



**Walsall Council**

## **FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS**

**Civic Centre,  
Darwall Street,  
Walsall, WS1 1TP**  
[www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)

**7 August 2009**

## FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan sets out decisions that are termed as “key decisions” which the Executive (Cabinet) intend to take over the following 4 months. 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, Constitutional Services, Walsall MBC, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1TP, 01922 653500 or e-mail [cabinetoffice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:cabinetoffice@walsall.gov.uk). The forward plan can also be accessed from the Council’s website at [www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk). The Cabinet are allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the forward plan.

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.

The Cabinet Members and their responsibilities are as follows:

Leader of the Council	Councillor Bird
Deputy Leader and Regeneration	Councillor Andrew
Business support services	Councillor Arif
Children’s services	Councillor Walker
Communities and partnerships	Councillor Perry
Environment	Councillor Flower
Finance and personnel	Councillor Towe
Leisure and culture	Councillor Sanders
Social care, health and housing	Councillor McCracken
Transport	Councillor Ansell

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 on a monthly basis. 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 does not list all decisions which have to be taken by the Council 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 2009/2010**

##### **2009**

24 June  
15 July  
16 September  
21 October  
18 November  
18 December

##### **2010**

13 Cabinet  
3 February  
17 March  
14 April

**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS  
SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2009 (7.8.09)**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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
31/09 (5.6.09)	<b>Green Rivers Community Centre</b> – Following decision of Cabinet on 22 April 2009 to approve the fixed cost price for the construction of the Green Rivers Community Centre, Cabinet to approve the funding package for the delivery of the scheme	Cabinet	Jo Nugent 652483	Children's Services, Neighbourhoods, legal, finance, WHG, NHCE, user groups	Councillors Bird, Andrew	16 September 2009
28/09 (8.5.09)	<b>Walsall Gigaport</b> – To consider and agree the principles of the partnership agreement with Advantage West Midlands for the delivery of the Gigaport, to advise on the bid to AWM for project, funding, to endorse, in principle, the use of compulsory purchase powers where necessary, to agree the process for the procurement of a development partner and the identification of a delivery model	Cabinet	Paul Nicholson 652489 Richard Chadwick 652576	Walsall Regeneration Company	Councillor Andrew	16 September 2009
26/09 (8.5.09)	<b>Strategic Development Agreement between the Council and WHG</b> – Approval of arrangements for managing issues of best consideration, development claw back and the preferred social housing provider resulting from the Collaboration Agreement to deliver the strategic framework programme in Brownhills, Moxley and Goscote Lane corridor	Cabinet	Paul Nicholson 652489 Caroline Glover 653692	Estates, housing, legal services. Finance, Walsall Housing Group, Homes and Communities Agency	Councillor Andrew	16 September 2009

56/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Site of 10 and 12 Beddows Road</b> – sale of freehold interest at less than best consideration as part of the wider redevelopment of the site	Cabinet	Steve Pugh 2034	Development team, Strategic housing, legal services	Councillor Andrew	16 September 2009
57/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Harrowby Road – development of site as part of Moxley SRF 1 regeneration project</b> – approval to pursue compulsory acquisition of property	Cabinet	Paul Nicholson 652489 Rob Andrews 652514	Estates, housing, Legal, finance, Walsall Housing Group	Councillor Andrew	16 September 2009
59/09 (7.9.09)	<b>Regional Spatial Strategy Phase 3 revision – response to “options” consultation</b> – Response to the consultation from West Midlands Regional Assembly asking questions to inform policies on planning for: rural services; gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople; culture, sport and tourism; the environment; and minerals	Cabinet	Mike Smith 652435 Dawn Harris 652482	West Mids. Planning & Transportation Sub-Cttee, Regeneration strategic housing, Sport and leisure, Regeneration, development and delivery	Councillor Andrew	16 September 2009
63/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Appointment of framework contractors for delivery of capital programme</b> – Cabinet to approve the final appointment of up to 4 contractors to carry out the future red route, bus showcase and major schemes totalling £40 million and authority for the Executive Director for Regeneration to sign the contract	Cabinet	Stuart Everton 652560	Legal, procurement and finance	Councillor Andrew Councillor Ansell	16 September 2009
36/09 (5.6.09)	<b>Phase Three Children’s Centres</b> – To seek Cabinet permission to progress phase 3 of the development of Children’s Centres in Walsall	Cabinet	Carl Brittain Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686282	Finance, Human resources, legal, ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 September 2009
43/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Education capital programme – further schemes</b> – To seek the permission to progress further projects	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686231	Ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 September 2009

