

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Arts and Recreation Portfolio - Service Plans for 2007/08, Revenue and Capital Budgets 2006/07 (Revised), 2007/08 and 2008/09 (Forecast)

Decision of:	Councillor Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation		
Reference:	07/CS/01		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The Service Plans for 2007/08 look at the service proposals, objectives, targets and budget position for 2007/08 and forecast for 2008/09. The Executive Councillor considers whether service priorities and resources should be refocused to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met.		
	The Service Plans of the following services were considered:		
	Active Communities Arts & Entertainments		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	Service Plans and draft budgets are key elements of the Council's budgetary and policy framework.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:		
	Performance Targets:		
	a)	Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2007/08 and future years for services contained within the Arts & Recreation portfolio, as set out in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.	
	Review of Charges:		
	b)	Approved the proposed charges for Arts & Recreation services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B to this report as amended at the meeting:	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abbey pool gym session<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ mid-term assessment fee free prescription – was 2.00 not 2.60○ mid-term assessment fee prescription – was 4.00 not 6.50○ end of course assessment fee free prescription – was 2.00 not 2.60○ end of course assessment fee prescription – was 4.00 not 6.50	

Revenue Budgets:

- c) Approved the revised revenue budgets for 2006/07 (shown in Appendix F) for submission to the Executive.
- d) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C, which have been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.
- e) Agreed the Priority Policy Fund (PPF) bid, as shown in Appendix E, and agreed its relative priority for submission to the Executive.
- f) Approved the budget for 2007/08 (excluding PPF bids) as shown in Appendix F, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

- g) Approved capital bids, as identified in Appendix H, for submission to the Executive for inclusion in the Capital Plan or addition to the Hold List, as indicated.
- h) Sought approval from the Executive to carry forward resources from 2006/07, as detailed in Appendix G, to fund rephased capital spending.
- i) Reviewed the Hold List and noted that no schemes on the list related to this portfolio.
- j) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2006/07, as detailed in Appendix J.
- k) Approved the use of additional S106 resources totaling £17,000 on capital scheme SC209 Christ's Pieces Play Area refurbishment, as noted in Appendix G, due to redefinition of the requirements of the project following consultation.

Reasons for the decision:

These are described in the report.

Scrutiny consideration:

The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 5 votes to 0.

Report:

Agenda Item 5 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007

Conflicts of interest:

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Review of Moorings Policy

Decision of:	Councillor Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation		
Reference:	07/CS/02		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	Recommendations for the review of the Council's River Moorings Policy		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	Following a restructure within Community Services, the Head of Active Communities completed detailed arrangements for the introduction of charging and regulation of moorings with Cambridge City Council introduced a Moorings policy in 2006, following extensive consultation with the Conservators of the River Cam, Camboaters and other stakeholders. The proposed arrangements were detailed in three reports approved by the Executive Councillor for Community Development & Leisure in November 2005, January 2006, and March 2006. It is now necessary to review the policy after the first year and propose any changes deemed necessary.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To approve the revised areas of prohibited and permitted mooring;• To approve the changes to the Terms and Conditions of the River Mooring Licence for 2007/08;• To approve the assessment criteria for allocation of Moorings Licences 2007/08;• To approve the associated charging structure for 2007/08;• To approve a new policy relating to wide beam vessels;• To approve the approach to visitor moorings;• To instruct officers to continue to assist the County Council in relation to consideration on moorings issues on the Riverside Area;• To note the suggestions for additions to the improvements programme;• To note the valued contribution of partners and stakeholders in the implementation and review of the River Moorings Policy.		
Reasons for the decision:	These are described in the report		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 6 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007. An amended version of the report was tabled at the meeting.		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Review of Leisurecard

Decision of:	Councillor Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation		
Reference:	07/CS/03		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The report contains a summary of the Leisurecard review to date and makes recommendations for a merger with an established commercial scheme (Local Secrets) to form 'The Cambridge Card'. The review has considered the Leisurecard function and suitability, and has also considered emerging developments such as 'Smartcard' and 'Visit Cambridge Card'. The review has also considered options to work in partnership with a variety of providers.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):			
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ To approve proposals for merger of Leisurecard into the new 'Cambridge Card'.▪ To approve in principle a working partnership with Local Secrets.▪ To agree to consider a detailed business and promotion plan in March 2007.▪ To agree to consider integration with the Tourist Office's 'Visit Cambridge' card in 2007/08.▪ To agree to consider further the potential of County Council's Cambridgeshire direct 'Smart Card' following evaluation of pilot status.	
Reasons for the decision:	These are described in the report.		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 7 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Arts and Recreation Portfolio Financial Support to Voluntary and Not-for-profit Organisations 2007/08

