

Time began 6.00pm
Time ended 7.25pm

**COUNCIL CABINET
10 FEBRUARY 2004**

Present: Councillor Burgess – Chair
Councillors L Allen, E Berry, Care, Carr, P Hickson, Webb and West

This record of decisions was published on 12 February 2004. There are no key decisions set out in this record.

300/03 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

301/03 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

302/03 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call In Will Not Apply

There were no urgent items.

303/03 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Matters Referred to Council Cabinet

304/03 Draft Revenue and Capital Budgets 2004/05 to 2006/07 - Comments of the Six Overview and Scrutiny Commissions.

The Council Cabinet considered reports from the six Overview and Scrutiny Commissions setting out the comments and recommendations of the Commissions on the draft revenue budget 2004/05 to 2006/07.

Decision

- 1 To note the reports.
- 2 To thank the Commissions for their comments.

- 3 To consider them further when determining the recommendations for the Council's Budget for 2004-05 at the meeting of the Council Cabinet on 24 February 2004.

305/03 Service Area Budget Review - Funding Issues Related to Crime and Disorder and Young People

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Community Regeneration Commission, setting out their recommendations following the Service Area Budget Review on Funding Issues Related to Crime and Disorder and Young People.

The Commission recommended that the Council Cabinet make up the shortfall of £239,389 in the funding of the Community Safety Projects, if necessary by raising the 2004-05 Council Tax, over the amount it would otherwise rise, by approximately £3.52 (Band D) or 0.409% (all bands) for this purpose.

Decision

- 1 To note the report and the concerns of the Commission.
- 2 To thank the Commission for looking into the issue and advise them that the Council Cabinet did not intend to make any additional contribution in the 2004/05 Budget for the following reasons:
 - all requests from the Community Safety Partnership had been met, reflecting an increase in the Council's share of the partnership budget.
 - further funds were being sought from other sources to meet deficits.
 - a full review of the Community Safety Partnership was taking place. When this was completed, any resulting budget requests would be submitted to partner agencies for 2005/06 Budget.
- 3 To accept the recommendation of the Education Commission that any proposals concerning the transfer of funds where pupils are excluded be referred to the Education Commission for consideration.
- 4 To note the comments of the Commission and to consider them further when determining the recommendations for the Council's Budget for 2004-05 at the meeting of the Council Cabinet on 24 February 2004.

306/03 Feedback from Budget Consultation Meetings.

The Council Cabinet considered extracts from the minutes of the following budget consultation meetings:

- a) Women's Advisory Committee
- b) Joint Consultative Committee
- c) Minority Ethnic Communities Advisory Committee
- d) Disabled People's Advisory Committee
- e) Partnership and Budget Consultation

Decision

- 1 To note the report
- 2 To consider the minutes of the budget consultation meetings and other representations still to be received during the preparation of the 2004/05 Budget Proposals.

Budget and Policy Framework

307/03 Final Local Government Settlement 2004/05

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Finance setting out the Central Government Grant available to the Council for the next financial year from the Local Government Finance Settlement, which had a major influence on the resources available to the Council in setting its budget.

The Government announced the final Local Government Financial Settlement for 2004/05 on 29 January 2004. The Government had previously announced the provisional settlement on 19 November 2003 and then updated the figures on 11 December 2003, to allow for the distribution of £340m additional funding for Local Government. The initial Formula Spending Shares - FSS - announced on 19 November were unaffected.

A comparison for Derby City Council between the FSS announced in November 2003 and that in January 2004 were set out as shown below:

| | Updated Provisional Settlement December | Final Settlement January | Change |
|---------------------------|--|---|---------------|
| | £m | £m | £m |
| Education - Schools | 113.871 | 113.870 | -.001 |
| Education - LEA and Youth | 14.087 | 14.087 | .000 |
| Social Services | 57.371 | 57.370 | -.001 |
| Highways | 8.853 | 9.097 | +.244 |
| EPCS | 50.009 | 50.030 | +.021 |
| Capital Financing | 10.013 | 9.772 | -.241 |
| Total FSS 2004/5 | 254.204 | 254.226 | +.022 |

The FSS was funded in the Revenue Support Grant System by a combination of Government funding and Council Tax. The total payable to an authority is its FSS less the total Assumed National Council Tax - ANCT. The comparative calculations for Derby were set out as shown below:

| | Updated Provisional Settlement December £m | Final Settlement January £m | Change £m |
|-------------------------------|---|--|----------------------|
| FSS | 254.204 | 254.226 | +.022 |
| Less ANCT | 63.089 | 63.018 | -.071 |
| RSG and NNDR = Formula Grant | 191.115 | 191.208 | +.093 |
| Effect of Floors and Ceilings | -0.255 | -0.283 | -.028 |
| Net Formula Grant 2004/5 | 190.860 | 190.925 | +.065 |

Decision

To note the implications of the final Local Government finance settlement for 2004/05 Budget Planning.

308/03 Priorities and Budget Consultation - Pointer Survey Findings

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Finance setting out the results of the questionnaire, which was sent to members of the Derby Pointer Panel and a further random sample of 1,000 local people.

Councils were required to consult a range of stakeholders in preparing their budget plans. The Council was in the process of agreeing its Vision and priorities and Corporate Plan to put these into effect. Taking account of consultation would help the Council to make sure that its decision and priorities reflected the needs and aspirations of Derby people. A copy of the questionnaire used in the consultation was attached at appendix 2 of the report, which summarised the key findings.

Decision

- 1 To note the findings of the Derby Pointer survey and related consultation exercises.
- 2 To take account of the views expressed in determining the Council's budget for 2004-05 and shaping the Council's 2004-07 Corporate Plan.

MINUTES END