would Councillors please note that the reports and related documents have not been included in the Council Book as they have already been sent to Members via the Cabinet agenda and copies have been included in the electronic circulation of the Council agenda. Copies of the reports and documents have been posted on the Council's website under the following web link: <http://www.wyreforest.gov.uk/council/meetings/main.htm>. Public inspection copies are available on request. Please see front cover for contact details).

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>
<p><b>1. Natural Environmental &amp; Rural Communities Act 2006. Section 40 Duty to Conserve Biodiversity. West Midlands Biodiversity Pledge.</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report to seek endorsement for the West Midlands Biodiversity Pledge.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) which placed a new duty to conserve biodiversity on all Public Authorities including Local Authorities be noted.</li> <li>2. That Wyre Forest District Council's commitment to the West Midlands Biodiversity Pledge and the implementation of the duties contained within Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet be approved.</li> </ol>	<p>Councillor M J Hart</p>

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**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**MATTERS WHICH REQUIRES DECISIONS BY COUNCIL –  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET**

**Purpose of Report REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008**

To consider a recommendation from the Cabinet on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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<b>ITEM</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>
<p><b>1 Review of Travel Token Conditions</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Financial Services that recommended that the rules of the current Transport Token Scheme be amended to remove the car use condition</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <p>The rules of the current Transport Token scheme be amended to remove the car use condition</p>	<p>Councillor Mrs A Hingley</p>
<p><b>2 Safeguarding Children Policy</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Community and Partnership Services that recommended that the Safeguarding Children Policy be adopted by Council for 2008 – 2011, with a formal review of the policy to be carried out in 2011.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <p>1. The Safeguarding of Children Policy 2008-2011 be implemented with</p>	<p>Councillor M.J. Hart</p>

	<p>immediate effect and be subject to final approval by Council at a future date</p> <p>2. A formal review of the policy be carried out in 2011</p>	
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**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**MATTERS WHICH REQUIRES DECISIONS BY COUNCIL –**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET**

**Purpose of Report REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL DATED 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

To consider a recommendation from the Cabinet on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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<b>ITEM</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>
<p><b>1 Wyre Forest Empty property Strategy Refresh</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health &amp; Environment presenting Members with a refreshed Empty Property Strategy for 2008 – 2011.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <p>That the Wyre Forest Property Strategy 2008-2011 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet be adopted.</p>	<p>Councillor Mrs A Hingley</p>
<p><b>2 Free Swimming Initiative, Wyre Forest District Council</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered the opportunities presented by the Government Free Swimming initiative in 2009/10 and 2010/11 and Wyre Forest District Council's response to this offer.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <p>The Head of Community and Partnership Services in consultation with the Head of Financial Services, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Leisure Services be requested to progress the Government Free</p>	<p>Councillor M.J Hart</p> <p><i>NOTE:</i></p> <p><i>This decision has been superceded. See agenda item 9 (vi)</i></p>

	<p>Swimming Initiative</p> <p>The Head of Community and Partnership Services, in consultation with the Head of Financial Services, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be given delegated authority to agree with the Council's partners DC Leisure, the details of the scheme.</p> <p>The schemes to progress on the principle that free swimming is only available to Wyre Forest residents unless the detailed conditions of grant prohibits this restriction.</p>	
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**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**MATTERS WHICH REQUIRES DECISIONS BY COUNCIL –  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET**

**Purpose of Report REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL DATED 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2008**

To consider a recommendation from the Cabinet on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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<b>ITEM</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>
<p><b>1 Report on Treasury Management</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Financial Services that requests that Cabinet:</p> <p>1 Approves the Prudential Indicators:  2 Approves the Treasury Management Service Report</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 That the remainder of 2008/09 investments are only placed with UK Banks and Building Societies which are rated in the Upper Limit Category, ie those with a F1+/AA rating, along with the UK Government and other Local Authorities, with the exception being small balances of less than £500,000 which have been invested with the Council's own bankers the Co-Operative Bank PLC</li> <li>• 2 That the Head of Financial</li> </ul>	<p>Councillor J.P. Campion</p>

	Services be granted delegated authority to make investments with those organisations within the Middle Limit category under exceptional circumstances.	
<b>2 Houses in Multiple Occupation Policy Refresh</b>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that recommended to Council that the Wyre Forest District Council Houses in Multiple Occupation Policy 2008 be adopted.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wyre Forest District Council Houses in Multiple Occupation Policy 2008 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet be adopted.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Councillor Mrs A Hingley
<b>3 Review of Residential Caravan Site Licence Model Conditions</b>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that presents Members with recommended model residential caravan site licence conditions for residential sites, to be adopted and applied to the residential sites in the District.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wyre Forest District Council Residential Caravan Site License Model Conditions 2008 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report to Cabinet be adopted.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Councillor Mrs A Hingley
<b>4 Church Street Conservation Area- Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal.</b>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that recommended to Council that the Wyre Forest District Rural Economic Strategy be adopted by Council.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rural Economic Strategy be approved and adopted.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	Councillor S.J Clee
<b>5 Single Equality Scheme</b>	<p>The Cabinet considered whether the Single Equality Scheme be adopted and implemented.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p>	Councillor N.J Desmond

