

**ENVIRONMENT
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**11 November 2003
(10.00am- 3.00pm)

PRESENT: Councillors Bailey (Chair), Baker, Bradnack, Coleman, Durrant, Hughes, James, Stuart and Ward.
Councillor Todd-Jones for item 03/ENV/66

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Nichola Harrison, Executive Councillor for Environment.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL**03/ENV/58 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

03/ENV/59 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Reid.

03/ENV/60 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following personal interests under the Code of Conduct were declared:

03/ENV/70 Councillor Durrant as member of the Sculpture Working Group

03/ENV/61 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mr Procter, addressed the Committee on the case for Harvey Goodwin Avenue being included in the Traffic Calming Priorities for 2003/04. A copy of his submission is included in the minutes. See also under 03/ENV/66.

03/ENV/62 SERVICE PLANS AND GENERAL FUND REVISED REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGETS 2003/04 *(See also record of decision 03/env/42)*

Councillor Bradnack raised some general points on all service plans, which made the job of scrutinising performance more difficult. These related to the use of 'ongoing' in the target completion date column and that the Medium Term Objective of Better Services was sometimes being used as a measure of quality of service/service provided, rather than proposing real service improvement and finally some service plans needed to be edited to focus on the key service issues. The Director of Environment and Planning agreed and stated that the 2004/05 Service Plan targets would be written with these points in mind. Regarding local performance data, the Scrutiny Committee noted that at the January meeting it could make recommendations on new target setting and targets to be deleted.

The following points were made on certain Service Plans

Policy and Projects: Too many 'ongoings' and noted that the targets in the Plan for 2004/05 need to be reduced. Referring to the interpretation of 2001 census data, Councillor Hughes suggested linking up with other agencies to exchange data and Councillor Durrant suggested the 'tools' package should be supported as a budget bid in 2004/05.

Environmental Health: In response to a question from Councillor Hughes regarding the incidence of dog fouling, the Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy undertook to provide a copy of the Service Management Plan.

Waste Management: In response to a request from Councillor Stuart, the officers undertook to report back in a year on the recently agreed Waste Minimisation Strategy and an updated Action Plan. Councillor Hughes requested information on the coverage in King's Hedges for green bins/brown sacks. The Scrutiny Committee noted that the Council had recently engaged consultants to investigate the costs of waste management which would be reported to members in April. Members were advised that BV86 was not forecast, only actuals were reported.

Transport Services: Figures on bus patronage (page 18) had not been received from the County Council, these would be chased up and provided to members. During discussion on car park income, the Executive Councillor advised the Committee that any member could be copied the monthly management information.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations as recorded by 7 votes to 0 (a); 5 votes to 1 (b); 5 votes to 0 (c).

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendations.

03/ENV/63 **ENFORCEMENT OF STREETS AND OPEN SPACES LEGISLATION**
(See also record of decision 03/env/43)

In response to a request from members, the Executive Councillor undertook to investigate the need to add parked bicycles (if obstructing the highway) onto the list setting out the specific areas for enforcement action. It was noted that the Planning Committee would be recommended to delegate to the Director of City Services matters under the control of advertisements.

The Committee agreed (by 6 votes to 0) the recommendations for the Executive Councillor as stated in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed the recommendations.

03/ENV/64 **KEY DECISION PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE FOR CREDIT FUNDING BID FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**
(See also record of decision 03/env/44)

The Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy tabled a report on the Council's recent bid (made by the deadline of 10 November) through the Joint Municipal Waste Partnership to DEFRA's National Waste Minimisation and Recycling Fund 2004/05. This highlighted the revenue implications for the Council in 2005/06 and beyond estimated at £145,000 for green bin and £42,400 for plastics.

Referring to the committee report, the Head of Environmental Health and Waste Strategy stated that consultation with the unions would take place through an officer working group if the decision to bid was agreed.

In response to a query from Councillor Hughes, the officers would investigate how best to measure the sale of compost made from green bin waste and to advertise that it is used in Council planting beds, to promote further sales.

The Committee agreed (by 6 votes to 0) the recommendations for the Executive Councillor as stated in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed the recommendations.

03/ENV/65 KEY DECISION **ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY FUND** (*See also record of decision 03/env/45*)

The Executive Councillor advised the Committee that the recommendations should be supported as they had been originated from each local community. However, for future use of the Fund she requested that the Head of Transport and Street Services report back on options for the future expenditure of this fund including the possible delegation of part, or all, to Area Committees from 2005/06.

