

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL'S PRIORITY LIST OF BIDS RECEIVED FOR THE HOUSING CORPORATION'S 2008 -2011 NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME.

Decision of: Cllr Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: Most affordable housing is delivered in partnership with the Housing Corporation, who allocate grant from the National Affordable Housing Programme (NAHP) direct to Registered Social Landlord (RSL) partners. Historically this has been on a one or two year programme, however, for the first time, the NAHP bid round currently taking place will cover three years – 2008/09, 2009/2010 and 2010/2011. As part of the bidding process, the Housing Corporation will discuss bids with the Local Authority, taking account of which schemes the Authority will support on the basis that they meet national, regional, and local strategic requirements.

This report outlined the bids to the Housing Corporation which the Enabling and Development team have compiled and prioritised in order of importance to this Local Authority. The Executive Councillor was asked to approve these bids for submission to the Housing Corporation.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Increasing the supply of affordable housing within the City is a high priority for Cambridge City Council. Working with Registered Social Landlord partners, the Council seeks to maximise development opportunities as they arise.

Executive Councillor's decision:

- 1 to approve the prioritised list of bids for grant funding under the 2008-2011 National Affordable Housing Programme set out in Table 2 of the report, for which the Council will express support to the Housing Corporation.
- 2 to approve the use of capital identified in the 10 year investment strategy (November 2005) to grant fund priority schemes which are not successful in obtaining Housing Corporation funding in this bidding round. Priority will be given to funding land audit sites. This is in line with the Record of Decision 05/CS/06 Investing in Affordable Housing (July 2005).

3 to request officers to report back with details of the outcomes of the Housing Corporation bid round.

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

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda A - Item 6, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment: Not for publication: The report relates to an item during which the public is likely to be excluded from the meeting by virtue of paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

2007/08 Performance Review and Revised Revenue and Capital Budgets – Housing Portfolio

Decision of: Cllr Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision:

Performance Reviews

The Service Performance Reviews set out performance for the first six months of 2007/08, highlighting achievements but also detailing those actions that will, or could, fail to meet targets by the end of the financial year. This information will enable the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources should be refocused to enable objectives and targets for the current year to be met.

Revised Budget 2007/08

Appendix A sets out the overall base budget position for services within the Housing portfolio, comparing the current budget to the proposed revised budget for the financial year, 2007/08, as summarised in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.5 of the report. 1.3 An extract from the Capital Plan showing the current budget for schemes covered by the Housing portfolio, is presented in Appendix C. The Housing Investment Programme is presented in Appendix E.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): As part of the Council's Budget setting process.

Executive Councillor's decision:

- a) Note performance against the objectives and targets of the services that report to this committee for the first six months of 2007/08 as shown in the Service Performance Review, Appendix D.
- b) Approve, with any amendments, the current year funding requests and savings,

(shown in Appendix B) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2007/08 (shown in Appendix A) for submission to Council.

c) Approve the re-phasing of £25,000 of revenue resources from 2007/08 into 2008/09, in respect of the post implementation work associated with the Choice Based Lettings Scheme.

d) Approve the revised Housing Investment Plan for 2007/08 and 2008/09 (shown in Appendix E and the associated notes), for submission to Council.

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

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda A - Item 7, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

AMENDMENTS TO GRANT & LOAN POLICY FOR PRIVATE SECTOR RENEWAL TO INCLUDE NEW HOME ENERGY GRANT

Decision of: Cllr Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: The proposed changes to the Grant & Loan Policy take account of the recommendations in the Home Energy Strategy and the need to increase the energy efficiency of homes in the Private Sector.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Having taken into consideration comments by the Council's clients, changes are suggested to the rules relating to repair grants and loans in order to make them more accessible and provide an improved service to elderly and vulnerable private sector residents.

Executive Councillor's decision:

- 1 To introduce a non secured Home Energy Grant of up to £1,000
- 2 To widen the type of work within the Grant Policy to include decorating
- 3 To approve minor change to allocation arrangement of Quick Hit Grants.
- 4 To increase the savings cut off from £16,000 to £20,000 for all grants

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

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda A - Item 8, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DRAINAGE

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: The report proposed that the City Council should, subject to more detailed investigation, take on responsibilities for the management of SuDS (principally in the urban extensions) as part of its overall role in managing open spaces, subject to financial resources being provided through S106 agreements. .

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) were now seen as essential parts of the overall approach to more sustainable development.

On 25th May 2007 the Community Services Scrutiny Committee had considered a report on the management of green infrastructure. The definition of green infrastructure used in the report embraced multi functional issues such as wildlife, ecological services and flood protection, among other things. The Executive Member's decision was that: 'The City Council will further develop its own in-house arrangements to manage green infrastructure provision within the City boundary...' This report sought to clarify that decision.

Further work was needed on the implications of the Council taking on responsibility for management of SuDS. However, subject to this further work, a decision on the principle was needed now so that the issue can be addressed in negotiations on section 106 agreements for the urban extensions.

Executive Councillor's decision:

1. to agree the principle that the City council takes responsibility for the management of Sustainable urban drainage infrastructure associated with open space as part of its open space management function, subject to further investigation and securing adequate funding through S106 agreements;
2. to press for resources through S106 negotiations and other means in order to build capacity within the Council to address the planning and management of sustainable urban drainage infrastructure; and
3. to urge the County Council to support and manage sustainable urban drainage infrastructure.

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

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda A - Item 9, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

2007/08 Performance Review and Revised Revenue and Capital Budgets – Arts & Recreation Portfolio

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision:

Performance Reviews

The Service Performance Review sets out performance for the first six months of 2007/08, highlighting achievements but also detailing those actions that will, or could, fail to meet targets by the end of the financial year. This information will enable the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources

should be refocused to enable objectives and targets for the current year to be met.

