

Executive Councillor Records of Decision and Community Services Scrutiny Committee Minutes**25 June 2009****1:30pm to 6:22pm****PRESENT:****Executive Councillors:**

Cllr Smith, Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

Cllr Blair, Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health

Cllr Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Scrutiny Committee:

Councillors Al Bander, Benstead (*Lab. Arts and Recreation Spokesperson*), Blencowe (*Lab. Housing Spokesperson*), Boyce (*Alt*) Ellis-Miller, Liddle (Chair) McGovern, Sanders, Walker (*Lab. Community Development and Health Spokesperson*)

Non-voting co-optees: Diane Best, Brian Haywood, Mrs Anna Vine-Lott (Tenant/Leaseholder Reps)

09/CS/49 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 12 March and 21 May as a correct record. Members noted that the minutes of 22 April would be submitted for approval to the next meeting of the Committee

09/CS/50 Apologies

Cllr Kightley

09/CS/51 Declarations of Interest

The following personal interests were declared:

Councillor	Item	Interest
Benstead	09/CS/63	As a Board Member of Advice for Life
Benstead	09/CS/80	Has daughter who is a student at Chesterton Community College
Boyce	09/CS/66	Member of Folk Dance and Song Society which sponsored the Folk Festival

Boyce	09/CS/66	Member of co-operative party
McGovern	09/CS/66	Member of co-operative party
Walker	09/CS/79	
Walker	09/CS/66	Member of co-operative party

09/CS/52 Public Questions

A Revision to Open Space and Recreation s106 Programme: Chesterton Community College

The speaker spoke on the background to the request to the Council for support of the project to provide a new floodlit astroturf at Chesterton Community College and the Council's consideration of additional funding of £20,000 to make good a shortfall in joint provision by the Football Foundation and other contributing local authorities.

The details of the project were set out in a report elsewhere on the agenda.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation noted these comments and the Chair said that they would be taken into account when the matter was discussed during the meeting.

B Community Development Grants Priorities 2010-12

The Speaker referred to the use of Cambridgeshire Community Foundation to assess grant applications and distribute the budget delegated to Area Committees. He asked what the benefit was to the Foundation and how their costs were met. He said the report lacked clarity, had not explained that whether the applicants had received offers of funding and asked that the recommendations show what other funding had been made available from other sources.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health explained the background to the grant allocation process, the proportion of the overall grants budget allocated through area committees and the costs to the Council.

In response to a further question the Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health conformed that the information on grants allocated from the Council's budgets, information on funding from other sources was available.

09/CS/53 **Housing Strategy 2008-2011** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 5*)

Matter for decision: The proposed strategy replaced the previous Housing Strategy which ran from 2004 to 2007 and was 'refreshed' for 2008.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing: To approve the Housing Strategy 2009-2012 as shown in Annex 2 to the officer's report.

Reason for the Decision: The government in its statutory guidance document 'Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities' published in July 2008 required all Councils to ensure that refreshed Housing Strategies, along with the statutory Homelessness Strategies:

- Fully reflected the wider vision of the authority and its partners;
- Reflected a clear and evidenced approach;
- Provided a strong focus on how partners will deliver their commitments, including on the infrastructure needed to support housing growth; and
- Incorporated revised housing (and homelessness) strategies within their Sustainable Community Strategies where possible.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 5 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/54 **Retrofit for the Future Competition** (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 6*)

Matter for decision: The Government had set up a £10m fund for 50 exemplar projects across the country that would demonstrate how to refurbish existing social housing to high-energy efficiency standards. The Council had been invited by two external agencies to partner them in a bid for

funding. The only cost to the Council would be in staff time unless a property is required to be empty while work was carried out in which case there would also be some rent loss estimated between £2,000 to £3,000 and decant cost say up to £2000. All design, feasibility, building works and evaluation will be funded by grant through the competition.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

To approve this capital scheme (which was not previously included in the Council's Capital Plan), subject to resources being available to fund the capital and revenue costs associated with the Scheme. The total capital cost of the project is £170,000, and it is proposed that this will be funded from grant previously secured through central government's Retrofit for the Future Competition

