



Walsall Council

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Civic Centre,
Darwall Street,
Walsall, WS1 1TP
www.walsall.gov.uk

9 September 2013

FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan sets out decisions that are termed as “key decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive (Cabinet). Preparation of the forward plan helps the Council to programme its work. The purpose of the forward plan is to give plenty of notice and an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The plan is updated each month with the period of the plan being rolled forward by one month and republished. The plan is available for public inspection at the Civic Centre Reception, Darwall Street, Walsall. Copies of the plan can be obtained from John Garner, Democratic Services, Walsall MBC, Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW, 01922 654366 or e-mail cabinetoffice@walsall.gov.uk. The forward plan can also be accessed from the Council's website at www.walsall.gov.uk. The Cabinet is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the forward plan, however, a notice will be included on the agenda for the relevant Cabinet meeting which explains the reasons why.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change. Please contact the above addressee if you wish to check the date for a particular item.

Cabinet responsibilities are as follows:

- Leader of the Council – Councillor Bird
- Deputy Leader and Regeneration and Transport – Councillor A. Andrew
- Children's services – Councillor R. Andrew
- Community engagement and voluntary sector – Councillor I. Shires
- Environment – Councillor Arif
- Leisure and culture – Councillor Harris
- Public health and protection – Councillor Ali
- Resources – Councillor Towe
- Social care – Councillor McCracken

The Cabinet agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public 7 days prior to the meeting of the Cabinet. The papers can be seen at First Stop Shop at the Civic Centre, Walsall. The papers are also available on the Council's website referred to above shortly before the meeting. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Cabinet and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they are confidential. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer. These details can also be found in the forward plan.

Meetings of the Cabinet are open to the public and take place in Conference Room 2 at the Council House, Walsall. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are confidential and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. The Forward Plan will show where this is intended and the reason why the reports are confidential. Enquiries regarding these reasons should be directed to the Head of Democratic Services, John Garner on 01922 654366.

The forward plan does not list all decisions which have to be taken by the Cabinet only “key decisions” which are those decisions which have a significant effect within the community or which involve considerable expenditure or savings. The Council’s Constitution defines a key decision as an executive decision which is likely:

- “(1) to result in the Council in incurring expenditure which exceeds that included in any approved revenue or capital budget or the limits set out within an approved borrowing or investment strategy and was not the subject of a specific grant;
- (2) to result in the Council incurring expenditure, or the making of savings, which are equivalent to or more than 5% of any approved revenue budget or 10% of any capital budget, whichever is the lower, subject to a de minimus level of £50,000;
- (3) to be significant in terms of its direct effects on communities in an area comprising two or more wards in the Borough.”

Dates of Cabinet meetings for 2013/2014

2013	19 June
	24 July
	11 September
	23 October
	11 December
2014	5 February
	19 March
	14 May

**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
OCTOBER 2013 TO JANUARY 2014 (9.9.13)**

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Reference No./ Date first entered in Plan	Key decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside the Council)	Decision maker	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Contact Member (All Members can be written to at Civic Centre, Walsall)	Date item to be considered
42/13 (8.7.13)	Black Country City Deal: Agreement between Black Country local authorities and government on freedoms and flexibilities for the Black Country in return for agreed outcomes in economy through interventions on land and infrastructure, skills and employment and business competitiveness. The focus of the agreement is the high value manufacturing sector but will encompass additional business sectors and skills/employment needs.	Cabinet	Mike Tichford 650944	Legal, finance, democratic services, regeneration, children's services	Councillor Bird	23 October 2013
17/13 (8.4.13)	Highway improvement scheme at M6 Junction 10: To allocate mainstream 2013/14 capital resources to develop a major highways improvement scheme	Cabinet	Matt Crowton 654358	Regeneration, neighbourhoods, legal, finance	Councillor A. Andrew	23 October 2013
44/13 (12.8.13)	Black Country Enterprise Zone – Phoenix 10 project: To advise on the outcome and endorse the detailed business case and seek approval for the proposed delivery mechanism of the project. Private session: A separate report will be presented in private session containing commercially sensitive information	Cabinet	Joel Maybury 654748	Finance, legal, procurement, property, ward Councillors	Councillor A. Andrew	23 October 2013

43/12 (10.9.12)	Green deal: To seek approval of the proposed Council role in the provision of the green deal	Cabinet	Neil Hollyhead 655411	Legal, finance, Black Country local authorities	Councillor A. Andrew	23 October 2013
48/13 (12.8.12)	Schools Funding Formula: Schools are funded through a funding formula. The Department of Education has now published rules that dictate that Walsall must alter the formula for 2014/15. This report looks for final agreement by Cabinet before sending the agreed formula to the DfE by the end of October.	Cabinet	Dan Mortiboys 652328	Schools Forum on behalf of all schools and consultation with all schools directly	Councillor R. Andrew	23 October 2013
23/13 (13.5.13)	Commissioning provision of early help services (including child care) through children's centres: To decide on the preferred commissioning option for the provision of early help services (including child care) through children's centres Private session: Reason: Contains commercially sensitive information on costs of independent sector provision and employee relation matters relating to restructuring which following a decision by Cabinet will be fully consulted upon prior to any implementation	Cabinet	Darrell Harman 658320	Public health, neighbourhoods, regeneration, early years, Ward Councillors, head teachers, Children's Centres staff, Healthcare Trust	Councillor R. Andrew	23 October 2013
54/12 (8.10.12)	Walsall's Second Play Strategy: Adoption of 5 year plan commencing in January 2013	Cabinet	Gareth Perrins-Seedhouse 650788	Play Partnership	Councillor Harris	23 October 2013
49/13 (9.9.13)	Office printers: To award a new contract to supply a reduced number of office printers and similar products to the Council for a 4 year term	Cabinet	Martin Sadler 654882	Print & design, procurement, smarter workplaces	Councillor Towe	23 October 2013
34/13 (10.6.13)	Broadway North Centre: Seek approval to the closure of the residential provision at the Centre (depending upon the outcome of the consultation)	Cabinet	Andy Rust 654713	Staff, partner organisations, users, carers	Councillor McCracken	23 October 2013
39/13	Support for living at home services:	Cabinet	Andy Rust	Staff, partner	Councillor	23 October

(8.7.13)	Seek approval for a retender exercise for support for living at home services		654713	organisations, users, carers	McCracken	2013
41/13 (8.7.13)	Assisted transport policy: Seek approval to the development of an assisted transport policy for the provision of transport (dependent on the outcome of the consultation)	Cabinet	Andy Rust 654713	Staff, partner organisations, users, carers	Councillor McCracken	23 October 2013
24/13 (13.5.13)	Commissioning short break services for children with a disability: To delegate powers to the Director of Children's Services to accept tenders for contracts to provide short break services for children with a disability	Cabinet	Darrell Harman 658320	Parents, children, health services, providers and other stakeholders	Councillor R. Andrew	11 December 2013
22/13 (13.5.13)	Adults Services and Special Education Needs transport: To delegate to the Director of Children's Services and Director of Adults Services, in consultation with the portfolio holders, power to oversee an OJEU procurement process and enter into a series of new transport contracts	Cabinet	Tracy Simcox 652454 Darrell Harman 658320	Parents, head teachers, service users, carers	Councillor R. Andrew	11 December 2013
26/13 (13.5.13)	Enlargement of Phoenix Special School: Consideration of the final proposal following 4 weeks statutory notice period to seek permission to full approval	Cabinet	Alan Michell 652895	Finance, legal, HR, ward Councillors	Councillor R. Andrew	11 December 2013