



Walsall Council

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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

9 November 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. The forward plan can also be accessed from the Council’s website at 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 January
3 February
17 March
14 April

**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
DECEMBER 2009 TO MARCH 2010 (9.11.09)**

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
77/09 (8.10.09)	Walsall Partnership Programmes and Resources – to approve proposed allocations of funding by Walsall Partnership thematic groups to proposed programmes to deliver the Local Area Agreement and National Indicator Set, receive a progress report in relation to WNF funding activity and receive an update regarding the target action planning process.	Cabinet	Jo Lowndes, Walsall Partnership	Council and partners	Councillor Bird	16 December 2009
56/09 (7.8.09)	Site of 10 and 12 Beddows Road – 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 December 2009
83/09 (8.10.09)	Reedswood Golf Course – transfer of Council's freehold interest in land in return for a right of way from Reedswood Way for the benefit of a future development of the golf course	Cabinet	Steve Pugh 652034	Development team, legal services	Councillor Andrew	16 December 2009
87/09 (9.11.09)	Housing Renewal Assistance Policy 2009-2011 – To approve the new policy. The policy considers the limited resources available to private sector housing and targets those resources to people in most need and meet local priorities in line with the adopted housing strategy.	Cabinet	David Lockwood 652169		Councillor Andrew	16 December 2009

86/09 (9.11.09)	New Horizons Community Enterprise Walsall's New Deal for Communities end 31.3.2011. The Department for Communities and Local Government are encouraging New Deal partnerships to develop succession strategies beyond the end of the programme. As accountable body the Council is required by the DCLG to formally approve the succession strategy.	Cabinet	Paul Rowlands 712858	New Horizons Community Enterprise, Department for Communities and Local Government, Government Office, West Midlands	Councillor Andrew	16 December 2009
53/09 (7.8.09)	Early Years – children care, quality and access to capital funding – 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	16 December 2009
51/09 (6.7.09)	Education capital programme – further schemes – 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)	Co-ordinated mid-year admissions scheme – 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
81/09 (8.10.09)	University Technology College – decision to submit a formal expression of interest in establishing a University Technology College (14-19 years)	Cabinet	Pauline Pilkington 652081		Councillor Walker	16 December 2009
93/09 (9.11.09)	Aiming high – new services for disabled children – to approve the tender for services for disabled children funded by the Aiming High grant	Cabinet	Darrell Harman 652701	Parents of disabled children and children	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009

94/09 (9.11.09)	Learning and Skills Council transfer – to agree regional arrangements and memorandum of understanding	Cabinet	Jane Woodall, Walsall Children’s Services. Serco 686371	LSC Transition Group, 14-19 Strategic Partnership Board, Black Country LAs SRG Group, Black Country DCS meetings, Regional LSC meetings	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009
95/09 (9.11.09)	Secondary education strategy – to approve the secondary strategy which will outline the strategic direction for secondary education for 2009-2012	Cabinet	Sue Wedgwood, Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686239	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009
96/09 (9.11.09)	Provision of school places in 2020 – to show the number of projections of pupils across Walsall up to 2020 which will be used to inform decisions on school structures, Building Schools for the Future, Primary Capital Programme, etc.	Cabinet	Susan Lupton, Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686231	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009
97/09 (9.11.09)	Pupil Referral Units – to consider proposals regarding current provision made through Pupil Referral Units for those children either permanently excluded from school or who are “at risk” of permanent exclusion from school, requiring support to maintain placement	Cabinet	Frank Barnes, Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686319	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	16 December 2009
91/09 (9.11.09)	Environmental crime enforcement – update of arrangements for improving environmental crime and approval of improvement plan	Cabinet	Judith Sunley 652213	Partners, police, fire, social landlords	Councillor Perry	16 December 2009
68/09 (7.8.09)	Managing memorials on the highway 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	16 December 2009

89/09 (9.11.09)	Project W2R provision for energy from waste capacity from Staffordshire County Council – to consider the draft and “in principle” contract between Walsall and Staffordshire County Council	Cabinet	Keith Stone 652100	Legal, procurement, finance, Staffordshire County Council	Councillor Flower	16 December 2009
85/09 (9.11.09)	Red Routes package two – A461 Lichfield Road, A452 Chester Road, A4041 Queslett Road and A4031 West Bromwich Road	Cabinet	Stuart Everton 652560	Ward members, legal, finance	Councillor Ansell	16 December 2009
58/09 (7.8.09)	Corporate Asset Management 2009-2014 – 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	13 January 2010
67/09 (7.8.09)	Placarding for community events – 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	13 January 2010
28/09 (8.5.09)	Walsall Gigaport – 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	13 January 2009
71/09 (7.9.09)	Sneyd Community – A specialist maths and computing college Determination of statutory proposal to close the school. (Subject to Cabinet deciding to proceed with closure when outcome of consultation is considered on 21 October 2009)	Cabinet	Susan Lupton Walsall Children’s Services, Serco 686231	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	13 January 2010

78/09 (8.10.09)	Implementation of Early Years funding formula - The Department for Children Schools and Families require every local authority to introduce an Early Years Single Funding Formula with effect from 1 April 2010. The purpose of the new formula is to fund all early years providers, whether they are in the maintained, voluntary, private or independent sector, in an equitable manner. The move to hourly rates, based on actual termly participation, constitutes a major change for the maintained sector	Cabinet	Julie Taylor, Walsall Children's Services, Serco 686495	Finance, legal, HR and ward Councillors	Councillor Walker	13 January 2010
92/09 (9.11.09)	Darlaston Academy – to give delegated authority to the Executive Directors for Regeneration/Children's Services in consultation with the portfolio holder to sign the outline business case for the funding allocation from partnerships for schools	Cabinet	Kevin Kendall 652801	Ward members, legal services, financial services	Councillor Walker Councillor Andrew	13 January 2009
88/09 (9.11.09)	Carbon management plan –to reduce the Council's carbon emissions by 40% by 2019 through a range of projects	Cabinet	Daniel Cairns 652545	All service areas	Councillor Flower	3 February 2010
73/09 (7.9.09)	Leisure centres – to agree a strategic approach to the borough-wide replacement, modernisation and upgrading of leisure centres	Cabinet	Chris Holliday 650339	Education, Walsall, Walsall Regeneration Company, the training Primary Care Trust	Councillor Sanders Councillor Andrew	3 February 2010
84/09 (9.11.09)	Revenue and capital budget – To propose the final budget and Council tax and recommend to Council	Cabinet Council	Vicky Buckley 652349	Scrutiny and Performance Panels	Councillor Towe	3 February 2010 22 February 2010

<p>63/08 (7.7.08) (Replace s items 41/07, 41/08 & 42/08)</p>	<p>Implementation of charging policies within Social Care and Inclusion 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.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Steph Simcox 652703</p>	<p>Staff, partner organisations, users, carers</p>	<p>Councillor McCracken</p>	<p>3 February 2010</p>
<p>90/09 (9.11.09)</p>	<p>Project W2R – provision of energy from waste capacity from Staffordshire County Council – To consider the affordability of the W2R contract over the life time of the project</p>	<p>Cabinet</p>	<p>Keith Stone 653301</p>	<p>Legal, procurement, finance, Staffordshire County Council</p>	<p>Councillor Flower</p>	<p>17 March 2010</p>