Reason for the Decision: The only cost to the Council would be in staff time unless a property was required to be empty while work was carried out in which case there would also be some rent loss estimated between £2,000 to £3,000 and decant cost of up to £2,000. All design, feasibility, building works and evaluation would be funded by grant through the competition.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Councillor Boyce's proposal that that the word 'previously' be inserted in the first sentence of the recommendation after the words: 'To approve this capital scheme (which was not'.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the amended recommendations in the report by 9 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/55 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Before considering appendix 1 for this item, the Scrutiny Committee agreed to exclude members of the public from the meeting on the grounds that, if they were present, there would be disclosure to them of information defined as exempt from publication by Categories 1 and 3 as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

09/CS/56 Annual Review of 3 Year Affordable Housing Programme (Key Decision – Agenda Item 7)

Matter for decision: The Executive Councillor for Housing had approved a 3-year rolling programme of Council owned sites, for consideration for development, redevelopment or disposal, in November 2008. The procedural framework for this programme had been approved by the Executive Councillor for Housing in July 2008. This report provided a review of the programme to-date. The report also sought approval of a revised 3-year rolling programme.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

1. To note progress of schemes approved for consideration for development, redevelopment or disposal in 2008/9
2. To approve the revised 3 Year rolling programme for 2009/10 to 2011/12 set out in the officer's report

Reason for the Decision: Delivering Affordable Housing was a key priority for the Council and was reflected in policy to increase the supply of Affordable Housing available. At the same time there is the need to continue to ensure that existing City Homes housing is provided to current day standards.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/57 £100m Fund for Council's to Build New Housing (Key Decision – Agenda Item 8)

Matter for decision: The Government had announced in the Budget a £100 million fund to enable Council's to build new housing. This report summarised the Council's position in relation to this Fund and requested approval to

proceed with further work to assess whether any sites were sufficiently advanced to warrant a bid to the £100m Fund to build new housing. Additional recommendations had been circulated in a revised report to members.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

- 1 To approve that further feasibility work proceed to assess whether there are any sites in the 3 Year Programme of Council Housing Sites that are sufficiently advanced to warrant a bid to the £100m Fund to build new housing that the Council will own, manage and maintain.
- 2 To delegate authority to the Director of Community Services to submit a bid for funding to the £100m Fund, subject to the bid satisfying procurement and financial rules.
- 3 To approve that an Invitation to Tender for the build contract can be distributed and that the contract can be awarded for the construction of the new Council housing should a bid be successful.

Reason for the Decision: It was expected that the funding will deliver around 900 homes overall. £50m would be available as Social Housing Grant (SHG) and £50m to cover prudential borrowing. The timescales for the funding were a start on site for schemes by the end of March 2010 and all homes completed by the end of March 2011. The new homes would be funded outside of the Housing Revenue Account subsidy system in line with the Communities and Local Government's recent Consultation Paper.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 9 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/58 Developing Affordable Housing - Policy Guide (Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 9)

Matter for decision: To consider and approve the Developing Affordable Housing Policy Guide bringing together adopted policies and guidance relating to the development of new Affordable Housing currently set out in several different documents.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing: To endorse the Developing Affordable Housing Policy Guide as the policy framework that guides the delivery of new Affordable Housing.

Reason for the Decision: The Guide provided a framework within which the Council delivered actions and targets in a number of high-level documents including the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Sub-Regional Strategy and was a complementary document to the Housing Strategy also submitted to Committee in this cycle for approval.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members noted that the equalities implications would be taken into account and made more apparent.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 9 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/59 Brandon Court Refurbishment (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 10*)

Matter for decision: This report presented proposals for the refurbishment of Brandon Court sheltered housing scheme.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

1. To approve design option A for the refurbishment and extension of Brandon Court to create 30 flats.
2. To approve proposals that the Council's parking area adjacent to Brandon Court is incorporated into the scheme.

3. To approve £3,637,000 to fund the project. (£3m had already allocated for Brandon Court in the approved capital plan, the additional £637,000 would be taken from the £2m budget allocated to Roman Court in 2010/11.
4. To authorise the Director of Community Services to invite tenders and award a contract for the appointment of a main contractor and project consultants to carry out the works for the refurbishment of Brandon Court in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Reason for the Decision: The Executive Councillor for Housing had approved a strategy for the long-term modernization of sheltered accommodation on 7 November 2005. Brandon Court was the next sheltered scheme to be refurbished under this strategy.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members noted that plans for the scheme would be circulated to them.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/60 Tendering for Floating Support Services with Cambridge County Council Supporting People (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 11*)

Matter for decision: Floating Support services were to be re-tendered by the County Council's Supporting People team in October 2009. The City Homes' Floating Support team needed to examine the options to enable it to continue providing a service. Revised recommendations had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

- 1 To approve the preparation of a bid to allow Cambridge City Council (CCC) to continue the provision of Floating Support services.

- 2 To give permission to explore the opportunity of bidding as part of a consortium for this and other future contracts for support services.
- 3 To report back to October Community Services Scrutiny Committee with a way forward in regards to a tendering option (with the proviso that tenders are not due in before this date).

Reason for the Decision: The City Council's Floating Support Team had been approached with the offer of joining a consortium lead by Cambridge Housing Society along with South Cambridgeshire District Council, English Church Housing Group and Axiom Housing.

Currently these services reached just under 600 people through approximately fifteen independent providers, including the City Council. The indicators were that the generic Floating Support contract would be worth approximately £1.5 million per year. The City Council was the largest provider of Floating Support services within Cambridgeshire, currently employing seven full-time equivalents within its Floating Support team. Under their current Supporting People contract this team provided Floating Support services to over eighty clients who would receive the support for up to two years.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members asked for additional information on the distribution of funding described in paragraph 3.3 of the report. They also suggested that a broader corporate view was needed on the funding issue.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the amended recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/61 2008/09 Revenue and Capital Outturn – Housing Portfolio
(Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 12)

Matter for decision: The report presented a summary of the 2008/09 outturn position (actual income and expenditure) for services within the Housing portfolio, compared to the final budget for the year. The position for revenue

and capital was reported and variances from budgets were highlighted, together with explanations. Requests to carry forward funding arising from certain budget underspends into 2009/10 were identified for approval.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing:

1. To agree the carry forward requests, totaling £53,340 as detailed in Appendix C, to be recommended to Council for approval.
2. To seek approval to rephase capital expenditure of £3,359,000 (£491,000 to be met from Council resources and £2,868,000 in the form of CLG grant) in respect of investment in the creation of a new assessment centre in the city, as detailed in Appendix E and the associated notes.
3. To seek approval from Council to carry forward capital resources to fund rephased net capital spending of £3,309,000 between 2008/09 and 2009/10, in relation to investment in the Housing Revenue Account Spend, as part of the Housing Capital Investment Plan, as detailed in Appendix E and the associated notes.

Reason for the Decision: This decision is required as part of the Council's budget setting process.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/62 Appointments to Outside Bodies (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 13*)

Matter for decision: To appoint representatives to the bodies listed below.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Housing: To appoint the following representatives to the bodies indicated

Supporting People Joint Member Group (1 representative)

Executive Councillor for Housing (by the Terms of Reference)

Equalities and Inclusion (Adult Equality and Inclusion – Health and Wellbeing)
(1 representative)

Executive Councillor for Housing

The City Council's Older People's Champion
Cllr Shah

Reason for the Decision: To appoint representatives on various outside bodies.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: Not relevant.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations without a vote.

The Executive Councillor for Housing approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/63 Community Development Grants Priorities 2010-12 (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 14*)

Matter for decision: The report sets out proposals for Community Development grants priorities for 2010-12, which had been informed by the Community Development Service Strategy approved in January 2009.

This report also clarified the changes to the management and administration of the Area Committee grants process and the distribution of funds to each area and reports on two 2008/9 awards.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health: To approve, for further consultation, the following thematic priorities for the allocation of Community Development grants:

- a.) Community Activities
- b.) Social and Economic Deprivation
- c.) Voluntary Sector Infrastructure

d.) A Growing City

e.) Community Cohesion

Reason for the Decision: The Community Development Service Strategy had been implemented to contribute to the council's Medium Term Objectives (MTOs) and the Cultural Services Framework approved in July 2008 and took into account new and emerging legislation as well as social and economic issues affecting city residents. The current grants priorities had been established following a Best Value Service Review in 2000 and the supplementary Committee of Inquiry into Grants in 2005 and now needed to be aligned to the revised aims, outcomes, priorities and objectives for the service.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members asked a number of detailed questions on categories of people who might not be covered by the prioritised themes, the basis of the grant distribution and how the outcomes might be measured.