Decision of:	Councillor Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation		
Reference:	07/CS/04		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The report details applications from voluntary and not for profit organisations for 2007-08 leisure funding and makes recommendations for expenditure.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):			
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:	The recommendations for funding voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in 2007-08 in appendix 1 of the officer's report subject to confirmation of the Council's 2007-08 budget in February 2007 and, in some cases, to the receipt of further information from applicant organisations.	
Reasons for the decision:	As set out in the report		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 8 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

The Junction Funding

Decision of:	Councillor Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation		
Reference:	07/CS/05		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The Junction is currently funded by the City Council under a five-year agreement. This expires in March 2007, and it is therefore necessary to agree a basis for future funding of the organisation.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	As set out in the officer's report.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed: Continued funding to the Junction at cash standstill, i.e. £97,400 per annum, for a period of three years from 1 April 2007, and that this be subject to review if there is a substantial shift in the nature or scope of the Junction's activities or programme during that time.		
Reasons for the decision:	As set out in the report		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 9 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007. Part of the report is defined as exempt from publication by Category 3 as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Community Development and Health Portfolio - Service Plans for 2007/08, Revenue and Capital Budgets 2006/07 (Revised), 2007/08 and 2008/09 (Forecast)

Decision of:	Councillor Stuart, Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health		
Reference:	07/CS/06		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The Service Plans for 2007/08 look at the service proposals, objectives, targets and budget position for 2007/08 and forecast for 2008/09. The Executive Councillor considers whether service priorities and resources should be refocused to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met. The Service Plans of the following services were considered: Community Development Economic Development & Tourism (part) Environmental Health (part) Bereavement		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	Service Plans and draft budgets are key elements of the Council's budgetary and policy framework.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Approved:	Performance Targets:	
		a) Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2007/08 and future years for services contained within the Community Development & Health portfolio, as set out in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.	
	Review of Charges:		
		b) Approved the proposed charges for Community Development & Health services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B to this report.	

Revenue Budgets:

- c) Approved the revised revenue budgets for 2006/07 (shown in Appendix F) for submission to the Executive.
- d) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C, which have been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.
- e) Agreed the Priority Policy Fund (PPF) bids, as shown in Appendix E, and agreed their relative priority for submission to the Executive.
- f) Approved the budget for 2007/08 (excluding PPF bids) as shown in Appendix F, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

- g) Approved capital bids, as identified in Appendix H, for submission to the Executive for inclusion in the Capital Plan or addition to the Hold List, as indicated.
- h) To seek approval from the Executive to carry forward resources from 2006/07, as detailed in Appendix G, to fund rephased capital spending.
- i) Reviewed the Hold List and noted that no schemes on the list related to this portfolio.
- j) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2006/07, as detailed in Appendix J.

Reasons for the decision:

As set out in the report

Scrutiny consideration:

The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.

Report:

Agenda Item 10 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007

Conflicts of interest:

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Community Development and Health Portfolio - Financial support to voluntary and not-for-profit organisations 2007/08

Decision of:	Councillor Stuart, Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health		
Reference:	07/CS/07		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The report details applications from voluntary and not for profit organisations for 2007-08 community development funding and makes recommendations for expenditure.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	As set out in the officer's report		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed: The recommendations for funding voluntary and not-for-profit organisations in 2007-08 in appendix 1 and 2.2 of the officer's report, subject to confirmation of the Council's 2007-08 budget in February 2007 and, in some cases, to the receipt of further information from applicant organisations.		
Reasons for the decision:	As set out in the report		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 11 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Revised Housing Capital Investment Strategy 2007 – 2017

Decision of:	Councillor Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing		
Reference:	07/CS/08		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The report recommends a number of changes to the allocation of available funding. Some schemes require more capital than originally anticipated, and it is recommended that spending in some other areas be reduced. The most significant impact, if the recommendations are approved, will be on the sum available to spend on new affordable housing.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	It is now necessary to review this strategy in the light of changes to both income expectation and expenditure requirements which have arisen since that report was approved.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:		
		1. Agreed the revised strategy for capital investment in housing for the next ten years until 2016/17 at the levels shown in Appendix 1 and in the body of the report. In particular:	
		2. Noted the impact of a reduction in RTB receipts on the capital programme;	
		3. To approve, at summary level, an increase of £3,338,000 in the allocation to meet the Decent Homes Programme by 2009/10 for the Council's stock, resulting in a budget of £34,762,000 for the period from 2006/07 to 2009/10, including the allocation for works under the Housing Health and Safety Rating System referred to in paragraph 5.1.1;	
		4. To note that the adoption of county-wide targets and physical standards for sheltered and extra-care housing will have an impact on the future capital programme;	
		5. To approve an increase in spending on disabled adaptations within the Council's own stock, resulting in an annual allocation of £850,000 per annum from 2007/08, plus capitalised staff costs of £13,000 to deliver the increased investment;	
		6. To allocate funding of £250,000 per annum for programmed improvements to paving and other hard surfaces on housing land, £150,000 of which to be for improvements on health and safety grounds, and the remaining £100,000 to be for improving access and hard surfaces to enable the provision of recycling bins.	

