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Record of the decisions of the special meeting of the **CABINET** held at the Council Offices, Whitfield on Monday, 21 November 2016 at 11.00 am.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor P A Watkins

Councillors: M D Conolly
T J Bartlett
P M Beresford
N J Collor
N S Kenton
K E Morris

Also Present: Councillor S F Bannister
Councillor P M Brivio
Councillor S S Chandler
Councillor S J Jones
Councillor P Walker

Officers: Chief Executive
Director of Finance, Housing and Community
Director of Environment and Corporate Assets
Director of Governance
Head of Corporate Services
Head of Finance
Senior Accountant (Revenue and Treasury)
Policy and Performance Officer, EKS
Democratic Support Officer

The formal decisions of the executive are detailed in the following schedule.

Record of Decisions: Executive Functions

Decision Status	Record of Decision	Alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Reasons for Decision	Conflicts of interest (if any) declared by decision maker(s) or consultees (if any)
CAB 82 21.11.16 Open Key Decisions No Call-in to apply Yes Implementation Date 29 November 2016	<u>APOLOGIES</u> It was noted that there were no apologies for absence.	None.	To note any apologies received.	

Decision Status	Record of Decision	Alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Reasons for Decision	Conflicts of interest (if any) declared by decision maker(s) or consultees (if any)
CAB 83 21.11.16 Open Key Decisions No Call-in to apply Yes	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> It was noted that there were no declarations of interest.	None.	To note any declarations of interest.	

Implementation Date 29 November 2016				
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Decision Status	Record of Decision	Alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Reasons for Decision	Conflicts of interest (if any) declared by decision maker(s) or consultees (if any)
CAB 84 21.11.16 Open Key Decisions Yes Call-in to apply No Implementation Date 1 December 2016	<u>COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME</u> It was agreed to recommend to Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) That the current minimum contribution towards their Council Tax made by recipients of Council Tax Support is increased from 6.0% to 10.0%. (b) That the maximum savings that a Council Tax payer liable to pay Council Tax can have and still claim Council Tax Support is reduced from £16,000 to £6,000. (c) That a minimum income is used within the calculation for self-employed Council Tax payers after twelve months of self-employment. (d) That the maximum level of Council Tax support is restricted to the equivalent of a Band D property charge. (e) That only the first two children in a family will be included in the calculation for children born after April 2017. (Some exceptions will apply). (f) That the Family Premium is not included in the calculation of Council Tax Support for all new working-age Council Tax payers. (g) That the period for which a late claim can be backdated is 	None.	The Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) is a means –tested Council Tax discount scheme which replaced the national Council Tax Benefit scheme in April 2013. Each billing authority (in this case DDC) is required to set its own CTRS on an annual basis. Reductions in the amount of Revenue Support Grant received from central Government since 2013 have led to a significant shortfall in CTRS funding. Modifications are	

	<p>reduced to one month.</p> <p>(h) That the period for which a Council Tax payer can be absent from Great Britain and still claim Council Tax Support is reduced to 4 weeks (with some exclusions for certain occupations).</p> <p>(i) That the element of the work-related component of Employment and Support Allowance is not included in the Council Tax Support Calculation.</p> <p>(j) That Dover District Council works towards making determinations pursuant to Section 17A (7) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 of classes of cases in which the amount of Council Tax which a person is liable to pay will be reduced in accordance with Section 13A (1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 from April 2017, in order to provide a safety net for Council Tax payers experiencing extreme difficulty paying their Council Tax.</p> <p>(k) That Members note the Equalities Impact Assessment as detailed at Annex 4 of the report.</p> <p>(l) That the Director of Finance, Housing and Community be authorised to approve the final details of the scheme for recommending to Council.</p>		therefore required to the current scheme to address this shortfall and achieve a more affordable CTRS scheme.	
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Decision Status	Record of Decision	Alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Reasons for Decision	Conflicts of interest (if any) declared by decision maker(s) or consultees (if any)
<p>CAB 85 21.11.16 Open</p> <p>Key Decisions No</p>	<p><u>REVISED TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2016/17</u></p> <p>It was agreed to recommend to Council that the revised Treasury Management Strategy 2016/17 be approved.</p>	None.	Annually, the Council produces a Treasury Management Strategy as part of its budget-setting	

Call-in to apply No Implementation Date 1 December 2016			process. The Strategy includes the approved limits for the Council's borrowing activities. In order to support the Council's plans to invest in property, the Strategy has been amended to increase the capital financing requirement estimates, the operational boundary and borrowing limits.	
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Decision Status	Record of Decision	Alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Reasons for Decision	Conflicts of interest (if any) declared by decision maker(s) or consultees (if any)
CAB 86 21.11.16 Open Key Decisions No Call-in to apply Yes Implementation Date Immediate	<u>EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</u> That, in accordance with the provision of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000, the press and the public be excluded during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.	None.		

Decision Status	Record of Decision	Alternative options considered and rejected (if any)	Reasons for Decision	Conflicts of interest (if any) declared by decision maker(s) or consultees (if any)
<p>CAB 87 21.11.16 Exempt</p> <p>Key Decisions Yes</p> <p>Call-in to apply (a) Yes (b) No</p> <p>Implementation Date (a) 29 November 2016 (b) 1 December 2016</p>	<p><u>PROPERTY INVESTMENT STRATEGY</u></p> <p>(a) It was agreed, subject to Council approval of (b) (i) to (iii) below:</p> <p>(i) That two Project Advisory Groups be established as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Investment Project Advisory Group • Residential Investment Project Advisory Group <p>(ii) That the creation of one or more residential and commercial property companies be approved</p> <p>(iii) That the Leader of the Council be requested to delegate the approval of the detailed form of the companies to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance, supported by advice from the Residential Investment Project Advisory Group and the Commercial Investment Project Advisory Group respectively.</p> <p>(iv) That the Leader of the Council be requested to delegate the approval of property investments to the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources and Performance, advised by the Project Advisory Groups.</p> <p>(b) It was agreed to recommend to Council:</p> <p>(i) That a supplementary capital budget of £200 million, for the acquisition of commercial and residential assets for the economic regeneration and well-being of the district and for investment purposes, be approved.</p> <p>(ii) That a supplementary revenue budget of £200 million from the</p>	<p>None.</p>	<p>With the reduction and intended eventual withdrawal of Revenue Support Grant from central Government, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Council to deliver regeneration projects and remain financially stable.</p> <p>Alternative methods of income generation need to be found, and it is therefore proposed that the Council undertakes property investment activities in order to generate additional returns and income streams.</p>	

	<p>Regeneration Reserve, for the use of appropriate external professional support to establish a framework and assist with acquiring properties, be approved.</p> <p>(iii) That the implementation of the Investment Property Strategy, and the investment strategy criteria set out at Appendix 1 of the report, be adopted.</p>			
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The meeting ended at 11.22 am