

Executive Councillor Records of Decision and Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Minutes

17:00- 20:35

PRESENT:

Executive Councillors:

The Leader: Councillor Ian Nimmo-Smith

Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources: Rod Cantrill

Scrutiny Committee:

Councillors Blackhurst, Bick, Dryden, Ellis-Miller, Herbert, Howell,
Newbold (Labour Alternate) Shah, Taylor (Chair) and Ward

09/SR/01 Minutes

The minutes of Committee meetings on 21st January, 8th February and
17th November 2008 and the Special Meeting of 8th December 2008 were
signed as correct records.

09/SR/02 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Councillor Levy.

Councillor Dryden informed that Committee that he would be leaving early
and be replaced by Labour alternate Councillor Newbold.

09/SR/03 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Taylor: Member of the Cambridge Cycling Campaign

Councillor Howell: Member of the Cambridge Cycling Campaign

09/SR/04 Public Questions

None

The Leader addressed the Committee highlighting the current financial difficulties due to the under funding of concessionary fares, the reduction in interest rates, funds invested in Icelandic Banks and the Folk Festival ticket issue. As a result extra measures to plan the Councils finances would be brought before full Council on 26th February 2009.

The Director of Finance introduced an updated *Draft Revenue and Capital Budgets Overview Report* to replace the version circulated with the agenda papers. An addition report was also submitted outlining the need to increase the Councils Investment Limit with HSBC Bank Plc.

The Chair ruled that under 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act the revised Report and the additional item be considered despite not being made publicly available five clear days prior to the meeting. The reason why these reports had not been available before hand was because of the rapidly changing nature of the Councils financial situation and the need for Members to be kept fully informed of the most up to date information.

09/SR/05

Draft Revenue and Capital Budgets - Overview
(Key Decision - Agenda Item 7)

Matter for Decision: Since publication of the Budget-Setting Report (BSR) Version 1 there had been a number of developments and decisions made, some of which had lead to significant changes to the budget position.

The updated net position for the General Fund, taking account of the resulting financial implications, is shown in the table on page 6 (below)

Decision of Leader: Agreed to:

- note the changes in the budget position, as summarised in Appendix 1 of the Officers Report
- work with the Executive and Officers to identify additional measures to provide the basis for presenting a balanced budget recommendation to Council

Reason for the Decision: Service Plans and draft Budgets are key elements of the Councils budgetary and policy framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations: Officers gave a full update on the information contained in the revised Report:

Investments in Icelandic Banks

It was confirmed that the Government had now published the draft Capital Finance Regulations and consultation was underway. The regulations would allow authorities to postpone the impact on their budget calculations, of accounting for the loss in value of investments, from the financial year 2008/09 to the year 2010/11. However, the draft regulations did not permit authorities to 'postpone' accounting for the loss of interest on such investments and proper accounting practice required the Council to take potential interest losses into account in setting its budget.

The Council were therefore making the assumption that 100% of the interest from the Icelandic investments would be lost and this was reflected in the Report figures.

Folk Festival ticket sales

The Head of Legal Services confirmed that a creditors meeting had taken place and that PriceWaterhouseCoopers had been in attendance to represent the Council. A report would be compiled in the next few days.

Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee Decision

The Director of Finance stated that the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee ("MPC") had taken the decision at their meeting on 8 January 2009 to reduce interest rates by 0.5%. This reduction in the base rate, down to a record low of 1.5%, was in line with most analysts' expectations.

It was confirmed that the Council has reviewed its investment rate and income projections in light of the decision and had concluded that no further changes were required.

Treasury Management Review

The Director of Finance confirmed that the Council's exposure to investments in Ireland, the only investments outside of the UK, had been monitored carefully. In line with the recommendations of November's Treasury Management and Investment Strategy report investments in Ireland which have been repaid at the end of their term had not been reinvested in that country, thereby reducing the Council's exposure from £16m (at the time of the November report) to £10m.

