



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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

7 November 2008

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 John O’Hare
Deputy Leader and Regeneration	Councillor Adrian Andrew
Children’s services	Councillor Zahid Ali
Communities and partnerships	Councillor Garry Perry
Environment	Councillor Rachel Walker
Finance and personnel	Councillor Al Griffiths
Leisure and culture	Councillor Louise Harrison
Procurement, transformation and performance management	Councillor Mohammed Arif
Social care, health and housing	Councillor Barbara McCracken
Transport	Councillor Anthony Harris

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.

Dates of Cabinet meetings for 2008/2009

2008

18 June
16 July
17 September
22 October
19 November
17 December

2009

14 January
4 February
18 March
22 April

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS DECEMBER 2008 TO MARCH 2009 (7.11.08)

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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
77/08 (8.9.08)	Area Based Grant (ABG) – To approve proposed allocations of funding recommended by WBSP Executive Committee to proposed programmes to deliver the Local Area Agreement and receive an update regarding the Target Action planning process	Cabinet	Jo Lowndes, 654714		Councillor O'Hare	17 December 2008
78/08 (8.9.08)	Strategic fundraiser – Approval of the future role of strategic fundraising to ensure Walsall received maximum benefits from funding applications and request approval for Walsall Partnership to be given the lead on developing strategic fundraising on behalf of the Council	Cabinet	Clive Wright 6547407		Councillor O'Hare	17 December 2008
94/08 (9.10.08)	A4148 Broadway Red Route – Approval of proposals for the A4148 Broadway Red Route scheme Phase 1 – Arboretum to A34	Cabinet	Stuart Everton 652560	Legal, procurement, finance, neighbourhoods, regeneration	Councillors Andrew/Harris	17 December 2008
95/08 (9.10.08)	A34 South Park and Ride – Approval of outline proposals and to submit a planning application for the A34 South Par and Ride site at Aston University	Cabinet	Stuart Everton 652560	Legal. Procurement, finance, neighbourhoods, regeneration	Councillors Andrew/Harris	17 December 2008

38/08 (9.5.08)	Police station – The West Mid. 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	17 December 2008
98/08 (7.11.08)	St. Matthews Quarter – To consider and agree the development agreement for the redevelopment	Cabinet	Paul Nicholson 652489 Richard Chadwick 652576	Scrutiny panel, Market traders association, Town Centre Management Partnership	Councillor Andrew	17 December 2008
73/08 (8.8.08)	Building schools for the future (BSF) BSF is a long-term programme of investment and change in England that will help transform education for secondary age students by providing 21 st century learning environments that engage and inspire young people, their teachers and the wider community. BSF was launched by the Department for Children Schools & Families (DCSF) in February 2003. The Council has been selected for an accelerated start to BSF as part of 7 other local authorities joining the programme in Interim Wave 6a and together will share funding of £625m. Approval is requested to proceed with the BSF for the Future project.	Cabinet	Karen Adderley 653303	Head teachers, LNPs, Children’s services, regeneration officers	Councillor Zahid Ali	22 October 2008

92/08 (9.10.08)	Options appraisal for delivery of connexions within Young People's Integrated Services – approval of delegated authority to accept tenders for delivery of connexions service to ensure that service commence as soon as possible in 2009. This process will be tied into the partnerships target action planning process to ensure these services fit into delivering Local Area Agreement and joined up partnership working.	Cabinet	Louise Hughes 652895		Councillor Zahid Ali	17 December 2008
1008/08 (7.11.08)	Children's Trust arrangements for commissioning services to reduce child poverty – The report will describe how the Council and Walsall Partnership will commission services to reduce child poverty	Cabinet1	Darrell Harman	Children's Trust, Walsall Partnership, Regeneration, Head Teachers in pilot areas	Councillor Zahid Ali	17 December 2008
99/08 (7.11.08)	Shelfield Sports and Community College – determination of statutory proposal: Cabinet to decide whether it wishes to approve the statutory proposal to close Shelfield Sports and Community College on 31 December 2008, subject to the signing of a funding agreement by the Secretary of State for the opening of an academy on 1 January 2009	Cabinet	Susan Lupton 686231, Walsall Children's Services – Serco	Legal, finance, property services, planning, HR	Councillor Zahid Ali	17 December 2008
72/08 (8.8.08)	Links to Work – Links to Work assumed responsibility for the transfer of the former Walsall Windows 3 years ago including time limited transitional funding.. Cabinet to consider a range of options to address budget issues prior to the service being externalised as a social enterprise	Cabinet	John Greensill		Councillor McCracken	17 December 2008

88/08 (8.9.08)	Highways repair and maintenance service – Cabinet to approve the final contract for the delivery of highways repairs and maintenance services.	Cabinet	Keith Stone 653301	Internal and prospective partners	Councillor Harris	17 December 2008
15/08 (10.12.07)	Sustainable travel to school strategy - The Sustainable travel to school strategy is being produced in response to both national and local initiatives. There is a general duty under for Local Authorities to promote sustainable modes of travel to school. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a further duty on Local Authorities to consider the travel needs of all pupils. There are 4 main requirements of the Education and Inspections Act: (1) An assessment of the travel and transport needs of children and young people within the authority's area. (2) An audit of the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority that may be used when travelling to and from, or between schools/institutions. (3) A strategy to develop the sustainable travel and transport infrastructure within the authority, so that the needs of children and young people are better catered for. (4) The promotion of sustainable travel and transport to, from and between schools and other institutions.	Cabinet	Kathryn Parr 652511 Kate Mann 686361	Walsall Schools working party, Serco, road safety	Councillor Harris	17 December 2008

54/08 (6.6.08)	Housing Strategy 2008-11 – Endorsement of the Council’s Housing Strategy 2008-11 which details the Council’s priorities to increase housing choice and opportunity, improve the standard and sustainability of existing and future homes and address diverse needs and promote independent living.	Cabinet Council	Neil Hollyhead 655411	Key stakeholders	Councillor McCracken	12 January 2009
74/08 (7.7.08)	Gating Orders Policy – gating orders were introduced under the Clean Neighbourhoods Act 2005. They can be used to gate highways where anti-social behaviour and crime is experienced. It is necessary to amend the existing situational crime interventions policy to allow implementation of this new legislation. Walsall Borough’s Rights of Way Improvement Plan became approved Council policy on 19 April 2008 highlighted that the policy review should be completed within 12 months	Cabinet Council	Joanne Sheeran 652445	LNPs, Local Access Forum, statutory consultees	Councillor Harris	14 January 2009
75/08 (8.8.08)	Learning disability short breaks – Short breaks are offered by the Council to give carers of people with a learning disability a break from 24/7 care and are allocated on an assessed number of nights per year basis. Cabinet to consider a range of options to ensure the equitable and affordable allocation of short breaks.	Cabinet	John Greensill 658383	Staff, partner organisations, users, carers	Councillor McCracken	14 January 2009

63/08 (7.7.08) (Replaces items 41/07, 41/08 & 42/08)	Implementation of charging policies within Social Care and Inclusion – The fairer charging policy in place within social care and inclusion needs to be updated 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 be requested 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	4 February 2009
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