44/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Supply of schools places</b> – To seek approval to matters relating to the supply of school places	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children's Services, Serco 686231	Ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 September 2009
45/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Ethic Minority Achievement (EMA)</b> – To approve recommendations for further activity needed to take place to secure further improvements, but essentially asking for additional investment into EMA	Cabinet	Sue Wedgwood Walsall Children's Services, Serco 656239	Ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 September 2009
46/09 (6.7.09)	<b>14-19 Learning Skills Council (LSC) transfer</b> - To endorse proposals to secure the place of 14-19 commissioning within the Walsall World Class Commissioning Framework and sub regional commissioning proposals the transfer of staff/resources from the LSC required to ensure capacity to commission 16-19 provision before the LSC is wound up and responsibilities for commissioning transfer to local authorities in March 2010	Cabinet	Louise Hughes 652895	Schools, College	Councillor Walker	16 September 2009
47/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Integrated Young People Support Services</b> - To approve a tender for the management information systems for the Connexions service and/or the full Connexions service and delegate powers to the Director of Children's Services to award a contract	Cabinet	Louise Hughes 682895	CT partners, schools, health, etc.	Councillor Walker	16 September 2009
34/09 (5.6.09)	<b>Chuckery Air Quality Action Plan</b> – This is a mandatory requirement when an air quality management area has been declared. Report will detail how the authority intends to improve pollutant levels	Cabinet	John Roseblade 652278 Steve Pretty 652598	Neighbouring authorities, NHS Walsall, Environment Agency, Highways Agency, Secretary of State	Councillor Flower	16 September 2009

38/09 (5.6.09)	<b>Community Safety Plan</b> – Approval of the Borough Community Safety Plan refreshed annually based on the findings of a borough wide strategic assessment	Cabinet	Steve Gittins	Community members and other key stakeholders, partners	Councillor Perry	16 September 2009
64/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Local Neighbourhood Partnerships</b> - developing a model for neighbourhood management in Walsall	Cabinet	Clive Wright 654723	Elected members, Neighbourhood Partnerships, Partners on the LSP	Councillor Perry	16 September 2009
60/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Playbuilder programme</b> – proposal to develop new areas for children’s play within areas of deficiency. Cabinet to note the programme and progress made by the Playbuilder working group, endorse the programme and grant delegated authority for the Executive Director for Neighbourhood Services to award contracts for the delivery of the programme.	Cabinet	Graham Hood 650340	Director of Children’s Services	Councillor Sanders Councillor Walker	16 September 2009
63/08 (7.7.08) (Replace s items 41/07, 41/08 & 42/08)	<b>Implementation of charging policies within Social Care and Inclusion</b> The fairer charging policy in place within social care & inclusion needs to be up - dated and amended. Officers will be required to undertake a formal 12 week consultation. Also there are no policies currently in place for transport, neighbourhood care officers or extra care charging. Cabinet to authorise officers to consult on the charging proposals and report back to Cabinet at the end of the consultation period.	Cabinet	Steph Simcox 652703	Staff, partner organisations, users, carers	Councillor McCracken	16 September 2009
65/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Extra care housing</b> – Outcome of consultation on charging new users in receipt of extra care housing services and ratification of policy	Cabinet	Gary Mack 658495	Staff, partner organisations, users, carers	Councillor McCracken	16 September 2009