On 12 January 2009 Standard & Poor announced that it had revised the Outlook for Ireland to Negative (from Stable), with the potential for a cut in the country's Sovereign debt rating; from AAA. The key concern highlighted was the danger that ongoing fiscal measures to recapitalise the banks and boost the economy might fail to improve competitiveness, diversity and growth prospects, thereby leaving a more difficult-to-manage debt burden.

On 15 January 2009 the Irish Government announced that, as recapitalisation of Anglo Irish Bank was not felt to be the correct option at that point, it had moved to nationalise the Bank on the basis that public ownership offered the most effective route to securing its future. The Minister's statement confirmed that the Bank remains solvent, and that they will continue to ensure that it continues to be viable.

Although the Irish Government's existing commitment to guarantee deposits offers a degree of comfort, in light of the continued uncertainty regarding the Council's investments in Ireland, it was agreed that the Council would seek to obtain early repayment of the remaining investments.

Although there is no requirement for any counterparty to agree to early repayments, agreements have been achieved to recover the investments placed with Allied Irish Bank, totaling £4m. Discussions were ongoing with Anglo Irish Bank and EBS, although their initial response was to decline.

The early recovery of these investments would, however, result in a further reduction in the investment income projections in 2008/09 and 2009/10, reflecting penalties for early repayment and the lower rates that could be achieved through subsequent reinvestment.

The action had also required an urgent decision to increase the maximum sum that can be invested with HSBC Bank Plc, the Council's bankers, from £10m to £12m. This is necessary as it cannot be guaranteed that the amounts involved can be immediately reinvested with another counterparty.

Leisure Management Contract

A decision had been taken at the Community Services Scrutiny Committee regarding the Leisure Management Contract and the financial implications would be included in the final Budget package to be recommended to Council on 26th February 2009.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Final Subsidy Announcement

In relation to the Draft Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Subsidy Determination, the Final Determination was issued on 18th December 2008. Changes were subsequently made to the proposed HRA budget for 2009/10, to reflect the financial implications of changes in allowances between the two determinations. Cambridge City Councils management and maintenance allowances per dwelling increased by 52p and 50p respectively and the major repairs allowance was reduced by 4p per dwelling as part of the final determination.

These minor changes had resulted in an estimated reduction in negative subsidy payable for 2009/10, enabling additional resources of £7,680 to be made available to assist in funding investment in housing stock, through revenue contributions to capital.

In response to Members questions the Director of Finance stated that a balanced view had been taken with the decision to limit the Councils exposure to investments in Ireland. All of the available advice was looked at prior to making the decision but it was felt that the potential risk was greater than the rewards.

In response to Members questions regarding the process for scrutinising the revised budget the Leader confirmed that adequate scrutiny was essential but that he needed guidance on the best way for this to happen given the limited timescales. An incomplete budget could be presented to Council on 26th February with further work to be done but this would be an unusual step for this Council. Member consultation would continue and the agreed process would be communicated to all Members early next week.

The Director of Finance agreed to supply Members with updated figures on the direct/indirect split of interest on the Icelandic and Irish investments.

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

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

Current Budget position 2008/09 to 2012/13

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
	(£'s)	(£'s)	(£'s)	(£'s)	(£'s)
Budget Reduction Measures Required (Published BSR Version 1, Page 264)	0	382,120	480,980	0	0
Budget changes					
Icelandic Bank Interest – potential losses	342,870	208,000	166,930	303,750	388,130
Reduction in Interest income projections	58,000	9,000	0	0	0
Interest projection effects of MPC decisions	0	0	0	0	0
Additional provision for bad debt	618,000	0	0	0	0
Leisure Management Contract	0	0	0	0	0
Total Budget changes	1,018,870	217,000	166,930	303,750	388,130
Latest Budget Savings Requirement	1,018,870	599,120	647,910	303,750	388,130

09/SR/06 **Increase in Investment Limit – HSBC Bank Plc**
(Key Decision – Additional Item)

Matter for Decision: Increase in the Investment Limit with the Councils bankers, HSBC Bank Plc.

