TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DERBY CITY COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Derby City Council in the Council Chamber at the Council House, Derby on Wednesday 24 January 2007 at 6 pm.

AGENDA

- 1. To receive apologies.
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest.
- 3. To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on **DOCUMENT 3** 22 November 2006.

Motion - That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 November 2006 be approved as a correct record, confirmed and signed by the Mayor

- 4. To receive any announcements from The Mayor.
- 5. To receive any Statements from Members of the Council Cabinet.
- 6. To receive any questions from the public to Members of the Council Cabinet and the answers to those questions.

a. Mr T Dunn	—	Prejudicial Interests
b. Mr T Dunn	_	Traffic lights on Cheapside/The
		Strand
c. Mrs P Woolley	_	Riverlights Flood Prevention Barriers
d. Mrs P Woolley	_	Flood defences at Exeter Bridge
e. Mr C Underhill	_	Vision for the future of Derby City
		Centre

7. To receive any written questions about the business or functions of the Derbyshire Police Authority or Derbyshire Fire Authority, and the answers to those questions.

No questions have been received.

- 8. To receive any written questions from non-Council Cabinet Members to Members of the Council Cabinet and the answers to those questions.
- 9. To dispose of the following business remaining from the last meeting on 22 November 2006:

(1) Notice of Motion

Councillor Care to move, Councillor Allen to second:

"Council notes that the government's aborted police merger plans cost Derbyshire Police £239,972 in 'Opportunity' costs and £58,469 in 'Additional' costs.

Council further notes that the government has stated that it will not repay the 'Opportunity' costs and will only repay £35,782 of the 'Additional' costs.

Council records its concern at the government's position regarding the repayment of costs to the Derbyshire Police. Council believes that the costs should be repaid in full by the government.

Council notes with concern the comments by the Chief Constable of Derbyshire Police, David Coleman, reported in the Derby Telegraph on the 30 October that Derbyshire Police are struggling financially due to a lack of proper funding from the government and that frontline

police services could in future face cuts.

Council therefore agrees to write to the government to ask that they repay Derbyshire Police in full for both the 'Additional' and 'Opportunity' costs of the government's failed police merger."

(2) To consider a Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social DOCUMENT 9(2) Services and Monitoring Officer concerning Constitutional and Organisational Matters.

Motion - As the recommendation in the report

Note – Because of the urgency of the matters referred to in Item 12 of the agenda for the Council meeting on 22 November 2006, decisions were taken by the Chief Executive under his delegated powers and endorsed by the three political group leaders – see the report at item 12 of this agenda

10. To consider the minutes and recommendations of the Council Cabinet dated 28 November 2006, 19 December 2006 and 16 January 2007 requiring the approval of the Council.

126/06 Capital Programme 2006/7 - 2008/9

To recommend Council to approve a revised capital programme for 2006/7 to 2008/9 as set out in this report, with the 2007/8 and 2008/9 programme having indicative status consistent with previous Council Cabinet decisions, other than where full scheme commencement approval had been given.

DOCUMENT 10 16 JANUARY TO FOLLOW

DOCUMENT 10A

155/06 Capital Strategy 2007/08 to 2009/10

DOCUMENT 10C

To recommend to Council

- 1. An updated and amended set of principles to guide the allocation of funding to support the capital programme from 2007/8 onwards, as set out in Appendix 2.
- 2. To agree the planned allocation of resources to the corporate capital programme, as set out in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 and Table 2.
- 3. To approve in principle the addition to the capital programme of the East Street refurbishment scheme to the 2006/7 and 2007/8 capital programme at a total estimated cost for the two years of £1.6m, subject to Cabinet approval following the receipt of tender prices.
- 4. To approve, at this stage, the commencement of spending on the East Street refurbishment scheme design fees only, at a total estimated cost of £100k funded from corporate capital reserves.
- 5. To confirm the process and timetable for taking decisions on the detailed content of the capital programme for 2007/8 to 2009/10, set out in Appendix 3.
- 11. To consider the following Notices of Motion:
- (1) Councillor Williamson to move, Councillor Hickson to second:

"Council fully supports the Derby Evening Telegraph's 'Anything to Declare' campaign following the revelation that former Liberal Democrat Council Leader, Maurice Burgess, had a previous conviction for molesting a boy in 1971.