The Head of Community Development said that this information was based on the Mapping Poverty process referred to in the report which was available from the Strategy and Partnerships section who had held briefings on the findings.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 9 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/64 2008/09 Revenue and Capital Outturn – Community Development & Health Portfolio (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 15*)

Matter for decision: The report presented a summary of the 2008/09 outturn position (actual income and expenditure) for services within the Community Development and Health portfolio, compared to the final budget for the year. The position for revenue and capital was reported and variances from

budgets were highlighted, together with explanations. The requests to carry forward funding arising from certain budget underspends into 2009/10 identified for approval in the report had been subsequently withdrawn as they had been included in error, together with the recommendation for appendix C.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health:

1. To note the variances reported as detailed in Appendix B.
2. To seek approval from Council to rephrase net capital spending of £298,000 from 2008/09 into 2009/10 as detailed in Appendix D.

Reason for the Decision: This decision is part of the Council's budget setting process.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members noted that the withdrawal of the recommendation in relation to the requests to carry forward funding arising from certain budget underspends into 2009/10

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/65 Appointments to Outside Bodies (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 16*)

Matter for decision: To appoint representatives to the bodies listed below.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health: To appoint the following representatives to the bodies indicated

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee (1 representative & 1 alternative)

Councillor Boyce

(Members noted that at the special meeting of the Committee on 21 May, Cllr Blair had been appointed to the County Committee as Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health after taking advice from the County. However, since then, the County Council had revised their view and had pointed out that, under the Terms of Reference, this appointment had to be a member of the Scrutiny Committee and not an Executive Councillor.)

Equalities and Inclusion (Children and Young People) (1 representative)
Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health

Addenbrookes Hospital – Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation
Trust

Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health

The Council's Young People's Champion
Cllr McGovern

Reason for the Decision: To appoint representatives to various outside bodies.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: Not relevant

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations without a vote being taken.

The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/66 Members' Committee Of Inquiry Into Folk Festival Ticketing Issues (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 17*)

Matter for decision: At its meeting held on 30 March 2009 the Civic Affairs Committee had requested the Community Services Scrutiny Committee to consider whether members wished to set up a Committee of Inquiry into the issues around the Online Ticketing contract for the Folk Festival in 2008.

Decision of the Scrutiny Committee: To approve the attached terms of reference for the Council's Committee of Inquiry Into Folk Festival Ticketing Issues.

Reason for the Decision: The Community Services Scrutiny Committee had agreed to the principle of this at its meeting held on 22 April 2009 and asked the (then) Director of Customer and Democratic Services to report back to this meeting proposing terms of reference, membership, timing and timescales.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Councillor Boyce proposed that the final sentence of the Terms of Reference be amended to read:

Format of meetings

It is clear members wish to discuss the roles of a range of individual staff therefore in order to enable full discussion it will be appropriate for the Inquiry will meet in private and then make its findings public. It may be possible for the initial and final meetings of the Inquiry to be held in public with only the witness sessions held in private, but this will depend on the issues members wish to explore in those meetings.

Councillor Benstead reminded members that the Labour group had been consistent over a period of time in opposing the proposal for a member led Committee of Inquiry, preferring the matter to be subject to an independent external Inquiry on the grounds of the public interest. On this basis the Group was not going to take up the offer of 2 places and the Chair on the proposed Committee of Inquiry. He said that he would be proposing an amendment to the recommendation to the Committee.

Councillor Nimmo-Smith expressed disappointment in this approach, citing a number of the problems with implementing an external Inquiry and recalled the process that had been undertaken so far. He said the proposals provided the basis for a valid conclusion to this matter.

On a show of hands Councillor Benstead's proposal that the Committee recommend that the Council carry out an external and independent Committee of Inquiry into the Folk Festival ticketing issues was lost by 6 votes to 3.

Councillor Boyce's proposal, set out above, was carried by 6 votes to 0.

In view of the Labour members indication that they would not participate in the Committee of Inquiry, the Chair agreed to a short adjournment to consider an amendment to the recommendation to the membership of the Committee.

Following the adjournment, Councillor Boyce's proposal that the Committee be recommended to approve the membership and Chair of the Committee as follows was carried by 6 votes to 0:

6 Members, to comprise the Committee of Inquiry, of which:

4 Liberal-Democrat members

2 Other members

The Chair to be appointed by the Committee.

