

TRAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	Monday, 24 February 2014	<u>DECISION MAKER</u>
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	E/24.02.14/5	Executive (Councillors Anstee, Dr. Barclay, Miss Blackburn, Cornes, Coupe, Hyman, Mitchell, Williams and M. Young)

RECORD OF THE DECISION

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE - REVISED POLICY ON PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY MEASURES

That approval be given to the proposals to amend the Council's policy set out in Section 4 of the report and implement the new policy (Appendix 1 to the report) from 1st April 2014.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The recommendations for amendments to the Penalty Notice Code of Conduct will ensure Trafford's approach is compliant with revised statutory guidance. Feedback from schools and key groups of professionals has identified the need to have clearer criteria to trigger a Penalty Notice to ensure consistency.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The consultation process outlined alternative options to the threshold to trigger a penalty notice for both irregular attendance and exceptional leave. Options considered included using the current threshold of 85% for irregular attendance and a zero tolerance approach for exceptional leave. The recommended thresholds have been proposed based on the consultation feedback. An option of only applying the exceptional leave criteria outside of the recommended Trafford School Holiday period was considered through the consultation. This was not progressed as feedback suggested it would not be practical to implement in the context of school autonomy over their holiday dates in line with national policy.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None.

Scrutiny Call in Deadline

4th March 2014

Implementation will be on the following working day

PUBLICATION DATE

25th February 2014

RECORDED BY:

Director of Legal & Democratic Services

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RECORD OF THE DECISION

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2013/14 - PERIOD 9 (APRIL TO DECEMBER 2013)

That the latest forecast and planned actions be noted and agreed.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To inform Members of current position regarding the monitoring of the current year's revenue budget and provide for appropriate measures in response.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

None.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None.

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RECORD OF THE DECISION

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME MONITORING 2013/14 3RD QUARTER (APRIL - DECEMBER)

1. That the amendments to the 2013/14 Capital Investment Programme be approved.
2. That the content of the monitoring report be noted.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Authority is regularly assessed on the performance of its Capital Investment Programme and how delivery matches corporate policies and proposed spending plans. To reflect budgets in line with revised expectations will assist in evidencing that compliance with the above is being met.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Executive could decide to use capital receipts to repay debt which would generate revenue savings on the Medium Term Financial Plan.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

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RECORD OF THE DECISION

RISK-BASED VERIFICATION FOR HOUSING BENEFIT AND COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT

1. That the Council adopt a policy of requiring different levels of evidence in support of claims for HB and CTS according to their risk, as set out in the report.
2. That a new process be adopted for new online HB / CTS applications so that a customer is required to tick an online declaration form rather than a signed paper version.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In order to make the new claims and changes processes more efficient, streamlined and customer friendly.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED AT THE MEETING/BY MEMBERS

The Council could continue with the present system of verifying the same amount of evidence for all claims and changes in circumstances, but this is an expensive and inefficient option. The digital signature route will help to get further efficiencies from the new RBV process.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED AND ANY ASSOCIATED DISPENSATION

None.

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