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Single Equality Scheme be adopted and implemented..</li> </ul>	
<b>6. Wyre Forest District Rural Economic Strategy</b>	<p>The Council considered a report to advise on the development of the District Rural Economic Strategy and sought approval to its adoption by the Council.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>That the Rural Economic Strategy be approved and adopted.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Councillor S.J Clee</p>



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**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**MATTERS WHICH REQUIRES DECISIONS BY COUNCIL –  
RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET**

**Purpose of Report REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL DATED 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

To consider a recommendation from the Cabinet on a matter outside the policy framework or approved budget of the Council.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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<b>ITEM</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER</b>
<p><b>1 Revised Partnership Framework</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Strategy Partnerships and Communications Manager that recommended to Council that the Revised Strategic and Operational Level Partnerships Framework be adopted</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <p>The revised Strategic and Operational Level Partnerships Framework as set out in Appendix A be adopted.</p>	<p>Leader of the Council</p>
<p><b>2 Adoption of a Revised Corporate Health and Safety Policy</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Property and Operational Services that recommended to Council that a revised Corporate Health and Safety Policy be adopted.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:</b></p> <p>1. The revised safety policy statement at Appendix 1 and the full Health and Safety Policy, available on the Council's website, be adopted.</p>	<p>Leader of the Council</p>

	The Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council be authorised to sign the adoption statement and that the Head of Property & Operational Services be authorised to make any amendments that are required by changes to legislation as and when they occur	
<b>3. Free Swimming Initiative, Wyre Forest District Council</b>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Community and Partnership Services that recommended to Council the progression of the Government Free Swimming Initiative.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Head of Community and Partnership Services in consultation with the Head of Financial Services, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Leisure Services be requested to progress the Government Free Swimming initiative for the over 60's only (Pot 1). This external funding of £34,916 per annum will be shown in the Revenue Budget for 2009/2010 and 2010/2011.</li> <li>2. The Head of Community and Partnership Services in consultation with the Head of Financial Services, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Leisure Services be given delegated authority to agree with the Council's partners DC Leisure the details of the scheme.</li> </ol>	Councillor M J Hart
<b>4 West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Phase Two Revision Draft: Submitted Proposals</b>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report on the Regional Spatial Strategy Phase Two Revision and sought endorsement of representations on submitted proposals and comments on options produced by Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The response to the West Midlands RSS2 Draft Preferred Options</li> </ol>	Councillor S J M Clee

	<p>proposals <b>as set</b> out in Appendix to this report be approved</p> <p>2. The comments on the Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners report as set out in paragraphs 4.25 and 4.26 of this report be approved.</p>	
<p><b>5 Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that recommended to Council the endorsement of the consultation papers which represent the next stages in the Local Development Framework's Preparation</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <p>The following Local Development Framework Development Plan Documents be approved for the purposes of consultation in accordance with Regulation 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, as amended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core Strategy: Preferred Options, (attached at Appendix 1 to this report).</li> <li>• Site Allocations and Policies: Issues and Options, (attached at Appendix 2 to this report).</li> <li>• Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan: Issues and Options, (attached at Appendix 3 to this report)</li> </ul> <p>2. The Head of Planning, Health and Environment be given delegated power to determine the final format and presentation of the papers. and to DECIDE that:</p> <p>the arrangements for the public consultation on the Development Plan Documents be undertaken in accordance with the Consultation Plan attached at Appendix 4 to this report</p>	<p>Councillor S J M Clee</p>

<p><b>6 Recovering Disabled Facility Grants Through Property Charges</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet considered a report from the Head of Planning, Health and Environment that recommended to Council that a policy proposal for the introduction of discretionary charges on properties be adopted.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Private Sector Housing Assistance Policy 2008 be amended as of 1st December 2008 to incorporate the recovery of Disabled Facility Grant (DFG) monies upon the sale of properties as set out in the Disabled Facilities Grant (conditions relating to approval of payment of grant) General Consent 2008.</li> <li>2. A charge be applied, for 10 years from the date of completion of works, for the cost of works above £5,000, to the maximum of £10,000 on owner-occupied properties subject to the receipt of a DFG.</li> <li>3. The Head of Planning, Health &amp; Environment be given delegated authority to waive charges which fall within the cases set out in paragraph 4.4, subject to the provision of satisfactory written evidence to support any such claim and that a mechanism for appeal be introduced for any decision with which the claimant is not satisfied.</li> </ol>	<p>Councillor Mrs A T Hingley</p>
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