The Committee agreed (by 6 votes to 0) the recommendations for the Executive Councillor as stated in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed the recommendations.

03/ENV/66 KEY DECISION **TRAFFIC CALMING PRIORITIES 2003/04** (*See also record of decision 03/env/46*)

With the permission of the Committee, Councillor Todd-Jones spoke in support of Mr Procter regarding a scheme for Harvey Goodwin Avenue. The Principal Highways Engineer advised the Committee that the schemes recommended in paragraph 4.1 of the report had already been the subject of formal consultation and because of finite resources it would not be sensible to agree schemes beyond those in 4.1.

The Committee noted that the schemes for Church End and Harvey Goodwin Avenue would be the subject of initial local consultation (paragraph 4.3). In response to questions about the Coleridge Road scheme, the Executive Councillor stated that this was not deliverable within City Council traffic calming budgets and when reviewing the scheme in the coming year, the County Council should be advised that

without its majority funding support, the City Council might remove the scheme from the list because of cost.

The Committee agreed (by 8 votes to 0) the recommendations for the Executive Councillor as stated in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed the recommendations.

03/ENV/67 REPAIR AND REFURBISHMENT - QUEEN ANNE TERRACE MULTI STOREY CAR PARK *(See also record of decision 03/env/47)*

The Committee agreed (by 5 votes to 0) the recommendation as in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendation.

03/ENV/68 KEYWORKER HOUSING RESEARCH 2003 AND DRAFT PROTOCOL *(See also record of decision 03/env/48)*

The Committee was advised that the figures missing in para 3.6 second bullet point should be 48 and 247 respectively.

Councillor Durrant suggested that the proposals should concentrate on Addenbrookes' keyworkers and that the Executive Councillor make a decision to this effect. The Executive Councillor stated that the Addenbrookes need had now been defined through the study and it made up the great majority of the need for key worker housing in Cambridge. The policies of the draft Local Plan already allowed for the provision of key worker housing as part of the required affordable housing provision and it would be undesirable to include a separate provision for Addenbrooke's.

The Committee agreed (by 5 votes to 1) the recommendation as in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendation.

03/ENV/69 KEY DECISION LAND WEST OF TRUMPINGTON ROAD STUDY *(See also record of decision 03/env/49)*

With the Committee's permission, County Councillor Anne Kent addressed the Committee and stated that a further 200 plus signatures had been submitted to the petition on development to the West of Trumpington Road, she read the text of the petition for members' information.

The Committee agreed (by 5 votes to 0) the recommendations as in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendations.

03/ENV/70 REVIEW OF PUBLIC ART ACTION PLAN *(See also record of decision 03/env/50)*

In response to a request from Councillor Bradnack, the Executive Councillor agreed that the Public Art Strategy should include reference to future projects along the lines of that undertaken at the East Road garages.

The Committee agreed (by 6 votes to 0) the recommendations as in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendations.

03/ENV/71 LOCAL NATURE RESERVES *(See also record of decision 03/env/51)*

Councillor Durrant stated that the decision not to support the acquisition of East Pit was unfortunate as it would be of value to the city as a whole. He suggested that at some point in the future the Council should reconsider the matter. The Executive Councillor stated that in the current financial climate there were higher priorities for the Environment portfolio, but consideration of the matter in the future should not be ruled out.

The Committee agreed the recommendations (by 5-0 on 1 and 4-0 on 2) as in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendations.

03/ENV/72 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO CONSERVATORS OF THE RIVER CAM *(See also record of decision 03/env/52)*

The Committee agreed to recommend the nominations as listed in the agenda with the inclusion of Dr Laws.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the nominations as listed, with the inclusion of Dr Laws.

03/ENV/73 REVIEW OF BUS SERVICE SUBSIDY *(See also record of decision 03/env/53)*

The Committee noted a tabled draft timetable for the proposed C1 night bus from January 2004. The Community Transport Manager amended the recommendation in 2.3 to reflect that the Licensing Committee was to consider conditions of multi-seat private hire vehicles at its meeting on 11 December. In response to a question from Councillor Bradnack the Executive Councillor stated that the proposed night C1 service would be for the same level of subsidy, and be subject to the same review arrangements and monitoring as the existing night bus service had been.

The Committee agreed the recommendations by 5-0 as in the report.

The Executive Councillor agreed to the recommendations.

The meeting ended at 3pm

CHAIR