7. To reduce the capital allocation for home improvement grants and loans to vulnerable owner-occupiers to £470,000 per annum, and reduce staff costs funded from set aside capital receipts by £13,000 to reflect the reduced investment;
8. To reduce the capital allocation for grants to bring private sector long-term empty homes back into use to £20,000 per annum;
9. To note the decrease in the anticipated amount of government Disabled Facilities Grant funding available during 2007/08, but approve the use of additional council resources to maintain the level of investment for 2007/08 at the values stated as required in the Housing Strategy Statistical Appendix (HSSA).
10. To approve a reduction of £15,000 in the annual capital allocated to carrying out home safety and security measures in private sector homes, resulting in a budget of £15,000 per annum;
11. Approved setting aside £500,000 from the council to support the creation of a homeless assessment centre in the city.
12. To approve an allocation of £20,000 per annum to address rising / penetrative damp within the Council's housing stock;
13. To note the reduction in capital available for new affordable housing, due to a reduction in overall funding available;
14. To note the need for the Council to consider how to generate further capital receipts to make up the shortfall in the capital programme.

Reasons for the decision:

As set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny consideration:

The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.

Report:

Agenda Item 12 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007

Conflicts of interest:

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Housing Portfolio - Service Plans for 2007/08, Revenue and Capital Budgets 2006/07 (Revised), 2007/08 and 2008/09 (Forecast)

Decision of: Councillor Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Reference: 07/CS/09

Date of decision: 18 January 2007 **Recorded on:** 22 January 2007

Decision Type: Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: The Service Plans for 2007/08 look at the service proposals, objectives, targets and budget position for 2007/08 and forecast for 2008/09. The Executive Councillor considers whether service priorities and resources should be refocused to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met.

The Service Plans of the following services were considered:

Housing General Fund
Environmental Health (part)

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Service Plans and draft budgets are key elements of the Council's budgetary and policy framework.

The Executive Councillor's decision(s):

Agreed:

Performance Targets:

- a) The service objectives and proposals for 2007/08 and future years for services contained within the Housing portfolio, as set out in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.

Review of Charges:

- b) The proposed charges for Housing services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B to this report.

Revenue Budgets:

- c) The revised revenue budgets for 2006/07, as shown in Appendix F, for submission to the Executive.
- d) Proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C, which have been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

- e) The budget for 2007/08 (excluding PPF bids) as shown in Appendix F, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

- f) To seek approval from the Executive to carry forward resources of £329,000 from 2006/07, as detailed in Appendix G, to fund rephased capital spending.
- g) Reviewed the Hold List and noted that no schemes on the list related to this portfolio.
- h) To approve the revised Capital Plan for 2006/07, as detailed in Appendix J.
- i) Approve, with any amendments, the Housing Capital Investment Plan for 2006/07 (shown in Appendix K and the associated notes), for submission to Council, to include approval to carry forward resources of £2,255,000 for the completion of the Mansel Court Refurbishment Project, £439,000 for TV Aerials and £939,000 in respect of decent homes roofing works from 2006/07 to 2007/08.
- j) Approve, with any amendments, the Housing Capital Investment Plan for 2007/08 to 2011/12 (shown in Appendix K and the associated notes), for submission to Council.
- k) Approve a Housing Capital Allowance for 2007/08 of £17,992,000.
- l) Approved setting aside £500,000 from the council to support the creation of a Homelessness Assessment Centre in the city, as detailed in the project appraisal at Appendix L.
- m) Approve an additional capital allocation within the Decent Homes Programme of £200,000 for 2007/08 and £250,000 ongoing in respect of anticipated additional investment required to meet the Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS).
- n) Approve an additional capital allocation within the Other HRA Capital Spend of £250,000 per annum from 2007/08 to undertake hard-surfacing works on housing land for health and safety reasons and to enable recycling.
- o) Approve additional annual investment in disabled adaptations in housing stock, resulting in a budget of £850,000k per annum from 2007/08 onwards, with an associated increase in staff costs capitalised (£13,000 per annum) to deliver the additional investment.

Project Appraisal:

- p) Approve the attached project appraisal at Appendix L for investment in the creation of a Homeless Assessment Centre in the city.

