

# SOUTH BUCKS DISTRICT COUNCIL

## *Decisions*

## *Cabinet Member RESOURCES*

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Having considered reports contained in the agenda of a meeting of the Policy Advisory Group (PAG) held on 8 October 2002 and the views of the PAG expressed at the meeting, the Cabinet Member has made the following decisions.

### 1. **STOKE POGES MEMORIAL GARDENS MAINTENANCE FUND**

The Cabinet Member has:

- (a) noted the performance of the Stoke Poges Memorial Gardens Maintenance Fund Investment Management, managed by Rothschild;
- (b) approved the long list of potential fund managers produced by Sector Treasury Services Limited;
- (c) agreed subject to final consultation with the Head of Financial Services the draft questionnaire for the appointment of the new fund manager;
- (d) decided that a maximum of three Managers should be interviewed on 25 November 2002.

### 2. **PENSION INTERIM VALUATION – MARCH 2002**

The Cabinet Member has noted the information provided on the Interim Valuation of the Bucks County Council Pension Fund as set out in the report to the Policy Advisory Group.

He further decided to **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet / Council that consideration be given to earmarking reserves for any potential deficit funding of the Pension Fund.

### 3. **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PENSION FUND**

Having considered the notes of the Annual General Meeting of the Buckinghamshire County Council Pension Fund held on 24 July 2002, the Cabinet Member has decided that a letter be sent to Councillor Don Phillips, from Chiltern District Council, who is the District Councils' representative on the Pension Fund Investment Advisory Group, expressing concern on the following:

- the way the liability continues to increase
- the apparent lack of progress and urgency to overcome the various problems
- the performance / advice given by the professional advisers to the Fund.

#### 4. ACCEPTANCE OF DEBIT / CREDIT CARDS FOR THE PAYMENT OF SERVICES

The Cabinet Member has decided, after careful consideration, to **RECOMMEND** to Cabinet / Council that:

- (a) debit and credit card facilities be introduced from 1 April 2003 (subject to a review after six months) for the following facilities: Cash Office (Not including Council Tax or Business Rates), Leisure Events, Building Control Fees, Planning Fees, Bulky Items Collection as set out in the report to Policy Advisory Group, subject to the following amendment that there be an appropriate minimum value for accepting payment by debit / credit card in respect of each service;
- (b) the estimated cost of introducing this service of £4,570 be incorporated within the budget for 2003 / 2004. (This may increase to £15,910, if additional staffing is required following the review after six months);
- (c) a review be undertaken after six months of introducing the facility to establish whether the service should be extended to all services and the impact of this;
- (d) the facilities available be promoted well in advance to the public / press.

#### 5. HOUSING CAPITAL FINANCE CONSULTATION PAPER

The Cabinet Member has decided that subject to the concurrence of the Safety Health and Well-Being Portfolio Holder:

- (a) any reforms of the housing capital finance system as envisaged by the consultation paper should be opposed;
- (b) the support of Dominic Grieve MP and the Local Government Association be sought;
- (c) the local Registered Social Landlord partners be asked to lobby through the National Housing Federation as well as individually.

**Date published:** 10 October 2002 **Date to be implemented:** 18 October 2002.