

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ACT 2003

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/10

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Decision Type: Not a key decision.

Matter for Decision: To endorse the overall approach that the Council is taking regarding the Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003. The report in relation to the Act had been considered by the Executive Councillors for Housing & Health and Environment on 21 and 27 April.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): The first set of provisions in the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 came into effect on 20 January 2004 and is being implemented in stages, as set out in Appendix B. The Council was required to ensure the new powers can be effectively carried out.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision:</p>
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) to endorse the overall approach taken and the progress being made, set out in Appendix A of the report, on tackling Anti Social Behaviour in Cambridge City.2) to ask partners to recognise enforcement as an important part of graffiti reduction and make renewed efforts to bring offenders to justice. |
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Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered the report at some length and agreed to add the following text: 'Partners should recognise enforcement as an important part of graffiti reduction and will make renewed efforts to bring offenders to justice.' The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and approved it by 5 votes to 1.

Report: Agenda Item 5 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR ALLOWANCES
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Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/11

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Decision Type: Not a key decision.

Matter for Decision: To review the Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's allowances.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): On 28 January 2004, Civic Affairs Committee had agreed recommendations to the Strategy Scrutiny Committee and the Executive Councillor Strategy for the review of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor allowances as a result of the Best Value Fundamental Service Review of Democratic Services carried out in 2000.

Former mayors had been surveyed, as part of the consultation exercise, as to the adequacy of the allowance they had received in order to fulfill their civic duties. Two former mayors (out of three who replied) felt the allowance to be inadequate, the other respondent felt it to be "about right".

The Executive Councillor's decision: that

- 1) the present level of allowance is appropriate.
- 2) the holder of the office of Mayor be granted an allowance of £2,500 to be paid through payroll on a monthly basis to cover the cost of church offertories, expenditure at sales and bazaars, clothing, hairdressing and use of own car to drive to and from the Guildhall. This sum to be index-linked.
- 3) the remainder of the present allowance (£5,100) be retained as a separate budget within the Civic Affairs and Twinning cost centre.
- 4) the distribution of amounts within the cost centre to be agreed by the Mayor and to pay for parlour hospitality, hospitality following civic church services, donations to charity, purchase of Christmas cards, gifts to visitors and hospitality to guests attending the Outgoing Mayor's Dinner. This figure also to be index-linked.
- 5) the holder of the office of Deputy Mayor continue to be paid an allowance (currently £1,160) to cover out of pocket expenses, but that claims for mileage when using private car to attend official engagements be permitted.

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report to Civic Affairs Committee 28 January 2004.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and approved it by 5 votes to 0

Report: Agenda Item 7 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

RACE EQUALITY SCHEME REVIEW 2004

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/12

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Decision Type: Not a key decision.

Matter for Decision: To consider the report on the implementation of the Council's Race Equality Scheme during 2003-2004, and approve the recommendations set out in the report to ensure further progress.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): The Council is committed to review the Race Equality Scheme annually.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision: To approve the actions set out in the appendix to implement the Council's Race Equality Scheme in 2004-05.</p>

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and approved it by 5 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 8 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN – 2004

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/13

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Decision Type: Not a key decision.

Matter for Decision: To approve the new format for the Best Value Performance Plan for 2004 (BVPP) and to agree that the Chief Executive report the content of the Plan direct to Council on 20th May.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):

The Council has a statutory duty in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 to publish its Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) by 30 June 2004. Under the Constitution, the BVPP is part of the Council's 'policy framework' and is, therefore, a matter for approval by the full Council.

The option to write the BVPP in accordance with the minimum requirements laid down by government would seem sensible now that the audience for the Plan has been clarified as being primarily the authority itself. Much of the information included in past plans, for example, a summary of service improvements achieved in the past year, is available to officers and members in other forms. There are costs in time and money to including additional information, and there would seem to be no obvious need or benefits to extending the Plan beyond the minimum requirement.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision:</p>
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<p>To agree that the Chief Executive report on the Best Value Performance Plan to Council on 20 May.</p>
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<p>To recommend Council to approve the format for the Best Value Performance Plan as set out in the report and to authorise the Chief Executive to finalise the content of the Plan.</p>
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Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 9 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP - PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY
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Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/15

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Decision Type: Not a key decision.

Matter for Decision: To approve the Community Strategy for Cambridge City prepared by the Cambridge Local Strategic Partnership, of which the City Council is a member.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): The Council has a duty to adopt a Community Strategy for the City.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision: To recommend the Council to approve the Community Strategy for Cambridge City and its associated actions shown in the attached document.</p>

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and approved it by 5 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 10 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

SAFER CITY GRANTS

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/16

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Decision Type: Not a key decision.

Matter for Decision: The allocation of Safer City grant funding in round 1 of this financial year 2004-05; in particular whether to fund the projects as detailed on Appendix A.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Overall, the recommendations aim to support projects addressing Cambridge Community Safety Partnership priorities. A number of the projects were referred for Safer City Funding having failed to secure funding from the Community Safety Partnership Building Safer Communities Funds due to substantial over subscription.

The Executive Councillor's decision:

To transfer £19,000 of capital from the capital grants budget to fund safer city revenue applications.

To allocate Round 1 Safer City Grant as recommended in Appendix A, with the addition of allocating £4,775 to the D Team Project, leaving £14,425 available for revenue applications in future rounds.

To confirm the previously allocated grant for Rawlyn Court, given the changes outlined in Appendix A.

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: A proposal to allocate funding of £4,775 to D Team contrary to officer recommendation was approved consensually. The committee considered and approved the recommendation set out in the report, except in relation to the grant to D Team.

