

Time began 6.00 pm
Time ended 6.40 pm

COUNCIL CABINET
13 MAY 2003

Present: Councillor Williamson - Chair
Councillors Bayliss, Bolton, Gerrard, Kalia, Nath, Wilsoncroft
and Wynn

Also present: Councillors Burgess and Hickson

This record of decisions was published on 15 May 2003. The key decisions set out in this record will come into force and may then be implemented on the expiry of five clear days unless the decision is called in.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Roberts and Repton.

Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

Urgent Items to which Call In will not apply

There were no urgent items.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bayliss declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in Item 10 "Licensed Deficits for Schools' Budgets" as he was appointed by the Council as a Governor of Boulton Primary School.

401/02 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Part 1 minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2003 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Matters Referred to Council Cabinet

402/02 Derby Community Strategy – 2020 Vision

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Policy, setting out amendments to the Strategy following consideration by the Scrutiny Management Commission at a meeting held on 16 April 2003. A summary of the Strategy had been circulated to all councillors for comment.

Decision

- 1 To note the report.
- 2 To recommend Council to approve the Community Strategy as part of the Budget and Policy Framework.

Key Decisions

403/02 Children Living with HIV Policy

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Social Services, setting out a policy for staff working with children and young people with HIV.

Options considered

None.

Decision

- 1 To adopt the Children Living with HIV Policy.
- 2 To refer the report to the Social Care, Health and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Commission for consideration.

Reason

This report presents the Children Living with HIV Policy. Social Services' departmental policy is applicable to all children with whom staff in the department come into contact.

404/02 Health of Children Looked After: Sexual Health and Personal Relationships Policy

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Social Services, setting out a Policy on Sexual Health and Personal Relationships for Young People in Public Care.

Options considered

None.

Decision

- 1 To adopt the Sexual Health and Personal Relationships for Young People in Public Care Policy.

- 2 To refer the report to the Corporate Parenting Joint Sub-Commission for consideration.

Reason

The report presents the Sexual Health and Personal Relationship Policy for Young People in Public Care. This is part of the Policy, Procedure and Practice Guidance for Promoting the Health of Children Looked After, which was approved by Policy Committee on 17 October 2001.

405/02 Community Tensions Reporting

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Chief Executive, setting out a Community Tensions Reporting Framework agreed with the police to ensure effective partnership working on community cohesion.

Concern was raised over anti-social behaviour at Chaddesden Park. Councillor Bayliss agreed to raise this matter with the Police Authority.

Options considered

None.

Decision

- 1 To approve the Community Tensions Reporting Framework.
- 2 To refer the report to the Regeneration and Social Inclusion Overview and Scrutiny Commission for consideration.

Reason

A joint community tensions reporting framework with the police will ensure effective partnership working on community cohesion.

406/02 Licensed Deficits for Schools' Budgets

The Council Cabinet considered a joint report from the Directors of Finance and Education, setting out proposals to approve Licensed Deficits for Schools' Budgets at Alvaston Junior Community School, Brackensdale Junior School and Sinfin Primary School and extend the licensed deficit for Boulton Primary School.

Options Considered

It would be possible to insist that the schools set balanced budgets in 2003/04. However, that would result in unnecessary staffing reductions, which could damage the schools' ability to deliver the curriculum.

Decision

- 1 To approve the following licensed deficits for 2003/04:

Alvaston Junior Community School	£45,426
Brackensdale Junior School	£27,000
Sinfin Primary School	£6,111

- 2 To extend the licensed deficit for Boulton Primary School to £8,988.

Reason

Under the Council's scheme for funding schools, schools usually have to set a balanced budget. However, schools may apply to set a deficit budget as long as there are good reasons for doing so, and that they can demonstrate that the budget will come back into balance no later than the end of the third financial year. Where staffing reductions are necessary, these can usually only take place from September, so any savings are not fully effective until the second financial year.

407/02 Residents' Privileged Parking Scheme – Proposed Priorities

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services, setting out proposals for the introduction of Residents' Parking Schemes during 2003/04 in accordance with the procedures agreed by the Planning and Technical Services Committee at a meeting held on 24 March 1999. Appendix 2 set out and prioritised requests for schemes received.

Options Considered

None.

Decision

- 1 To investigate and, if appropriate, take forward the introduction of two Resident Privilege Parking schemes during 2003/04.
- 2 To give priority to schemes in the residential area near to the City Hospital and to the Longford Street area off Kedleston Road.

Reason

The introduction of Resident Privilege Parking schemes will help to make the city "A great place to live" and will help to create "A sustainable environment".

408/02 Connecting Derby Phase 2 – Land Acquisition

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services, setting out proposals to make a Compulsory Purchase Order for land required for Phase 2 of the Connecting Derby Project.

Options Considered

Attempts to purchase the land by way of negotiations have not been successful.

Decision

To approve proposals to make a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of all interests, and for new rights on the land described in Appendix A, required for the purpose of Phase 2 of the Connecting Derby Project, pursuant to sections 239, 240 and 249 Highways Act 1980.

Reason

The land involved needs to be acquired for the construction of Phase 2 of the Connecting Derby Project. The construction of Phase 2 will remove the existing tortuous route of this section of the inner ring road and take unnecessary through traffic from Cathedral Road, Walker Lane, Jury Street, Bold Lane, Strand, Wardwick, Cheapside, Curzon Street and Friar Gate between Cheapside and Ford Street. Phase 2 will also enable Becket Street to be closed at its junction with Wardwick.