- q) Approve the attached project appraisal at Appendix M for the implementation of the mobile working of the Housing Standards section.

Reasons for the decision:

As set out in the officer's report

Scrutiny consideration:

The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.

Report:

Agenda Item 13 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007

Conflicts of interest:

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Cambridge Challenge - Criteria for Selecting a Strategic Delivery Partner

Decision of:	Councillor Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing		
Reference:	07/CS/10		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The Executive Councillor approved in November 2006 that CCC should participate in the Cambridge Challenge selection process. This process is being managed by the Housing Corporation, who are working to a timetable which means that the prospectus that includes the criteria for selection will not be finalised until early January. The Executive Councillor is asked to comment on and to support the criteria for the selection process.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	As set out in the officer's report		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:	To comment on and to support the criteria for selection of a Strategic Delivery partner for the Affordable Housing on Cambridge Southern fringe, North-West Cambridge and Northstowe.	
		To delegate authority to the DCS, as a member of the stakeholder group set up by the Housing Corporation, to be part of the panel that will select the strategic partner from a shortlist prepared by Housing Corporation.	
Reasons for the decision:	As set out in the officer's report		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 6 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 14 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007.		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Additions to the Programme for new affordable housing 2006/08 - Galfrid Road: Redevelopment Of Former Garage Site For Additional Affordable Housing

Decision of:	Councillor Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing		
Reference:	07/CS/11		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The report identifies a scheme at Galfrid Road that will provide 6 two bedroom flats built to current Council policies for affordable housing – Lifetime Homes, Housing Corporation Scheme Development standards, and Eco Homes Very Good – and recommends that this scheme is approved to receive £439,000 grant funding from the S106 commuted sum contributions. The Council will receive 100% nomination rights at initial letting with 100% on subsequent lets (norm is 75% subsequent).		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	Increasing the level of affordable housing is a key priority for Cambridge City Council and is a Medium Term Objective under the aim of Better Housing. Working with Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners the Council seeks to maximise development opportunities as they arise.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Approved:	The grant funding of 6 two bedroom, social rented units at Galfrid Road, Cambridge from the S106 commuted sum contributions that remain unallocated. This development to be carried out by Flagship Housing Group.	
Reasons for the decision:	As above		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 15 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007. Part of the report is exempt from publication by Category 3 as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Housing General Fund Grants to Voluntary Organisations for 2007/8

Decision of:	Councillor Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing		
Reference:	07/CS/12		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	The report reviews the grants that were considered by Community Services and allocated by the Executive Councillor for Housing from the Housing General Fund for this year in the context of the corporate policy and makes recommendations to continue to grant fund the organisations during 2007/8. It also reports the progress that has been made in relation to agreeing Service Level Agreements (SLA) with these organisations		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	As set out in the officer's report.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:		
	a)	The funding to the voluntary sector organisations for 2007/8 as detailed in this report.	
	b)	To adopt 3-year SLAs, with break clauses at the end of each year, with the recipient organisations commencing 1 st April 2007.	
Reasons for the decision:	As set out in the officer's report		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 4 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 16 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Decisions

Vacant House/Compulsory Purchase Order Ref 07/01

Decision of:	Councillor Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing		
Reference:	07/CS/13		
Date of decision:	18 January 2007	Recorded on:	22 January 2007
Decision Type:	Key Decision.		
Matter for Decision:	A designated dwelling has been vacant for at least three years. The owner lives locally in Cambridge and has been contacted regularly by Environmental Health Officers during this time encouraging her to bring the property back into use. The owner is using the house to store furniture and despite many assurances to clear the house and offer it for sale she has failed to do so. The dwelling was thoroughly inspected on 27 th November 2006 and was found to be vacant. It is in an uncared-for condition and deteriorating both externally and internally. The house fails the decent homes standard by virtue of the Criteria B Reasonably Modern Facilities and Services and Criteria C State of Repair. There are no category 1 hazards under the housing health and safety rating system.		
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	Owing to the shortage of accommodation, the Council has a policy of, where necessary, using compulsory purchase powers to ensure the effective use of all private residential property in the city.		
The Executive Councillor's decision(s):	Agreed:	a) To authorise the Head of Environmental Services in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Director of Finance to use compulsory purchase powers in respect of a designated dwelling in order to bring it back into habitable use.	
Reasons for the decision:	As above.		
Scrutiny consideration:	The Scrutiny Committee approved the recommendation set out on the agenda by 5 votes to 0.		
Report:	Agenda Item 17 of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 18 January 2007. Part of the report is exempt from publication by Category 3 as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.		
Conflicts of interest:	No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.		
Comments:			