66/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Deprivation of liberty safeguards (DOLS)</b> - DOLS is new legislation and an addendum to the Mental Capacity Act, introduced on 1 April 2009. It affects those aged 18 and over who have a mental disorder and lack capacity to understand the need for their care and treatment who reside in registered care homes or hospital. DOLS places new legal responsibilities on PCTs and local social services authorities in their role as supervisory bodies. Cabinet to consider the policy documents accordingly.	Cabinet	Steve James 650494		Councillor McCracken	16 September 2009
42/09 (6.7.09)	<b>A4148 Broadway</b> – To approve the introduction of Red Routes along Broadway of which two junctions will be improved	Cabinet	Richard Banner 652550	Legal, procurement, finance, neighbourhoods, regeneration	Councillor Ansell	16 September 2009
48/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Education capital programme – further schemes</b> – To seek the permission to progress further projects	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686231	Ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	21 October 2009
52/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Sneyd Community – A Specialist Maths and Computing College: outcome of consultation</b> – Outcome of consultation on option A and decide whether to proceed with the closure proposal	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686231	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	21 October 2009
53/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Early Years – children care, quality and access to capital funding</b> – Consider capital proposal for expenditure to improve early years environments in Walsall	Cabinet	Carl Brittain, Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686282	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	21 October 2009

55/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Children's Trust Commissioning Unit-</b> approve establishment jointly with Children's Services, NHS Walsall and Children's Services, Serco	Cabinet	Pauline Pilkington 652035	NHS Walsall	Councillor Walker	21 October 2009
67/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Placarding for community events –</b> Proposals for addressing advertising of certain community events within the context of the current no-tolerance policy on fly posting	Cabinet	Judith Sunley 652213 Chris Holliday	Legal, events team, street pride	Councillor Flower Councillor Sanders	21 October 2009
68/09	<b>Managing memorials on the highway</b> Proposals for dealing with floral tributes left on the highway	Cabinet	Keith Stone 652100	Police, road safety team, contractors, street pride, bereavement services, highways	Councillor Flower Councillor Sanders	21 October 2009
61/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Sub regional and borough wide lettings scheme and allocation policy</b> Establishment of a borough wide choices and letting scheme which will allow all applicants for social housing in Walsall to use a single system of application. Consideration of the new Council allocation policy.	Cabinet Council	Debbie Parkes	Housing Associations, tenants	Councillor Andrew	21 October 2009 9 November 2009
49/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Education capital programme – further schemes –</b> To seek the permission to progress further projects	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children's Services, Serco 686231	Ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	18 November 2009
62/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Bereavement and Registration Services – fees and charges –</b> Consider the level of increase in fees associated with burials, cremations and registration activities.	Cabinet	Judith Sunley 652213 Steve Billings 655588	N/A	Councillor Flower	18 November 2009

58/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Corporate Asset Management 2009-2014</b> – approval of plan which sets out the approach to the strategic management of the Council's property portfolio	Cabinet	Steve Law 652075	Executive Directors, Corporate Property Group	Councillor Andrew	18 November 2009
50/09 (8.5.09)	<b>Gating Orders Policy</b> – consideration of final gating orders policy and two proposed trial gating orders in Definitive Footpath 38 Willenhall (part) between Stroud Avenue and Redpine Crest and adopted public footpath between Chester Road (adjacent to no. 167) and Thorney Road	Cabinet	Joanne Sheeran 652445	Safer Walsall Partnership, LNPs, Police Neighbourhood Watch, Local Access Forum, local residents and statutory organisations under the Highways Act 1980	Councillor Ansell	18 November 2009
51/09 (6.7.09)	<b>Education capital programme – further schemes</b> – To seek the permission to progress further projects	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children's Services, Serco 686231	Ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009
54/09 (7.8.09)	<b>Co-ordinated mid-year admissions scheme</b> – Agree co-ordinated scheme for mid-year admission to Walsall schools (This scheme is a requirement of the Schools Admissions Code, February 2009)	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children's Services, Serco 686231	Finance, legal, HR, ward Councillors, admission authorities, diocesan bodies and neighbouring local authorities	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009

38/08 (9.5.08)	<b>Police station</b> – The West Midlands Police Authority has identified a preferred location for its new Walsall Police HQ. The Council is a considerable landowner in the preferred location and the Police Authority has approached the Council with a view to purchasing its interest and securing its support to assemble the remainder of the site. Approval is sought “in principle” to pursue a compulsory purchase order to help deliver the police station relocation and for the sale of land to the Police Authority.	Cabinet	Paul Nicholson 652489 Richard Chadwick 652576	Walsall Regeneration Company	Councillor Andrew	16 December 2009
-------------------	--	---------	---	---------------------------------	----------------------	---------------------