



# Walsall Council

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Walsall to be held on **MONDAY the TWENTY-SIXTH day of FEBRUARY, 2007, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Dated this 16th day of February 2007.

Yours sincerely,

Interim Chief Executive.

The business to be transacted is as follows:-

1. Apologies.
2. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15th January 2007.
3. Declarations of interest.
4. Mayor's announcements.
5. To receive any petitions.

6. To answer any questions in accordance with Council procedure rules:-

(a) From the public.

Mr. Peter Smith of 65 Harden Road, Leamore – Brown garden waste recycling bins:

Whilst I am sure that the Council taxpaying households of the Borough who are presently without a Brown garden waste recycling bin will welcome the Council's plans to extend this service in the forthcoming financial year, which will not only add weight to the Council's commitment to recycling but will also partially address the inequality issue which presently exists with regard to the provision of this service, can you explain on what criteria will the decision be made as to which households will benefit from this extension of the service in the forthcoming financial year?

(b) From members of the Council.

None

7. To confirm the following recommendations of **Cabinet:-**

**(1) Towards a sustainable community strategy/community plan**

That the combined refreshed Community Plan and Progress Report be referred to Council as part of the Corporate Integrated Performance Planning Framework.

(Note: The report to Cabinet relating to this recommendation is reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

**(2) Corporate Plan 2007/8**

That the Corporate Plan 2007/8 be adopted.

(Note: The report to Cabinet relating to this recommendation is reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

**(3) Capital Programme 2007/8 to 2011/12**

That the draft capital programme set out in the following tables be approved bearing in mind the principle that unless affordable from within current resources, specific projects funded by unsupported borrowing will not be commenced until a payback agreement is in place:

<b>MAINSTREAM CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2007/8</b>	
<b>SCHEME</b>	<b>ESTIMATED VALUE £</b>
Schools access initiative	521,579
New pupil places	929,999
Local Transport Plan	4,282,000
Modernisation - primary	1,406,775
Modernisation - secondary	1,328,758
Disabled Facilities Grants	400,000
Risk Management	100,000
Uninsured property damage	200,000
Contingency	250,000
Clear major adaptations	3,261,000
Environmental regeneration capital programme	240,000
Shop Maintenance	115,077
Regenerating Walsall	500,000
Palfrey Park HLF	75,000
Willenhall Lane travellers site	150,400
Public lighting PFI	200,000
Library modernisation plan	325,000
Highways maintenance - capital rather than revenue funding	595,000
Targeted capital bids	202,500
Regeneration schemes falling within the Council's priorities	1,620,000
East locality (Accommodation)	12,000
Walsall arboretum restoration programme	50,000
Memorial safety	100,000
Streetly cemetery extension phase B	100,000
Youth service building refurbishment	100,000
Access for disabled people (Buildings)	200,000
Decriminalisation of parking enforcement	200,000
Asbestos removal	250,000
Improving security In local neighbourhoods	200,000
Secondary school re-development of dining facilities	260,000
Energy efficiency improvements	250,000
Strategic corridors and gateways	400,000
Work to secure safe water supplies	400,000
Town, district and local centres	1,050,000
Highways maintenance	1,000,000
Additional data storage	250,000
Communications network	400,000
Corporate PC refresh programme	490,000
Corporate Printer refresh programme	10,000
Corporate Server refresh programme	140,000
Customer relationship management	200,000
Enterprise servers	2,950,000
Information management	100,000
Network resilience	75,000

Remote data centre	200,000
Remote telephone systems	50,000
Systems upgrade	100,000
Thin client	50,000
Wireless networking	25,000
Replacement of SOSGIS - PARIS project	215,000
Priority 1 backlog - school building repair	2,000,000
Garden waste kerbside collection	289,000
Civic building air condition replacement	50,000
Major repairs to non-education premises	1,189,290
Private sector renovation grants	1,765,000
Housing needs and demand studies	10,000
Private sector house condition survey	50,000
Darlaston Strategic Development Area	200,000
Local access customer service bus	150,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,233,378</b>

<b>NON MAINSTREAM CAPITAL PROGRAMME – SCHEMES FUNDED FROM GRANT 2007/8</b>	
<b>SCHEME</b>	<b>ESTIMATED VALUE £</b>
Devolved formula capital	5,296,454
Modernisation - primary	602,903
Modernisation - secondary	569,468
Extended services	880,459
Targeted capital bids	9,000,000
Childrens centres - phase 2	2,574,510
Town Centre Transport Package	5,412,000
Bus showcase	1,000,000
Red routes	2,000,000
Recycling initiatives	527,204
Community Regeneration in Walsall	572,292
Palfrey Park HLF	225,000
Daw End limestone infilling	500,000
Bridge Street/Ablewell Street THI – AWM	50,000
Bridge Street/Ablewell Street THI – HLF	51,071
Bloxwich Partnership Scheme in Conservation Areas	100,000
Bloxwich Townscape Heritage Initiative	52,399
Lichfield Street Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme	4,601
New deal for communities	2,347,600
Disabled Facilities Grants	600,000
Willenhall Lane travellers site	451,200
Private sector renovation grants	1,235,000
Improving information grant (PARIS project)	155,000
Improving care homes	380,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34,587,161</b>

<b>LEASING PROGRAMME 2007/8</b>	
<b>DIRECTORATE</b>	<b>TOTAL BUDGET £'000'S</b>
Neighbourhood Services	6,241
Regeneration	0
Social Care and Inclusion	393
Childrens Services	96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,730</b>

(Note: The report to Cabinet relating to this recommendation is reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

#### **(4) Corporate Revenue Budget Plan 2007/8 to 2011/12**

- (a) That the net levies for outside bodies be noted. At the time of despatch of this report, the environment agency had not formally notified the authority of their final levy and as such this will be reflected in a revised resolution to be tabled at the Council meeting of 26 February 2007. An estimate has been used within this report based on informal notification from the agency.

<b>LEVY</b>	<b>AMOUNT (£)</b>
West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority	<b>12,843,222</b>
Environment agency	<b>93,482</b>

- (b) That approval be given to an opening working balance for 2007/8 set at a prudent level of £4.6m in line with the council's medium term financial strategy.
- (c) That the following opening cash limited budgets for 2007/8 be approved.

<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>2007/8 BUDGET (£)</b>
<b>DIRECTORATE BUDGETS:</b>	
Corporate services	<b>24,607,868</b>
Social care and inclusion	<b>62,387,374</b>
Children and young people	<b>74,251,491</b>
Neighbourhood services	<b>61,868,086</b>
Regeneration	<b>2,804,971</b>
<b>CORPORATE PROVISIONS/CONTINGENCIES ETC:</b>	
Capital financing	<b>13,018,035</b>
Non-service specific central items	<b>1,698,119</b>
Contribution to general reserves	<b>961,688</b>
Less: Capital Charges	<b>-41,610,294</b>
<b>LEVIES:</b>	
Passenger Transport Levy	<b>12,843,222</b>
Environment Agency Levy	<b>93,482</b>
<b>WALSALL MBC NET BUDGET REQUIREMENT</b>	<b>212,924,092</b>

(d) That the following statutory determinations be noted (references are to the Local Government Finance Act, 1992):

- I. **£630,870,275** being the aggregate gross expenditure, which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2) (a) to (e) of the Act.
- II. **£417,946,183** being the aggregate income which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3) (a) to (c) of the Act.
- III. **£212,924,092** being the amount, by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b), calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32 (4) as its budget requirement for the year.
- IV. **£117,678,357** being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed Non-Domestic Rates (**£100,194,631**); Revenue Support Grant (**£16,814,726**); and the Collection Fund Surplus(**£669,000**).
- V. **95,245,735** being the amount at (c) above, less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the Council Tax Base of **76,388**, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

VI. Valuation bands

Being amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) above by the proportions set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act and calculated in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act of the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

A	B	C	D
£831.25	£969.79	£1,108.33	£1,246.87
E	F	G	H
£1,523.95	£1,801.03	£2,078.11	£2,493.74

(e) That the estimated precept from the Fire & Civil Defence Authority and the estimated precept for the Police Authority, issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below be noted and that the final figures be substituted for these provisional ones once they are available at the council meeting on 26 February 2007.

<b>PRECEPTING AUTHORITY</b>	<b>VALUATION BANDS</b>			
<b>Police</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
	£60.83	£70.96	£81.10	£91.24
	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
	£111.52	£131.79	£152.07	£182.48
<b>Fire &amp; Civil Defence</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
	£29.40	£34.30	£39.20	£44.10
	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
	£53.90	£63.70	£73.50	£88.20

- (f) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (f) and (g) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts of council tax for 2007/8 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
£921.48	£1,075.05	£1,228.63	£1,382.21
<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
£1,689.37	£1,996.52	£2,303.68	£2,764.42

- (g) That notice be given of the council tax within twenty one days of it being set by publishing details of the same in the "Walsall Observer"; and the "Walsall Advertiser" being newspapers circulating in the Authority's area.
- (h) That the appropriate officers be instructed to take all necessary action in relation to council tax, community charge and national non-domestic rates, including, where appropriate, the signing of all documents, the giving of notices and the taking of necessary steps to ensure collection thereof.

(Note: The report to Cabinet relating to this recommendation is reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

## **(5) Annual review of Treasury Management and Investment Strategy**

That the 2007/08 treasury management and investment strategy document set out in Appendix 1 of the report be approved and the Prudential Indicators set out in section E of Appendix 1 endorsed.

(Note: The report to Cabinet relating to this recommendation is reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

8. Review of the Council's Constitution with respect to changes in planning and regeneration. Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting. Council to agree the recommendations set out in the report.

9. Barr Beacon Trust. Report reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting. Council to agree the recommendations set out in the report.