

FOR THE ATTENTION OF OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Decisions of a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 31 July 2008

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Arnold, Aslett and Mrs Burr

Substitutes: None

By Invitation: Councillors Andrews and Mrs Shields

2. Minutes of a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 17 April 2008 (previously circulated)

Minutes approved as a correct record.

3. Urgent Business

There were three items considered to be urgent, these related to the Housing & Planning Delivery Grant, contribution received in respect of the 2007 Floods and publications received in respect of 'Communities in Control' White Paper and Guidance on Comprehensive Area Assessments. The items were dealt with under agenda item 9.

4. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Andrews declared a personal interest in item 7 as the organiser of the petition.

5. Ryedale Local Development Framework

Recommendations agreed.

6. Insurance Renewals

Recommendations agreed subject to part (b) being amended to read "That the Corporate Director (s151), in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee, be granted delegated authority to enter into Insurance Contracts".

7. Item Referred - Car Park Action Group Petition

The petition was noted.

8. Policy & Resources Committee Performance Report - Quarter 1

Report noted.

9. Urgent Business

1. Housing & Planning Delivery Grant 2008/09

The Chief Executive reported for information that the Council had been awarded Housing & Planning Delivery Grant of £21,000 for 2008/09. This was a disappointing settlement, which had been influenced by the fact that the Council did not have its LDF in place or identified a five year supply of housing land. A neighbouring district council, which had its LDF in place and had identified a 5 year housing land supply, had received an award in excess of £600,000.

The Chief Executive reported that this was a clear reminder that the Council must deliver; this money may not be available again. The Council must remain focused and not allow itself to be distracted from the process.

2. Floods 2007 - Financial Contribution

The Chief Executive reported for information that the Council had been awarded revenue funding of £15,000 towards the costs of the 2007 summer floods. It was suggested that the Council consult the Land Drainage Group regarding the allocation of the funding. Members endorsed this course of action.

Resolved

That, following consultation with the Land Drainage Group, the Chief Executive and Corporate Director (s151), in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy & Resources Committee, be granted delegated authority to allocate the funding of £15,000.

3. Communities in Control - White Paper and Comprehensive Area Assessment

The Corporate Director reported for information that two publications had recently been received in connection with the above issues. The 'Communities in Control' White Paper included in excess of 20 proposals, which would affect many areas of the Council's services. A detailed analysis of the paper was currently being undertaken, following which a report was to be prepared for Members' consideration.

In addition guidance on the Comprehensive Area Assessment process had been received. Comprehensive Area Assessment was to replace Comprehensive Performance Assessment and would cover the North Yorkshire County Council, and all North Yorkshire District Councils together with the Fire and Police Authorities. A study of the guidance was being carried out by the Corporate Policy Manager with a view to either preparing a report for consideration by Members or arranging a Member Briefing.

With reference to community engagement, the Leader of the Council requested that Officers concentrate on the areas, which would be of most benefit to Ryedale's communities. The Corporate Director noted the suggestion.

Date of Decision List: Thursday 7 August 2008

Implementation Date for the Decisions
(i.e. 10 working days from date of issue of list): Thursday 21 August 2008