Decision of Leader: Agreed to increase the maximum sum that can be invested with HSBC Bank Plc, the Council's bankers, from £10m to £12m.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the Officers report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations:

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

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

09/SR/07 **Service Plans for 2009/10, Revenue and Capital**
Budgets 2008/09 (Revised), 2009/10 and
2010/11 (Forecast) (Key Decision - Agenda Item 5)

Matter for Decision: The Service Performance Reviews set out the performance against objectives and targets for the first six months of 2008/09. The Service Plans for 2009/10 look ahead at service proposals, objectives, targets and the budget position for 2009/10 and forecast for 2010/11. This information enabled the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources should be refocused, to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met

Service Plans of the following services were considered:

- Accountancy
- City Center Management
- City Services and External Trading
- Customer Services
- Democratic Services
- Human Resources
- ICT Client Services

- Internal Audit
- Legal Services and Land Changes
- Procurement
- Property and Building Services
- Revenue and Benefit Services

Appendix F of the Officers Report set out the overall base revenue budget position for the Customer Services & Resources Portfolio. The appendix compared the proposed revised budget to the current budget at September 2008 and detailed the proposed budget for 2009/10 and forecast for 2010/11.

Decision of Ex Cllr for Customer Services and Resources:

Performance Targets:

a) Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2009/10 and future years for services contained within the Customer Services & Resources 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 Customer Services & Resources Portfolio services and facilities, as shown in Appendix B of the Officers report.

Revenue Budgets:

c) Approved, with any amendments, the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix A of the Officer report) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2008/09 (shown in Appendix F of the Officers report) for submission to the Executive.

d) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C of the Officers report, which had been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

e) Approved the budget for 2009/10 as shown in Appendix F of the Officer report, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

f) Approved capital bids, as identified in Appendix H of the Officers report, for submission to the Executive for inclusion in the Capital Plan or addition to the Hold List, as indicated.

- g) Sought approval from the Executive to carry forward resources from 2008/09, as detailed in Appendix G of the Officers report, to fund re-phased capital spending.
- h) Confirmed that there were no items covered by this portfolio to add to the Council's Hold List, for submission to the Executive, as shown in Appendix I of the Officers report
- i) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2008/09, as detailed in Appendix J of the Officers report, to be updated for any amendments detailed in (f) and (g) above.
- j) Approved the following project appraisals as detailed in Appendix K of the Officers report:
- K (1) Revenue and Benefit Services – Replacement Northgate Sun Server
 - K (2) Replacement of Oracle Financials (FMS) Server
 - K (3) Update to the Council's Decision Management ICT Systems
 - K (4) LPG Replacement Programme (2008-09)
 - K (5) Vehicle Replacements (2009-10)
 - K (6) Relocation of Streetscene

Reason for the Decision: Service Plans and draft Budgets are key elements of the Councils budgetary and policy framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: In response to a question regarding the level of spend allocated for the replacement of fleet vehicles the Director of City Services confirmed that a small percentage could be deferred but the ongoing maintenance costs and the residual values had dictated the decision.

Scrutiny Considerations: The individual Service Plans were called and Members asked for comments or questions.

Democratic Services Service Plan

In response to a question regarding the total figures for public attendance at Area Committees the Director of Customer and Democratic Services agreed to forward these to Members.

In response to concerns raised regarding the limited engagement of a wide range of the Community the Executive Councillor confirmed that the Council was committed to increasing public participation in the democratic process. This could be highlighted through the recent 'Political Speed dating' and the 'I'm a Councillor get me out of here!' events.

Human Resources Service Plan

In response to Members questions the Head of HR confirmed that the Performance Target for '*Number of working days lost to sickness absence*' would not be hit and currently sat at 9.19 days. Short-term absence in December due to the winter sickness bug had been a contributing factor.

The Council also planned to change their Occupational Health provider and hoped that this would help better manage long-term sickness figures.

The Head of HR confirmed that a lot of work had been done to improve the image of the Council in order to increase the number of ethnic minority employees and this work was now paying off.

