

Borough Council of  
**King's Lynn &  
West Norfolk**



# **CABINET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **AGENDA**

**MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2012  
at 6pm**

Committee Suite  
King's Court  
Chapel Street  
King's Lynn  
Norfolk  
PE30 1EX



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Borough Council of  
**King's Lynn &  
West Norfolk**



King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX.  
Telephone: 01553 616275  
Fax: 01553 691663

13<sup>th</sup> January 2012

Dear Member

**Cabinet Scrutiny Committee**

You are invited to attend a meeting of the above-mentioned Committee which will be held on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2012 at 6pm** in the **Committee Suite, King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn** to discuss the business shown below.

Yours sincerely,  
Chief Executive

**A G E N D A**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

**2. Minutes**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011 (Pages 390-392).

**3. Urgent Business under Standing Order 7**

To consider any business which, by reason of special circumstances, the Chairman proposes to accept as urgent under Section 100(b)(4)(b) of the Local Government Act, 1972.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

Please indicate whether the interest is a personal one only or one which is prejudicial. A declaration of a personal interest should indicate the nature of the interest and the agenda item to which it relates. In the case of a personal interest, the Member may speak and vote on the matter. If a prejudicial interest is declared, the Member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

5. **Members Present Pursuant to Standing Order 34**

Members wishing to speak pursuant to Standing Order 34 should inform the Chairman of their intention to do so and on what items they wish to be heard before the meeting commences. Any Member attending the meeting under Standing Order 34 will only be permitted to speak on those items which have been previously notified to the Chairman.

6. **Chairman's Correspondence (if any)**

7. **Response to Previous Committee Recommendations (if any)**

To receive comments, and recommendations from other Council bodies, and any responses subsequent to recommendations, which this Committee has previously made. (N.B. some of the relevant Council bodies may meet after dispatch of the agenda).

At the Cabinet meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011, the following response was made to the recommendation from the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011 on the following item:

**(a) Recycling of Waste**

**Cabinet Scrutiny Recommendation:**

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Cabinet be informed that the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee fully endorse the recommendations detailed in the report and agreed by Cabinet.

**Cabinet Response:**

The Committee had made the following recommendation to Cabinet, which was dealt with when Cabinet considered the report on the agenda.

8. **Matters called-in Pursuant to Standing Order 12 (if any)**

9. **Scrutiny of Cabinet/Portfolio Holders' Decisions**

**(a) Cabinet Decisions**

Members are requested to bring to the meeting the Agenda and any accompanying documents for the Cabinet meeting held on 10th January 2012.

**Cabinet – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

***The following item have been identified for scrutiny:***

**(i) Exclusion of the Public and Press**

To consider passing the following resolution:

“That under Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.”

- (ii) **Nar Ouse Regeneration Area (Land to the East of Nar Ouse Way) – Proposed Land Disposal**  
(Cabinet Agenda Item 10(4) Page 45)

Councillor A Beales (Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Commercial Services) and Dave Thomason (Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director, Finance and Resources) have been invited to attend for this item.

(b) **Schedule of Portfolio Holders’ Decisions**

To note the recent Portfolio Holders’ Delegated Report decision

- (i) **Environment and Community - Installation of Solar Photovoltaic Panels on Roofs at King's Court and Lynnsport**  
(attached – pages 1-4)

*Members are also reminded that if they would like any item to be scrutinised at the meeting, early notification will be required to enable sufficient notice to be given to the appropriate Members/Officers to be invited to attend.*

10. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled to be held on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 6.00pm.**

**Circulation:**

**Members of Cabinet Scrutiny Committee:**

**Councillors B Ayres, J Collop, I Gourlay, G Howman, A Lovett, I Mack, T Manley, G Sandell and J M Tilbury**

**Management Team Representative:** Debbie Gates, Executive Director,  
Central Services

**Chief Executive**

**Deputy Chief Executive**

**Management Team**

**Nicola Leader:** Legal Services Manager and Monitoring Officer

**CABINET MEMBERS' DELEGATED DECISIONS LIST – MAY 2011 to 2012**

Portfolio Holder	Title of Decision	Date Published	Signing Off Date	Deadline Date	Recommendations	Outcome
Shared Services and External Relations	Financial Assistance Revenue Grants	20.09.11	27.09.11	04.10.11	<p>It is recommended that the following grant decisions are approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clenchwarton Bowls Club – Award £400</li> <li>- Creative Arts East – Award £4,000</li> <li>- DAFT Crafts – Award £500</li> <li>- Friday Club – Award £750</li> <li>- King's Lynn Town Band – Award £1,400</li> <li>- Little Discoverers West Norfolk School for Parents – Award £1,500</li> <li>- Terrington Community Fund – Refuse</li> <li>- West Norfolk MIND – Refuse</li> </ul>	Passed
Shared Services and External Relations	Financial Assistance Capital Grants	20.09.11	27.09.11	04.10.11	<p>It is recommended that the following grant decisions are approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Denver Cricket Club – Award £4,000 (conditional)</li> <li>- Dersingham Sports Ground Committee – Award £10,000 (conditional)</li> <li>- Downham Town Cricket Club – Award £5,000 (conditional)</li> <li>- Marham Parish Council – Award £5,500</li> <li>- South West Norfolk Youth Opportunities Project – Award £2,500</li> <li>- Upwell Playing Field Committee – Award £10,000</li> <li>- Wiggshall St Germans Memorial Hall &amp; Playing Field – Award £2,000</li> <li>- Wimbotsham Recreation Ground Ltd – Award £10,000 (conditional)</li> </ul>	Passed
Environment and Community	Installation of Solar Photovoltaic Panels on Roofs at King's Court and Lynnsport	06.12.11	13.12.11	20.12.11	<p>It is recommended that the financial, environmental and 'green leadership' potential of this proposal is noted and capital funding be made available.</p> <p>As this project is anticipated to be operational for 25 years the associated risks should also be noted.</p>	Passed

**REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR DECISION**

<b>Open</b>		Would any decisions proposed :		
<b>Any especially affected Wards</b>	Operational	(a) Be entirely within cabinet's powers to decide YES		
		(b) Need to be recommendations to Council	NO	
		(c) Be partly for recommendations to Council and partly within Cabinets powers –	NO	
Lead Member: Cllr Brian Long E-mail: cllr.brian.long@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted:		
		Other Members consulted:		
Lead Officer: Melvin Harrison E-mail: Melvin.harrison@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Officers consulted:		
Financial Implications YES	Policy/Personnel Implications NO	Statutory Implications NO	Equal Impact Assessment NO	Risk Management Implications YES
Date meeting advertised: 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2011		Date of meeting decision to be taken: 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2011		
Deadline for Call-In: 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2011				

**INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS ON ROOFS AT KING'S COURT & LYNNSPORT**

**Summary**

The Coalition Government incentivised the installation of renewable and low carbon technologies by the introduction of the Feed in Tariff (FIT). Two sites have been evaluated for BCKLWN to benefit from FIT payments for the next 25 years and tenders have been received for the installation of solar PV panels on roofs at King's Court and Lynnsport. Implementation costs and prospective revenues indicate the projects are worthy of consideration to provide long term financial and environmental benefit.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the financial, environmental and 'green leadership' potential of this proposal is noted and capital funding be made available. As this project is anticipated to be operational for 25 years the associated risks should also be noted.

**Reason for Decision**

BCKLWN will be providing leadership by example for the community, promoting environmental sustainability whilst generating a revenue income and reducing electricity costs at both establishments.

**Introduction**

The Feed in Tariff (FIT) was introduced in April 2010 to encourage investment in low carbon electricity generation in return for a guaranteed payment for the electricity generated. The opportunity has been taken for a detailed evaluation of solar PV installations within BCKLWN to address reducing the use of

expensive grid electricity, reduce carbon emissions and provide a long term satisfactory return on capital invested.

### Proposal

To install a solar panel area of 161m<sup>2</sup> on the flat roof of King's Court and 168m<sup>2</sup> on 'The Barn' roof at Lynnsport. It is anticipated all the electricity generated by the PV panels will be consumed by each site, representing approximately 2.5% of all their electricity requirements.

### **Policy Implications**

As part of the Councils Environmental Statement there is an ongoing commitment to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 5% pa. Implementing this project will reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 22 tonnes pa, representing 0.33% of all Council CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reported in BCKLWN Greenhouse Gas Carbon Footprint Report 2010 - 2011.

### **Financial Implications**

The total capital required to fund the installation of solar PV panels at King's Court and Lynnsport is £126,938.

The projected saving over 25 years totals £275,517 which includes £148,506 revenue from Feed in Tariff (FIT) payments plus £127,011 from reduced expenditure on purchased grid electricity. This will provide a return of 4.75% and a simple payback of 11 years.

FIT payments will be increased in line with the retail price index. The calculated savings on grid purchased electricity have assumed an average unit cost of 13p/kWh over 25 years (present cost is 10p per kWh). This saving will also increase if the assumed average cost of 13p per kWh is exceeded.

There is a need to make a commitment to this scheme in order to gain tariff benefits. The capital investment of £126,938 can be met from unsupported borrowing although it would be preferable to take the revenue savings into account in future financial plans. If at closing of the 2011-12 accounts the opportunity arises to finance the scheme spend from capital resources then this may be the chosen option. This would then produce ongoing annual revenue savings of £11000.

### **Staffing Implications**

None

### **Statutory Considerations**

The Planning Authority has confirmed neither site requires planning permission.



## **Equality Impact Assessments (EIA's)**

None

## **Risk Management**

The project must be operational and registered on the Central Feed in Tariff (FIT) Register by 31-3-12 to be eligible for the highest FIT Generation Payment as stated in the Government's 31-10-11 announcement. Delay for any reason after this date will adversely impact on the schemes financial benefits.

The Feed in Tariff payments are made for 25 years and consequently King's Court & Lynnsport will need to be operational buildings for this period to maximise the FIT income.

The output of each panel is guaranteed to be at least 80% of its original rating after 25 years and will be replaced by the manufacturer if output falls below 80% during this period.

There is a 5 year manufacturer guarantee against defective panels. If a panel fails after 5 years the cost of replacement will be the customers. The tender cost includes for a 25 year manufacturers warranty on all inverters.

Every opportunity needs to be taken to mitigate the accidental or intentional damage to panels once installed.

The removal of panels for roof maintenance etc will be at the customers cost. There are no known maintenance concerns for either roof.

## **Background Papers**

There is FIT scheme information available on the Ofgem website :-  
[http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?file=fitfs\\_energy%20prices%20update%20FS.pdf&refer=Media/FactSheets](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?file=fitfs_energy%20prices%20update%20FS.pdf&refer=Media/FactSheets)

with more details available on the Department of Energy and Climate Change website :-  
[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting\\_energy/renewable\\_ener/feed\\_in\\_tariff/implementation/implementation.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/renewable_ener/feed_in_tariff/implementation/implementation.aspx)

Signed: .....

Cabinet Member for .....

Date .....