



Walsall Metropolitan Borough

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 SEVENTH day of MARCH, 2005, at 6.00 p.m.** at the Council House, Walsall.

Dated this 25th day of February, 2005.

Yours sincerely,

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 17th January 2005.
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.
- (b) From members of the Council.

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

(1) **Walsall Unitary Development Plan**

That the Walsall Unitary Development Plan Review be formally adopted.

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

(2) **Treasury management strategy**

That the 2005/06 treasury management strategy document set out in Appendix 1, the 2005/06 investment strategy document set out in Appendix 2 and the adoption of the Prudential Indicators set out in section 4.9 and in Appendix 3 be approved.

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

(3) **Capital Programme 2005/6 – 2009/10**

That the Capital Programme as set out in the following tables be approved:

Mainstream Capital Programme 2005/6	
Scheme	Estimated value £
New Pupil Places	969,833
Prior Basic Need Commitments	917,961
Schools Access Initiative	531,934
Local Transport Plan (LTP)	4,738,000
Mental Health	122,392
Walsall Magistrates Court	215,800
Disabled Facilities Grant	347,000
Unfinanced Accruals	790,000
Corporate Contingency	250,000
Risk Management	100,000
Uninsured Property Damage	300,000
Private Sector Renovation Grants	3,000,000
Major Adaptations	4,897,000
Housing Benefit Capitalisation	1,031,000

Shop Maintenance – PMI	110,609
Implementation of the Local Taxation & Benefits System	380,000
Highway Maintenance	3,160,000
New Primary School in South Willenhall	344,225
Document Management System – Revenues & Benefits	81,200
Replacement Computer Systems – Revenues & Benefits	514,800
Access for Disabled (Buildings)	200,000
Asbestos Removal	100,000
Replacement of SOSCIS	80,000
Street Lighting PFI up to and including 2006/07	200,000
Environmental Regeneration Capital Programme	225,000
Quality Streets Programme	750,000
Environmental and Heritage Improvements to District Centres	250,000
Roof Repairs – Schools	200,000
Housing Market Renewal	350,000
Stock Condition Survey Private Sector	50,000
Walsall Arboretum Restoration Programme	10,000
New Build Short Breaks Unit	200,000
New Build Beacon View	100,000
New Build Fallings Heath	50,000
CCTV for Local History Centre	13,000
Meeting DDA Requirements	10,000
Civic Quarter – Phase 2	450,000
Alley Gating	250,000
Youth Service Building Refurbishment	100,000
Secondary School Re-development of Dining Facilities	310,000
Strategic Corridors and Gateways	150,000
Targeted Capital Elm Street/ Albion Road	350,325
Boiler Replacements – Schools	200,000
Travellers Site – Essential Works	350,000
Relocation of the School Library Support Service	40,000
Parks/Greenspace Improvement Strategy	100,000
Enforcement Strategy	210,000
Corporate Document Management System	500,000
Daw End Mine	3,000,000
School Building Repair & Infrastructure	2,000,000
Major Repairs to Non-Education Premises	3,000,000
Regenerating Walsall Programme	1,000,000
Total	37,600,079

Non mainstream Capital Programme – schemes funded from grant 2005/6	
Scheme	Estimated value £
Implementation of the Local Taxation & Benefits System	216,000
Baselines Black Country	35,000
Modernisation - Primary Schools	1,552,114
Modernisation – All Schools	2,006,995
Devolved Formula Capital	3,973,117
New Primary School – South Willenhall	1,376,900
Targeted Capital Elm Street/Albion Road	1,401,300
Improvement of Facilities at Local History Centre	14,000
Refurbishment of Local History Centre	50,000
Walsall Arboretum Restoration Programme	30,000
Playing Pitch Strategy	70,000
Football Foundation – Beechdale	450,000
Phase 5 Forest Arts Centre	139,061
Children's Capital Grant	83,000
Improving Information Grant	151,000
Safeguarding Children	222,000
Disabled Facilities Grant	520,000
Travellers Site Refurbishment	100,000
New Build Short Breaks Unit	400,000
New Build Beacon View	400,000
New Build Fallings Heath	175,000
Daw End Limestone Mine	15,000,000
New Deal for Communities (NDC)	2,300,000
Red Routes Programme	1,000,000
Bus Showcase Programme	1,000,000
Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) 5	169,380
Town Centre Transport Package – Ring Road	6,900,000
ITP – PFI	2,980,000
Darlaston Strategic Development Area	9,600,000
Quality Street ERDF	1,300,000
Transforming Your Space	1,176,000
Lichfield Street HERS	100,000
Darlaston HERS	100,000
Environmental and Heritage Improvements to District Centres	418,666
Butlers Passage	50,000
Brownhills District Centre Regeneration	376,000
Bradford Street HERS	50,000
Bloxwich THI	250,000
Walsingham Street/Chuckery Green	5,000
Community Regeneration in Walsall	1,867,698
Total	58,008,231