The Chief Executive confirmed that should no other members take places on the Committee, the Inquiry could still proceed. She reminded members that it was important that the Human Resource processes be completed before the Committee of Inquiry met.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and approved the amended recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 3.

09/CS/67 Corn Exchange Review (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 18*)

Matter for decision: The report presented options for the future operation and management of the Corn Exchange. It recommended retaining management of the Corn Exchange in-house, but with operational changes to improve the efficiency of the Corn Exchange, deliver savings, and better align programming and related activity to corporate priorities. The recommendations were informed by the independent review of the Corn Exchange, commissioned from RGA, whose key findings were summarised in this report.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To agree to retain management of the Corn Exchange in-house with operational and efficiency improvements.
- 2 To set up a member/officer working party to consider the detailed recommendations for improvements outlined in appendix 1, section 1.8 of the report.
- 3 To request that the working party draw up an action plan to deliver changes, to be brought back to Community Services Scrutiny committee for Executive member decision.
- 4 To accept the conclusions from the catering review that the daytime café

facility is not viable, and to remove the daytime café when drawing up the specification for the retendering of the catering contract.

Reason for the Decision: The Council makes a significant investment in maintaining the Corn Exchange as a city venue, and therefore it is appropriate that the management and efficiency of the operation is reviewed to consider whether and where improvements could be made.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members considered a proposal by Councillor Boyce that consideration be deferred to the next meeting of the Committee to ensure the Human Resource processes as a result of the investigation of the Folk Festival ticketing issues had taken place.

Councillor Blencowe's proposal that the 4th recommendation be amended to read as follows was carried without a vote being taken:

To accept the conclusions from the catering review that the daytime café facility is not viable, and to remove the daytime café when drawing up the specification for the retendering of the catering contract.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the amended recommendations in the report by 8 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/68 Corn Exchange Catering Contract (*Key Decision – Agenda Item 19*)

Matter for decision: A new contract would be required for the provision of bar and catering services at the Corn Exchange. This report sought authority to allow a new contract to be awarded. The contract details would take into account the recommendations of the Corn Exchange review (see above). Amended recommendations had been tabled at the meeting by the Director of Community Services to take account of the Council's Procurement and Contracting procedures.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To authorise officers to tender the contract to provide bar and catering services at the Corn Exchange and that the term of the contract be decided by the Director of Community Services following consultation with the executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation subject to a maximum term of 5 years.
- 2 To authorise officers to award the contract to the most favourable tender, in accordance with pre-determined selection criteria.
- 3 To take account of the decision taken earlier at the meeting to remove the daytime café when drawing up the specification for the retendering of the catering contract.

Reason for the Decision: The current contract had commenced on 5 April 2006. The initial three-year contract was extended by a year pending the outcome of the Corn Exchange review. A new contract would be required from April 2010,

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the amended recommendations in the report by 9 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations as amended.

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

09/CS/69 Procurement of Events Security - Arts and Entertainments
(Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 20)

Matter for decision: A contract was required for the provision of security at Arts and Entertainments events. This report sought the necessary authority to enable a new contract to be awarded.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 2.1 To authorise officers to procure a contract to provide event security for Arts and Entertainments for a period of three years. The total value of the contract is estimated at approx £255,000.
- 2.2 To authorise officers to award the contract to the most favourable tender, in accordance with pre-determined selection criteria.
- 2.3 To delegate authority for the approval of an extension of the contract of up to two years to the Director of Community Services and Director of Finance in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation. Extensions will be based on satisfactory service delivery assessed on pre-determined criteria.

Reason for the Decision: Event security was required at the Corn Exchange and at outdoor events such as the Big Weekend, Folk Festival, Bonfire Night and other events.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members asked that consultation with the Executive Councillor be added to the third recommendation shown in the report.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations as amended in the report without a vote being taken.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the amended recommendations

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

09/CS/70 Junction Service Level Agreement (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 21*)

Matter for decision: In January 2007 the Executive Councillor for Arts and recreation had agreed to continue the City Council's funding agreement with the Junction at a level of £97,400 per annum for three years with effect from 1 April 2007. This agreement was subject to review if there was a substantial

shift in the nature of the Junction's programme or activities during that time. A service level agreement was concluded annually between the Council and the Junction to establish the Council's expectations in relation to this funding.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: To approve the draft service level agreement as attached at Appendix A of the report.