Council therefore resolves to introduce a Protocol to:

- require all elected Councillors to be subject to a criminal records bureau (CRB) check on the basis that all elected members are to be involved in discharging education or social services functions either through Council Cabinet membership or by undertaking visits to residential homes.
- 2. require both newly elected and re-elected Councillors at the time they make their declaration of acceptance of office to give consent to a CRB check being undertaken by completing a disclosure application form which should be completed within 10 working days from the date of election
- to authorise the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services to retain a record that a CRB check has been carried out for the duration of the Councillor's tenure of office
- 4. to record on the Council Website whether or not a CRB check has been carried out by the Council for each Councillor."

(2) Councillor Care to move, Councillor Troup to second:

"Council welcomes and endorses the position taken by the Leader of the Council in signing Derby Campaign Against Climate Change's petition calling for a 25% reduction in CO2 emissions from the Council within 5 years. It further welcomes the associated report to the 16 January Cabinet meeting and proposed action to take forward the Derby Declaration on Climate Change.

Council also welcomes the work that the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions have done over the last two years on energy use within the Council, and asks Cabinet to work closely with the Commissions in the development of the Council's Climate Change Action Programme.

Achieving a 25% reduction in CO2 emissions in only five years will be very challenging. Council therefore requests Cabinet to include a contingency within its budget proposals for 2007/8 to enable action to achieve CO2 emission reductions to start promptly.

Council further recognises the urgency of wider action to reduce climate change, and welcomes work that has already started with partners within the city. To provide clearer focus to this work, and acknowledging the key role that the Council has in influencing Derby more widely, Council further asks Cabinet to:

- accept the challenge of reducing the CO2 equivalent emissions from the whole of Derby by 15% by 2010 and set further targets to achieve at least a 60% cut by 2030, and
- to do this by working with all sectors, groups and people in Derby in association with the Overview and Scrutiny Commissions.

In addition, Council endorses the view that it is right that Local Authorities should take a lead to promote action to reduce climate change across their areas of jurisdiction. It therefore asks the leaders of all political groups to promote the adoption of this practice to other councils in Derbyshire and the East Midlands."

 To consider a Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social D Services concerning Appointments to Outside Bodies and Charities and Urgent Non-Executive Decisions made by the Chief Executive

DOCUMENT 12

Motion:

1. To note the Urgent Non-Executive Decisions made by the Chief Executive.

- 2. To approve the appointment of Councillor Wynn on the Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire Trust for the remainder of the municipal year.
- 3. To approve the appointment of Councillor Wynn on the Cathedral Quarter Business Improvement District Company for the remainder of the municipal year.
- 4. To approve the appointments to the charities detailed in the report.
- 13. To consider a Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social **DOCUMENT 13** Services concerning Working Arrangements for Equality Forums

Motion:

- 1. To approve the Equality Forums' working arrangements in line with the Council's recommendations in September 2006, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.
- 2. To receive a review of the Equality Forums a year after implementation.

Motion – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

14. To consider a Joint Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult **DOCUMENT 14** Social Services and Director of Resources and Housing concerning Equal Pay Compensation.

Motion - To note the urgent decisions taken by the Chief Executive and to ratify the expenditure and funding proposals to cover the cost of equal pay compensation set out in the financial implications.

> Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services and Deputy Chief Executive

The Council House Derby DE1 2FS 16 January 2007

COUNCIL MEETING 22 NOVEMBER 2006

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Ahern) Councillors Afzal, Allen, Banwait, Baxter, Berry, Bolton, Care, Chera, Dhamrait, Dhindsa, Gerrard, Ginns, Graves, Hickson, Higginbottom, Hird, Hussain, Ingall, Jackson, Jones, R Khan, S Khan, Latham, Leeming, Liversedge, Lowe, MacDonald, Marshall, Mitchell, Nath, Poulter, Rawson, Redfern, Richards, Roberts, Samra, Skelton, Smalley, Tittley, Travis, Troup, Turner, Webb, West, Williams, Williamson, Winter, Wynn

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carr and Harbon

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Troup declared a personal interest in Motion 4 (Minute No. 52/06) as he was a member of the Derby Cycling Group.

Councillor Chera declared a personal interest in Minute No. 93/06 of the Council Cabinet, Replacement of Sinfin Community School, as he was a governor of the school.