Report: Agenda Item 11 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

CORPORATE RISK AND ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/17

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Matter for Decision: Developments in best practice in Risk Management coupled with changes stemming from the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 meant that the authority is required to reassess its approach to strategic risk and assurance. The project definition sets out how this will be achieved.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): To review current practices and co-ordinate these to create the formal framework that will provide the required assurance for the sign off of the Statement on Internal Control by the Leader and CEX and be published in the annual accounts; To ensure that risk management becomes embedded in all the work of the authority, at all necessary levels, in one off projects and in day to day activity; To identify and provide training, information and support to officers in re-assessing their risk management arrangements; To gain ownership from members and officers at appropriate levels in the organisation.

The Executive Councillor's decision: To agree the project appraisal.

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and approved it by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 12 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

STRATEGY - GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS, CARRY FORWARDS AND SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES FOR 2003/04
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Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/18

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Matter for Decision: The report set out the latest position against the revenue and capital budgets for the financial year, 2003/04 for services reporting to this Scrutiny Committee. It highlighted any anticipated significant variances and presented requests for approval to carry forward certain budget under-spends to 2004/05 (subject to final outturn).

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Consideration of the carry forwards and significant variances are key elements of the Council's budgetary and policy framework.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision: To</p>

<p>1) agree all the carry forward requests, totalling £4,500 set out in Appendix B, be recommended to Council for approval, subject to the final outturn position.</p>
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<p>3) seek approval from Council to carry forward resources to fund rephased capital spending of £244,000 from 2003/04 into 2004/05, as detailed in Appendix C, subject to the final outturn position</p>

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and approved it by 5 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 13 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

OVERVIEW - GENERAL FUND REVENUE AND CAPITAL BUDGETS, CARRY FORWARDS AND SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES FOR 2003/04
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Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/18

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Matter for Decision: The report set out the latest position against the revenue and capital budgets for the financial year, 2003/04 for all Service Committees. Appendix A showed revenue budgets and Appendix C capital budgets.

Appendix B showed the details of all requests from Executive Councillors to carry forward budgets from 2003/04 into 2004/05.

Under spending in 2003/04 would have the effect of increasing the amount of reserves available at 1 April 2004 by a corresponding amount. As a result, approval of these carry forwards should not increase the net budget requirement for 2004/05.

The report also indicated the impact of significant variations from the 2003/04 revised budgets that have been highlighted to all scrutiny committees during this cycle in order to provide context for decisions on carry forward requests. The projected effects of significant variations and requests to carry forward budgets were summarised in Appendix A.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Consideration of the carry forwards and significant variances are key elements of the Council's budgetary and policy framework.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision:</p>
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<p>To Seek approval from Council to use £299,520 of reserves required to fully fund the carry forwards, listed in Appendix C, taking account of the projected net revenue position in 2003/04, as shown in Appendix A.</p>
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<p>To Seek approval from Council to fund capital scheme overspends in this year of £4,000 and to carry forward resources to fund rephased capital spending of £2,325,000 from 2003/04 into 2004/05, as detailed in Appendix C, subject to the final outturn position.</p>

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The Director of Finance noted that the Executive Councillor Environment had revised the Planning Development Grant fund carry forward from

£40k to £50k with a consequent effect on the total of reserves to be used to fund the carry forwards. This sum would be £299, 520 and not £289,520 shown in the report. The committee considered the recommendation set out in the report and amended above and approved it by 5 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 13a of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

ON LINE [E-GOVERNMENT] PAYMENTS IMPLEMENTATION OF CASH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/19

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Matter for Decision: To agree the project appraisal on the introduction of a On-Line payments and the installation of a corporate Cash Management System.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Currently there is no corporate approach to either on-line payments or cash management within the authority. Whilst on-line payment facilities exist within some service areas, these along with cash management are somewhat fragmented and inconsistent, in terms of payment facilities that are offered to the public by the council.

The option is to continue with current practice that would seem to encourage each department or service area to introduce payment and banking solutions that remain fragmented, or for there to be a corporate approach to the whole issue of online/internet payment and cash management facilities.

The Executive Councillor's decision:

the project appraisal for this project be approved

that there be a corporate approach adopted in the way in which the council deals with the payments of services provided and the manner in which cash is managed.

that on-line payment facilities be implemented within the next four months [May – August 2004], followed by either a major upgrade of the current cash receipting system or a total replacement that in either case would provide a corporate solution to be completed by March 2005 or no later than September 2005.

the Council's existing 'Merchant Acquirer' contract with HSBC be extended 8 months, i.e. until 31 March 2005.

the Director of Finance tender for the next 'Merchant Acquirer' contract to run concurrently with the renegotiated main 'money transmission' contract.

the existing capital scheme [SC142] be modified by requiring additional funding up to £34,000 in support of on-line payments and the procurement of a cash management system.

Reasons for the decision: These are outlined in the report.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee considered the recommendation and noted Strategy

the constraints to the project set out in the report and approved the recommendations by 5 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 14 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Executive Decision

BYELAW – CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN PUBLIC PLACES

Decision of: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith, Leader

Reference: 04/STR/20

Date of decision: 4 May 2004

Recorded on: 5 May 2004

Matter for Decision: To note the response from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in relation to the Council's application for a provisional byelaw regulating street drinking and consider any action to be taken as a result from its receipt.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): To further the Council's decision to respond to public concern over street drinking.

<p>The Executive Councillor's decision: To take no further action to pursue the application for a byelaw to control street drinking.</p>

Reasons for the decision: Taking into account the terms of the response from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, the Leader would pursue other avenues.

Scrutiny consideration: The committee discussed the letter from the ODPM and approved the recommendation of the Leader that no further action be taken by 5 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda Item 16 of the Strategy Scrutiny Committee, 4 May 2004.

Conflicts of interest:

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