Reason for the Decision: At its meeting of January 2009, the Community Services Scrutiny Committee had considered a draft SLA for the Junction and expressed concern that it lacked sufficient performance measures to enable satisfactory monitoring. The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation had decided to establish an all-party working group consisting of members and officers further to consider the appropriate content of the SLA.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members noted that work continued with a view to strengthening the organisation's Board, and a new Chair was actively being sought.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/71 Procurement of Design Services - Arts and Entertainment
(Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 22)

Matter for decision: The Head of Arts and Entertainment sought authority to invite competitive tenders to provide design services for printed material for its range of events.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To authorise the Head of Arts and Entertainments to tender for a contractor or contractors to provide design services for Arts & Entertainments events for a period of four years. Total value of the contract(s) is estimated at up to £100,000.

- 2 To authorise the Head of Arts and Entertainments to award the contract(s) to the most favourable tender(s), in accordance with pre-determined selection criteria.

Reason for the Decision: Design services have previously been commissioned separately for the Cambridge Corn Exchange, Cambridge Folk Festival and a range of outdoor events. Following advice and guidance from Internal Audit and Procurement, the publicity requirements of all Arts & Entertainments events will be included in one tender, for an award to one or possibly more contractors.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

09/CS/72 2008/09 Revenue and Capital Outturn – Arts and Recreation Portfolio (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 23*)

Matter for decision: This report presents a summary of the 2008/09 outturn position (actual income and expenditure) for services within the Arts & Recreation portfolio, compared to the final budget for the year. The position for revenue and capital was reported and variances from budgets were highlighted, together with explanations. Requests to carry forward funding arising from certain budget underspends into 2009/10 were identified.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To agree the carry forward requests, totalling £124,600 as detailed in Appendix C, are to be recommended to Council for approval.
- 2 To seek approval from Council to carry forward capital resources to fund rephased net capital spending of £384,000 from 2008/09 into 2009/10, as detailed in Appendix D.
- 3 To seek approval from Council to bring forward accelerated capital spending of £77,000 from 2009/10 into 2008/09, as detailed in Appendix D.

- 4 To reinstate two Section 106 funded projects SC376 (Thorpe Way Recreation Ground refurbishment) [£155,000] and SC377 (Ramsden Square Recreation Ground refurbishment) [£60,000], which were incorrectly reported as complete in the January 2009 committee reports and 2009/10 budgets withdrawn. These projects are now complete and their reinstatement will not impact on use of General Fund Reserves, as they will be funded from Section 106 resources.

Reason for the Decision: The decisions were required as part of the Council's budget setting process.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 6 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/73 Improvements to Community Football Facilities at the Old Pye's Pitch at Logan's Way (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 24*)

Matter for decision: Authority was sought to carry out and complete the procurement of new football pitches and services to support new pitches at Old Pye's Pitch.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: To approve the carrying out and completion of the procurement of new football pitches and services to support new pitches at Old Pye's Pitch. If the quotation or tender sum exceeds the estimated contract value by more than 15% the permission of the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation and Director of Finance will be sought prior to proceeding. The total capital cost of the project is estimated to be around £100,000 and will be funded from S106 for the North Area ward and existing R&R budgets.

Reason for the Decision: Requests had been received independently through the Improve Your Neighbourhood scheme run by Active

Communities to encourage ideas for the spending of S106 off-site contribution monies in the wards.

Requests were also received about enhancing football provision in this residential area, from local football clubs who can no longer play on Chesterton Recreation ground and St. Albans Recreation ground due to over use, these local clubs and stakeholder groups, have requested that the Old Pye's Pitch which is now back in City Council ownership is brought back to be a City Council run facility and usable site for Junior football

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: Members asked that consideration of concessionary for junior users be brought to a subsequent meeting.

The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 4 votes to 2.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/74 Parks and Open Spaces: Performance Management Framework: Annual Report (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 25*)

Matter for decision: The performance management framework for parks and open spaces ('the framework') had been approved by the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation in April 2008. The framework outlined strategic aims, details accountability and developed processes that would improve performance management.

The report aimed to give further detail on the work completed to date on and seeks approval of the framework and focuses on method, process and reporting of performance.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: To approve the approaches used to date and described in the officer's report in the following areas:

- a) Development of monitoring standards;

b) Assessment of value and quality.