Announcements from the Mayor

The Council stood in silence in memory of the late former Councillors Colin Brown and Harold Johnson. Tributes to the former councillors were paid by Councillors Skelton, Smalley, Webb and Williamson.

The Mayor congratulated, and presented certificates to, councillors who participated in the recent Your City Your Voice Event. He also presented a photograph to the winning councillor, Councillor Smalley.

The Mayor reported that he had received a certificate in respect of the Council's involvement in the Reserve Services and said that he would pass this onto the relevant officer at the Stores Road Depot.

The Mayor referred to the Annual Christmas Party for Older People to be held on 18 December 2006. He also reminded Members of the Mayor's Christmas Party for Members and staff to be held on 20 December 2006.

44/06 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 13 September 2006 be approved as a correct record, confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

45/06 Statements by Members of the Council Cabinet

Two Statements were made by Councillor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation, concerning...

- the Award of Accreditation under the Environmental Management System ISO 14001 for Pride Park
- the receipt of a national Green Apple Award at Gold Standard for the Council's work in protecting ponds.

46/06 Public Questions

Questions from members of the public were asked as follows:

- 1. By Mr M Holmes, concerning congestion problems, public transport facilities and new bus lanes, answered by Councillor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation.
- 2. By Mr T Dunn, concerning the proposed buildings to be included in the Riverlights development, answered by Councillor Williamson, Leader of the Council and the Council Cabinet Member for Corporate Policy.
- 3. By Mr T Dunn, concerning the adequacy of temporary bus shelters, answered by Councillor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation.
- 4. By Mr M Sear, concerning actions to reduce carbon emissions, answered by Councillor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation.
- 5. By Mrs P Abreu, concerning the Council's internal actions to combat the effects of climate change, answered by Councilor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation.
- 6. By Mrs P Abreu, asking what were the benefits of the 'Cabinet Style System' of local government to Derby, answered by Councillor Williamson, Leader of the Council and the Council Cabinet Member for Corporate Policy.

47/06 Written Questions about the Business or Functions of Derbyshire Police Authority or Derbyshire Fire Authority

There were no written questions about the business or functions of the Derbyshire Police Authority or Derbyshire Fire Authority.

48/06 Written Questions from Non-Council Cabinet Members to Members of the Council Cabinet

Written questions from Non-Council Cabinet Members to Members of the Council Cabinet were asked as follows:

- 1. By Councillor Leeming, seeking information on the ownership by Derbyshire County Council of land, buildings and car parks within Derby City boundary, answered by Councillor Roberts, Council Cabinet Member for Personnel, Performance Management and Economic Development.
- 2. By Councillor Care, asking what consideration had been given to involving local communities in plans to meet the requirements of the Derby Declaration on Climate Change, answered by Councillor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation.
- 3. By Councillor Hird, concerning the future of the pool on the University site at Mickleover, answered by Councillor Graves, Council Cabinet Member for Leisure and Direct Services.
- 4. By Councillor Poulter, concerning provision for gypsies and travellers within the draft East Midlands Regional Plan of the East Midlands Regional Assembly, answered by Councillor Wynn, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation.
- 5. By Councillor Berry, concerning the allocation of funding from the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy to the Asterdale Estate in Spondon, answered by Councillor Nath, Council Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy.
- 6. By Councillor Liversedge, concerning the allocation of funding from the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy to the Woodlands Estate in Chellaston, answered by Councillor Nath, Council Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy.
- 7. By Councillor Williams, concerning the consideration of the report of the Children and Young People's Commission, relating to children looked after, by the Council Cabinet, answered by Councillor Williamson, Leader of the Council and the Council Cabinet Member for Corporate Policy.

- 8. By Councillor Williams, concerning underspends in the external funding budgets, answered by Councillor Nath, Council Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy.
- 9. By Councillor Skelton, concerning the Council's response to the Local Government White Paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities', answered by Councillor Williamson, Leader of the Council and the Council Cabinet Member for Corporate Policy.
- 10. By Councillor Samra, asking what steps the Council are taking to improve the standard of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicles in the city, answered by Councillor Redfern, Chair of the Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee.

49/06 Minutes and Recommendations of the Council Cabinet

The Council considered the minutes and recommendations of the Council Cabinet requiring the approval of the Council set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

Resolved, on the motion of Councillor Williamson, to approve the minutes and recommendations of the Council Cabinet dated 3 and 31 October 2006.

50/06 Minutes and Recommendations of the Audit and Accounts Committee

The Council considered the minutes and recommendations of the Audit and Accounts Committee requiring the approval of the Council set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

Resolved, on the motion of Councillor Tittley, to approve the minutes and recommendations of the Audit and Accounts Committee dated 28 September 2006.

51/06 Minutes and Recommendations of the General Licensing Committee

The Council considered the minutes and recommendations of the General Licensing Committee requiring the approval of the Council set out in Appendix C to these minutes.

Resolved, on the motion of Councillor Redfern, to approve the minutes and recommendations of the General Licensing Committee dated 18 October 2006.

52/06 Notices of Motion

1. Election Campaign Protocol

Resolved, on the motion of Councillor Williamson, that the Council is keen to promote the highest standards of ethical behaviour. It is proud of its reputation in this respect. The Council is however keen to extend this reputation into local election campaigns.

Council therefore calls upon the Leaders of the three political groups represented on the Council to enter into a protocol under which they commit their respective groups and political parties when campaigning for local elections...

- not to misrepresent policies of the other groups or parties;
- not to make assertions which have no factual basis, and
- to comply with any Codes of Practice issued by the Electoral Commission.

2. Postal and Proxy Voting Procedures

It was moved by Councillor Hickson, and seconded, that the recent conviction of two Liberal Democrat councillors for vote rigging raises serious concerns about the integrity of the postal vote process.

In this particular case, the two Liberal Democrat councillors in Burnley took advantage of an all postal vote to secure a victory at a Local Government election by illegal use of postal proxy votes.

The Judge in the case said these were serious offences and sentencing is due on 23 November.

In view of the damage caused to public confidence in the postal voting process by fraudulent actions of Liberal Democrat councillors, urgent action needs to be taken in Derby to protect public confidence in the postal vote system in Derby.

Council therefore asks the Director of Corporate Services to:

- 1. Prepare robust and clear guidance on postal and proxy vote procedures.
- 2. Prepare a report to Council clearly laying out the procedures in the city so that Council can be as confident as it can that such abuses cannot occur in Derby,
- 3. Prepare a Good Practice Protocol that Council will require to be signed annually by all political parties and independents which will bind them to lawful, honest and best practices regarding postal and proxy votes.

It was moved by Councillor Care, and seconded, that the motion be amended by the deletion of the first, second and third paragraphs and all words in the fourth paragraph after the word 'by', and by the insertion of the words 'criminal activity by a tiny minority of individuals from all political parties' after the word 'by' and the words

'and to meet the requirements of the Electoral Administration Act 2006' at the end of the motion.

(The effect of the amendment, if approved, was that the motion would read as follows:

"In view of the damage caused to public confidence in the postal voting process by criminal activity by a tiny minority of individuals from all political parties. Council therefore asks the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services to:

- 1. Prepare robust and clear guidance on postal and proxy vote procedures.
- 2. Prepare a report to Council clearly laying out the procedures in the city so that Council can be as confident as it can that such abuses cannot occur in Derby,
- 3. Prepare a Good Practice Protocol that Council will require to be signed annually by all political parties and independents which will bind them to lawful, honest and best practices regarding postal and proxy votes and to meet the requirements of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.")

The amendment was put to meeting and lost.

Resolved that the recent conviction of two Liberal Democrat councillors for vote rigging raises serious concerns about the integrity of the postal vote process.

In this particular case, the two Liberal Democrat councillor in Burnley took advantage of an all postal vote to secure a victory at a Local Government election by illegal use of postal proxy votes.

The Judge in the case said these were serious offences and sentencing is due on 23 November.

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- 2. Prepare a report to Council clearly laying out the procedures in the city so that Council can be as confident as it can that such abuses cannot occur in Derby,
- 3. Prepare a Good Practice Protocol that Council will require to be signed annually by all political parties and independents which will bind them to lawful, honest and best practices regarding postal and proxy votes."

3. Gayton School Swimming Pool

It was moved by Councillor Marshall, and seconded, that Council notes with concern the threat of closure of the Gayton School swimming pool at Gayton School in Blagreaves Ward.

The loss of this facility so soon after the closure of the Lancaster Sports centre would be particularly disastrous for residents in Blagreaves especially when viewed against the Council's stated priority of building healthy and independent communities by delivering joined up services for children and young people that meet the needs of the local community.

Council therefore calls upon the Council Cabinet to provide the necessary funding to ensure the survival of the Swimming Pool at Gayton School in Blagreaves acknowledging that this is a vital local facility used by a large number of local school children.

It was moved by Councillor Roberts, and seconded, that the motion be amended by the deletion of the words 'threat of closure', 'so soon after the closure of the Lancaster Sports Centre would be particularly disastrous for residents in Blagreaves especially when viewed against the Council's stated priority of building healthy and independent communities by delivering joined up services for children and young people that meet the needs of the local community', 'provide the necessary funding to ensure the survival of the swimming pool at Gayton School in Blagreaves acknowledging that this is a vital local facility used by a large number of local school children', and the insertion of the words 'poor condition of', 'which has led to the decision to consider closing the facility', 'could cause concern amongst some residents in Blagreaves – particularly the swimming club members', 'carefully examine the situation, recognising that the costs to replace the pool are estimated at over £3,000,000 it further calls on the Cabinet to set up an all party working group to identify funding sources that will either mean identifying cuts that will be necessary elsewhere if £3,000,000 is to be used for a replacement pool or an external funding stream.'

The amendment was put to the meeting and carried.

Resolved that Council notes with concern the poor condition of the Gayton School swimming pool at Gayton School in Blagreaves Ward which has led to the decision to consider closing the facility.

The loss of this facility could cause concern amongst some residents in Blagreaves, particularly the swimming club members.

Council therefore calls upon the Council Cabinet to carefully examine the situation, recognising that the costs to replace the pool are estimated at over £3,000,000; it further calls on the Cabinet to set up an all party working group to identify funding sources that will either mean identifying cuts that will be necessary elsewhere, if £3,000,000 is to be used for a replacement pool, or an external funding stream.

4. Cycling in Pedestrianised Areas

Resolved, on the motion of Councillor Hickson, that Council notes with concern moves to weaken the pedestrianisation of the city centre by allowing cycling.

Such a move would detrimentally affect the safety of the city centre both for pedestrians and particularly disabled and visually impaired citizens who would be put at considerable risk by such a move.

Council therefore calls on the Leader of the Council Cabinet to make a clear and unambiguous public statement that no such alterations to any pedestrianised areas will be allowed and that the public will continue to enjoy the safety and benefits of city centre pedestrianisation.

5. Home Care Charges – Self Assessment Process

Resolved, on the motion of Councillor Smalley, that in view of the public confusion surrounding the self assessment process for Home Care Services Council requests that the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Commission examine the self assessment process as a matter of urgency and send an urgent report to Cabinet with recommendations for making the process easier to understand and to complete.

6. Gayton School Swimming Pool

The Mayor ruled that the motion on the Council Agenda, to be moved by Councillor Skelton and seconded by Councillor Troup, would not be debated as the issue had already been dealt with under Motion 3.

In accordance with Rule CP10, the meeting finished at 10pm and the remaining business was to be considered at a time and date to fixed by the Mayor or, if he did not fix a date, at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

MAYOR

DOCUMENT 10

MINUTES OF COUNCIL CABINET REQUIRING THE APPROVAL OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET 28 NOVEMBER 2006

Present: Councillor Williamson (Chair) Councillors Bolton, Graves, Hickson, Latham, Nath, Roberts, Smalley and Wynn

In Attendance Councillor Jones

This record of decisions was published on 2 November 2006. The key decisions set out in this record will come into force and may be implemented on the expiry of five clear days unless a key decision is called in.

Budget and Policy Framework

126/06 Capital Programme 2006/7 – 2008/9

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Capital Programme 2006/7 – 2008/9. The report sought approval to changes to the approved capital programme. The changes involved ...

- The consolidation of already approved individual changes within the programme. All of these changes had previously been approved. The overall net effect of these changes in 2006/7 was to increase the programme by £0.3m.
- Further changes to capital schemes were now proposed which would reduce the 2006/7 programme by £8m from this restated base, to £83m.

Compared to the original capital programme for 2006/7 to 2008/9 approved by Council in March 2006, the programme totals for 2006/7 had increased by £4m and the total over the three year period to 2008/9 had increased by £33m. This mainly reflected a combination of new programme approvals supported by equivalent external funding and approved slippage from 2005/6 matched by equivalent funding. The report confirmed that, taking account of these variations and those to the 2005/6 programme, planned total borrowing and net unsupported borrowing had not increased above levels planned for in March and also that internal sources of funding remained adequate to deliver these plans.

The further decisions sought on changes to the programme included:

- reprofiling of expenditure on St Benedict Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) changing rooms
- reprofiling of football foundation schemes for Derby Moor Community Sports College and Lees Brook Community Sports College
- reprofiling of Sure Start children's centre capital projects
- additional grant funding from Sustrans for the Local Transport safety schemes
- additional S106 funding for the Local Transport strategic public transport schemes
- reduction of the planned programme for 2006/7 for Connecting Derby due to the reprofiling of receipt of anticipated grant funding
- extraction of the Home Computing Initiative Scheme from the capital programme.

The report also reported on monitoring of the progress in implementing the capital programme to date. Of the 2006/7 programme, 73% of schemes were on site or completed and a further 7% were at tender stage. Elements of the programme that carried relatively high risks in terms of costs, funding or performance delivery had been identified specifically and reported on. Approval was sought for full scheme commencement for the IT network development under Financial Procedure Rules.

Decision

- 1. To recommend Council to approve a revised capital programme for 2006/7 to 2008/9 as set out in this report, with the 2007/8 and 2008/9 programme having indicative status consistent with previous Council Cabinet decisions, other than where full scheme commencement approval had been given.
- 2. To note the results of monitoring progress in delivery of this capital programme.
- To approve the full commencement of the capital schemes listed in Appendix
 6

DOCUMENT 10B

MINUTES OF COUNCIL CABINET REQUIRING THE APPROVAL OF COUNCIL

COUNCIL CABINET 19 DECEMBER 2006

Present:

Councillor Williamson (Chair) Councillors Bolton, Graves, Hussain, Latham, Roberts, Smalley and Wynn

This record of decisions was published on 21 December 2006. The key decisions set out in this record will come into force and may be implemented on the expiry of five clear days unless a key decision is called in.

In Attendance Councillor Jones

Budget and Policy Framework

155/06 Capital Strategy 2007/08 to 2009/10

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Budget and Policy Framework. The report set out a strategy for the development of the Council's capital programme over the next 3 years. The major issues it sought to develop were:

- Some changes to the principles to make sure the use of capital resources was considered corporately.
- A prioritisation process for the corporate capital programme, which allowed existing commitments to be delivered, and any new proposals to take account of the maintenance backlog in the asset management plan and the need to continue to invest in ICT infrastructure.
- Recognition that in order to fund the significant change programme needed for the city, additional prudential borrowing would be needed, subject to affordability within the revenue budgets. In particular this related to:

• further investment in council owned properties to address the repairs backlog

• investment to modernise the council's city centre office accommodation including the Council House

• the delivery of the Public Realm strategy for the City Centre.

- Sustainable service capital programmes aimed principally at Children and Young Peoples Services, Housing and Adult Social Services, and Highways and Transportation.
- Wherever possible it was proposed to take advantage of external funding opportunities particularly in the Cultural and Leisure Service areas consistent with the Council's corporate priorities and asset management plan. Approval needed to be sought now to commence the design phase of the East Street Refurbishment scheme in 2006/7, with a view to letting a contract early in 2007.

An addendum to the report was circulated at the meeting

Decision

To recommend to Council

- 1. An updated and amended set of principles to guide the allocation of funding to support the capital programme from 2007/8 onwards, as set out in Appendix 2.
- 2. To agree the planned allocation of resources to the corporate capital programme, as set out in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 and Table 2.
- 3. To approve in principle the addition to the capital programme of the East Street refurbishment scheme to the 2006/7 and 2007/8 capital programme at a total estimated cost for the two years of £1.6m, subject to Cabinet approval following the receipt of tender prices.
- 4. To approve, at this stage, the commencement of spending on the East Street refurbishment scheme design fees only, at a total estimated cost of £100k funded from corporate capital reserves.
- 5. To confirm the process and timetable for taking decisions on the detailed content of the capital programme for 2007/8 to 2009/10, set out in Appendix 3.