



**Cabinet recommendations for consideration by Council
at the Meeting of the Council on Wednesday, 25 February 2015**

Cabinet – 5 January 2015

58 Meetings Timetable 2015/2016

The Cabinet considered Report No 3/15 which related to the proposed meetings timetable for the 2015/2016 municipal year, a draft of which had been circulated to all Councillors and Chief Officers for comment.

Paragraphs 4 to 9 of the Report set out details of the constraints that had been taken into account when compiling the timetable.

Appendix A to the Report set out a summary of public meetings for 2015/2016 and Appendix B provided the public meetings timetable 2015/2016 by calendar month.

Recommended:

- 58.1** That the meetings timetable for the 2015/2016 municipal year, as shown in Appendices A and B to Report No 3/15, be approved and adopted.

ADCS (to note)

Reason for the Decision:

To facilitate the smooth running of the Council's business in the municipal year 2015/2016.

† *Councillors are requested to bring with them to the meeting Report No 3/15 which was circulated with the agenda papers for the meeting of the Cabinet on 5 January 2015. If you require a further copy of the document please contact Trevor Hayward, Committee Officer, on e-mail trevor.hayward@lewes.gov.uk or telephone 01273 471600.*

59 Officer Scheme of Delegation

The Cabinet considered Report No 4/15 which proposed the amendment of the Scheme of Delegations in respect of non-housing property matters.

In September 2014, Cabinet had approved the Property Roadmap to align the Council's property management more closely to the Corporate Landlord model which was being implemented by Eastbourne Borough Council. That decision built on the work identified within the Property Strategy adopted by the Council in May 2012.

The Property Strategy would be supported by some Property Policies which were currently in draft form. Those policies set out how the Council would manage the property portfolio and landlord events, including engagement and consultation with interested parties, including Town and Parish Councils. Details relating to the landlord events which were covered by the policies were set out in paragraph 3.2 of the Report.

Furthermore, work had begun to identify inefficiencies within existing processes and ways in which the Council's property could be managed more effectively to deliver the Council's strategic priorities. An element of that work had involved the review of the Scheme of Delegations, the current version of which was set out at Appendix A to the Report.

The Officers had compared the delegated authority process which was undertaken at the Council with neighbouring authorities including Eastbourne Borough Council and East Sussex County Council, as well as neighbouring districts. The schemes were all broadly comparable, with the key differences relating to the financial limits for each transaction. If the Council was to adopt the Scheme that was operated at Wealden District Council, it would reduce some of the pinch points in service delivery but would allow for control and transparency over important or complex transactions.

The Report recommended that the text of the Council's Scheme of Delegations be amended in accordance with the proposals set out in Appendix A to the Report with delegated authority being given to the Director of Corporate Services in consultation with the Assistant Director of Corporate Services, the Director of Finance and the Directors of Business Strategy and Service Delivery, and that the Council adopts the limits and restrictions which were operated at Wealden District Council.

Recommended:

- 59.1** That the text of the Officer Scheme of Delegation as set out in the Council's Constitution, and as shown at Appendix A to Report No 4/15, be amended so as to adopt a Scheme similar to that operating at Wealden District Council in respect of non-housing property transactions and that the associated financial or other limits, as shown at Appendix B to the Report, be approved or amended.

DCS (to note)

It was further

Resolved:

59.2 That, subject to the approval of Recommendation 59.1 above, the Assistant Director of Corporate Services be authorised to make the necessary revisions to the Council's Constitution.

ADCS

Reasons for the Decisions:

Report No 4/15 recommends amending the Officer Scheme of Delegation by adopting the Scheme of Delegation in operation at Wealden District Council. This will enable the Council to align more closely with property transactions managed by Eastbourne Borough Council, which in turn may generate future efficiencies for the Council.

† *The Recommendation, and not the Resolution, in the above Minute is for consideration by Council.*

Councillors are requested to bring with them to the meeting Report No 4/15 which was circulated with the agenda papers for the meeting of the Cabinet on 5 January 2015. If you require a further copy of the document please contact Trevor Hayward, Committee Officer, on e-mail trevor.hayward@lewes.gov.uk or telephone 01273 471600.