

LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON

THE EXECUTIVE

MONDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2009



7.30 pm at the

Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton SM1 1EA

SECOND DISPATCH

To all members of The Executive:-

The following papers, which were not available for dispatch with the agenda, are attached. Please bring them with you to the meeting:-

4. BUDGET 2009/10 AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS (Pages 1 - 2)

To consider and recommend the budget for 2009/10 to full Council for approval

The Revenue Estimates 2009/10 pages are being circulated, to Members only, as a separate document

7. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION (Pages 3 - 4)

To recommend to full council any changes to the Constitution following the annual review

Recommendations of the Community Leadership Advisory Group (3/2/09)

8. REFERENCES FROM SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (Pages 5 - 6)

Stanley Park High School Update – Officer's comments

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Copies of reports are available in large print on request

10 February 2009

ANNEX REV 4**COUNCIL TAX****RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL 2 MARCH 2009**

1. That it be noted that at the meeting of 1 December 2008 the Council calculated the amount of 73,400 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2009/10 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
(Council Tax Base for 2009/10 is 73,400)

2. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
 - (a) £436,988,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act;
(the Council's estimated general fund expenditure)

 - (b) £298,510,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act;
(the Council's estimated general fund income)

 - (c) £138,478,000 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
(estimated general fund net expenditure)

 - (d) £54,737,000 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 and revenue support grant (together comprising formula grant), and increased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its collection fund to its general fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and pursuant to the Collection Fund (Community Charges) (England) Directions 1994 under section 98(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended).
(aggregate external financing adjusted for the surplus on the collection fund)

 - (e) £1,140.89 being the amount at 2(c) above less the amount at 2(d) above, all divided by the amount at 1 above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;
(Council Tax at Band D for Council purposes)

(f)	Valuation bands	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
		£	£	£
	A	760.59	206.55	967.14
	B	887.36	240.97	1,128.33
	C	1,014.12	275.40	1,289.52
	D	1,140.89	309.82	1,450.71
	E	1,394.42	378.67	1,773.09
	F	1,647.95	447.52	2,095.47
	G	1,901.48	516.37	2,417.85
	H	2,281.78	619.64	2,901.42

(g) Column 2(f)(i) above being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 2(e) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;
(f(i) sets out the Council Tax for each band for Council purposes)

(h) That it be noted that for the year 2009/10 the Greater London Authority has stated the amount shown in column 2(f)(ii) in precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown.
(f(ii) sets out the GLA precept for each tax band based on a nil increase)

(i) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at columns 2(f)(i), and 2(f)(ii) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts shown in column 2(f)(iii) above as the amount of the Council Tax for the year 2009/10 for each of the categories of dwellings shown.
(f(iii) sets out the total Council Tax for each tax band)

(Note: Words in italics are explanatory and do not form part of the formal resolution).

London Borough of Sutton

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ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ADVISORY GROUP

Extract from the Minutes of the meeting held on 3/2/09

14. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

Ward Location: N/A	Executive Councillor: Sean Brennan
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“The Advisory Group considered a report on the changes to the Council’s constitution, following the annual review of the document.

Generally speaking, the changes being recommended were straightforward, but attention was drawn to the changes required to the role of the Standards Committee and the Monitoring Officer, introduced by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Details of these new powers were set out in the Interim Executive Head of Legal & Democratic Services’ (EHLDS) briefing note, elsewhere on the agenda.

The Advisory Group also discussed the role and functions of the Council & Employees’ Joint Committee, the Sutton Joint Health Committee and the Council & Teachers Joint Committee. A Member had suggested that at least 2 of these committees could be merged, on grounds of efficiency, as they did not usually deal with a lot of business.

There was all-Party, strong support for merging the Council & Employees Joint Committee and the Sutton Joint Health & Safety Committee. It was noted that this issue had been raised at the last meeting of the Council & Employees Joint Committee, and the Trades Union representatives had opposed such a merger. Nevertheless, Members felt very strongly that such a merger would be workable and improve efficiency.

Members also questioned the need for a separate Council & Teachers Joint Committee, given the plethora of other forums that teachers had to discuss or raise issues with elected members and staff in the Children, Young People & Learning Services Group. There was strong support for abolishing this Committee. However, it was acknowledged that more background work needed to be done on the implications of this, including looking at how other local authorities managed their staff joint committees, before such a decision could be taken.

Resolved: (i) That The Executive be recommended to recommend full Council to agree the changes to the Constitution as set out in the report;

(ii) To agree that the Interim Executive Head of Legal & Democratic Services do some more background work, including consulting the relevant parties, on

- a. Whether it is possible to abolish the Council & Teachers Joint Committee; and
- b. Merging the Council & Employees’ Joint Committee and the Sutton Joint Health and Safety Committee.”

The Executive is **RECOMMENDED** to recommend full Council to agree the changes to the Constitution set out in the report.



15. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES 2009

Ward Location: N/A	Executive Councillor: John Drage
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All councils were required to have a Scheme for the payment of Allowances to Councillors, reviewed every year after taking into account recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel. No changes had been proposed to the scheme last year, when this matter was considered.

Since then, members of local authority Standards Committees had become responsible for carrying out investigations into complaints against councillors. Standards Committees were required by law to have Independent members on them. An Independent Member was required to chair meetings of the Standards Committee and its Sub-Committees.

The Standards Board for England (SBE) had recently suggested that local authorities, if they had not already done so, should consider allowing Independent Members to claim financial loss, travel and subsistence allowances.

Sutton had previously decided not to pay a co-optee’s allowance, but to allow co-opted members, including independent members of the Standards Committee, to claim travel expenses for travel both within and outside the borough. The current Regulations concerning the payment of allowances to Councillors did not mention the payment of a financial loss allowance. Members discussed the options available and the implications of the SBE’s recommendations.

Resolved: To recommend, unanimously, that the existing Members Allowances Scheme should be confirmed for the 2009/10 municipal year.

The Executive is **RECOMMENDED** to concur.

London Borough of Sutton

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REFERENCES FROM SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

***/09 STANLEY PARK HIGH SCHOOL – UPDATE

Ward Location: Carshalton South, Clockhouse and Wallington South.	Executive Councillors: Tony Brett Young.
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Extract from the Minutes of a meeting held on 20/1/09.

Resolved: (i) To note that this is an urgent item, brought forward at the direction of the Chair so that members can consider the report and make any comments to The Executive at their meeting on 16 February 2009.

(ii) That The Executive be requested to consider:-

(a) the issue of an insurance policy to offset the falling value of the land at the existing Stanley Park School site; and

(b) the issue of the access road as this needs to be progressed urgently to enable the school to open as near on time as possible.

Officer's Comments:

- (a) Officers need to investigate the proposal to make use of an insurance policy to offset falling value of the land and will report back on this proposal at a later date.
- (b) Officers are working on the issue of the access road and this will be addressed in a future report to the Executive on the compulsory purchase of land required for the road.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive is **RECOMMENDED** to await the outcome of officers' investigations of the use of an insurance policy to offset the falling value of land at the existing Stanley park High School site and to note that the issue of the access road is being addressed.

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