Reason for the Decision: The framework had been used to focus on developing monitoring standards, and assessing both value and quality in order to inform priorities for action. An evaluation of the data over the last year has begun to give clarity and focus to sites and areas of service that need immediate consideration.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/75 Consultation for Various Recreation Ground Improvements *(Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 26)*

Matter for decision: The Performance Management Framework ('the framework') for Parks and Open Spaces demonstrated those things that are important to the service, offering opportunities to deliver continuous improvements and create effective channels of communication across the organisation and with local people.

The purpose of the report was to identify six sites that could fulfil the four key requirements of the framework, detailed at paragraph 3.16 of the report, and which can then be considered for whole site consultations.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: To approve the following six sites, for consultation on the principles of whole site improvements:-

- Petersfield
- Arbury Town Park
- Cherry Hinton Hall
- Nunn's Way Recreation Ground
- Coleridge Recreation Ground

- Brooks Road Play Area

Reason for the Decision: The framework enabled options to be considered that improve the quality of services to customers by improving process and practices. It also allowed the Council to clearly identify strengths and areas for improvement and afforded the opportunity to identify problems early and to plan intervention.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/76 Update on Improvements to Jesus Green (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 27*)

Matter for decision: In September 2008, the Council had submitted a Stage 1 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) 'Parks for People' campaign. In April 2009, the Council had been advised its bid had been unsuccessful. This report provided feedback on the HLF assessment and outlined proposals for future direction of this project.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To note the feedback from the Heritage Lottery Fund;
- 2 To instruct officers to progress consultation as outlined in the report and to bring a further report identifying proposals, priorities and potential funding sources to the meeting of Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 8 October 2009 for approval to progress.

Reason for the Decision: Without HLF funding, it would not be possible to take forward the number and range of improvements that were originally suggested; also that improvements may have to be staggered over a number of years. It was agreed that a range of sources of funding would need to be considered including section 106, Council, repair and renewal funds, the Environmental Improvements Programme, the Council's capital programme,

Heritage Lottery Fund (a new, revised Parks funding programme), WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited) and SITA Trust (via the Landfill Communities Fund).

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/77 Proposed Use of Jesus Green by EDF Energy (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 28*)

Matter for decision: EDF Energy was seeking to use part of Jesus Green for a temporary site compound for works required at Thompson's Lane sub station. Jesus Green was owned by the City Council, and was registered common land. For EDF to be able lawfully to use Jesus Green for this purpose, it would need Planning consent, Consent from the Secretary of State under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006, and the City Council's consent as landowner.

This report asked the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation whether the Council should give its consent as landowner to this proposed use of Jesus Green.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: To refuse permission for the use of part of Jesus Green by EDF Energy as a temporary site compound.

Reason for the Decision: The proposal to use Jesus Green as a temporary compound will have significant impact on users and their enjoyment of the amenity.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/78 Construction of a Peripheral Path and Additional Tennis Court at Nightingale Avenue Recreation Ground (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 29*)

Matter for decision: To consider approval of the release of section 106 funds to enable the completion of the previously approved tennis court and peripheral path at Nightingale Avenue Recreation Ground.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To approve the release of section 106 funds to enable the completion of the previously approved tennis court and peripheral path at Nightingale Avenue Recreation Ground. If the quotation or tender sum exceeds the estimated contract value by more than 15% the permission of the Executive Councillor and Director of Finance will be sought prior to proceeding.
- 2 To note that the total capital cost of the project is estimated to be approximately £80,000 for the peripheral path and £65,000 for the tennis court. Section 106 funds for the scheme have been previously identified in the approved open space and recreation programme.
- 3 To note that there are some revenue implications arising from the project for cleaning of the site, which is carried out by City Services.

Reason for the Decision: The additional tennis court and peripheral path projects were originally identified but not costed in the project appraisal for the Nightingale Avenue multi use games area that was approved by the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation in July 2006.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/79 Proposal to Restrict Access to Ravensworth Gardens Play Area (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 30*)

Matter for decision: Ravensworth Gardens Residents' Association (RGRA) had advised the Council that anti social behaviour in the play area was a serious and ongoing concern and had asked the Council and Police for assistance in addressing this.

A multi agency problem-solving group had met In the summer of 2008 to consider the situation. The group had concurred with RGRA that restricting access to the play area by installing higher fencing and a lockable gate might reduce levels of anti social behaviour to a more manageable level.

