



## **BRECKLAND COUNCIL**

### **DELEGATED DECISION RECORD**

This records a key or other decision taken by an Executive Member or the Cabinet in accordance with the Council's scheme of Delegations.

Unless the Leader and the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission certify that the matter is so urgent that the normal five-day scrutiny delay on action should not apply, then this decision will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in under the call-in procedures as set out in Section D of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution.

<b>Portfolio/Cabinet</b>	Cabinet
<b>Report Title (&amp; Reference No.)</b>	Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership
<b>Summary Background</b>	The purpose of the report was in recognition of the impact of the current recession on the number of Housing Benefit claims and changes in claimants' financial circumstances reported to Local Authorities. The Government, through the Department for Works and Pensions (DWP), was providing extra funding to authorities over the next two years to ensure that they could respond to the extra Housing Benefits workload.
<b>Author/Contact Officer</b>	Sharon Jones, Operations Manager, Anglia Revenues Partnership (sharon.jones@angliarevenues.gov.uk)
<b>Ward(s) Affected</b>	All Wards;
<b>Urgent?</b>	No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>In Forward Plan?</b>	No
<b>Date Decision Taken</b>	Tuesday, 12 May 2009
<b>Date Published</b>	Thursday, 14 May 2009
<b>Call-In Expiry</b>	Thursday, 21 May 2009
<b>Exempt Information?</b>	No
<b>Decision (Action Agreed)</b>	<b><u>RESOLVED</u></b> that  1) the release of the grant funding to the Partnership be approved; and

	2) the funding received by East Cambridgeshire and Forest heath be paid into the Partnership budgets held by Breckland Council and allocated accordingly to the Partner Authorities.
<b>Reasons(s)</b>	The reason for the recommendation was to enable the ARP to continue to provide a Benefits service at the current level of performance whilst experiencing increasing workload.
<b>Options</b>	<p>The options available were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Not to request the extra funding available from DWP and not to employ extra benefit officers; and</li> <li>2) To request the extra funding available as an additional subsidy to be used for temporary employment of agency staff within the Housing Benefits team.</li> </ol>
<b>Further Information</b>	Minutes , 05/03/2009 Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee