



Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee 21 March 2024

Decisions

6. Greater Cambridge Air Quality Strategy 2024 - 2029

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the adoption of the 'Greater Cambridge Air Quality Strategy' as per Appendix A of the Officer's report.

7. Cambridge Market Status and Powers

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor agreed to:

- i. Operate Markets in Cambridge using the provisions of the City of Cambridge Act 1985 and Part III of the Food Act 1984.
- ii. Review current Byelaws, review current regulations and consult on the impact of proposed changes to terms and conditions and current licensing arrangements. These documents are then to be consolidated into one single document.
- iii. Approve the production of consultation plan (as set out in Section 5) for the development of a Market Licensing Policy, a Balance of

Trade Policy, and the impact of any proposed changes to the General Market Terms and Conditions.

8. Creativity and Culture for All. Cambridge City Council’s Cultural Strategy (2024-2029)

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved and adopted the Cambridge City Council’s Cultural Strategy (2024 – 2029).

9. Public Art Commissioning Strategy and the use of S106 Funding for Public Art

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor agreed to:

- i. Note the updated S106 funding availability analysis in Appendix A and the de-allocation of public art S106 funding from a number of a few projects that either stalled or were not taken forward (see paragraph 3.7 of the Officer’s report).
- ii. Allocate a £30,000 S106-funded public art grant to the Menagerie Theatre Company for its ‘Trials of Democracy’ project, subject to business case sign-off, a public art grant agreement and project completion or significant progress within 18 months (see Section 4 and Appendices C and D);
- iii. Allocate public art S106 funding to the following new public art projects, subject to further engagement with councillors, communities and professional artists and business case sign-off (see Section 5 and Appendix F of the Officer’s report)

Project	Public art S106 funding
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More Playful Art, Please!	Up to £60,000
Urban Voices (four x phase 1 Area projects of up to £30,000, plus a phase 2 project)	Up £187,000
Romsey Recreation Ground	Up to £66,000

- iv. Delegate authority to the Director of City Services, in consultation with the Executive Councillor and Opposition Spokes for Communities and the Chair of the Environment and Community Services Scrutiny Committee to add to the Commissioning Programme any time-limited opportunities for funding small-scale (under £30,000) public art projects opportunities may arise before the next Committee meeting in June 2024 (see paragraph 5.3 of the Officer’s report); and
- v. Approve the draft Public Art Commissioning Programme (see Appendix F of the Officer’s report).

10. Community Wealth Building Strategy

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor approved the Community Wealth Building Strategy.

11. 2023/24 S106 Funding Round (Streets and Open Spaces)

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor agreed to:

- i. Allocate generic informal open spaces S106 funding, subject to business case approval and community use agreement (as appropriate), to the following project proposals:

	Project proposals	Amount	See
a.	Towards mature tree-planting programme in parks across the city	£60,000	Paragraph 4.3
b.	Footpath improvements at Five Trees open space, East Chesterton	£10,000	Paragraph 4.4
c.	Open space improvements at Romsey Recreation Ground	£11,500	Paragraph 4.5

- ii. Allocate around £47,600 of generic informal open spaces S106 funding to eligible projects previously approved for Environmental Improvement Programme (EIP) funding in 2022/23 and 2023/24 in place of EIP funds (see paragraph 4.6 and Appendix C of the Officer's report);
- iii. Allocate an additional £5,000 of generic informal open spaces S106 funding to supplement the funding available for the St Alban's Rec Ground biodiversity project (see paragraph 4.6d and Appendix C of the Officer's report);
- iv. Note that relevant specific informal open spaces S106 contributions may be used to supplement new and existing generic S106-funded projects (e.g., for the mature tree-planting programme and improving open spaces at Romsey and Cherry Hinton Recreation Grounds and Coldham's Common BMX track) (see paragraph and 4.7 of the Officer's report);
- v. Note that some projects allocated S106 funds in previous generic S106 funding rounds have not been able to proceed (see paragraph 3.5 of the Officer's report);
- vi. Approve a new process whereby any generic S106 funds in the informal open spaces, play provision and public realm categories that are within two years of the date by which they need to be used or contractually committed may be de-allocated from a project which is unlikely to deliver on time, so that they could be re-allocated to another relevant project (related to where the S106 contributions are from) which could make timely use of this funding (see Section 5 of the Officer's report).

12. Outdoor Play Spaces Investment Strategy

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor:

- i. Approved and adopted the proposed Outdoor Play Spaces Investment Strategy as set out in appendix B of the Officer's report; and
- ii. Instructed Officers to adopt and implement the key conclusions and recommendations from the report as follows:
 - a. To licence the software platform to enable the council to maintain real-time data for the play space provision strategy and drive business efficiency within the portfolio,
 - b. Implement the proposed tiered structure for the play space provision, incorporating different tiers to streamline processes, enhance efficiency, and provide a more organised approach to the delivery of play spaces across the City.
 - c. To review financial focus, direct attention and resources towards sites that currently have limited equipment, aiming to diversify and enhance recreational offerings.
 - d. Explore the possibility of transitioning the play space surfaces in areas covered only by grass to versatile multifunctional, year-round surfaces that can accommodate various activities particularly in lower order tier sites.
 - e. Use the tiered data to make future recommendations on the allocation of funds for both local and strategic outdoor play provision, such as S106, CIL, bids to the Council's capital plan, and external investment opportunities.
- iii. Instruct Officers to use the data and information to enhance the Council's webpages in relation to outdoor play spaces; to include maps with lists of equipment available at each site and accompanying photographs.

13. Herbicide Reduction Plan

The Committee endorsed the recommendations.

The Executive Councillor:

- i. Approved the closure of the Herbicide Free Plan and its Trials.
- ii. Approved the new weed control methodology, including the discontinuation of herbicide use in routine operations, for the City Council as outlined in this report.
- iii. Approved the continuation and further development of the 'Happy Bee Street Scheme'.
- iv. Noted the decision of the County Council on their use of herbicides and to assist them with developing a new approach for the city.
- v. Supported the development of a collaborative communication plan as detailed in Section 5 of the Officer's report.

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