It was also confirmed that the Flexible Working Policy would mean that up to 250 employees would be able to work remotely by December 2009.

Internal Audit Service Plan

Members expressed thanks to the Head of Internal Audit for her hard work to progress the Service and hoped that now she was on maternity leave a suitable replacement could be found.

The Director of Finance confirmed that the advert for a replacement had been placed and interviews would take place in due course.

Procurement Service Plan

In response to a question regarding the implications of the Folk Festival ticket issue the Director of Finance confirmed that the current service review would reinforce good practice and the lessons learnt.

Property and Building Services Service Plan

In response to Members questions the Head of property and Building Services confirmed that only property under sensible offer would be considered for disposal and that they would continue to try and identify suitable development opportunities.

The Executive Councillor stated that he would be continually monitoring the property portfolio and agreed to liaise with Members regarding a full list of properties and their rental values.

A Member highlighted that due to the changing financial situation the 2009/10 budget as shown in appendix F of the Officers report would now not be the *final* budget. The Director of Finance confirmed that in process terms new items and further measures could be added and a process for scrutinising these was being developed.

The Chair decided that the recommendations highlighted in the Report should be voted on and recorded separately:

- a) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- b) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- c) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- d) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- e) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- f) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- g) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- h) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- i) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0
- j) Approved recommendation by 6 votes to 0

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted) None

Councillor Dryden left and was replaced by the Councillor Newbold

09/SR/08 **Service Plans for 2009/10, Revenue and Capital Budgets 2008/09 (Revised), 2009/10 and 2010/11 (Forecast)** (*Key Decision - Agenda Item 6*)

Matter for Decision: The Service Performance Reviews set out the performance against objectives and targets for the first six months of 2008/09. The Service Plans for 2009/10 look ahead at service proposals, objectives, targets and the budget position for 2009/10 and forecast for 2010/11. This information would enable the Executive Councillor to consider whether service priorities and resources should be refocused, to enable objectives and targets for the coming year to be met.

Service Plans for the following services were considered:

- CCTV
- Strategy and Partnerships and Corporate Marketing

Decision of the Leader:

Performance Targets:

a) Agreed the service objectives and proposals for 2009/10 and future years for services contained within the Strategy Services portfolio, as set out in each service plan, and the performance indicators and targets as set out in Appendix 1 of each plan.

Revenue Budgets:

c) Approved, with any amendments, the current year funding requests and savings, (shown in Appendix A of the Officers report) and the resulting revised revenue budgets for 2008/09 (shown in Appendix F of the Officers report) for submission to the Executive.

d) Agreed proposals for revenue savings and bids, as set out in Appendix C of the Officers report, which had been incorporated into the budgets presented for this portfolio.

e) Approved the budget for 2009/10 as shown in Appendix F of the Officers report, for submission to the Executive.

Capital:

f) Approved the revised Capital Plan for 2008/09, as detailed in Appendix J of the Officers report.

Reason for the Decision: Service Plans and draft Budgets are key elements of the Councils budgetary and policy framework.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations: The individual Service Plans were called and Members asked for comments or questions.

CCTV Service Plan

In response to Members questions the CCTV Manager confirmed that an *'Applications for RCCTV Deployment met within 12 weeks'* Performance Indicator had been added to the Service Plan. All requests were currently being met within the agreed time limit and at present priority deployments were within 7-9 days. CCTV deployment had helped tackle the recent spate of muggings in the City and had helped catch a sex offender in the Grange Road area.

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

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted) None

Councillor Newbold left the Meeting at 18:50

09/SR/09 **Refresh of Community Safety Plan 2008-2011**
(Key Decision - Agenda Item 8)

Matter for Decision: From April 2008, all Community Safety Partnerships had a statutory duty to refresh their Community Safety Plan 2008-2011 on an annual basis following the production of the Strategic Assessment. The Community Safety Plan 2008-2011 was approved by Full Council in February 2008.

Decision of Leader: Agreed to endorse the proposed amendments to the Community Safety Plan 2008 – 2011 agreed by the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership subject to the Committees concerns raised about the importance of addressing robbery and cycle theft.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the Officers Report

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations: The Strategy Officer introduced the Report and highlighted to Members the current priorities and themes as detailed in the 2008-2011 Plan.

A summary of the current Community Safety Plan had been produced and made available for the public and the refreshed plan would be taken to the Community Safety Partnership in January 2009. Any further additions identified at this meeting would be reported back to the Committee orally.

It was confirmed that as yet the targets for each priority had not been set as the baseline figures were still being worked on. However a Lead Officer for each priority had been confirmed.

The Strategic Assessment was presented to the wider Community Safety Partnership at its 'away day' in October and recommendations presented for its consideration (as detailed in the Officers Report). This document was available to Members on request.

The Leader highlighted that the recommendations were open to review and he would be feeding back the Committees views to the Partnership.

In response to a question regarding the process for setting Police priorities the Director of Community Services agreed to include a structure diagram in the Neighbourhood Policing Report that would be coming to Committee in March.

In response to further questions from Members it was confirmed that it was more effective if the number of priorities was limited. This did not however mean that issues not on the list were not taken seriously by the Police.

The number of robberies was confirmed as 235 and the Strategy Officer agreed to confirm to Members the exact definition of word 'robbery'.

Members commended the excellent partnership work between the Police and the City Council but felt that cycle theft and street robbery needed to remain on the list of priorities.

The CCTV Manager stated that there may be communication issues as his work through the Tactical Task Group confirmed that these areas do take a very high priority with the local Police.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Herbert and seconded by Councillor Howell to highlight the Committees continued concern over cycle theft and street robbery in the agreed recommendation.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the amended recommendation by 8 votes to 0 (unanimous)

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted): None

09/SR/10

Review of the Councils Partnership Working
(Key Decision - Agenda Item 9)

Matter for Decision: The outcomes of a review led by the County Council into partnership structures across the county was reported to the Scrutiny Committee in November. This report set out a proposed framework to guide the City Councils engagement with the new county-wide partnership structure to ensure that partnerships are accountable and effective in delivering outcomes for the City.

Decision of the Leader:

- Agree that the Council should use the criteria set out in Principle 1 at Section 4 of the report to guide when the Council should join a partnership.
- Agree that the Council should use the Principles set out in Section 5 of the report to guide its partnership work in relation to delivery of the LAA and the new National Indicator Set.
- Consider, in consultation with Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, whether the Council should adopt the options for scrutiny of the City Council's partnership work, which are set out at 6.7.3 (a-e) of the Officers report.
- Decide, when invited to do so by the County Council, the Executive Members that would represent the City Council on the thematic strategic partnerships and inform Members of this Scrutiny Committee of his decision.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the Officers Report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations: The Head of Strategy and Partnerships introduced the report highlighting the background and recommendations.

Opposition Members raised concern about the number of sub groups and working parties highlighted in Appendix 1 of the Officers Report and felt that they may find it difficult to engage with them all. It was also felt that joint accountability may prove difficult and the structure could be simplified.

The Leader confirmed that many of the groups were statutory bodies and could therefore not be changed without primary legislation. He agreed that it was complicated but unfortunately it was the structure the Council had to work with.

The Director of Customer and Democratic Services highlighted that partnership working did give an opportunity to influence other bodies and helped the Council to achieve its wider objectives. The Local Area Agreement and its joint working with the County Council, Police and the Primary Care Trust was a good example of this.

The Leader confirmed that as the partnership groups become more developed issues raised at Scrutiny Committees would be taken back to help influence and mould other peoples priorities.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendation by 6 votes to 0

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted) None

Councillor Ward left the meeting at 20:10

09/SR/11

Review of CCTV Procedures

(Non Key Decision - Agenda Item 10)

Matter for Decision: To review the controls and policies in place to ensure that consistent and adequate procedures were in place for the use of all CCTV systems, to recommend that steps were introduced to deliver more joined-up CCTV services in the future, and to establish a rational basis for the service, in terms of what was effective for crime prevention, detection and public reassurance, for the various elements of the service.