Revised Budget 2007/08

Appendix A sets out the overall base budget position for services within the Arts and Recreation portfolio, comparing the current budget to the proposed revised budget for the financial year, 2007/08, as summarised in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 below.

An extract from the Capital Plan, showing the current budget for schemes covered by the Arts & Recreation portfolio, is presented in Appendix C.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): As part of the Council's budget setting process.

Executive Councillor's decision:

- 1 To note performance against the objectives and targets of the services that report to the Arts and Recreation portfolio for the first six months of 2007/08 as shown in the Service Performance Review, Appendix D.
- 2 To approve, the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix B) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2007/08 (shown in Appendix A) for submission to Council.

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

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 6 votes to 0.

Report: Agenda A - Item 10, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

FOLK FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: This report sets out the range of issues for 2008, and recommends the formation of an officer/member working party to monitor the progress of arrangements.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): Due to the sustained success of the Cambridge Folk Festival demand for tickets continues substantially to outstrip the numbers available, placing considerable pressure on booking arrangements.

Executive Councillor's decision:

1 To approve the creation of an all-party officer/member working group on the Cambridge Folk Festival Box Office.

2 To agree the number of members on the working group and its terms of reference, to include the discussion of the respective merits of different ticket sales methods, problems associated with secondary ticketing and issues related to tickets for residents and make a recommendation to the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation.

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

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

Report: Agenda A - Item 12, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

Progress On An Events Strategy

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: Councillor Lynn had requested that the Council introduce an events strategy. The report had set out the existing work in progress towards achieving this.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): To respond to a request by Councillor Lynn.

Executive Councillor's decision:

On the recommendation of the Committee, to take no action on the suggestion by Cllr Lynn.

Reasons for the decision: The officer time to prepare an additional strategy.

Scrutiny consideration: The Scrutiny Committee considered the recommendations and voted by 5 votes to 0 against them.

Report: Agenda A - Item 11, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

RESIDENTS' VIEWS ON ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENTS PROVISION

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: In March 2007 the Council decided that it wished to explore and understand how arts and cultural provision in Cambridge adds to the quality of life of residents. A residents' survey was therefore commissioned, and this report provides a summary of the results.

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

The principal purposes of the survey were to explore and understand how arts and cultural provision in the city adds to the quality of life of residents, and to find out what residents think about existing provision in terms of its scope and quality and what elements they would like to see which are currently missing from the city. It is intended that this work should inform the emerging Arts Strategy and the wider growth agenda.

Executive Councillor's decision:

To note the results of the survey and further actions proposed.

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

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

Report: Agenda A - Item 13, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

A Performance Framework for Green Spaces

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: This report outlines the work to date, briefs members on the current context and details how the proposed Performance Framework may evolve and sought approval to continued work on the process.

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

The need to develop a performance management framework

Executive Councillor's decision:

a) To approve the following techniques, which will form part of a toolkit approach to performance management:

- A recommendation to pursue neighbourhood and city standards
- Adoption of Towards An Excellent Service (TAES) Framework Model
- The use of the web tool 'Greenstat' (or similar) for continuous feedback and trend monitoring
- Adaption of the 'Spaceshaper' model (or similar) to allow qualitative feedback
- A Training and Development plan for the service
- Progression of a programme of benchmarking with Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE)

b) To instruct officers to bring forward a more detailed report on the final framework for consideration in March 2008.

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

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

Report: Agenda A - Item 14, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

Arrangements for a) the demolition of the Propagation Centre at Cherry Hinton Hall and b) consultation to ascertain future use and improvements to the site and grounds.

Decision of: Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision: To consider the future of the Propagation Centre. The site forms part of the previous City Services depot. It is also occupied by the Employment Foundation School (now administered by Cambridge Regional College). City Services vacated the depot area and relocated to Mill Road depot as part of budget savings for 2007/08. The Propagation Centre remained in service until October 2007 when winter bedding was grown. It is now boarded up and decommissioning of the wider site is near completion in discussion with City Services.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): the Propagation centre lacked functional, structural and financial viability.

Executive Councillor's decision:

- To note the outlined costs and timescale for demolition
- To note the proposed arrangements for on site storage for City Services/Arts & Entertainments; also availability of site for hard standing use by Folk Festival in 2008.
- To approve the proposed approach and timescale for consultation with regard to future use of the site and grounds.

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

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

Report: Agenda A - Item 15, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment:

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

Record of Executive Decision

2007/08 Performance Review and Revised Revenue and Capital Budgets – Community Development & Health Portfolio

Decision of: Cllr Nimmo-Smith, Leader, in the absence of Cllr Stuart, Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health

Reference: 07/CS/

Date of decision: 15 November 2007 **Recorded on:** 20 November 2007

Decision Type: Non Key Decision.

Matter for Decision:

Performance Reviews

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should be refocused to enable objectives and targets for the current year to be met.

Revised Budget 2007/08

Appendix A sets out the overall base budget position for services within the Community Development and Health portfolio, comparing the current budget to the

proposed revised budget for the financial year, 2007/08, as summarised in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.4 below.

An extract from the Capital Plan, showing the current budget for schemes covered by the Community Development & Health portfolio, is presented in Appendix C.

Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options): as part of the Council's budget setting process

Executive Councillor's decision:

- a) To note performance against the objectives and targets of the services that report to the Community Development and Health portfolio for the first six months of 2007/08 as shown in the Service Performance Review, Appendix D.
- b) To approve the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix B) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2007/08 (shown in Appendix A) for submission to Council.

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

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

Report: Agenda A - Item 16, 15 November 2007.

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

Comment: