

Record of Cabinet member decision



Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Decision made by	Councillor Elaine Ware
Key decision?	No
Date of decision (same as date form signed)	
Name and job title of officer requesting the decision	Carole Cumming, Grants Officer
Officer contact details	Tel:01235 422405 Email: carole.cumming@southandvale.gov.uk
Decision	To approve the amendments outlined below to the current capital and new homes bonus grant policies.
Reasons for decision	<p>Following a review of the capital and new homes bonus grant schemes during 2016 officers are proposing a number of changes to improve the schemes for applicants and decision makers.</p> <p>The review involved asking the area committees for their feedback on the schemes and asking scrutiny committee for its views on the proposed changes.</p> <p>The changes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To allocate the capital grant budget between the area committees, using the agreed formula, at the start of the financial year instead of at the beginning of each round. • To ask organisations we award over £10,000 to enter into a grant agreement • To split applications covering more than one area committee equally between the committees covered by the application • To pay grants over £25,000 in three stages instead of two. • To include the criteria for when an area committee decision is subject to call-in • To include a requirement that any facilities we fund must be available for a minimum period of time before we will consider funding them again (a minimum of five years for grants up to £10,000 and a minimum of ten years for grants over £10,000) • To clarify that we will not accept applications for projects we have previously rejected, unless officers are satisfied there are materially different and address the concerns raised when they were originally considered

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To require all organisations to provide land registry evidence of ownership or tenure, unless purchasing moveable equipment. Leases must have at least ten years on the term. • to amend the scoring matrix to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ combine the funding information and the organisation's financial contribution scores as there is some overlap in these areas ○ include the reasons for deducting or awarding extra points for certain applications • to dispense with committee meetings if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ we only receive three eligible applications, and ○ the combined total of the applications is £10,000 or less, and ○ the requests do not exceed the available budget <p>and to allow the Head of Corporate Strategy to make the award decisions in consultation with the Chairman of the relevant committee.</p>			
Alternative options rejected	To leave the current policies unchanged.			
Legal implications	<p>According to the Leader's scheme of delegations, the cabinet member for housing, environmental health and grants can approve changes to our grants policies and procedures.</p> <p>An amendment to the Constitution will be required to provide the Head of Corporate Strategy with the necessary delegation to take the decisions referred to above.</p>			
Financial implications	The council agreed budgets of £100,000 for each of these grant schemes at its budget-setting meeting in February 2017. There are no additional financial implications for the council in agreeing to make these changes.			
Other implications				
Background papers considered	The current NHB and CCG policies. Minutes of scrutiny committee on 28 July 2016			
Declarations/conflict of interest? Declaration of other councillor/officer consulted by the Cabinet member?				
List consultees		Name	Outcome	Date
	Ward councillors	All Area Committees (January 2016 and January 2017)	Agreed	23.3.2017

<i>Ware</i> 29/3/17	Legal	Legal Services	An amendment to the Constitution will be required to provide the Head of Corporate Strategy with the necessary delegation to take the decisions referred to above.	29.3.2017
	Finance	Simon Hewings	Agreed	23.3.2017
	Sustainability	n/a		
	Diversity and equality	n/a		
	Communications	Shona Ware	Agreed	22.3.2017
Strategic Management Board	David Hill <i>Mark Stone</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		
Confidential decision? If so, under which exempt category?	No			
Call-in waived by Scrutiny Committee chairman?	No, but scrutiny committee considered most of the proposals on 28 July 2016.			
Cabinet member's signature To confirm the decision as set out in this notice.	Signature <u><i>Shona Ware</i></u> Date <u><i>30/3/17</i></u>			

ONCE SIGNED, THIS FORM MUST BE HANDED TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES IMMEDIATELY.

For Democratic Services office use only		
Form received	Date: <i>30-3-17</i>	Time: <i>9:45</i>
Date published to Scrutiny Committee	Date: <i>30-3-17</i>	
Call-in deadline	Date: <i>NOT APPLICABLE</i>	Time: <i>—</i>