Leasing programme 2005/6	
Directorate	Total budget £'000's
Lifelong Learning & Community Services	55
Regeneration, Housing & Built Environment	11,294
Social Care and Supported Housing	0
Corporate Core	198
TOTAL	11,547

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

(4) Corporate revenue budget 2005/6 – 2009/10

- (1) That the formal considerations of the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) in respect of the robustness of the budget and adequacy of reserves as set out in section 4 and Appendix 9 of this report be noted and endorsed.

- (2) (a) That the net levies for outside bodies as follows be noted:

Levy	Amount (£)
West Midlands Passenger Transport Authority	12,234,614
Environment agency	79,281

- (b) That approval be given to an opening working balance for 2005/6 set at a prudent level of £4,500,000 in line with the council's medium term financial strategy.
- (c) That the following opening cash limited budgets for 2005/6 be approved.

Budget	2005/6 Budget (£)
Directorate Budgets:	
Lifelong learning & community	215,596,833
Social care and supported housing	86,168,744
Regeneration, housing and built environment	35,122,002
Finance, law and performance	16,975,031
Corporate services	3,790,839
Corporate provisions/contingencies etc:	
Capital financing	14,102,776
Provision for increase in employers superannuation	785,000
Provision for single status / job evaluation	500,000
Contribution to insurance fund / environmental warranties	400,000
Central contingency	337,000
Review of balance sheet / corporate items	173,228
Use of balances to fund financial prudence	-1,489,000
Less: Capital Charges	-42,306,481

Levies:	
Passenger Transport Levy	12,234,614
Environment Agency Levy	79,281
Walsall MBC Net Budget requirement	342,469,867

- (d) That the following statutory determinations be made (references are to the Local Government Finance Act, 1992)
- a) **£580,384,528** being the aggregate gross expenditure, which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2) (a) to (e) of the Act.
- b) **£237,914,661** being the aggregate income which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3) (a) to (c) of the Act.
- c) **£342,469,867** 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.
- d) **£254,540,236** 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 (£84,113,812); Revenue Support Grant (£170,686,424); and the Collection Fund Deficit (£260,000).
- e) **£87,929,631** being the amount at (c) above, less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the Council Tax Base of 76,002, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(f) **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
£771.29	£899.84	£1028.39	£1,156.94
E	F	G	H
£1,414.04	£1,671.13	£1,928.23	£2,313.88

- (g) 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 7 March 2005.

Precepting authority	Valuation bands			
Police	A	B	C	D
	£55.79	£65.08	£74.38	£83.68
	E	F	G	H
	£102.27	£120.87	£139.47	£167.36
Fire & Civil Defence	A	B	C	D
	£27.47	£32.05	£36.63	£41.21
	E	F	G	H
	£50.36	£59.52	£68.68	£82.41

- (h) 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 2005/6 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

A	B	C	D
£854.55	£996.97	£1,139.40	£1,281.83
E	F	G	H
£1,566.67	£1,851.52	£2,136.38	£2,563.65

- (i) 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"; the "Express and Star" and "Evening Mail" being newspapers circulating in the Authority's area.
- (j) 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 on the above recommendation is reproduced in the reports booklet for this meeting.)

8. Representation on West Midlands Local Government Association Planning Partnership:

Council is asked to note the following change in representation for the remainder of the current municipal year:-

Councillor Withnall to replace Councillor Madeley

9. To consider the following motion, notice of which has been duly given by Councillor Withnall, Ansell and I. Shires:-

That this Council considers that, as a matter of policy, wherever best value can be demonstrated, goods and supplies for use by Council services, should be acquired from "Fair Trade" sources and that officers be instructed to consider the implications of such a policy for the Council's current procurement arrangements and report back to Council before the end of the municipal year with recommendations on how such a policy can be implemented.



Walsall Metropolitan Borough

R E P O R T S

To be presented to the Council at the meeting
to be held on **MONDAY 7 MARCH 2005**

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ANNIE SHEPPERD,

Chief Executive,
Walsall.