409/02 Schools PFI – Wilmorton Community Primary and Southgate Infant Schools

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Education setting out proposals to publish a statutory notice proposing the closure of Southgate Infant and Nursery School and the transfer of the pupils to the roll of Wilmorton Primary School from 1 April 2004.

Options Considered

None.

Decision

To approve the publication of a statutory notice proposing the closure of Southgate Infant and Nursery School and subsequent transfer of the pupils to the roll of Wilmorton Primary School from 1 April 2004.

Reason

- 1 The proposal replaces the two existing schools with one all through primary school in readiness for the move to a new site, possibly in September 2005, as part of the Council's Grouped Schools Private Finance Initiative (PFI) project.

- 2 The governing bodies of both schools and the majority of those responding to the consultation support the proposal.

410/02 Using Council Resources to Provide Affordable Housing

The Council Cabinet considered a joint report from the Directors of Policy and Finance, setting out proposals to use £3 million of capital receipts to provide affordable housing.

Options Considered

The Local Authorities (Capital Finance) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2003 stipulate that the receipts can only be used for the purposes summarised in paragraph 3.5 of this report. Therefore, there were no other options regarding alternative uses for these specific resources. For example, the Council cannot voluntarily set aside the receipts to reduce its debt, as this does not fall within the definition in paragraph 3.5.

Decision

- 1 To approve spending up to £3 million of capital receipts from the disposal of housing land and/or redundant assets on providing affordable housing over the period April 2003 to March 2006.
- 2 To use the first £1.3m of these capital receipts to make grants to registered social landlords, RSLs, to develop additional affordable housing for rent or sale in accordance with the Council's approved Housing Investment policy and fit-for-purpose housing strategy.
- 3 To refer the issue to the Major Cities Housing Group for consideration.

Reason

- 1 Under the Government's new regulations on the use of housing capital receipts, in order to use up to 100% of receipts, the Council must resolve to spend up to a specified amount of these receipts over a set time period.
- 2 The Housing Strategy identifies supporting RSLs as a key way to develop the additional housing required in the city as RSLs ability to access private finance can 'stretch' the Council's resources. It is, however, prudent to maintain the flexibility to use the remainder of the receipts for other strategic housing uses identified in the future, for example, to support PFI applications or to fund further improvements to the Council's stock.

411/02 Grants to Sports and Community Groups

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Education, which set out applications for grant aid from six Voluntary and Special Needs Playschemes.

Options considered

- 1 Grant application for playschemes are funded from the Voluntary and Special Needs Playscheme grants budget, which was transferred to the Education Service from Social Services. It is the intention next year to look at alternative sources of funding such as the National Lottery Awards for All Scheme.
- 2 Details of the Derby Athletics Club grant application were passed to the Council's Lottery Officer to explore the possibility of external funding. As the application was for retrospective funding, it did not meet the necessary criteria. The Lottery Officer has written to the Club to advise them that they can apply for Awards for All funding in the future.

Decision

- 1 To approve the applications for grant aid as follows:

Derby West Indian Community Association	£1,950
Pear Tree Playscheme	£2,785
Boulton St Mary's Church Council	£500
Jigsaw Playscheme	£1,896
Lord Street Community Nursery	£1,829
Wilmorton Holiday Club	£1,884

- 2 To approve the application for grant aid to Derby Athletics Club, a voluntary sports organisation, for £6,925 as set out in Appendix 4 of the report.

Reason

The organisations applying for grant aid meet the Council's criteria and objectives for grant funding schemes.

Budget and Policy Framework

412/02 Derby and Derbyshire Waste Local Plan Revised Deposit Edition

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Development and Cultural Services setting out representations received on the first deposit plan and proposed changes.

Decision

- 1 Subject to any views expressed by either the Prosperity and Planning and the Environment and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Commissions, to approve the following recommendations of the Derbyshire Development Plans Joint Advisory Committee which met on 17 April 2003:
 - a to approve the recommendations set out in the appended Report of Publicity and Consultation and the consequential proposed changes to the Plan, subject to any necessary minor editorial changes.
 - b to authorise the undertaking of the necessary formal procedures for the next stage of plan preparation, including the publication of the Revised Deposit of the Derby and Derbyshire Waste Local Plan.
- 2 To refer the report to the Prosperity and Planning and Environment and Sustainability Overview and Scrutiny Commissions for consideration.
- 3 If the Commissions express views on the report, to reconsider these recommendations in the light of any view expressed by the Commissions, at the next suitable meeting of the Cabinet.

Performance Monitoring

413/02 Benefits Service – Performance Monitoring Position Statement at 31 March 2003

The Council Cabinet considered a report from the Director of Finance, which set out progress made in the Revenues and Benefits Service. Work outstanding had been reduced by a further 18% and reduced to 3,488. This equated to less than three weeks' workload with the target position of two weeks.

Decision

- 1 To note the progress made in the Revenues and Benefits Service and to agree to continue receiving regular update reports.
- 2 To thank Councillor Gerrard, Don McLure and all the staff in the Revenues and Benefits Service for their hard work and success in reducing the outstanding workload.

MINUTES END