Decision of the Leader: Agreed

- *That the Council should adopt a corporate and unified CCTV policy, with the current CCTV Manager acting as the central co-ordinator on the basis of paragraphs 10.0 to 10.17 of the Officers report.*

- *That the Policy together with a set of procedural guidelines is presented to the Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in June 2009.*
- *That work is begun to establish baseline information about all City Council services using CCTV cameras in order to review the scope, remit, function and effectiveness of these services.*

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the Officers Report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations: The Safer Communities Manager introduced the Report and highlighted an error in the proposed recommendations. The Council should adopt a corporate and unified CCTV policy, with the current CCTV Manager acting as the central co-ordinator on the basis of paragraphs **10.0 to 10.17** of this report (not 10.0 to 10.14 as indicated in the report)

He confirmed that Appendix 1 of the Report highlighting CCTV on Jesus Green had been added in response to the many questions recently raised by Members.

A Member commented that a precautionary procedure should be added to the Code of Practice in order to avoid the many 'grey areas' associated with CCTV and the public's perception of it. Officers noted this comment.

In response to a question regarding CCTV simply moving crime and anti-social issues to different areas the CCTV Manager confirmed that displacement was not a proven theory. Placement of cameras was also reviewed every year to ensure the most effective coverage.

The Leader expressed thanks to the CCTV Manager and the Head of Parking Services for their efforts to reduce costs whilst maintaining the effectiveness of the service.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the recommendations by 7 votes to 0 (unanimous)

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted) None

09/SR/12 **Application for a Dispersal Order under Section 30, Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003 (dispersal of groups) to cover the Mill Road, Parker's Piece, Christ's Pieces and Riverside Locality of Cambridge City**
(Non Key Decision - Agenda Item 11)

Matter for Decision: Council policy on the implementation of a Section 30 Dispersal Order stated that the Leader could give approval to an Order without Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee first being consulted but any requests made by the Police for such an Order, together with the Leader's decision, must be reported to the next available meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

Decision of the Leader: Already approved as above.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the Officers Report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

Scrutiny Considerations: None

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted) None

09/SR/13 **Procurement of HR/Payroll Information Database (Resourcelink) Core Module** *(Non Key Decision - Agenda Item 12)*

Matter for Decision: The City Councils contract with Northgate for the 'core' HR and Payroll database module (Resourcelink), was due to expire in February 2009. The Council's 'self-service' module was technologically dependent on the core module. The current contract for this module would expire in 2013.

It was recommended that the Council renew the existing core module contract for a period of 4.25 years with Northgate, to align all module contract end dates and facilitate future procurement at that time

Decision of Exec Cllr for Customer Services and Resources:

- Agreed to approve the request to waive the Councils normal procurement requirements for the procurement of HR/Payroll core module. This request was provided for under 'Rule 6' of the Council's Contract Procedure Rules.
- Agreed the renewal of the existing contract for the core module of the HR/Payroll information database (Resourcelink) for a period of 4.25 years.

Reason for the Decision: As set out in the Officers Report.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: N/A

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

Conflicts of interest declared by the Executive Councillor (and any dispensations granted) None

09/SR/14

Decisions by Executive Councillors

The Committee noted decisions made by the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources since the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee in December:

- Government Connect Compliance Projects
- Land to the south of the Howard Mallett centre, adjoining St Mathews Piece

The relevant part of the Constitution states:

“Urgency Action

33. Each Chief Officer is authorised to act on behalf of the Executive or the Council (after consultation, if practicable with the relevant Executive Councillor or, in respect of non-executive functions, the relevant Chair or, in either case, the Chief Executive) in relation to matters within his/her area(s) of responsibility in cases of urgency or emergency. Any such action to be reported as soon as possible to the relevant Executive Councillor and Scrutiny Committee or, for non-executive functions, the relevant committee or sub-committee.”