RGRA have made an application to the Safer City Fund to support this work.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To allow Ravensworth Gardens Residents Association (RGRA) to restrict access to the play area situated above the underground car park during the hours of darkness as specified in the report for a trial period of two years.
- 2 A further report will be required towards the end of the time period in order to consider whether or not the restriction should be made permanent.

Reason for the Decision: The Leader of the Council has advised he will consider supporting the funding award if the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation is willing to approve the principle of restricting access to the play area during the hours of darkness for a trial period of two years.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 7 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/80 Revision to Open Space and Recreation s106 Programme - Chesterton Community College (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 31*)

Matter for decision: To consider approving an additional £20,000 towards a project to provide a new floodlit astroturf at Chesterton Community College ('the College'). The project already had an agreed s106 contribution from the City Council of £50,000 and an extra £20,000 contribution from formal open space s106 funds had been requested because an anticipated grant award to the project from the Football Foundation has been reduced to £120,000 due to a national shortfall in revenues.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- 1 To approve an increase of £20,000 to the £50,000 already assigned on the Open Space and Recreation (OSR) programme to the development of a floodlit synthetic turf pitch and associated ancillary facilities at Chesterton Community College (project no. CW002/A). The total sum granted to the project will therefore become £70,000.
- 2 To instruct officers to conduct a full project appraisal, which will be considered by the Council's Asset Management Group.
- 3 To instruct officers to liaise with Legal Services to prepare a community use agreement with Chesterton Community College. This should identify access arrangements acceptable to the Council and which both parties must sign before funding is released.

Reason for the Decision: A decision was needed as, subject to planning permission which is scheduled to be considered in June/July, the project was ready to proceed with construction potentially scheduled for the school summer holiday period.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations in the report by 8 votes to 0.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

09/CS/81 Appointments to Outside bodies (*Non Key Decision – Agenda Item 32*)

Matter for decision: To appoint representatives to the bodies listed below.

Decision of Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation: To appoint the following representatives

The Junction (5)

Cllrs Benstead, Blair, Ellis-Miller, Lynn and McGovern

The Folk Museum (2)

Cllr Blencowe, Mr Rhodri James

Reason for the Decision: To appoint representatives to various outside bodies.

Any alternative options considered and rejected: These are set out in the officer's report.

Scrutiny Considerations: The Scrutiny Committee considered and endorsed the recommendations without a vote.

The Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation approved the recommendations

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

Appendix

MEMBERS' COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO FOLK FESTIVAL TICKETING ISSUES

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose of the Inquiry

To review the learning from the events surrounding the failure of the on-line ticketing contract in 2008 and to make recommendations to the Council on how improvements could be made to council policies, procedures and practices to prevent a similar occurrence in future.

The Inquiry to cover:

- The role of service responsible for the contract
- The role of the support services in Finance, Legal and Procurement supporting the service
- The effectiveness of the Council's Risk and Procurement Processes
- The appropriate role of lead officers, Managers and Members in major procurements and risk management processes
- Any organisational cultural issues that need to be addressed.

Methodology

The Inquiry will hold one meeting where it will

1. Review the Civic Affairs Report from March 2009 and recommendations from subsequent HR processes (if any) to identify any gaps in understanding or areas for further investigation.
2. Identify any other existing documentation it may wish to review
3. Identify any witnesses it may wish to call to aid its investigations.

The Inquiry will hold a maximum of 3 half-day sessions to

4. Speak to those witnesses and/or Review those documents

The Inquiry will hold a final meeting

5. To pull together their findings and agree their recommendations to relevant Committees and/or Executive Councillors of the Council.

Membership

6 Members
4 Liberal-Democrat
2 Others

Chaired by a Labour member.

Timing

October – November 2009. (Final dates to be determined to fit with outcome from any HR processes.)

Timescales

The Inquiry will meet no more than 5 times.

Officer Support to the Inquiry

The Head of Strategy and Partnerships will support the Inquiry
A Committee Manager will administer the Inquiry

Format of meetings

Format of meetings

It is clear members wish to discuss the roles of a range of individual staff therefore in order to enable full discussion it will be appropriate for the Inquiry will meet in private and then make its findings public. It may be possible for the initial and final meetings of the Inquiry to be held in public with only the witness sessions held in private, but this will depend on the issues members wish to explore in those meetings.