

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
Record of Executive Decision

<b>Communal TV Aerial Systems</b>
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**Decision of:** Catherine Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Reference:** HMB/070319/A03

**Date of decision:** 19 March 2007 (recorded on 20 March 2007)

**Decision Type:** Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:** To agree the principles to be applied by the Council for the provision of communal television aerial systems capable of receiving digital television transmissions.

**Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):** In the Anglia region terrestrial transmissions will cease in early 2011. A decision regarding the Council's preferred approach is considered urgent as the number of recognised quality aerial installers available nationally is very limited and many other housing providers are also currently addressing this issue. There is therefore a danger of capacity to deliver becoming limited together with increased cost pressures arising from increasing demand over the next few years.

**The Executive Councillor agreed to:**

To adopt the following principles for subsequent consultation with affected residents:

- 1) To install new communal digital television aerial systems capable of receiving all free to view channels and digital radio, as a minimum, to the following types of property only:
  - I. Retained Sheltered housing schemes and satellite bungalows which do not already have digital aerial systems - 523 properties
  - II. Communal blocks of flats and maisonettes of 3 storeys or more in height – 1515 properties
- 2) Residents in low level blocks of flats and houses would therefore need to make their own arrangements for receiving satellite transmissions prior to analogue transmission switch over in 2011.
- 3) To provide a telephone helpline and support service for households where the existing analogue system would no longer be maintained post 2008-9.
- 4) To introduce appropriate service charges at all locations where new installations are made.
- 5) To offer residents in properties where new systems are to be installed a level of choice including that of having a more sophisticated system installed which would allow their private subscription to satellite services but at a higher level of service charge.

- 6) Following consultation, a subsequent report be brought back to committee so as to allow Members to consider responses to the consultation exercise and make a decision as to the formal approach to be adopted.
- 7) To discontinue maintenance services to the existing analogue cable system from 2008-9 onwards. This action will primarily affect properties of two storey height and below, and which are not to receive a new system, resulting in an annual revenue saving of approximately £20,000 per annum. In practice this means that, although the aerial system may continue to operate for some years in whole or part, where failures do occur, the Council would not carry out a repair. This approach to discontinuation would follow a suitable notification period being made available to affected households, including leasehold and owner occupied properties. (Right to Buys).

**Reasons for the decision:**

These are set out in the report.

**Scrutiny consideration:**

The scrutiny committee considered and approved the recommendations for the Executive Councillor by 9 votes to 1.

**Report:** Agenda Item 5 of Housing Management Board, 19 March 2007

**Conflicts of interest:** No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

**Comments:**

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Record of Executive Decision**

**County Sheltered Housing Green Paper**

**Decision of:** Catherine Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Reference:** HMB/070319/A04

**Date of decision:** 19 March 2007 (recorded on 20 March 2007)

**Decision Type:** Non-Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:** To agree a response to the County Council consultation on sheltered housing by its deadline of 30 April.

**Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):** It is in the Council's interest to respond to the consultation.

**The Executive Councillor agreed:**

- 1) To instruct officers to prepare a full response to the Green Paper covering the areas of data accuracy, the ring-fencing of monies, management and development standards and floating support, and to circulate the response to Members prior to submission to the BVR Sheltered Housing Group.
- 2) To instruct officers to undertake consultation with other sheltered and extra care housing providers in the City to inform the Citywide Sheltered and Extra Care Provision Plan.
- 3) To instruct officers to use the findings from the work on the Green Paper response to inform a comprehensive Older Persons Housing Strategy for Cambridge.

**Reasons for the decision:**

Detailed in the officer report.

**Scrutiny consideration:**

The scrutiny committee considered and approved the recommendations by 13 votes to 0.

**Report:** Agenda Item 6 of Housing Management Board, 19 March 2007

**Conflicts of interest:**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
Record of Executive Decision

**Mansel Court – refurbishment**

**Decision of:** Catherine Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Reference:** HMB/070319/A05

**Date of decision:** 19 March 2007 (recorded on 20 March 2007)

**Decision Type:** Non-Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:**

To consider whether additional funding should be made available to the Mansel Court project.

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

At the last HMB it had been agreed to review the decisions made concerning Mansel Court and to consider the use of 'new' money from the final HRA subsidy determination 2006/07 (£338,000) be used for the scheme.

**The Executive Councillor agreed:**

In the light of the fact that the additional £338,000 available to the HRA (see Section 3 of the officer's report) will not be used for the modernisation of Mansel Court, that the officers report to the next meeting with options for the use of the money.

**Reasons for the decision:**

Detailed in the officer report.

**Scrutiny consideration:**

The scrutiny committee considered and approved the recommendations by 11 votes to 0.

**Report:** Agenda Item 7 of Housing Management Board, 19 March 2007

**Conflicts of interest:**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Record of Executive Decision**

<b>Performance Management – progress update</b>
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**Decision of:** Catherine Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Reference:** HMB/070319/A06

**Date of decision:** 19 March 2007 (recorded on 20 March 2007)

**Decision Type:** Non-Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:**

To endorse the performance management work taking place in the housing service.

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

It is important that the Executive Councillor and HMB are kept informed of, and can comment on, the performance management of the housing service.

<p><b>The Executive Councillor agreed:</b></p>
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<p>To endorse the actions being taken by Officers to improve performance within the Housing Service.</p>
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**Reasons for the decision:**

Detailed in the officer report.

**Scrutiny consideration:**

The scrutiny committee considered and approved the recommendations by 13 votes to 0.

**Report:** Agenda Item 8 of Housing Management Board, 19 March 2007

**Conflicts of interest:**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
Record of Executive Decision

<b>Estimated Revenue and Capital Outturn, Carry Forwards and Significant Variances 2006/07</b>
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**Decision of:** Catherine Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Reference:** HMB/070319/A07

**Date of decision:** 19 March 2007 (recorded on 20 March 2007)

**Decision Type:** Non-Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:**

To agree provisional carry forward requests from 2006/07 to 2007/08.

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

This is part of the Council's budgetary framework.

<p><b>The Executive Councillor agreed:</b></p>
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<p>To agree the provisional carry forward requests, totalling £17,500 as detailed in Appendix C of the officer's report, subject to the final outturn position.</p>
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**Reasons for the decision:**

Detailed in the officer report.

**Scrutiny consideration:**

The scrutiny committee considered and approved the recommendations by 10 votes to 0.

**Report:** Agenda Item 9 of Housing Management Board, 19 March 2007

**Conflicts of interest:**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments:

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Record of Executive Decision**

<b>Independent Living Out Of Hours Service</b>
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**Decision of:** Catherine Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

**Reference:** HMB/070319/A08

**Date of decision:** 19 March 2007 (recorded on 20 March 2007)

**Decision Type:** Non-Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:**

To authorise a contract with the Primary Care Trust to provide an out of hours service

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

As set out in the officer's report

<p><b>The Executive Councillor agreed:</b></p>
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<p>To authorise the officers to negotiate a contract with the PCT for the delivery of a full out of hours emergency response service on the terms set out in this report for a term of 3 years ending on 31 March 2010 with a Council option to extend for up to a further two years and, subject to the final terms as to cost being approved by the Director of Finance and the Executive Councillor, to enter into such an agreement without further reference to the Board.</p>
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**Reasons for the decision:**

Detailed in the officer report.

**Scrutiny consideration:**

The scrutiny committee considered and approved the recommendations by 12 votes to 0.

**Report:** Agenda Item 10 of Housing Management Board, 19 March 2007

**Conflicts of interest:**

No conflicts of interest were declared by the Executive Councillor.

Comments: