

# Public Document Pack

## NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING - 12 JUNE 2014

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of Cambridge City Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Guildhall on Thursday, 12 June 2014 at 11.00 am and I hereby summon you to attend.

Dated 4 June 2014

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AP Jackson', written in a cursive style.

Chief Executive

### **Agenda**

- 1 TO ELECT A MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/15**
  
- 2 TO ELECT A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/15**
  
- 3 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2014**

*(Pages 11 - 30)*

**4 TO NOTE THE RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT THAT THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO THE OFFICE OF COUNCILLOR**

Abbey – Peter Roberts  
Arbury – Charlotte Perry  
Castle – Marie-Louise Holland  
Cherry Hinton – Russ McPherson  
Coleridge – Lewis Herbert  
East Chesterton – Peter Sarris  
Kings Hedge's – Martin Smart  
Market – Dan Ratcliffe  
Newnham – Rod Cantrill  
Petersfield – Richard Robertson and Ann Sinnott  
Queen Edith's – Tim Moore  
Romsey – Dave Baigent  
Trumpington – Nick Avery  
West Chesterton – Ysanne Austin

**5 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

**6 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR'S CADET FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

**7 TO PASS A RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING MAYOR**

**8 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**9 TO ELECT FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL  
FOUR BAILIFFS OF THE CITY FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR  
2014/15**

**10 TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES FOR  
ADOPTION**

**Civic Affairs Committee - 2 June 2014**

**10a Constitutional amendments and Members of The  
Executive** *(Pages 31 - 58)*

**10b Appointment of Committees 2014/15** *(Pages 59 - 64)*

**10c Appointment of Chairs and Vice Chairs 2014/15** *(Pages 65 - 66)*

**10d Independent Person and Deputy** *(Pages 67 - 68)*

**10e City Council appointments to the Conservators of the  
River Cam** *(Pages 69 - 70)*

(The Mayor will call a recess so that the Special Meetings of Committees  
can meet to make their appointments)

## **11 ANNUAL STATEMENTS**

Group Leaders will each have the opportunity to speak for not more than 15 minutes on their Group's priorities for action and objectives for the forthcoming municipal year in the following order:

Councillor Herbert  
Councillor Bick  
Councillor Hipkin

The Annual Statement of the Labour Group and the Liberal Democrat Group are appended to this summons.

### **11a Labour Group Annual Statement**

*(Pages 71 - 84)*

### **11b Liberal Democrat Group Annual Statement**

*(Pages 85 - 96)*

## **12 ADOPTION OF ANNUAL POLICIES AND PRIORITIES**

The scheme for Annual Statements provides that the Statement of the Leader of the largest group on the Council shall be deemed to be a motion for adoption. It may therefore be debated and amendments proposed after which it shall be put to the vote and, if carried, shall be adopted as Council policy for the municipal year.

The Council will therefore consider the Annual Statement of the Labour Group as a motion for adoption.

If the adopted Annual Statement contains proposals which fall outside the Council's budgetary or policy framework, the proposals shall not be acted upon until there has been a report to the relevant Scrutiny Committee(s) and Executive Councillor(s) in the normal way and approval at a subsequent meeting of the Council.



**13 PUBLIC QUESTIONS TIME - SEE AT THE FOOT OF THE AGENDA FOR DETAILS OF THE SCHEME**

**14 TO DEAL WITH ORAL QUESTIONS**

**15 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING NOTICES OF MOTION, NOTICE OF WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN BY:**

**15a Councillor Reid**

Review of Local Democracy in the UK by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

This 2014 review of local democracy in the UK by international peers has made a series of recommendations calling for greater devolution of powers to local government, increased tax-raising powers for councils and a fairer funding settlement for English local authorities.

The recommendations are fully in keeping with LGA policy in this respect. As with all peer reviews, the onus is on the reviewed body, in this case central and local government in the UK, to address the finding and ensure the necessary improvements are in place.

The council supports the LGA view that the review is a fair reflection on the current pressures facing local government. The current model for financing and running local government needs to change and adapt to today's circumstances. It is important that local and central government work together to address these issues and take these recommendations forward.

When the delegation returns to the UK in five years, these vital reforms should be in full force and local government be able to look to the future with renewed hope.

## 15b Councillor Roberts

This council notes the decision of the outgoing ruling group to cease the council's pest control service.

This council notes that the incoming ruling group have openly campaigned to reverse the decision, and that saving the pest control service therefore clearly has a public mandate.

This council values the important work done by the pest control service during many years of service and apologises for the uncertainty created for the staff by the situation that has arisen in recent months.

This council thanks Unison for their work in alerting the public and councillors to the dangers of this cut, and in representing the workforce affected.

This council resolves to immediately reverse the cessation of the council's pest control service and to fund the restoration of the service by reducing the Council's underspent training budget of £301,860 by 25%. The balance of the savings will be considered in a wider budget review in July.

These changes to the Council's budget are shown in the table below:

<b>Amendment</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>
	<b>£</b>			
Reverse saving "Cessation of the Pest Control Service"	13,800	54,500	54,500	54,500
Reduction of in the "Overall Training, Seminar and Conference" budget	(75,460)	(75,460)	(75,460)	(75,460)
<b>Net Financial Impact</b>	<b>(61,660)</b>	<b>(20,960)</b>	<b>(20,960)</b>	<b>(20,960)</b>

## **16 WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

No discussion will take place on this item. Members will be asked to note the written questions and answers document as circulated around the Chamber.

## **17 TO NOTE THE RECORD OF MEMBER'S ATTENDANCES AT COMMITTEE, SUB-COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTY MEETINGS DURING 2013/14**

*(Pages 97 - 98)*

## **Information for the Public**

**Location** The meeting is in the Guildhall on the Market Square (CB2 3QJ).

Between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the building is accessible via Peas Hill, Guildhall Street and the Market Square entrances.

After 5 p.m. access is via the Peas Hill entrance.

All the meeting rooms (Committee Room 1, Committee 2 and the Council Chamber) are on the first floor, and are accessible via lifts or stairs.

**Public Participation** Some meetings may have parts that will be closed to the public, but the reasons for excluding the press and public will be given.

Most meetings have an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or make statements.

To ask a question or make a statement please notify the Committee Manager (details listed on the front of the agenda) prior to the deadline.

- For questions and/or statements regarding items on the published agenda, the deadline is the start of the meeting.
- For questions and/or statements regarding items NOT on the published agenda, the deadline is 10 a.m. the day before the meeting.

Speaking on Planning or Licensing Applications is subject to other rules. Guidance for speaking on these issues can be obtained from Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk).

Further information about speaking at a City Council meeting can be found at;

<https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/speaking-at-committee-meetings>

Cambridge City Council would value your assistance in improving the public speaking process of committee meetings. If you have any feedback please contact Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk).

**Filming,  
recording  
and  
photography**

The Council is committed to being open and transparent in the way it conducts its decision-making. Recording is permitted at council meetings, which are open to the public. The Council understands that some members of the public attending its meetings may not wish to be recorded. The Chair of the meeting will facilitate by ensuring that any such request not to be recorded is respected by those doing the recording.

Full details of the City Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at meetings can be accessed via:

<http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/ecSDDisplay.aspx?NAME=SD1057&ID=1057&RPID=42096147&sch=doc&cat=13203&path=13020%2c13203>

**Fire Alarm** In the event of the fire alarm sounding please follow the instructions of Cambridge City Council staff.

**Facilities for disabled people** Level access to the Guildhall is via Peas Hill.  
A loop system is available in Committee Room 1, Committee Room 2 and the Council Chamber.

Accessible toilets are available on the ground and first floor.

Meeting papers are available in large print and other formats on request.

For further assistance please contact Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk).

**Queries on reports** If you have a question or query regarding a committee report please contact the officer listed at the end of relevant report or Democratic Services on 01223 457013 or [democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk).

**General Information** Information regarding committees, councilors and the democratic process is available at <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/>

This page is intentionally left blank

**COUNCIL**3 April 2014  
6.00pm - 10.15 pm

**Present:** Councillors Saunders (Mayor), Pippas (Deputy Mayor), Abbott, Ashton, Benstead, Bick, Bird, Birtles, Blackhurst, Blencowe, Boyce, Brierley, Brown, Cantrill, Dryden, Hart, Herbert, Hipkin, Johnson, Kerr, Kightley, McPherson, Meftah, Moghadas, O'Reilly, Owers, Pitt, Price, Reid, Reiner, Roberts, Rosenstiel, Smart, Smith, Stuart, Swanson, Todd-Jones, Tucker, Tunnacliffe and Ward

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL****Request to film the meeting**

The Mayor gave permission for Mr Taylor to film the meeting. It was confirmed that if members of the public or speakers expressed a desire not to be filmed filming would cease.

**14/15/CNL To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 13 February 2014 and 27 February 2014**

The minutes of the meetings held on 13 February and 27 February 2014 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

**14/16/CNL Mayors Announcements****1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Gawthrope and Marchant-Daisley.

It was noted that Councillors Cantrill and McPherson would be arriving late.

**2. REACH FAIR**

The Mayor confirmed that the annual Proclamation of Reach Fair would take place on Bank Holiday Monday 5 May. Newly minted pennies would be available from the Civic Office from 16 April.

### 3. TWINNING

The Mayor confirmed that the City would host the annual Cambridge-Heidelberg Easter Festival and a civic reception for participants on Thursday 17 April at 7pm.

### 4. ELECTIONS

The Mayor expressed sincere appreciation to those Members who had decided not to stand at the next election on 22 May for the service they given to the City of Cambridge.

### 5. CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

The Mayor confirmed that the Council's annual meeting would take place on Thursday 12 June. Members were asked to let the Civic Office know if they required guest tickets.

### 6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
Ward	14/21/CNLb	Personal: Runs a website that introduces landlords to potential renters.

### 14/17/CNL Public Questions Time

Mr Rogers addressed the Council and made the following points:

- i. In April 2010 the Council started publishing almost all its responses to Freedom of Information (FOI) requests on its website.
- ii. This was a great thing to do because it meant that people doing web searches for that information had a chance of finding it. It makes public a lot of information about what the Council is doing, often on topics that there's a lot of interest in.
- iii. Unfortunately in June last year the Council stopped publishing its FOI responses almost entirely.
- iv. Asked why the Council had stopped publishing them, and requested that they start again.



The Leader responded:

- i. There was no policy decision to stop publishing FOI responses. Publication had temporarily ceased because:
  - The volume of FOI requests had increased, by 35% in 2013 alone.
  - A lot of time and energy had been put into providing timely and high quality responses.
  - Effort had gone into proactively publishing information identified as being of interest to many parties.
- ii. The intention was to publish FOI responses again in future.

Mr Rogers supplementary point was to welcome the intention to publish FOI responses again in future. Other organisations such as the Police and the County Council published this information.

Dr Baigent addressed the Council and made the following points:

- i. Asked about the student accommodation planned for Mill Road and the amount of students located in Romsey in purpose built accommodation and in houses of multiple occupation (HMO's).
- ii. Queried if the Executive Councillor agreed with text in Mill Road Development Brief 2007 (P20) and Local Plan 2006 sections 7/10 and 7/50.
- i. Queried the amount of accommodation specifically allocated to students in Cambridge.
- ii. Queried the amount of accommodation specifically allocated to families in Romsey.

The Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change responded:

- i. Officers had provided some statistical information regarding properties occupied by single adults and all student households via Council Tax records.
- ii. The planning status was that no formal application had been lodged for the site. An application for approximately 300 student units connected to Anglia Ruskin University on the remainder of the current allocated site was expected in May/June of this year.
- iii. The site is allocated in the Cambridge Local Plan (2006) as part of the mosque site adjacent for 'mixed use housing development and community facilities'. A rider to the allocation suggests that development could include a student hostel for Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) on part of the site in lieu of affordable housing.

- iv. Relevant guidance and appraisal documents include the Mill Road Area Conservation Area Appraisal 2011 and the Mill Road Development Brief (Robert Sayle Warehouse and Co-Op site) 2007.
- v. The site forms part of proposal site R21 for mixed use residential and employment as part of the Cambridge Local Plan: Proposed Submission (2014) which now includes Brookfields Hospital and excludes the mosque site.
- vi. In short, the Cambridge Local Plan 2014 proposed submission does not contemplate student housing on the site.
- vii. Any application would be determined in accordance with the policies in force at the time when the decision was being made and any other material considerations. IE the amount of weight given to 2006 and 2014 Local Plans depends on the date of application submissions.
- viii. Under existing planning policy, accommodation on site was for ARU students only, in lieu of affordable housing. This criteria has been changed in the 2014 Local Plan.
- ix. There were no criteria in planning policy to stop student accommodation coming forward; applications would be judged on their merits.

Dr Baigent made the following supplementary points:

- i. There was a lot of student accommodation on the Varsity House site.
- ii. There was a need to monitor and enforce the restriction on student accommodation, to stop general housing becoming student accommodation by becoming housing in multiple occupation.

The Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change undertook to respond to any specific questions that Dr Baigent wished to raise after the meeting.

Ms Sinnott addressed the Council and made the following points:

- i. The Shadow Home Minister warned that action to address domestic violence had reduced over the last 3 years.
- ii. Domestic violence was a national scandal.
- iii. 481 cases were reported in Cambridge 2013.
- iv. It is suggested that only 1 in 5 cases are reported, of which only 30% are investigated by the Police.
- v. Domestic abuse is a civic concern as it impacts on many people and costs the tax payer money.
- vi. Domestic violence has been trivialised and should be better reported.

- vii. Queried why the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) had not:
  - Made domestic violence a priority for action.
  - Complied with the County Group's requests on actions to take.
- viii. Took issue with the way CCSP:
  - Responded to Ms Sinnott's efforts to raise the profile of domestic abuse.
  - Tried to address domestic violence.

The Leader responded:

- i. Domestic abuse is a serious matter.
- ii. Observed that whilst the emphasis was on encouraging the reporting of domestic abuse (based on concern at general under reporting), caution should be applied to interpreting increases in incidents.
- iii. CCSP had funded projects to support domestic abuse victims since 2007.
- iv. A strategy was in place at county level to address domestic abuse and CCSP subscribed to it. At city level it was appropriate to adopt it as an 'operational' priority which is what it had done. Its only 'strategic' priority was to explore the impact of mental health on crime; 'strategic' because the aim was to formulate a new strategy in relation to it.
- v. Referred to the HM Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) report raising concern that Cambridgeshire Constabulary were not adequately supporting domestic abuse victims. The Leader would raise this point with the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Ms Sinnott made the following supplementary points:

- i. The public profile of domestic violence needed to be raised ie greater awareness.
- ii. CCSP actions were not effective in tackling domestic violence.
- iii. Domestic abuse should not be 'played off' against mental health.
- iv. CCSP included a Police representative, who should be aware of concerns that Cambridgeshire Constabulary were not adequately supporting domestic abuse victims.
- v. The increase in Cambridge domestic abuse figures was due to an increase in the number of incidents.

The Leader responded:

- i. CCSP responded to different criminal activities in different ways and despite the gravity of domestic abuse, it was not the only crime type to which the CCSP needed to respond.
- ii. Undertook to respond to any specific questions that Ms Sinnott wished to raise after the meeting.

### **Re-ordering of the agenda**

As colleagues from South Cambridgeshire District Council had expressed an interest in hearing the discussion on Agenda Item 4a the Mayor explained that he would use his discretion, under paragraph 4.2.1 of the Council Procedure Rules, to alter the order of the agenda at the appropriate time.

However, for the ease of the reader the minutes will follow the order of the printed agenda.

### **14/18/CNL To consider the recommendations of the Executive for Adoption**

#### **Greater Cambridge City Deal - Government Offer (The Leader)**

**Resolved** (unanimously) to:

- i. Agree the principles of the Greater Cambridge City Deal as summarised in paragraphs 3.6 – 3.22 of the officer's report.

### **14/19/CNL To consider the recommendations of Committees for Adoption**

#### **Constitution - Recording Votes on Budget Decisions**

**Resolved** (unanimously) to:

- i. Agree to the changes to Part 4A of the Constitution set out in the Council agenda.

## Review of Standards Regime

**Resolved** (unanimously) to:

- i. Amend the Code of Conduct by incorporating the seven principles of public life set out in section 3 of the officer's report and the additional changes set out in the Council agenda.

### **14/20/CNL To deal with Oral Questions**

#### **1. Councillor Rosenstiel to the Executive Councillor for Public Places**

**Can the Executive Councillor update the Council about the new lights on Parker's Piece?**

The Executive Councillor for Public Places responded that:

- i. The intention was to switch the lights on as soon as possible once the power supply has been connected.
- ii. She would ensure that the new lighting is installed as soon as possible.

#### **2. Councillor Moghadas to the Executive Councillor for Housing**

**Does the Council have a record of how many residential homes in Cambridge are occupied by students, single persons and families for Romsey ward, and other Cambridge wards, to help effectively plan future community need and development?**

The Executive Councillor for Housing responded that:

- i. The Council Tax database provides information related to properties occupied by single adults and all student households.
- ii. Information relating to families would not be included in the database.
- iii. There were a total of 3870 properties in Romsey ward.
- iv. 8.5% of these are occupied by students. This is compared to 23.74% in Market and 0.85% in Cherry Hinton.
- v. There were a total of 1081 properties with single person discount in Romsey ward.
- i. Many properties that attract a single person discount may have additional occupants that are disregarded for Council Tax purposes.

Figures reflected the number of claimants, not the number of occupants as a single adult claimant could share a house with others who were not eg children and students.

- vi. Additional information can be found via 2011 Census data.
- vii. Agreed to forward full data summary to Councillors.

### **3. Councillor Pitt to the Mayor**

#### **What is proposed to congratulate Cambridge United FC about their spectacular FA Trophy win?**

The Mayor responded that:

- i. Discussions had been held with officials at Cambridge United Football Club with regard to the best way to recognise the Club's FA Trophy win.
- ii. Understandably, the Club, over the coming weeks, wished to focus their efforts on reaching the play-offs with a view to gaining promotion to the Football League. Their preference was to delay their FA Trophy celebrations until towards the end of May.
- iii. Cambridge United was planning a series of end of season events at the R Costings Stadium over the weekend of 24/25 May. A civic event would be held at the Club on Saturday 24 May when it was hoped there would be a double celebration.
- iv. The Mayor had written, on behalf of the City Council, to the Chairman of Cambridge United Football Club to congratulate them on winning the FA Trophy.

### **4. Councillor Bird to the Executive Councillor for Housing**

#### **How many Tenants are claiming the Discretionary Housing Payments and how many tenants are finding it hard to pay their rent because of the bedroom tax**

The Executive Councillor for Housing responded that:

- i. 720 awards of Discretionary Housing Payment had been made in 2013/14, with 475 of these for claimants affected by the removal of the spare room subsidy.

- ii. This covered all social sector tenants, both registered social landlords and City Homes tenants. A claimant may have more than one award within a financial year, due to changes in their circumstances.
- iii. With regard to those finding it hard to pay their rent, the Council did not have any information for registered social landlords. For City Homes tenants, as at the end of December, approximately 20% of the 450 tenants affected had arrears.

## **5. Councillor Dryden to the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources**

### **What action is being taken against unauthorised punt operations at Garret Hostel Lane Bridge, including their apparent dumping of rubbish?**

The Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources responded that:

- i. Whilst this issue cuts across Executive Councillor portfolios the lead officer was the Head of Property Services, hence the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources was answering.
- ii. Acknowledged that the issue had dragged on for too long.
- iii. The City Council was working closely with the Cam Conservators the County Council and the Police to find a long term, legally binding solution.
- iv. Imposing sanctions against the punt touts was difficult as they were not registered by the Cam Conservators. A confidential briefing note on pending legal actions would be circulated to Councillors after Council.
- v. A number of punt touts had been prosecuted.
- vi. The slipway ownership issue had now been resolved.
- vii. Bins would be provided and people who dumped rubbish would be prosecuted.

## **6. Councillor Herbert to the Leader**

### **Are the Liberal Democrats considering abolishing the New Home Bonus?**

The Leader responded that:

- i. There was no formal opposition to the scheme from the Liberal Democrats.
- ii. According to recent press reports it was the Labour Party that was opposed to the New Homes Bonus.



## **7. Councillor Kightley to the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services**

**The Executive Councillor has hinted a couple of times about a Keep Britain Tidy project relating to dog fouling. Could she explain what has been happening?**

The Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services responded that:

- i. During January and February the Council, in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy (KBT), took part in a social experiment to tackle dog fouling.
- ii. Based on KBT's research it had been identified that dog fouling tends to occur more at night time and during winter, and it was believed that some dog owners act irresponsibly when they think they aren't being watched.
- iii. The theory that people behave better when they think they are being watched was the basis of the experiment, and to test this, posters with 'watching eyes' that were visible after dark were positioned in areas where dog fouling had been identified as a problem.
- iv. Eight different problematic locations where dog fouling regularly occurred were selected from across the whole of the district.
- v. Areas had been selected in Arbury, Kings Hedges, Queen Edith's and Trumpington where there had been a history of dog fouling problems.
- vi. After a period of monitoring to establish the baseline of fouling in the area, a number of different posters with glow in the dark watching eyes were displayed. KBT's theory was that the dog fouling problem would be displaced to a nearby area when people believed they were being watched.
- vii. An appropriate displacement location was also monitored near to the target area to identify if the theory was correct. Monitoring was carried out over a seven week period to understand the effect the posters had on dog fouling in the area.
- viii. Following the conclusion of the experiment there was a decrease in dog fouling in 6 of the 8 areas ranging from a 4% to 71% decrease over the 7 week period.
- ix. The sites were monitored for a further 7 weeks and the eye posters have been left in place at the request of residents.



## **8. Councillor Todd-Jones to the Executive Councillor for Housing**

**Does she agree with the person who said "The bedroom tax is tough, I am not a fan of it, I think it should just go, and it should go quickly?"**

The Executive Councillor for Housing responded:

- i. She felt "Bedroom Tax" criteria did not distinguish between spare bedrooms that were a luxury, and those that were necessary. As such, it seemed unfair – all disabled people should have been excluded.
- ii. Future arrangements were unclear.

## **9. Councillor Price to the Executive Councillor for Housing**

**Does she accept the conclusions of the BBC's latest research of 331 social housing providers across England, Scotland and Wales that the bedroom tax has caused too much misery to too many people?**

The Executive Councillor for Housing responded that:

- i. Acknowledged that the bedroom tax had caused misery to many people.
- ii. However not all of the misery has been caused by the bedroom tax itself, but by incorrect management of Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP).
- iii. Many District Council's had not given DHP where maybe they could have done, and this had added to the misery.
- iv. Many of the examples in the media were likely to have received discretionary payments if the residents had lived in Cambridge.

The following Oral Questions were also tabled, but owing to the expiry of the period of time permitted, were not covered during the meeting:

## **10. Councillor Johnson to the Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change**

**Will the Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change give a clear commitment that a site for the essential and proposed new secondary school for Abbey and the surrounding area will be delivered despite there being no reference to it in either Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plans?**

**11. Councillor Tunncliffe to the Executive Councillor for Planning and Climate Change**

**Is the Executive Councillor able to report any progress on his negotiations with the County Council about the re-establishment of the Area Joint Committee to cover transport matters?**

**12. Councillor Owers to the Leader**

**What action is the Leader of the Council taking to address the massive underspend in the council's training, seminar and conference budgets?**

**13. Councillor McPherson to the Leader**

**Will the joint CCTV service with Huntingdonshire deliver at least the same quality of service to the police that enabled them to respond to local situations as rapidly and targeted as the Cambridge City Council's award winning CCTV team have enabled them to do over many years?**

**14. Councillor Saunders to the Executive Councillor for Public Places**

**Could the Executive Councillor for Public Places please update Council on the status of the recent consultation regarding Coldham's Common?**

**15. Councillor Herbert to the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services**

**Can she confirm that the Council will be submitting an in house tender with its staff for the building cleaning contract?**

**14/21/CNL To consider the following Notices of Motion, notice of which has been given by:**

**14/21a/CNL Motion A**

Councillor Price proposed and Councillor Johnson seconded the following motion:

“This Council is concerned by the warning in March 2014 by the Citizens Advice Bureau that the lack of an effective welfare safety net for those in crisis means that people who need emergency help are facing a grim choice between a payday loan, a food bank or a loan shark.

It notes:

- i. That a primary cause was the decision of the coalition government to scrap Crisis Loans replacing them with the far less well funded Local Assistance Scheme from April 2013, which in Cambridgeshire is the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme managed by the County Council.
- ii. The 'Nowhere to Turn' report from the Children's Society which expressed concern that the tight criteria for many such schemes, including Cambridgeshire, would mean that they were inaccessible to those in dire straits.
- iii. That in Cambridgeshire the scheme, which was set up following consultation with partners including the City Council, requires on line applications by referral agents including the City Council, a decision time of up to ten days, a maximum of one claim a year and no cash crisis loan.
- iv. That the coalition government has now decided to scrap the funding for local welfare assistance schemes altogether from April 2015.

The Council therefore asks the Director of Customer and Community Services to bring a report to the October meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee on:

- i. The operation of the scheme in the City, including the number of referrals by the City Council since April 2013 and comparison with emergency crisis loans in 2011-12 and 2012-13.

- ii. The views of key partners such as Cambridgeshire Citizens Advice Bureau, The City food banks, the Credit Unions and frontline City Council staff in Housing and other departments on the impact of the loss of the scheme on those at crisis point in the City
- iii. Options, including working in partnership with others, for mitigating the impact of the loss of this welfare safety net.”

Councillor Bick proposed and Councillor Smith seconded the following amendment:

Delete all after paragraph 1 and insert:

“Council calls on the County Council to initiate an urgent scrutiny exercise on the impact of the replacement of the Department of Work and Pensions’ Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans schemes by Cambridgeshire’s Local Assistance Scheme last April, in particular

- i. Examining changes in take-up, and the effectiveness of the scheme criteria and delivery mechanisms in targeting need, especially taking account of the working poor and those resident in the county for less than a year;
- ii. Adequacy of budgetary provision for 2014-15 based on comparison with 2013-14 when the scheme was not fully established.
- iii. Plans for the scheme after the expiry of the initial 2 years of continued DWP funding.
- iv. Involving the 5 district/city councils and consulting key partners such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, Food Banks and Credit Unions.”

On a show of hands the amendment was carried unanimously.

Councillor Price proposed and Councillor Pitt seconded the following amendment:

Add at the end:

“The Council also asks the Director of Customer and Community Services to bring a report to the October meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee.”

On a show of hands the amendment was carried unanimously.

**Resolved** (unanimously) that:

This Council is concerned by the warning in March 2014 by the Citizens Advice Bureau that the lack of an effective welfare safety net for those in crisis means that people who need emergency help are facing a grim choice between a payday loan, a food bank or a loan shark.

Council calls on the County Council to initiate an urgent scrutiny exercise on the impact of the replacement of the Department of Work and Pensions' Community Care Grants and Crisis Loans schemes by Cambridgeshire's Local Assistance Scheme last April, in particular

- i. Examining changes in take-up, and the effectiveness of the scheme criteria and delivery mechanisms in targeting need, especially taking account of the working poor and those resident in the county for less than a year;
- ii. Adequacy of budgetary provision for 2014-15 based on comparison with 2013-14 when the scheme was not fully established
- iii. Plans for the scheme after the expiry of the initial 2 years of continued DWP funding
- iv. Involving the 5 district/city councils and consulting key partners such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, Food Banks and Credit Unions

The Council also asks the Director of Customer and Community Services to bring a report to the October meeting of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee.

**14/21b/CNL Motion B**

Councillor Owers proposed and Councillor Roberts seconded the following motion:

“This Council notes

- i. That the private rented sector plays an increasingly crucial role in providing for the housing needs of Cambridge residents, particularly students and young people, but also families.
- ii. That rents in this sector in Cambridge are high and ever-increasing, going up by 8% in 2013, which means that rent costs are eating up an increasing percentage of the income of private tenants.
- iii. That many private renters are hit by unfair management and administration charges and fees levied by lettings agencies.
- iv. That many private renters are also at risk of some lettings agencies and landlords insisting on tenants having rent guarantors, or unfairly withholding deposits.
- v. That those in receipt of Local Housing Allowance or Housing Benefit find many landlords and letting agencies increasingly reluctant to accept them as tenants.

This Council welcomes the setting up of Town Hall Lettings, a social lettings agency which helps homeless individuals and families get a private sector tenancy by taking away some of the risks that stop landlords renting to them.

However, this Council also recognises that, welcome as this is, it will not do anything to help the many individuals and families who find themselves hit by high rents and the problematic practices of letting agents, but who are not homeless. This Council accepts that this intermediate group, who are not poor enough to get help from Town Hall Lettings but not wealthy enough to be secure in the Cambridge housing market, need help too.

This Council therefore resolves to request a report to be brought to Community Services Scrutiny Committee to examine the possibility of the remit of Town Hall Lettings being expanded in future to help a wider range of renters, or

another Social Lettings Agency being set up, either by this Council alone or in partnership with other councils in Cambridgeshire, to help this 'intermediate' group of renters within the private sector."

Councillor Smart proposed and Councillor Blackhurst seconded the following amendment:

Add at the end:

"The Council also resolves that work already being done to consider the composition, needs and aspirations of those in the intermediate housing market, should be summarised into a report to Community Services Scrutiny Committee along with options to address their situation, taking into account the opportunities opened up by the City Deal."

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 37 votes to 0.

**Resolved** (unanimously) that:

This Council notes

- i. That the private rented sector plays an increasingly crucial role in providing for the housing needs of Cambridge residents, particularly students and young people, but also families.
- ii. That rents in this sector in Cambridge are high and ever-increasing, going up by 8% in 2013, which means that rent costs are eating up an increasing percentage of the income of private tenants.
- iii. That many private renters are hit by unfair management and administration charges and fees levied by lettings agencies.
- iv. That many private renters are also at risk of some lettings agencies and landlords insisting on tenants having rent guarantors, or unfairly withholding deposits.
- v. That those in receipt of Local Housing Allowance or Housing Benefit find many landlords and letting agencies increasingly reluctant to accept them as tenants.

This Council welcomes the setting up of Town Hall Lettings, a social lettings agency which helps homeless individuals and families get a private sector tenancy by taking away some of the risks that stop landlords renting to them.

However, this Council also recognises that, welcome as this is, it will not do anything to help the many individuals and families who find themselves hit by high rents and the problematic practices of letting agents, but who are not homeless. This council accepts that this intermediate group, who are not poor enough to get help from Town Hall Lettings but not wealthy enough to be secure in the Cambridge housing market, need help too.

This Council therefore resolves to request a report to be brought to Community Services Scrutiny Committee to examine the possibility of the remit of Town Hall Lettings being expanded in future to help a wider range of renters, or another Social Lettings Agency being set up, either by this council alone or in partnership with other councils in Cambridgeshire, to help this 'intermediate' group of renters within the private sector.

The Council also resolves that work already being done to consider the composition, needs and aspirations of those in the intermediate housing market, should be summarised into a report to Community Services Scrutiny Committee along with options to address their situation, taking into account the opportunities opened up by the City Deal.

#### **14/22/CNL Written Questions**

There were no written questions.

#### **14/23/CNL Special Urgency Decisions**

##### Lion Yard Toilet Refurbishment

Noted.

##### Tour De France, Cambridge 2014

Noted.



The meeting ended at 10.15 pm

**CHAIR**

This page is intentionally left blank

## **CIVIC AFFAIRS**

2 June 2014  
6.00pm - 6.25 pm

**Present:** Councillors Cantrill (Vice-Chair), Ashton, Benstead, Herbert, Pitt and Smart

### **Officers present:**

Chief Executive: Antoinette Jackson  
Head of Legal Services: Simon Pugh  
Committee Manager: Glenn Burgess

## **FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL**

### **14/21/CIV Constitutional Amendments and Members of The Executive**

The committee received a report from the Head of Legal Services regarding proposed changes to Executive portfolios and Scrutiny Committees. An amended version of Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to the report was circulated (see attached).

The following proposed changes to the Labour Group Executive were noted:

- Leader & Executive Councillor for Strategy & Transformation – Lewis Herbert
- Deputy Leader & Executive Councillor for City Centre & Public Places – Carina O'Reilly
- Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources – George Owers
- Executive Councillor for Housing – Kevin Price
- Executive Councillor for Environment, Waste and Health – Peter Roberts
- Executive Councillor for Planning Policy & Transport – Kevin Blencowe
- Executive Councillor for Community, Arts & Recreation – Richard Johnson

Councillor Herbert proposed the following additional recommendation:

- i. In light of the change of political balance, the Council is recommended to end Councillor Bick's term of office as Leader and to conduct an election for a successor.

The committee endorsed this unanimously.

**Resolved** (unanimously):

- ii. In light of the change of political balance, to recommend that the Council end Councillor Bick's term of office as Leader and to conduct an election for a successor.
- iii. To note the proposed revised Executive Councillor portfolios set out in the amended Appendix 1 of the officer's report.
- iv. To recommend to Council the revised scrutiny arrangements set out in the amended Appendix 2 and the amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendix 3.

## CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

---

REPORT OF: Head of Legal Services

TO: Civic Affairs Committee

2/6/2014

WARDS: None directly affected

### **PROPOSED CHANGES TO EXECUTIVE PORTFOLIOS AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

---

#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Labour Group gained a majority at the local elections on 22 May. This report outlines changes proposed by the Labour Group to Executive Councillor portfolios. It also sets out changes to scrutiny arrangements proposed by the Labour Group.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the proposed revised Executive Councillor portfolios set out in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 That the Committee recommend to Council the revised scrutiny arrangements set out in Appendix 2 and the amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendix 3.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Councillor Bick will be Leader of the Council until at least the Annual Meeting. However, it is likely that there will be an election for a new Leader, given the outcome of the election.
- 3.2 Under the “strong leader” model of governance which the Council has been obliged to adopt, it is for the Leader to appoint his or her executive and to allocate responsibilities. It is not possible to settle executive responsibilities until the Annual Meeting takes place. However, Appendix 1 sets out the Labour Group’s proposals for Executive portfolios, along with revised titles.

- 3.3 It is for the Council to determine the form that scrutiny arrangements should take. The principle adopted by the Council has been that scrutiny committees should mirror the responsibilities of one or more Executive Councillors. The recommended scrutiny arrangements set out in Appendix 2 follow this principle.
- 3.4 The Labour Group is also proposing the establishment of a separate Housing Scrutiny Committee, combining the responsibilities of the Housing Management Board with the strategic housing elements of the Community Services Scrutiny Committee. The proposal is that voting rights for the tenant representatives would remain unchanged; i.e. tenant representatives would have voting rights in respect of matters that currently go before HMB but not those that currently go to Community Services Scrutiny. This would be managed through a two-part agenda.
- 3.5 Appendix 3 sets out consequential amendments to the Constitution but incorporate the election and other provisions relating to the Housing Management Board.
- 3.6 Some further updating will be needed to reflect changes in titles etc. but this does not need a Council resolution.
- 3.7 A graphical representation the proposed arrangements forms Appendix 4.

#### 4. **CONSULTATIONS**

This report reflects the intentions of the majority group on the Council. Officers have not undertaken consultation. Given the proximity of the election to this meeting, it would not have been practical to do so.

#### 5. **OPTIONS**

The allocation of executive responsibilities is a matter for the Leader. It is for the Council to satisfy itself that its scrutiny arrangements are appropriate.

#### 6. **IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 This report proposes procedural changes. There are no financial, staffing, equal opportunities, environmental, procurement, community

safety or consultation implications. With regard to communications implications, there is a need to ensure that changes are made to the Council's website and other material to communicate the changes.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** There are no background papers to this report.

The author and contact officer for queries on the report is Simon Pugh, Head of Legal Services, tel (01223) 457401, email [simon.pugh@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:simon.pugh@cambridge.gov.uk).

Report file:

Date originated: 23 May 2014

Date of last revision: 23 May 2014

## Appendix 1

### REVISED PORTFOLIOS FOR SEVEN EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS

---

#### LEADER – STRATEGY AND TRANSFORMATION

---

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council’s plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- corporate objectives, policies and strategies of the Council subject, where necessary, to the approval of the Council and excluding those objectives, policies and strategies which are the responsibility of another Executive Councillor
- corporate implementation of improvements and efficiency reviews, and the development and monitoring of core performance indicators and targets
- programmes which give direction to, and co-ordinate, the implementation of the Council's corporate policies and priorities, including detailed oversight of race equality, disability equality and equal opportunity in service delivery and Council policy
- the need for, and the development of, new services and policy not within the terms of reference of other Executive Councillors
- matters falling substantially within the Terms of Reference of more than one other Executive Councillor, where not otherwise delegated.

The exercise of the Council’s functions and the delivery of services including

- Strategy and Partnerships - including the City Deal, and the expansion of joint working with other councils, the Universities and other partners
- Business Transformation - shared services, trusts, changing the way the council works and service reviews, and joint projects with other councils and organisations which involve the responsibilities of more than one other Executive Councillor
- All matters concerning national local government associations and corporate projects with Government, including council-wide bids for resources
- The giving of any guarantee or incurring of any other commitments not specifically referred elsewhere
- The exercise of compulsory purchase powers except where these are allocated to Executive Councillors relating to their portfolio responsibilities.

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council’s plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Corporate and support services as exemplified under “Functions and Services” below.
- Procurement (at a strategic level - oversight of individual procurement exercises will remain with the portfolio-holder for the relevant service area).
- Data protection and freedom of information.



## **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services in respect of the areas listed in Paragraph 1 including, by way of illustration:

### **Corporate And Other Services**

- The Independent Complaints Investigator Service
- The Council's emergency planning functions
- Democratic Services
- The main Guildhall Reception and switchboard services
- Other responsibilities which do not fall within the remit of another Executive Councillor  
Council strategy to expand trading activities and additional income generation opportunities, including responsibility for those which do not fall within the remit of another Executive Councillor.

### **Civic functions (insofar as these are not within the remit of the Civic Affairs Committee)**

- Matters relating to the democratic functions of the Council, including
  - The mayoralty
  - Civic hospitality and town twinning
  - Relationships, including the appointment or nomination of Council representatives, with outside organisations not directly related to the programme area of any committee or other Executive Councillor.

### **Customer Services**

- Delivery of quality customer services and the customer access centre
- Corporate telephony and IT systems to support joined up customer service delivery.
- The corporate delivery of front line services to Council customers through the Council's reception areas and telephone services

### **Community Safety**

Including the Community Safety Partnership, work with the police and the CCTV system.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

---

## **EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES**

---

Strategic control of the use of the financial resources of the Council, (subject to the necessary financial approvals of the Council)

Treasury Management including for the Housing Revenue Account

Insurance and banking services

The approval of Council contributions towards projects being funded from the National Lottery  
Supervision of the borrowing of money and management of the Council's cash flow  
Management of other income and specific reserves  
Other detailed financial management matters, including the writing off of debts except where the responsibility of the Executive Councillor for Housing  
Collection and management of Council Tax, National Non-Domestic Rates and Housing Benefit.

**Strategic information technology issues, information technology projects which either have implications for the Council as a whole or which fall significantly within the remit of more than one Executive Councillor.**

#### **Property Matters**

- The freehold or leasehold disposal of land or property and the terms for disposal, except for Right to Buy dwellings sold under the Housing Act 1985, properties in shared equity schemes and other land or property held for housing purposes or for the provision of facilities and amenities for local residents or tenants.
- The development, redevelopment, change of use or other major change to land or property owned by the Council considered by the Chief Executive to be major, significant or sensitive in terms of the Council's policies and priorities.
- Any realisation of assets programme which may be considered necessary to generate capital receipts for the Council.
- The approval of any proposal to re-allocate land between functions and any formal appropriation of land or property from one purpose to another.
- Management of all land and buildings held by the Council, except for:
  - property in use for specific operational purposes which fall within the responsibility of another Executive Councillor
  - dwellings held within the Housing Revenue Account
  - land held by the Council for housing purposes used for or in connection with the provision of facilities or amenities for local tenants or residents
- The acquisition (by purchase or lease) of property by the Council.
- Management of the Council's office accommodation
- The exercise of compulsory purchase powers
- The Council's Land Charges service.

#### **Employee And Management Matters**

To establish, monitor and ensure funding for Council-wide employment and training policies

- To comply with all relevant employment legislation and the Council's corporate strategy, policies and objectives.
- To exercise strategic control of, and agree policies for, the use of the staffing, property and information technology resources of the Council.
- To co-ordinate and monitor the arrangements for employee Health and Safety at Work
- To oversee the provision of professional and central support services, including:
  - Corporate human resources support and information including training
  - Financial services

- Legal services
- Climate Change policy
- The Sharing Prosperity Fund and the anti-poverty strategy, including the powers and duties of the Council in respect of issues of welfare, disadvantage and provision of opportunities for individuals and communities in the City, including provision of advice relating to citizens' legal rights and responsibilities, welfare benefits, money advice, employment and immigration.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

---

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR HOUSING

---

### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- The provision of housing in the City, including the Council's Housing Investment Programme
- The provision and management of housing accommodation and associated services under the Housing Acts, including the approval of the Housing Revenue Account and the fixing of rents for Council dwellings and garages
- The Council's responsibilities towards homeless people and people in housing need
- The Council's responsibilities in respect of private sector
- The Council's responsibilities in respect of social housing and Registered Providers
- The Council's responsibilities for residential caravan sites and travellers.

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services in respect of the areas listed in above including:

- The improvement and maintenance of dwellings and associated facilities funded from the Housing Revenue Account.
- The management of the Housing Revenue Account, including debts owed to it by tenants and former tenants, working with the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources on their overall treasury management responsibility
- The making of loans for house purchase and improvement
- The giving of aid and advice in respect of housing
- The Council's powers and responsibilities under homelessness legislation.  
The powers and responsibilities of the Council in relation to private sector housing, including enforcement of standards and allocation of grants.
- The exercise of compulsory purchase powers
- Liaison with, and funding of, Housing Associations and other relevant outside bodies and agencies in pursuance of the housing objectives of the Council
- Formulating and implementing programmes of environmental improvements in housing estates or other land falling within the Housing Revenue Account.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

---

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR ENVIRONMENT, WASTE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

---

The Executive Councillor shall be responsible for the exercise of Executive functions in the areas listed in this section.

### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Waste management and recycling
- Street services
- Environmental Health (excluding those functions which are the responsibility of the Executive Councillor for Housing).

The Council's responsibilities for food and occupational safety i.e.

- Food hygiene and safety
- Health and safety
- Health Promotion
- Drinking water
- Sale of game
- Control of infectious diseases
- Acupuncture, tattooing, ear piercing and electrolysis.

It also includes responsibility for making the Council's contribution to local, regional and national plans, policies and strategies formulated by other bodies or by joint bodies in which the Council participates.

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- Contaminated land; water pollution; radioactive substances
- Refuse collection, waste disposal and recycling
- Street and other public cleansing
- Public conveniences
- Abandoned vehicles
- Monitoring and control of air and noise pollution
- Control of dogs and other animals and all matters concerned with animal welfare and control
- Control of pests and nuisances

- Hackney carriage and private hire vehicles
- Fleet management.

The Council's responsibilities for public health, working with the county council and health services.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

---

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR PLANNING POLICY AND TRANSPORT

---

### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Land use planning, including the new Local Plan and local planning briefs and supplementary planning guidance
- Conservation and urban design, and the sustainability of new development
- Transport and highways, working with the county council
- Tree strategy.

It also includes responsibility for making the Council's contribution to local, regional and national plans, policies and strategies formulated by other bodies or by joint bodies in which the Council participates.

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- Development control and building control services
- Optimising additional income and infrastructure funding generated by new development
- Powers of compulsory purchase relating to the areas listed in Paragraph 1
- Bus services and bus shelters
- Cycling provision
- Parking and off-street parking
- Schemes to provide better travel facilities for people with disabilities
- The Council's statutory responsibilities for drainage and sewerage.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

N.B. In discharging responsibilities relating to the formulation and issue of planning briefs and planning guidance, the Executive Councillor should seek to consult the appropriate Committee.

---

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION

---

### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- The local welfare and community development needs of all neighbourhoods and the special needs of the disadvantaged throughout the City.
- The development of policies and programmes to further the Youth Development objectives of the Council, including providing direction and advice to other committees of the Council in pursuance of these aims
- the provision and promotion of leisure, sporting, artistic and cultural activities

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- The powers and duties of the Council in respect of children's activities and youth facilities
- Community strategy including the powers and duties of the Council in respect of opportunities for individuals and communities in the City including:
  - education and self-development
  - play programmes
  - artistic, cultural, sporting and leisure activities and entertainments
  - the provision, maintenance and management of places of public entertainment, sport and recreation (including the Guildhall Halls)
  - council owned or operated community facilities
  - museums and art galleries.

Progressing the objectives set out in this section by:

- direct provision
- grant aid and other financial assistance to voluntary sector and other agencies
- partnership, joint work and liaison with public, private or voluntary sector organisations, including community and joint use agreements, community primary school agreements and support for national lottery projects
- regenerating and encouraging the development of community life and enabling local communities to take action on their own behalf
- community consultation
- giving advice and guidance to other Executive Councillors and committees of the Council on community engagement addressing, in particular, the needs of those suffering some form of disadvantage
- advocacy.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

---

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR CITY CENTRE AND PUBLIC PLACES

---

### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- The city centre
  - Economic development and employment opportunities
  - Improvement of access within Cambridge for people with disabilities
  - Training, information, advice and other means to improve employment opportunities and access to employment
  - Street trading, subject to compliance with the planning policy framework set by the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport
  - The City's Markets
- 
- Open spaces, nature reserves, parks, recreation grounds, commons and closed churchyards, allotments, moorings, rivers and other water recreation areas
- 
- Tourism
  - Cemeteries and crematoria.

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- play facilities
- recreation grounds
- allotments
- closed churchyards
- commons, nature reserves, parks and open spaces
- rivers and other water recreation areas
- cemeteries and crematoria.

Environmental Improvements.

Public Art delivery.

Tree management and planting (linked to tree strategy led by the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport, and except for those under housing management which are within the remit of the Executive Councillor for Housing).

Council communications strategy and delivery, including the Council's website.  
City Centre Management and city resident engagement in city centre decisions.

Working with the Business Improvement District (BID).

Tourist Information Centre and other tourism services.

Progressing the objectives set out in this section by:

- direct provision
- grant aid or other assistance to voluntary bodies and external organisations
- partnership delivery.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.



## Appendix 2 – Changes to Scrutiny Arrangements

### SECTION 6: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

The Council shall have the following Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Their role and functions are set out in Article 6 of Part 2 of this Constitution and their procedure is governed by the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4 of this Constitution.

#### 6.1 Strategy & Resources (Scrutiny) Committee

Terms of Reference
1. Overview and scrutiny of the functions for which the Leader (and Executive Councillor for Strategy and Transformation) is responsible.
2. Overview and scrutiny of the functions for which the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources is responsible.
3. Overview and scrutiny of any functions exercised by the Executive collectively.
4. Overview and scrutiny of any Council functions which fall outside the remit of any other scrutiny committee.
5. As required by Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 to be the crime and disorder committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made by the Council or by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

#### 6.2 Community Services (Scrutiny) Committee

Terms of Reference
1. Overview and scrutiny of the functions for which the Executive Councillors for Community, Arts and Recreation and the Executive Councillor for City Centre and Public Places are responsible
2. The Community Services Scrutiny Committee shall co-opt three tenants or leaseholders to contribute to its discussions in respect of the Committee's housing scrutiny responsibilities. The elected representatives of tenants and leaseholders on the Housing Management Board shall be invited to nominate people for co-option under this rule.

#### 6.3 Environment (Scrutiny) Committee

Terms of Reference
Overview and scrutiny of the functions for which the Executive Councillor for Environment, Waste and Public Health and the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport are responsible.

##### 6.3.1 Development Plan Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Terms of Reference
Overview and scrutiny of the following functions for which the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport is responsible:

The development including the assembly of necessary evidence base and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Spatial planning, including the Local Development Framework, Supplementary Planning Documents and other planning guidance
- Transport
- Highways
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Flooding and drainage
- Historic Environment.

It also includes responsibility for making the Council's contribution to National Planning Policy Guidance consultations, plans and studies of other bodies including Cambridgeshire County Council, local authorities in Cambridgeshire, and planning policy work relating to the City Deal.

NB. The final adoption of any plan, policy or strategy relating to the above Executive functions, or in any case where adoption is required by Council, will be within the Environment Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference

## 6.4 Housing Scrutiny Committee

### Terms of Reference

- A. Overview and scrutiny of the strategic and other housing functions for which the Executive Councillor for Housing is responsible, including responsibility for the development of housing strategies and policies, tackling homelessness, the Council's housing responsibilities with regard to the private rented sector, bringing vacant homes back into use, the development of new homes and partnership working with other housing providers.
- B. Overview and scrutiny of functions relating to the management of the Council's housing stock.
- C. To be the main discussion forum between the Council, its tenants and its leaseholders for all matters relating to the landlord function of Cambridge City Council.

### Membership

City Councillors (Such number as shall be decided by the Council from time to time)

Six elected tenants and leaseholders of Cambridge City Council of whom at least five shall be tenants of Cambridge City Council.

### Appointment of tenant and leaseholder members

Tenant and leaseholder members shall be co-opted by the Scrutiny Committee following the procedure for election set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4E.

### Voting

Tenant and leaseholder members are voting members in respect of matters concerning the management of the Council's housing stock (Part 1 of the agenda.) Tenant and leaseholder members may contribute to discussion of other matters (Part 2 of the agenda) but shall not have a vote.

<b>Appointment of Chair</b>
-----------------------------

The Chair of the Scrutiny Committee shall be appointed by the Council and be a councillor and shall chair Part 2. The Vice-chair shall be nominated by the elected tenants and leaseholders and shall chair Part 1 if present. If the Chair or Vice-chair is not present, a councillor shall be appointed as the Vice-chair for that meeting.
---

<b>Other matters relating to elected tenants and leaseholders</b>
---

These are set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in Part 4E. They include information about the roles, responsibilities and training of tenant and leaseholder representatives, expenses and allowances, and the circumstances in which they may cease to be members of the Committee.
--

## **6.5 Other Scrutiny Committees**

6.5.1 The Council may appoint further scrutiny committees in accordance with Article 6 of Part 2 of this Constitution.

### **Appendix 3. Other amendments to the Constitution.**

1. Delete Paragraph 8.4 from Section 8 of Part 3. This is the section in “Joint committees and other partnership bodies” that governs the operation of the Housing Management Board.
2. Add the following to Part 4E of the Constitution (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules:

#### **Appendix 1: Tenant and Leaseholder Members of the Housing Scrutiny Committee**

##### **1. Conduct of elections**

1.1 Elections for tenant and leaseholder representatives shall be managed by the Director of Customer and Community Services and subject to independent scrutiny to be arranged by the Director of Customer and Community Services.

1.2 Elections shall be by secret postal ballot

1.3 Those eligible to vote shall be:-

- Any tenant or joint tenant of the City Council’s local authority housing stock
- Any leaseholder or named joint leaseholder of a residential property in the City Council’s local authority housing stock

1.4 Those eligible to stand for election shall be:

- Any tenant or joint tenant of the City Council
- Any leaseholder of a City Council residential property

In addition, the criteria for standing for election will be the same that applies to candidates standing for election as a City Councillor.

A former tenant or leasehold representative who ceased to be a member of the Board by virtue of Paragraph 7.3, or who has been removed from office under clause 5.3 shall not be eligible to stand for election unless the Housing Scrutiny Committee gives its consent. Such consent must be requested in writing addressed to the Director of Customer and Community Services at least 21 days before the date of the last Housing Scrutiny Committee preceding an election.

1.5 The tenants and leaseholders shall elect their representatives by the Single Transferable Vote, following the current edition of the rules laid down in the publication "How to Conduct an Election by the Single Transferable Vote", published by the Electoral Reform Society. There shall be a minimum of five tenants and a maximum of one leaseholder elected for co-option to the Housing Scrutiny Committee by this method. The one leaseholder position shall be ringfenced for a representative who is themselves a leaseholder. If posts are uncontested i.e. the number who stand is equal to the number of available positions, then candidates may be appointed without a ballot.

1.6 Tenant and leaseholder members of the Housing Scrutiny Committee shall stand down after four years and an election shall be held every four years to appoint the members of the board who are not councillors.

## **2. Periods of office**

2.1 Tenant and leaseholder representatives shall be elected at four yearly intervals commencing in February 2008. All tenant and leaseholder representatives shall stand for re-election at the same time.

## **3. Links with the Cambridge Federation of Tenants Leaseholders and Residents**

3.1 Tenant and Leaseholder members of the Housing Scrutiny Committee shall be members of the Tenant Forum, and shall be invited to every meeting of the Tenant Forum. By this method they will maintain links with Residents Associations, the Cambridge Federation of Tenants Leaseholders and Residents and other bodies involved in representing tenants and leaseholders of the City Council.

3.2 Tenant and Leaseholder members of the Board shall be required to attend a question and answer session at two meetings per year of the Tenant Forum, when they may be asked to discuss the business of the Housing Scrutiny Committee and their roles and decisions.

## **4. Restrictions on eligibility**

4.1 The following shall not be eligible to serve as tenant or leaseholder representatives of the Board:

- Serving elected members of the City Council; and
- City Council employees whose jobs, in the opinion of the Director of Community Services, substantially relate to the management of the Council's housing stock or to the delivery of services to tenants or leaseholders.

## **5. Roles, responsibilities and training**

5.1 Tenant and Leaseholder representatives shall subscribe to the Code of Conduct for Councillors adopted by the City Council, including any amendments.

5.2 The Director of Community Services shall ensure that Tenant and Leaseholder representatives are given appropriate and adequate training and support.

5.3 Tenant and leaseholder representatives who commit serious breaches of the Code of Conduct, who bring the Scrutiny Committee into disrepute or who persistently infringe minor rules may be removed from office by the Scrutiny Committee following investigation and report by the Director of Customer and Community Services and a fair hearing before the Scrutiny Committee.

## **6. Expenses and Allowances**

6.1 The Council may agree to pay Tenant and Leaseholder representatives an attendance or other allowance for meetings and may agree to pay travel and other expenses. Claiming of such allowances will be optional.

6.2 The Director of Customer and Community Services may arrange transport to and from approved meetings for Tenant and Leaseholder representatives who do not claim their expenses payments.

## 7. **Other Matters**

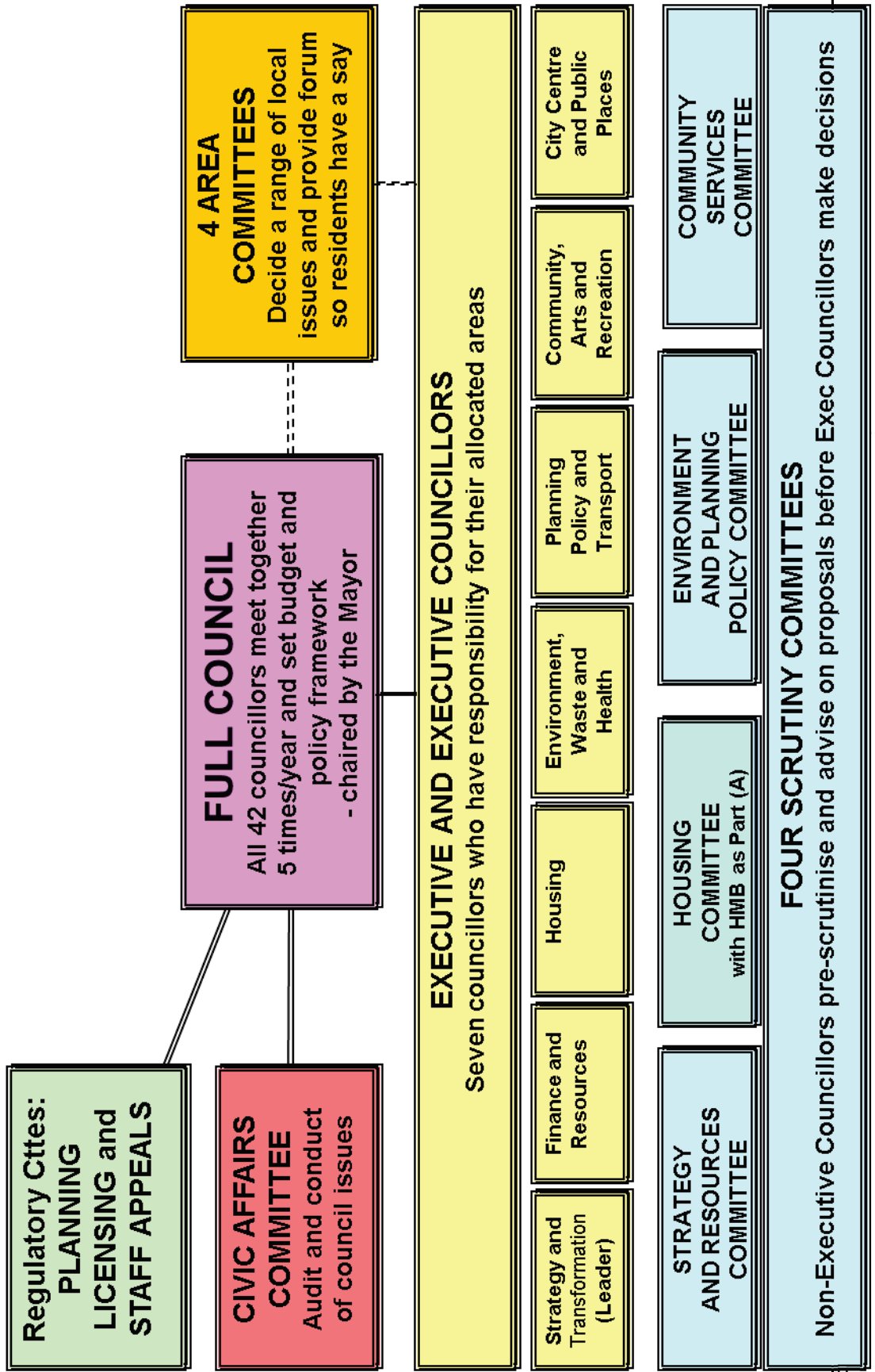
7.1 If a Tenant or Leaseholder representative dies in office or resigns the Scrutiny Committee may co-opt an eligible person to fill the vacancy until the next scheduled election date.

7.2 If a Tenant or Leaseholder representative ceases to meet the eligibility criteria in paragraph 4.1, s/he shall cease to be a member of the Scrutiny Committee and the Committee may co-opt an eligible person to fill the vacancy until the next scheduled election date.

7.3 If a Tenant or Leaseholder representative fails to attend three successive meetings of the Scrutiny Committee then the Committee may remove them from office, having first taken reasonable steps to invite them to explain the reason for their absence.

7.4 If an insufficient number of candidates stand for election as tenant or leaseholder representatives the Scrutiny Committee shall have the power to co-opt eligible individuals who wish to serve on the Committee until the date of the next scheduled election.

# Cambridge City Council 2014 Decision Making Structure – Labour Plan



This page is intentionally left blank



## Appendix 1

### REVISED PORTFOLIOS FOR SEVEN EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS

#### LEADER – STRATEGY AND TRANSFORMATION

---

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- corporate objectives, policies and strategies of the Council subject, where necessary, to the approval of the Council and excluding those objectives, policies and strategies which are the responsibility of another Executive Councillor
- corporate implementation of improvements and efficiency reviews, and the development and monitoring of core performance indicators and targets
- programmes which give direction to, and co-ordinate, the implementation of the Council's corporate policies and priorities, including detailed oversight of race equality, disability equality and equal opportunity in service delivery and Council policy
- the need for, and the development of, new services and policy not within the terms of reference of other Executive Councillors
- matters falling substantially within the Terms of Reference of more than one other Executive Councillor, where not otherwise delegated.

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- Strategy and Partnerships - including the City Deal, and the expansion of joint working with other councils, the Universities and other partners
- Business Transformation - shared services, trusts, changing the way the council works and service reviews, and joint projects with other councils and organisations which involve the responsibilities of more than one other Executive Councillor
- All matters concerning national local government associations and corporate projects with Government, including council-wide bids for resources
- The giving of any guarantee or incurring of any other commitments not specifically referred elsewhere
- The exercise of compulsory purchase powers except where these are allocated to Executive Councillors relating to their portfolio responsibilities.

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:



## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR FINANCE AND RESOURCES

---

Strategic control of the use of the financial resources of the Council, (subject to the necessary financial approvals of the Council)

Treasury Management including for the Housing Revenue Account

Insurance and banking services

The approval of Council contributions towards projects being funded from the National Lottery

Supervision of the borrowing of money and management of the Council's cash flow

Management of other income and specific reserves

Other detailed financial management matters, including the writing off of debts except where the responsibility of the Executive Councillor for Housing

Collection and management of Council Tax, National Non-Domestic Rates and Housing Benefit.

**Strategic information technology issues, information technology projects which either have implications for the Council as a whole or which fall significantly within the remit of more than one Executive Councillor.**

### **Property Matters**

- The freehold or leasehold disposal of land or property and the terms for disposal, except for Right to Buy dwellings sold under the Housing Act 1985, properties in shared equity schemes and other land or property held for housing purposes or for the provision of facilities and amenities for local residents or tenants.
- The development, redevelopment, change of use or other major change to land or property owned by the Council considered by the Chief Executive to be major, significant or sensitive in terms of the Council's policies and priorities.
- Any realisation of assets programme which may be considered necessary to generate capital receipts for the Council.
- The approval of any proposal to re-allocate land between functions and any formal appropriation of land or property from one purpose to another.
- Management of all land and buildings held by the Council, except for:
  - property in use for specific operational purposes which fall within the responsibility of another Executive Councillor
  - dwellings held within the Housing Revenue Account
  - land held by the Council for housing purposes used for or in connection with the provision of facilities or amenities for local tenants or residents
- The acquisition (by purchase or lease) of property by the Council.
- Management of the Council's office accommodation
- The exercise of compulsory purchase powers
- The Council's Land Charges service.



- The improvement and maintenance of dwellings and associated facilities funded from the Housing Revenue Account.
- The management of the Housing Revenue Account, including debts owed to it by tenants and former tenants, working with the Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources on their overall treasury management responsibility
- The making of loans for house purchase and improvement
- The giving of aid and advice in respect of housing
- The Council's powers and responsibilities under homelessness legislation. The powers and responsibilities of the Council in relation to private sector housing, including enforcement of standards and allocation of grants.
- The exercise of compulsory purchase powers
- Liaison with, and funding of, Housing Associations and other relevant outside bodies and agencies in pursuance of the housing objectives of the Council
- Formulating and implementing programmes of environmental improvements in housing estates or other land falling within the Housing Revenue Account.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

#### EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR ENVIRONMENT, WASTE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Executive Councillor shall be responsible for the exercise of Executive functions in the areas listed in this section.

##### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Waste management and recycling
- Street services
- Environmental Health (excluding those functions which are the responsibility of the Executive Councillor for Housing).

The Council's responsibilities for food and occupational safety i.e.

- Food hygiene and safety
- Health and safety
- Health Promotion
- Drinking water
- Sale of game
- Control of infectious diseases
- Acupuncture, tattooing, ear piercing and electrolysis.



- Optimising additional income and infrastructure funding generated by new development
  - Powers of compulsory purchase relating to the areas listed in Paragraph 1
  - Bus services and bus shelters
  - Cycling provision
  - Parking and off-street parking
  - Schemes to provide better travel facilities for people with disabilities
  - The Council's statutory responsibilities for drainage and sewerage.
- The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

N.B. In discharging responsibilities relating to the formulation and issue of planning briefs and planning guidance, the Executive Councillor should seek to consult the appropriate Committee.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR COMMUNITY, ARTS AND RECREATION

### **Plans, policies and strategies**

The development, implementation and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- The local welfare and community development needs of all neighbourhoods and the special needs of the disadvantaged throughout the City.
- The development of policies and programmes to further the [childrens' play and participation](#) ~~Youth Development~~ objectives of the Council, including providing direction and advice to other committees of the Council in pursuance of these aims
- the provision and promotion of leisure, sporting, artistic and cultural activities

### **Functions and Services**

The exercise of the Council's functions and the delivery of services including

- The powers and duties of the Council in respect of children's activities and youth facilities
- Community strategy including the powers and duties of the Council in respect of opportunities for individuals and communities in the City including:
  - education and self-development
  - play programmes
  - artistic, cultural, sporting and leisure activities and entertainments
  - the provision, maintenance and management of places of public entertainment, sport and recreation (including the Guildhall Halls)
  - council owned or operated community facilities
  - museums and art galleries.

- commons, nature reserves, parks and open spaces
- rivers and other water recreation areas
- cemeteries and crematoria.

Environmental Improvements.

Public Art delivery.

Tree management and planting (linked to tree strategy led by the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport, and except for those under housing management which are within the remit of the Executive Councillor for Housing).

Council communications [and consultation](#) strategy and delivery, including the Council's website.

City Centre Management and city resident engagement in city centre decisions.

Working with the Business Improvement District (BID).

Tourist Information Centre and other tourism services.

Progressing the objectives set out in this section by:

- direct provision
- grant aid or other assistance to voluntary bodies and external organisations
- partnership delivery.

The relevant exercise of compulsory purchase powers.



#### Terms of Reference

Overview and scrutiny of the following functions for which the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Transport is responsible:

The development including the assembly of necessary evidence base and monitoring of the Council's plans, policies and strategies relating to:

- Spatial planning, including the Local Development Framework, Supplementary Planning Documents and other planning guidance
- Transport
- Highways
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Flooding and drainage
- Historic Environment.

It also includes responsibility for making the Council's contribution to National Planning Policy Guidance consultations, plans and studies of other bodies including Cambridgeshire County Council, local authorities in Cambridgeshire, and planning policy work relating to the City Deal.

NB. The final adoption of any plan, policy or strategy relating to the above Executive functions, or in any case where adoption is required by Council, will be within the Environment Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference

## 6.4 Housing Scrutiny Committee

#### Terms of Reference

A. Overview and scrutiny of the strategic and other housing functions for which the Executive Councillor for Housing is responsible, including responsibility for the development of housing strategies and policies, tackling homelessness, the Council's housing responsibilities with regard to the private rented sector, bringing vacant homes back into use, the development of new homes and partnership working with other housing providers.

B. Overview and scrutiny of functions relating to the management of the Council's housing stock.

C. To be the main discussion forum between the Council, its tenants and its leaseholders for all matters relating to the landlord function of Cambridge City Council.

#### Membership

City Councillors (Such number as shall be decided by the Council from time to time)

Six elected tenants and leaseholders of Cambridge City Council of whom at least five shall be tenants of Cambridge City Council.

#### Appointment of tenant and leaseholder members

Tenant and leaseholder members shall be co-opted by the Scrutiny Committee following the procedure for election set out in the Overview and Scrutiny

**CIVIC AFFAIRS**2 June 2014  
6.00pm - 6.25 pm

**Present:** Councillors Cantrill (Vice-Chair), Ashton, Benstead, Herbert, Pitt and Smart

**Officers present:**

Chief Executive: Antoinette Jackson  
Head of Legal Services: Simon Pugh  
Committee Manager: Glenn Burgess

**FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL****14/22/CIV Nominations For Committees For The Municipal Year 2014/15**

The committee considered a paper setting out the proposed size of committees, the allocations by party and the nominations received. The Committee considered the rules on political balance set out in the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 in developing the recommendations set out below.

Councillor Pitt updated the committee on Liberal Democrat Group's nominations.

Councillor Hipkin updated the committee on the Independent/Conservative Group's nominations.

In response to a question from Councillor Pitt the Head of Legal Services confirmed that arrangements for filming and photography at the Area Joint Committee (AJC) would be governed by the County Council's protocol.

Councillor Herbert spoke in support of a smaller AJC committee and agreed to raise this at future meetings of the AJC.

**Resolved** (unanimously) to:

- i. Recommend to Council to agree to the number and size of committees and to note the nominations as listed below:

<b>SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATION(S)</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1) =Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>Community Services</b> (Currently meets: Thursdays at 1.30pm)	Liberal Democrats	3 (1)	Reiner, Reid, Austin (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	5 (1)	Moghadas, Sarris, Bird, Sinnott, Ratcliffe (Alt: Robertson)
		8 Total	

<b>SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATION(S)</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1) =Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>Environment</b> (Currently meets: Tuesdays at 5pm)	Liberal Democrats	3 (1)	Pitt, Smart, Moore (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	5 (1)	Gawthroppe, Robertson, Ratcliffe, Perry, Smart (Alt: Sinnott)
		8 Total	

<b>SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATION(S)</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1) =Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>Strategy &amp; Resources</b> (Currently meets: Mondays at 5pm)	Liberal Democrats	3 (1)	Bick, Smith, Cantrill (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	5 (1)	Robertson, Benstead, Sinnott, Smart, Baigent (Alt: Sarris)
		8 Total	



<b>SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATION(S)</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1) =Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>Housing</b> (Currently meets: Tuesdays at 5.30pm)	Liberal Democrats	2 (1)	Blackhurst, Avery (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	5 (1)	Todd-Jones, Birtles, Bird, Baigent, Robertson (Alt: Gawthrope)
	Indep/Cons	1 (1)	Holland (Alt: Hipkin)
		8 Total	

**REGULATORY COMMITTEES**

<b>COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1)= Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>PLANNING</b> (Currently meets: Wednesdays at 9.30am)	Liberal Democrat	3 (1)	Avery, Smart, Tunnacliffe (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	4 (1)	Blencowe, Gawthrope, Dryden, Hart (Alt: Bird)
	Indep/Cons	1 (1)	Hipkin (Alt: Holland)
		8 Total	

<b>COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1)= Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE</b> (Currently meets: Tuesdays/Wednesdays or Thursdays at 10am)	Liberal Democrat	2 (2)	Avery, Smart (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	4 (2)	Blencowe, Robertson, Dryden, Price, (Alts: Gawthrope and Herbert)
		6 Total	

<b>COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS</b>	<b>NUMBER</b> (1)= Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>LICENSING</b> (Currently meets: Mondays at 10am)	Liberal Democrat	4 (1)	Austin, Bick, Pippas, Smith (Alt: tbc)
	Labour	7 (1)	Benstead, Owers, Sinnott, Gawthrope, McPherson, O'Reilly, Bird (Alt: Baigent)
	Indep/Cons	1 (1)	Meftah (Alt:Holland)
		12 Total	

**OTHER COMMITTEES**

<b>COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS</b>	<b>NUMBER</b> (1)= Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>CIVIC AFFAIRS</b>	Liberal Democrat	2(1)	Cantrill, Pitt (Alt: Bick)
	Labour	4 (1)	Benstead, Hart, McPherson, Robertson (Alt: Moghadas)
		6 Total	

<b>COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1)= Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>EMPLOYMENT APPEALS SUB</b>	Liberal Democrat	2	Pippas, Smart
	Labour	5	Birtles, Gawthrope, Price, Bird, Blencowe
	Indep/Cons	1	Hipkin
		8 Total	

<b>COMMITTEE/SUB COMMITTEE</b>	<b>NOMINATIONS</b>	<b>NUMBERS</b> (1)= Alternate	<b>PROPOSED CHANGES AND NOMINATIONS</b>
<b>TRANSPORT AREA JOINT COMMITTEE (AJC)</b>	Liberal Democrat	2	Smart + 1 tbc
	Labour	4	Blencowe, Robertson, O'Reilly, Ratcliffe
		6 Total	



**CIVIC AFFAIRS**

2 June 2014  
6.00pm - 6.25 pm

**Present:** Councillors Cantrill (Vice-Chair), Ashton, Benstead, Herbert, Pitt and Smart

**Officers present:**

Chief Executive: Antoinette Jackson  
Head of Legal Services: Simon Pugh  
Committee Manager: Glenn Burgess

**FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL**

**14/23/CIV Nominations For Chairs And Vice Chairs Of Scrutiny & Regulatory Committees**

The committee received nominations for Chairs and Vice Chairs of Scrutiny and Regulatory Committees.

**Resolved (unanimously) to:**

- i. Note the nominations for Chairs and Vice Chairs of Scrutiny and Regulatory Committees as follows:
- ii.

Committee	Labour Nominations		Liberal Democrat Nominations		Opposition Spokes
	Chair	Vice Chair	Chair	Vice Chair	
Community Services	Moghadas	Ratcliffe			Reid, Reiner
Environment	Gawthrope	Perry			Pitt, Smart
Strategy and Resources	Robertson	Sinnott			Bick, Smith,

Housing	Todd-Jones	<b>Part 1:</b> Tenant/ Leaseholder			Blackhurst, Holland
		<b>Part 2:</b> Birtles			
Planning	Dryden	Blencowe			
JDCC	Blencowe (City Lead)				
Licensing	Benstead			Smith	
Civic Affairs	McPherson	Benstead			
Employment Appeal Sub Committee	Price				Smart, Hipkin

## CIVIC AFFAIRS

2 June 2014  
6.00pm - 6.25 pm

**Present:** Councillors Cantrill (Vice-Chair), Ashton, Benstead, Herbert, Pitt and Smart

### **Officers present:**

Chief Executive: Antoinette Jackson  
Head of Legal Services: Simon Pugh  
Committee Manager: Glenn Burgess

## **FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL**

### **14/24/CIV Independent Person and Deputy**

The Head of Legal Services introduced the item.

Councillor Herbert confirmed that the Labour Group had nominated two members to sit on any future conduct hearings and suggested that training would be beneficial. The Head of Legal Services agreed to progress this with members outside of the meeting.

**Resolved** (unanimously) to:

- i. Recommend that Council confirm the appointment of Mr Sean Brady as the Council's Independent Person and Mr Robert Bennett as the Council's Deputy Independent Person for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

This page is intentionally left blank



## CIVIC AFFAIRS

2 June 2014  
6.00pm - 6.25 pm

**Present:** Councillors Cantrill (Vice-Chair), Ashton, Benstead, Herbert, Pitt and Smart

### Officers present:

Chief Executive: Antoinette Jackson  
Head of Legal Services: Simon Pugh  
Committee Manager: Glenn Burgess

## FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL

### 14/25/CIV City Council appointments to the Conservators of the River Cam

The Chair ruled that under 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 agenda item 9: Appointments to Conservators of the River Cam - be considered despite not being made publicly available for this Committee five clear days prior to the meeting. The reason that these documents could not be deferred is that they would form part of the Annual Council meeting on 12 June 2014

The Head of Legal Service introduced the item.

Councillor Herbert proposed that in line with political balance, Tim Ward should be replaced with a Labour Councillor.

The committee expressed thanks to Tim Ward on behalf of the Council for his work on the Conservators of the River Cam.

### **Resolved** (unanimously) to:

- i. Recommend to Council that Councillor O'Reilly take the place of former Councillor Ward on the Conservators of the River Cam.

This page is intentionally left blank

## **CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL STATEMENT 2014**

### **BUILDING ‘ONE CAMBRIDGE – FAIR FOR ALL’**

The Annual Statement translates Labour’s 2014 manifesto into additional Council objectives and delivery for the coming year and beyond. It also amends Portfolio Plans accordingly.

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
1. Our Vision for Cambridge	2
2. Introduction	3
3. Protecting Essential Services	4
4. Sharing the City’s Prosperity	5
5. Tackling the Housing Crisis	6
6. Safety and Quality of Life	9
7. Making Cambridge Greener and Cleaner	11
8. Transforming the Council	13

## **1. Our Vision for Cambridge**

The Council has a clear vision to lead a united city, ‘One Cambridge -Fair for All’, in which economic dynamism and prosperity are combined with social justice and equality. It is a vision we will share and develop, working with our citizens and partner organisations.

### **‘One Cambridge – Fair for All’**

- A city which believes that the clearest measure of progress is the dignity and well-being of its least well-off residents, which prioritises tackling poverty and social exclusion, recognising that greater social and economic equality are the most important preconditions for the city’s success.
- An international city which celebrates its diversity and actively tackles discrimination on gender, race, nationality, ethnic background, religion, age, disability, gender identity, and sexual orientation.
- A city in which all citizens feel that they are listened to and have the opportunity to influence public decision making, and which values, supports and responds to individual and community initiatives.
- A city where all citizens and organisations appreciate their duties as well as their rights, where people are free to enjoy themselves but also show consideration for others, and where the community works together to reduce harm and nuisance including by education and, where needed, robust enforcement of the law.
- A city where ‘town’ and ‘gown’ combine, and where mutual understanding and partnerships are developed through joint working, community initiatives and volunteering.

### **Cambridge - a great place to live, learn and work**

- A city which strives to ensure that all local households can secure a suitable, affordable local home, close to jobs and neighbourhood facilities.
- A city which draws inspiration from its unique qualities and environment and its iconic historic centre, and retains its sense of place across the city through positive planning, generous urban open spaces and well-designed buildings, and by providing quality council services.
- An entrepreneurial city with a thriving local economy, in which businesses are assisted to build on their global and national pre-eminence in learning, discovery and production, and develop a full range of local employment and skills development, while also recognising and delivering on their social responsibilities.
- A city where getting around is primarily by public transport, bike and on foot.

### **Cambridge - caring for the planet**

- A city that takes robust action to tackle the local and global threat of Climate Change, both internally and in partnership with local organisations and residents, and to minimise its environmental impact by cutting carbon, waste and pollution.

## 2. Introduction

‘It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.’

*Charles Dickens, ‘A Tale of Two Cities’*

Cambridge’s story is a tale of two cities.

For those who have a well-paid job, own their own home, and live in a prosperous and pleasant part of Cambridge, it is the best of times. Cambridge’s population is one of the best educated and most highly skilled in the country. This underpins its status as a leading centre of science and innovation. Many sectors of the local economy are growing fast and unemployment is relatively low.

However, there is another story. House prices and rents are the highest of any city in the UK outside London. Many of those who work in the city do not earn enough to live here comfortably, or indeed at all. Those who do manage to find somewhere to live often find themselves at the mercy of letting-agents, insecure tenancies and extortionate rents. Cambridge has recently suffered the biggest drop in real wages of any city in the country. Much of King’s Hedges and Abbey, and parts of Arbury and East Chesterton, register among the most deprived areas in Cambridgeshire, and suffer higher levels of environmental degradation and anti-social behaviour than the rest of the city. Life expectancy is 8.7 years lower for men and 10.5 years lower for women in the most deprived areas of Cambridge compared to the least deprived areas. Some 2,500 people annually are forced to resort to using Cambridge’s food bank. The policies of the current Coalition Government have exacerbated these problems. For some of our residents, it is the worst of times.

In short, although Cambridge is in many ways a success story, it is not equally so for all. Many feel that they are missing out on the opportunities and wealth that others take for granted. The Council understands that many in this city are facing huge challenges, and the Council needs to take a proactive role in sharing our prosperity more fairly. The overriding priority of the next year of council business will be to make a start on tackling the inequality of two-tier Cambridge. The council’s vision is of ‘One Cambridge – Fair For All.’

This will be in the context of harsh government-imposed economic austerity and difficult financial choices. This council will take the necessary transformational measures – including in terms of service reviews, shared services, and minimising internal costs and bureaucracy – in order to fund our ambitions while at the same time meeting the necessary savings targets. In order to combine financial prudence with socialist ambition, the council will marshal underused earmarked reserves, target existing underspends, adopt a more ambitious approach to commercial property investment, and use a more imaginative treasury management strategy.

In order to share prosperity better, we also have to support the continued sustainable economic development of the city. We will work with business interests, the Universities and other partners in order to maximise growth, encourage socially responsible businesses, and ensure that expansion is supported by the requisite infrastructure, particularly in terms of housing and transport provision. Our aim is to ensure that Cambridge gets the benefits of growth while working to ensure that we do not compromise our quality of life or social solidarity in the process.

Many of the wider problems require a long-term, strategic approach. Partnerships with other organisations, such as South Cambridgeshire District Council, the County Council, the Local Enterprise Partnership, and the Cambridge Business Improvement District will be crucial to such an approach, as will the successful implementation of the Local Plan and Greater Cambridge City Deal. In order to respond to the key challenges Cambridge faces, all of us must work together, with a particular focus on the provision of affordable housing.

The first year will only be the start of this strategy. The council will be realistic about is achievable in the short term while also beginning to develop a vision of the medium-term steps that will need to be taken to ensure that Cambridge remains a city for all, not just for a fortunate elite.

### **3. Protecting Essential Services**

Cambridge City Council is facing a tough economic climate. Cambridge City Council's central government grant has been slashed by 13% between 2013/14 and 2014/15, and a similar cut is likely next year. In this context, the Council will be pragmatic, and, in order to protect key services, will attempt to squeeze as much value as possible out of every pound. We will do that with the intention of protecting those crucial services that local residents rely on. Our foremost priority will be to safeguard initiatives that are there to help those who are struggling the most.

#### *In 2014/15, the Council will:*

- **Reverse the cut to the pest control service.** It is a crucial public service that ensures that low-income families can treat rat and bed-bug infestations for free. Cutting it is a false economy that puts public health at risk.
- **Protect community development grants** to crucial organisations that help those who are really struggling, such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, Centre 33 and the Women's Aid Refuge.
- **Refine criteria on all discretionary grants and funding support to ensure that it prioritises the most disadvantaged.** We do not want to reduce any grants where they fund activities or projects that have a positive impact on the community, but grants to organisations directly helping those struggling with the essentials must take priority.
- **Prioritise the crucial services that the public values most**, especially street-cleaning, waste collection and recycling, public realm enforcement, benefit and welfare advice, community development and anti-poverty policies, private and council housing, and community safety.
- **Begin a social audit of all Council spending** to ensure that we direct scarce resources to the policies and services which do most to help families and individuals who are struggling economically, and the most vulnerable.

### **4. Sharing the City's Prosperity and making Cambridge a Living Wage City**

The Council's core priority will be to share Cambridge's prosperity in order to ensure that the benefits of growth are enjoyed by all, including those who clean and staff Cambridge's shops, offices and restaurants, those who work in low-paid jobs at Addenbrookes or in the colleges, and those young workers and professionals starting out in life who are struggling

with high rents. That is why we propose to re-direct £500k from the 'Keep Cambridge Moving Fund' to set up a 'Sharing Prosperity Fund', which will underpin the funding for our anti-poverty strategy.

The Council will continue to implement 'Living Wage' commitments first proposed at Council by the now majority party in their 2012 Annual Statement, that the Council will:

- Tackle low pay in the city by making the council a certified 'Living Wage' employer, with the aim of also applying this to our main contractors
- Consult with other Cambridge public sector or public funded organisations to persuade them where possible to offer a 'Living Wage'.  
(<http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s11902/Labour%20-%20Annual%20Statement.pdf>.)

*In 2014/15, the Council will:*

- **Expand work towards the 'Living Wage' becoming a reality in the wider Cambridge economy**, especially in the education, retail and catering sectors. The Council will employ a part-time officer who can assist the Cambridge Living Wage Campaign in its research and advocacy. (In the medium term, we will also look at introducing a local 'Living Wage Kitemark' scheme to give accreditation to local businesses that pay the living wage.)
- **Expand its Apprenticeship Programme** – Although unemployment is low in Cambridge, in certain areas youth unemployment in particular is still an issue. We will work in conjunction with Cambridge Regional College to open up as many apprenticeship opportunities in the Council as possible, with a target of 20 by year three, focussed on young people from poorer parts of the city.
- **Assist Credit Unions** – Those who struggle with living costs in Cambridge often have to resort to pay-day loan companies who charge extortionate interest rates. Building on a previous motion to council, the Council will work with Cambridge credit unions to ensure that residents are helped to use credit unions, democratic organisations run to provide affordable credit to those in need. We will look into using European or other funds to ensure that the credit unions get a city centre shop-front, are better integrated into services and advice offered by our own welfare team and the Citizens' Advice Bureau, and are given all other necessary support.
- **Promote Energy-Saving Schemes** – The County Council's Collective Energy Switching scheme will seek to use the collective bargaining power of Cambridgeshire residents to negotiate cheaper energy prices for residents. The more who take it up, the more it will save. We will significantly bolster promotion by paying for greater publicity and marketing in the city. We will also provide an extra project budget for the private sector energy officer aimed at enhancing information, publicity and uptake of existing/new energy efficiency and other insulation schemes, such as the Green Deal and the Energy Companies Obligation, which will work in conjunction with the newly announced county-wide funding.
- **Help Households with Water Bills** - There are many households in Cambridge still paying over-the-odds for their water based on rateable values, where no meter has been fitted. Households could also save on their bills from other economy measures, which are often offered by water companies but rarely taken up. The Council will introduce a scheme to assist residents review their water bill and establish if they would benefit from changing to a meter, moving to the assessed charge basis, or taking up other water

efficiency schemes, together with information and help to make any changes identified. It will focus on areas of the city where people are having a tough time paying the bills.

- **Set up a Chesterton Co-ordinator** – Sharing prosperity is also includes helping small and independent traders. Some areas of the City with a lot of shops and other businesses are not covered by the BID area, but also need help in the current climate – an obvious example being Chesterton. The Council will fund a two-year trial post for a part-time small business/community group/trader co-ordinator post on the model of the current successful Mill Road Co-ordinator, but for shops and businesses, especially independent ones, in the Chesterton area. The co-ordinator will work with local traders and community groups to identify and capitalise on opportunities and bid for extra funds for the area.

In the medium term, we will also:

- **Set up an official Cambridge Community Fair** - Cambridge has a rich civil society, full of volunteer organisations. Cambridge also has many public-minded citizens, including thousands of students, who want an opportunity to get involved in the community and help out those less fortunate than them. A community fair, facilitated by the Council using existing resources, will give voluntary and charitable organisations an opportunity to recruit like-minded citizens.
- **Begin negotiations with Cambridge University and the colleges to open up sports facilities and playing fields** – There are a wide range of such facilities that are under-used by residents, and should be open, when possible, to all. We will start to negotiate with Cambridge University and the colleges with a view to opening up access.
- **Improve welfare advice** – We will review and, where possible, enhance the provision of advice services provided by the Council's own staff, the Citizens Advice Bureau, and other agencies, to ensure that in the face of the Government's cuts in benefits, the prevalence of low pay, and the high cost of living in Cambridge, our residents can easily access the best advice possible.

## 5. Tackling the Housing Crisis

Cambridge faces a housing crisis. This crisis will not be resolved by the new Local Plan alone. The Council will develop further initiatives to build new homes, in particular more new affordable homes. The Council also needs to do more to look after existing council tenants, who have been hit by years of high rent rises and a lack of investment in crucial areas, such as fencing and housing estate environmental improvements.

The housing crisis also manifests itself in terms of a dysfunctional private market. House prices and rents are the highest in the country, and some letting agents profiteer, charging people unnecessary and exploitative hidden fees. Tenancies are often very insecure and short-term.

### Building for the Future

The Council's overall housing objectives will be to:

- **Maximise new council and affordable house building** – Building new council properties and maximising the supply of social and affordable housing overall is one of our top priorities. We will thoroughly investigate all potential Council-owned housing development sites. For example, we will look carefully at housing-owned garage sites and underused land which can appropriately be built on and conduct



proper feasibility studies to establish the suitability of such sites for further council housing. We will also consider the possibility of setting up a new Council 'housing development company' to lead in delivering quality, new social housing for Cambridge residents, both social rented and intermediate, with the Council continuing as the social landlord when new housing is delivered.

- **Expand partnerships to deliver and fund a greater supply of social housing**  
Key partners, including within the context of the City Deal framework, will be South Cambridgeshire District Council, developers who want to partner with the Council as their affordable housing provider, Housing Associations, and other stakeholders, including housing co-operatives. The heart of this partnership will be to investigate the possibility of forming a joint venture, and add expertise in development, planning and project delivery. Any projects with partners will address:
  - The potential to jointly develop land with ready access to the city.
  - A fair allocations policy, including the 'choice' element for tenants.
  - Cost effective delivery, and quality housing management arrangements.
  - Limiting, where possible, social rent levels to 60% or less of market level.
  - Funding options, including external sources.
- **In redeveloping current social housing, 'demolish and rebuild' existing sites only as a last resort.** In such cases, we will also ensure that existing council tenants (and leaseholders) are properly consulted and genuinely given the opportunity to return if they wish to. Demolition schemes currently under consideration that the Council is not contractually committed to – that is, the unconfirmed proposals for new projects on Lichfield Road and Campkin Road - will not proceed.
- **Not accept commuted sums in lieu of affordable house-building in new private sector housing developments of 10 or more dwellings**, and commit to a target of at least 40% affordable housing in new developments in Cambridge, except where undeliverable, with a determination to obtain 75% of these for affordable rents.

### **Improving how the Council manages its housing**

#### *In 2014/15 the Council will:*

- **Review the ring-fenced housing budget** (the Housing Revenue Account or HRA) to ensure all funds are effectively allocated and identify if there is an opportunity for a lower rate of rent increase in the 2015 year than the government formula recommends, as we proposed in 2014.
- **Adopt a target of ensuring that Council-owned housing land remains in Council ownership for social rented homes** – The Council will not do future deals with developers that maximise private profit at the expense of our residents.
- **Double the fencing repairs budget to £200,000 per year**, making a start on tackling the estimated £1million backlog of works, giving people pride in where they live.
- **Begin a thorough review of the Council's external capital spend on homes and estates, investing funds to set up a new City Homes Improvement Programme to focus on fixing the external environment**, such as broken footpaths, repainting doors, refitting communal stairwells, and reallocate underspent budgets to best effect.
- **Review the 'small repairs service'** to investigate the policy of expanding the service, possibly opening a new revenue stream while keeping the service free for those on low-incomes.

- **Increase the number of repair apprentices**, giving employment to local young people and giving them skills that will benefit them and the Council, and encourage our contractors to do the same.
- **Ensure no City Homes tenant will be evicted solely because of the ‘bedroom tax’**, and review relevant Council properties to see if it is possible in some cases to alter the designation of bedrooms to mitigate the impact of the policy.
- **Commit to delivering a better way of decision making and service provision**, by creating a strong, single Housing Committee, and integrating housing delivery within the Council. The new arrangement will carry over the rights of elected tenant representatives on Council stock management decisions.

### **Building a Fair Private Rental Sector**

*In 2014/15 the Council will begin work to:*

- **Review the Council’s policies towards the regulation of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)**, with a view to recognising the crucial role HMOs provide in allowing people to afford to live in the city and balancing this with the need to improve the quality and safety of HMOs.
- **Implement the policies in respect to HMOs once the new Local Plan is adopted**, which includes the power to refuse any planning application for new HMOs unless they have in place a proper management plan to monitor and minimise anti-social behaviour and the impact on local residents.
- **Enhance the Landlord Accreditation scheme**, with targets set for each property’s safety and minimum standards put in place, ensuring tenants can live in safe and high quality accommodation.
- **Investigate the possibility of forming a social lettings agency**, to serve the intermediate market (those struggling with rents but not at risk of homelessness) with the intention of increasing and improving the choice of private rented accommodation in the city for those in housing need. We will also support existing and new tenants in tackling the small minority of rogue landlords involved in problems such as unjust registration fees and unfair deposit arrangements.

### **Supporting the Homeless**

In the medium term, the Council will:

- **Review Council policies on tackling homelessness**, focussing on prevention, mitigating its impact on the individual and families, and enabling reintegration back into permanent and secure housing.
- Work with the County Council with the aim of boosting the supply of short-term lodging places available within the city and surrounding area for young homeless people.
- Improve and strengthen the Council’s partnership with the voluntary sector, neighbouring councils, and public authorities who work in homelessness outreach and support.
- **Review the Emergency Cold Weather Protocol**, which gives shelter to rough sleepers in freezing temperatures. This review will investigate whether to widen the definition and terms of the protocol to cover other severe weather conditions.
- **Review and reform, where necessary, the Council’s Housing Options and Advice Service** with the aim of improving the level of support and assistance to those at

threat of homelessness or in need of emergency housing. In addition we will accelerate preparations for the introduction of Universal Credit, enabling the Council to be in a position to effectively deliver support for those private sector tenants negatively impacted by it.

- Improve the dialogue and partnership working with private sector landlords and housing associations, by **re-launching the City Council's Landlord Forum**. This will aid the City Council's preparations for Universal Credit and its impact on tenants in the private sector, prevent eviction, and help with the aim of reintegrating as many long-term homeless back into secure and permanent accommodation as possible.

## 6. Safety and Quality of Life

Cambridge is a beautiful, historic city, a wonderful place to live. However, some find that they cannot enjoy it as much as they would like. Congestion often brings gridlock, which will need to be addressed by greater emphasis on public transport, cycling and walking. The elderly and disabled struggle to get around, particularly in the city centre, due to poor pavements, obstructions such as advertising boards, and 'pavement-grabbing' by businesses.

In some areas, residents feel ill-at-ease or unsafe, especially due to the behaviour of some street drinkers, who can be threatening. The Council recognises the need to balance an educative and caring approach with 'tough love' and stronger action on the side of local residents who have to live with the problem.

### **Making Cambridge Safer**

*In 2014/15 the Council will work to:*

- **Introduce targeted Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs)** in areas where problem drinking and the behaviour of street drinkers is proving to be a public nuisance, subject to consultation. This will give police the powers to confiscate alcohol when judged necessary. We will also assess the suitability of other new legal powers available.
- **Introduce a 'Reduce the Strength' campaign.** High-strength, low-cost lagers and ciders are legal but lethal. They steadily kill street drinkers and lead to unacceptable disorder. The Council will introduce a voluntary code of conduct, on the model of that of Ipswich, which aims to persuade retailers to stop stocking high-strength beers, lagers and ciders. This will be done within existing staffing resources.
- **Work with the police to proactively use Licence Reviews** - Stopping the supply of alcohol to the already-drunk and the underaged is crucial to preventing further problems. The Council will work with the police to ensure more licence reviews occur on premises that sell irresponsibly, with a view to altering or even suspending their licences if necessary.
- **Value and defend diversity** - Cambridge is one of the most diverse, integrated and relaxed cities in Britain. However, both the Council and community have more work to do, and the Council is committed to further measures to increase equality and promote diversity. Residents and visitors need to be free to live their lives in our city whatever their race, religious beliefs or sexuality and without fear of intimidation from groups like the English Defence League. We will work to defend any sections of our communities who are threatened by organisations preaching racism or

discrimination, and work to promote mutual understanding and integration. We will also ensure our consultations reach all significant communities in Cambridge.

- **Investigate options for tackling domestic violence** - Domestic violence and abuse are horrific crimes that still largely go undetected. Building on our work to get domestic violence included as a priority in the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership's 2014-17 plan, we will review policy options available to the Council to develop further initiatives to tackle this issue. This will be with a view towards gaining 'White Ribbon' status, in line with more than 50 other UK cities seeking to address the issue. As part of this, we will continue to ensure that the Council supports the Women's Aid Refuge.
- **Review action taken against punt touts** – Punt touts can be intimidating and annoying. The Council will review current action against punt touts and strengthen it if necessary, as well as pressing Cam Conservators to take effective action.

### **Investing in Transport and Our Quality of Life**

The Council will:

- **Support transport investment via the City Deal** – The 'City Deal' will allow us, in partnership with other local authorities, to invest in infrastructure, particularly transport infrastructure, in conjunction with the County transport strategy. It is essential to shift incoming and outgoing car traffic in new growth areas to non-car alternatives given that growth, not the A14 upgrade, is likely to be the major future traffic generator that threatens the city's quality of life, if not managed properly. It will involve joint decision making with South Cambridgeshire District Council, the County Council and other partners, and we will propose to partners a single delivery plan to integrate the two Local Plans and county transport strategy. In the longer term, the Council supports a single unitary authority for Greater Cambridge. Our emphasis will be on innovative public transport solutions as well as improving cycling facilities. This will help to alleviate congestion and make the city more accessible for all. If the promised City Deal is significantly cut or delayed, we will have to examine a new strategy for filling the city's infrastructure gap.
- **Support the A14 upgrade and keep £700,000 in the Keep Cambridge Moving Fund** – The A14 upgrade needs to proceed despite years of delays by the Coalition Government. We will press for the early delivery of the upgrade by the next Government. Congestion is a big issue, and, although growth is likely to be the bigger issue with regards to traffic generation, the effect of the A14 upgrade will need to be monitored. The Council will retain a substantial amount in the fund, with the option of adding more in the future, if one-off or fixed term monies are available and the need is identified.
- **Support 20mph for residential streets** – The Council supports citywide 20mph residential street speed limits, where residents approve of them in consultation. We will need to address issues relating to the lack of implementation planning in the last two years, including our concerns that:
  - the County Council should have been asked to contribute
  - inadequate provision has been included for re-engineering some unsafe roads, and
  - a clearer police commitment is needed to enforce the new speed limits from the start.
- **Complete the City Centre Accessibility review** – Labour Councillors have been highlighting the difficulties of navigating the city centre for several years now. The Council's review will consider issues such as advertising boards and street cafes blocking pavements, poor and uneven pavements, the location and availability of disabled parking bays, and particular issues faced by some groups such as the deaf and

blind. It will require partnership working with the planning department, the County Council, the Cambridge BID, the city centre management team and local business to identify the problems and suggest or negotiate solutions. We will also look to ensure that the Council's own buildings are made fully accessible, where possible.

- **Introduce improvements for cyclists and pedestrians** – The Council looks forward to working with the County and the City Deal partners to direct new national funding towards improving cycling safety and towards strategic infrastructural projects such as the Chisholm Trail, providing it does not have an unacceptable environmental impact, and proves deliverable. We will support increasing secure cycle parking spaces in the city centre, and implement measures to increase the removal of derelict bikes. We will also prioritise additional public secure cycle parking at community facilities, pubs and other cycling destinations, looking to ensure that the County contributes, in addition to work to ensure that hosting the Tour de France has a positive impact on cycling rates in the city. In addition, we will look to give higher priority to the protection of the rights and interests of pedestrians.
- **Support Community and Council-run events** - We will continue to support a high quality and diverse range of cultural events including the Big Weekend, the Arbury and Chesterton carnivals, the Cambridge Folk Festival (which will shortly celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary), and other local community events.
- **Review community centre provision** - We have some great local community centres. However, some areas of south Cambridge don't have enough, and this will be one of our long-term priorities for capital funding. We will also continue to look for efficiencies and savings in the operation of existing community centres where they will not detrimentally impact on service.

## 7. Making Cambridge Greener and Cleaner

Parts of Cambridge are too dirty. Neglect is felt in outlying residential areas, but parts of the city centre are a disgrace. The previous administration's policy of zero public realm enforcement has meant that a small anti-social minority has been able to act with impunity. The Council believes in helping people to do the right thing, but there will always be a hard-core of people who will respond only to sanctions. There has to be a stick as well as a carrot.

We also believe that action needs to be taken on the environment. Part of this is through reducing consumption by encouraging re-use, repair and recycling, but tackling climate change through reducing carbon emissions and mitigation also needs to be at the forefront of the agenda.

*In 2014/15 the Council will:*

- **Double the Public Realm Enforcement team** – Currently, the public realm enforcement team has just three officers, which is simply inadequate. More enforcement officers are needed to conduct visible patrols, and if necessary warn, educate or fine those who drop litter, fly-tip, drop cigarette ends or fail to pick up after their dogs. The Council will double the team to six. Enforcement policy also needs to be reviewed to ensure that it is more proactive and to ensure that officers can engage robustly with those who create problems.
- **Carry out a 'Clean it Up' anti-dog fouling campaign** – In some parts of Cambridge dog mess is a real hazard, creating a danger for children and degrading the environment. The Council currently has an overstretched part-time dog warden. will



make that post full-time, and conduct an extensive publicity campaign against dog-fouling, in conjunction with our tougher enforcement approach.

- **Double the programme of ‘Community Clear Out Days’** – Many residents struggle with bulky waste disposal charges. The existing ‘Clear Out’ days, involving skips to dispose of large items and community activities to clean up areas, are successful. The Council will double the number of these days, focussing on City Homes and mixed-tenancy areas.
- **Implement a ‘Cleaner Cambridge Blitzes’ campaign** – The Council will use the City Rangers, the Rapid Response Team, the Public Realm Enforcement team and the Street Cleaning team to co-ordinate ward-based ‘blitzes’, tackling one ward every month in rotation, working within existing budgets. This will involve focussing on wards in a concentrated fashion, conducting high-visibility enforcement sweeps on littering and dog fouling, gum removal, leaf collection, graffiti removal in certain areas, deep cleans, and educational visits.
- **Tackle cigarette litter** – In some parts of Cambridge, cigarette ends are a real issue, especially outside pubs and in the city centre. The Council will work to ensure that the public realm enforcement team, working with BID ambassadors, proactively distribute portable ashtrays. The Council will also work to encourage pubs to provide ashtrays and clear up cigarette ends from outside their premises.
- **Improve maintenance and cleanliness standards in public places and parks** - At the moment, this is not good enough. Certain areas such as Jesus Green are often left in a disgraceful state due to misuse in summer. We will investigate what action to take to deal with this problem.

In the medium term, the council will:

- **Work closely with Cambridge BID, including for a cleaner City Centre** - We will seek closer links with the BID, review the demarcation of responsibilities such as with cleanliness, and look to clarify and integrate the service we offer the public, lending our support and expertise to projects to clean up the city centre.
- **Implement a review of grass verges** - Many grass verges in the city are churned up by irresponsible parking. We will review the city’s streets with grass verges, and make a systematic attempt to review how to fix the problem on a situation-by-situation basis, taking into account possible solutions and examining integration with existing sources of funding.
- **Expand Green Fingers** – Green Fingers is an important service which helps those who are too elderly, infirm or disabled to continue working on their garden to keep it up to scratch. However, it has not been open to new customers for a while. The Council will review the service to see if it can be revitalised and opened up to new customers in a low-cost or cost-neutral way through partnership working.
- **Expand the range of recyclable material in blue bins** – The contract for blue bin commingled recycling expires soon, and negotiations for a new contract are ongoing. The Council will look to ensure that the new contract expands recyclable material to include plastic bags and to broaden the range of materials at recycling centres to include items such as small electrical devices, textiles, and shoes. We will also examine the viability of a separate food waste collection.
- **Review our Climate Change Strategy** – The Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources will lead council initiatives to tackle climate change and reduce carbon emissions, and ensure these objectives are integrated into every department’s routine way of thinking. This not only makes environmental sense, but usually also saves

money by reducing bills and saving energy. We will work with Transition Cambridge, local residents, and local employers, including in the private and public sectors, to comprehensively review our strategy, with an aim of becoming more outward-facing on the issue.

## 6. Transforming the Council

The Council needs to develop ways to interact more directly with its citizens. Area committees can be a useful tool for public engagement, but they are currently dominated by planning applications, which are of very limited interest to most people.

We also appreciate that in order to maintain our levels of service and respond to the challenges that Cambridge faces, we will have to find new savings, change the way we deliver services, and be imaginative and innovative in finding new methods of delivering the same, or better, for less.

- **Consultation** – We will actively engage with social media but are aware that many residents prefer traditional methods of communication. The Council will conduct a more extensive budget consultation in our first year in order to get a better view of what residents want in the context of reduced resources, including more sophisticated methodology.
- **Improve Area Committees** – We want area committees to be focussed upon the issues that the public wants to talk about, not what we impose on them. We want to give the public forum more prominence, and focus area committees around issues of public concern, more on the model of single-issue public meetings when necessary, though also including current items such as police priorities. We will return planning to a single central committee, while keeping the scheme of delegation the same so that residents will retain their current ability to have their say on planning applications. This will allow ward councillors to be advocates for their residents rather than being stifled by the risk of predetermination. We will review the possibility of webcasting planning meetings as an option for residents to be able to more easily view them.
- **Implement short-term savings to fund the first year’s agenda - Labour**  
Councillors have already identified a wide range of savings to help fund immediate policy and priority changes. They focus on back-office savings and underspends, not on changes that impact on frontline services. These include:
  - Redirecting New Homes Bonus money to the Sharing Prosperity Fund, and fund a new ‘Fixed-term Project Priority Fund’.
  - Redirecting funds from the training, conferences and seminar budget that has been routinely underspent.
  - Extra commercial property income from increased investment.
  - A range of other smaller savings including as identified in Labour’s 2014/15 budget amendment.
- **Organisational transformation and medium-term savings** – In order to continue to provide the best services possible with fewer resources and implement our medium-term ambitions, while meeting our savings targets in a time of austerity, we will look at new ways of delivering services, working with our quality staff team, including:
  - Sharing services with other district councils or the County (e.g. the potential for shared waste services with South Cambs, shared ICT, Legal and Property Services with them or other districts, etc.)

- Alternative Delivery Models – such as a cultural trust for running the Corn Exchange, an arms-length tourism delivery vehicle, and a new model for Bereavement Services. Non-profit and other methods of transformation will be our preferred options, rather than contracting out or privatisation.
  - Service reviews – We will continue with existing service reviews where appropriate, as well as investigating the possibility of new ones, for example on the Sports Development service.
  - Reviewing our existing resources – We will review historic underspends and treasury management, rationalise historic cost-centre budgets, scrutinise the resources in earmarked reserves and other funds, and review re-charges and overheads in the context of organisational change, to see if resources can be freed up.
  - Income generation - The Council needs to ensure that, when it is consistent with our wider social goals, we fully utilise the value of our skills and services, become more entrepreneurial, and maximise income generation provided that other objectives are also delivered. For example, we will look to increase, tastefully and pragmatically, our sponsorship and advertising opportunities across the Council.
- **Review Public Art** – There is public concern about expenditure on public art projects that are based upon an undemocratic and opaque process. The Council will review the use of Section 106 monies to fund public art projects, and ensure that the process is transparent and that the public receive value for money.
  - **Commercial property** – Commercial property – The Council needs a successful and well managed commercial property portfolio to raise the income needed to support crucial services like street-cleaning and waste disposal. The Council will make a sensible and low-risk additional investment in commercial property, funded by reviewing our treasury management strategy and examining, on a risk basis, the resources available in earmarked reserves such as the Repair and Renewal Fund. This will create a significant additional income stream for the Council.

### **Conclusion**

The Council faces some massive challenges, and it is only by working with our hardworking and talented staff that we will be able to continue to deliver the services residents need in the context of massive funding reductions.

Continuing change in the way we operate is inevitable in order to allow the Council to deliver more for less, and ensure that this never compromises our principles of public service and fairness. The Council is determined to deliver for all residents while prioritising projects and policies that will make a real difference to those who need our help the most.



## Annual Statement – Liberal Democrat Group

As leaders of the City Council Liberal Democrats committed to maintain Cambridge's remarkable economic prosperity, but also to address the key challenges facing the city, many arising from its success (as specified in the attached manifesto "Delivering for Cambridge"):

- To meet the pressing needs for housing
- To ensure everyone in the growing city feels they have a real stake in its success
- To keep Cambridge moving
- To protect and improve our unique quality of life
- To deliver our financial strategy to enable the maintenance and improvement of basic universal services

The Liberal Democrat group is willing to work together with the new Labour administration towards these goals, bringing forward our own ideas and subjecting theirs to scrutiny.

We will be concerned that new initiatives are within the competence and capacity of the council, are affordable and, based on sound analysis, are likely to achieve what is professed for them, which we expect to see defined as part of the initial decision making process. We will be vigilant in identifying measures that are more designed for political posturing than tangible benefit to residents.

We will use our experience of 14 years' running the Council to hold Labour to account on behalf of residents for good use of public resources, high service standards to residents and against the expectations they have set while winning power.

We will continue to champion the major policy directions and accomplishments pioneered under Liberal Democrat leadership of the Council and we will be challenging the Labour Party to:

- Defend the balance between accommodating growth and protecting the character and setting of the city, embodied in our draft Local Plan;
- Stop minimising the importance of the City Deal and put it to work for Greater Cambridge – securing fair balance between investment in transport infrastructure within as well as into the city, and giving priority to sustainable transport;
- Build and modernise more council homes and develop the consensus achieved with our Greater Cambridge partners on collaboration to build new intermediate housing;
- Honour the Council's commitment to the "Keep Cambridge Moving Fund" to mitigate congestion within the city arising from the enlarged A14;
- Start supporting the City Centre Business Improvement District, whilst holding its board to account in relation to residents' concerns;
- Maintain area-by-area momentum in delivering the new residential 20mph zones;
- Develop the Local Centres improvement programme, funded and initiated earlier this year, starting with Mitchams Corner;
- Support the Green Deal with the funds just won from Government to incentivise energy efficiency investment in rental housing and conservation areas;
- Treat the city's voluntary and not-for-profit sector as partners in achieving the council's objectives rather than just an easy source for savings

We will continue to

- advocate for the interests of the vulnerable to remain at the heart of council decision making
- argue for investing the time and resources necessary for getting right those decisions for the future of the city, which we have only one chance to get right
- promote emphasis on educational, preventative and restorative approaches to anti-social behaviour, arguing against unnecessary council bossiness
- champion openness in council processes, enablement of public participation and ease of access to public services

# Delivering for Cambridge

## *Facing the challenges of the future*

**Cambridge has some urgent challenges on its plate... How to meet the pressing needs for housing? How to ensure everyone in the growing city feels they have a real stake? How to keep Cambridge moving? How to protect and improve our unique quality of life? How to make ends meet in the public sphere, so high quality services can be maintained?**

Many of these challenges are symptoms of Cambridge's incredible success over the past decade under the Liberal Democrats.

Today the city has unemployment near the bottom of the national cities league table and average earnings near the top. Its world-renowned universities thrive and its technology companies are booming. Home-grown employers have been able to grow and stay. New employers with global reputations have been attracted to come here. We have been able to ride out the recession much better than most of the rest of the country. This has brought wide benefits through the local economy, including that Cambridge has the lowest shop vacancy rate in the country.

*The Liberal Democrat City Council has enabled and shaped this prosperity by moving cautiously from rigid straightjacket to measured growth. Without this, the "Cambridge Phenomenon" would have stopped in its tracks.*

The benefits of success have been very widely shared. Nationally published figures tell us that Cambridge today is the most equal of the UK's 64 cities and that we exhibit among the lowest levels of deprivation

*The City Council under the Liberal Democrats has invested massively in fostering a cohesive community. Resources to enable and include have been targeted to neighbourhoods and communities where there is relative disadvantage. Policies for our services have been framed to address hardship and the needs of the vulnerable. The Council is the leading social landlord in the city, a role discharged with energy and innovation on behalf of its tenants. We have worked with the voluntary sector to reach where officialdom often cannot.*

Cambridge remains a place of great beauty. Its historic buildings, iconic vistas and green lungs all remain central to the city's character. But the opportunity of new development has also seen the city punch above its weight in architectural recognition and in the generous provision for new open spaces, echoing the historic city. The highest standards have been imposed on new buildings in terms of carbon footprint.

*Liberal Democrats running the City Council have insisted that growth respects the constraints of Cambridge as a compact city surrounded by fields. High design and environmental values have been exacted in the face of development pressures.*

Cambridge outstrips the rest of the country in the proportion of journeys taken by bicycle. This not only matches best public health advice, but is the best means of beating congestion and constraining both air emissions and carbon. If all the cyclists got in cars the city would simply seize up.



*The Liberal Democrat City Council has championed cycling, investing in facilities itself and campaigning for the highways authority to fashion schemes with cyclists in mind. It has fought also for other sustainable transport including buses and Park & Ride. It has campaigned successfully for a new railway station in the north of the city and it is assisting its development.*

The last time it was measured, people in Cambridge felt more able to influence public decision making than anywhere else in the country.

*Liberal Democrats have invited the public right into the heart of the council. We have decentralised some of its work to Area Committees where the participation of residents is encouraged, and neighbourhood approaches on planning, environmental improvements and policing are determined. We have introduced public question time at all council meetings and practice public consultation on significant decisions, which we supplement by outreach to young people. All this is supported by a growing digital presence.*

**The challenges we face haven't arrived overnight and will not disappear overnight. Many require balance between competing pressures to avoid the city losing its underlying winning formula. Liberal Democrats are providing leadership and innovation but working with the grain of Cambridge: tackling the heart of the problem. We are already pursuing powerful strategies which bear fruit. These need to be maintained and sustained to deliver in the long run.**

## **1. A Place of Your Own**

In Cambridge's shortage of homes it is a victim of its own economic success. The result is hardship for children of local families wanting to leave home. It is tough both for people moving here for work and for employers trying to recruit them. It squeezes living standards of key workers. And the sellers' market tilts the balance away from the interests of private tenants.

The long recession in the construction industry had until recently slowed delivery of approved new homes. The Labour government's block on new council house building, until changed by the Coalition, left a diminishing stock of social housing and a lengthening waiting list.

### **The Council as planner and enabler**

We are providing for more homes through our local plan in co-operation with neighbouring councils yet protecting the compact character of the city. More and more future development will come through new or enlarged settlements outside the city, but our plan for the city provides for 14,000 more homes by 2031, mainly through known extensions on the Southern Fringe and North West Cambridge – but also through ensuring

re-use of existing sites in the built-up area.

We strive to cut out red tape in the planning process to speed delivery, and we will continue to insist on high standards of design and energy efficiency for all new housing.

We will be supplementing our requirement that 40% of large new developments must be 'affordable homes', by applying an obligation on



smaller developments and rejecting student housing as an alternative.

We will persist in our goal of encouraging diversity of housing supply and mixing different types of ownership and tenure across the city. We will explore the possibility of a co-operative housing association providing all or part of the affordable housing element on the Mill Road Depot site when that comes forward. We will bring to fruition our co-housing project in the north of the city. We will work with neighbouring councils to find a new way to provide housing for the 'intermediate sector': those who are not eligible for social housing but cannot afford the prices in the city. With the new relationship established through the City Deal we have engaged partners, including the University, in this objective.

#### **The Council as builder and landlord**

Under the increased freedoms allowed by the Coalition government, we will build 2000 more council homes, spearheading the delivery of this type of affordable housing – and helping to relieve those suffering over-crowded and over-priced housing in their own city.

We will continue to improve our existing council stock including redeveloping sites where the present buildings are not up to 21st century standards. We will continue the extensive programme of retrofitting better insulation and energy efficiency measures to reduce fuel poverty: in particular we will tackle the problems tenants have when they can only use electricity for heating.

We will increase the support given to vulnerable tenants to sustain their tenancies. We will work with the County Council and the Health Authorities to maximise and co-ordinate services to vulnerable older people to enhance their quality of life.

### **The Cambridge Local Plan**

*Under its LibDem leadership the City Council has recently adopted the new Cambridge Local Plan. It will guide development in the city until 2031. It now goes to a Planning Inspector and likely planning enquiry where we will fight doggedly for its approval as representing the best balance to meet multiple pressures on the city – to retain its character and provide for much needed new homes and much prized new jobs.*

The plan:

- Maintains as its central vision '**a compact city located within the high quality landscape setting of the Cambridge green belt**'
- Envisages **14,000 new homes**, 97% on existing sites within the city and co-ordinated with South Cambridgeshire where more development, including several new and enlarged settlements is planned
- Reinforces the aggressive 40% requirement for **affordable housing** on larger developments with new requirements from smaller developments and student housing no longer permitted as substitute
- In new home design, broadens the drive for **carbon reduction** by encompassing energy efficiency as well as renewable generation and aggressively targets **water conservation** through grey water and rainwater recycling
- Stipulates that all new housing should enable the **Lifetime Homes Standards** to be met and 5% of larger housing schemes to meet **Wheelchair Housing Design Standards**.
- Enables **22,000 new jobs**, with extra employment provision at Peterhouse Technology Park (for ARM) and North East Cambridge (near the new Science Park station), while the already approved Bio-medical campus continues to build out
- Designates an Urban Country Park near the lakes on Coldhams Lane
- Targets public realm improvements for Mill Road, Hills Road, Mitcham's Corner, Eastern Gate, Old Press/Mill Lane and the Grafton Centre
- Safeguards viable pubs from being switched to other uses



### **The Council as regulator and standard-setter**

It is a high priority for us to uphold standards in the private rented sector, especially in seeing that landlords repair their property and do not harass their tenants. We have recently signed up to Shelter's pledge to tackle "rogue landlords" and, having recently increased our enforcement team, we will continue to challenge them and prosecute where necessary.

We will continue to target the owners of empty houses insisting that they get the buildings back into use, using Compulsory Purchase Orders where necessary.

We will continue to promote high standards through the Property

Accreditation Scheme and explore ways of assisting its members to improve the insulation and energy efficiency of their houses. With funding we have recently won from Government, as 'Action on Energy', we will roll out a programme to incentivise solid wall insulation, targeting the rented sector and conservation areas under the 'Green Deal'.

We will promote the 'Action on Energy' one-stop-shop to help residents find the best way to improve the energy efficiency of their homes and bring down their bills. We will explore with Cambridge Retrofit innovative ways of increasing the insulation and energy efficiency of homes in the city and we are championing a bid for European funding for them through the Local Enterprise Partnership.

## **2. A City that Works for All**

Cambridge may be the most equal UK city and have amongst the lowest levels of deprivation, but the Liberal Democrats are committed to work hard to keep it that way and improve the city in that respect. With our population growth, it is important that we stay a city where people feel included, are treated fairly and have access to help when in trouble.

The expense of living in Cambridge is one of the main reasons people on low incomes can feel excluded. Attacking the shortage of affordable homes is a key driver of our housing agenda. But we are also proud that the City Council sets an example as a major employer by paying the **Living Wage** to all its employees and longer term temporary staff. We aim to extend this to the employees of firms providing subcontracted services to the council. We aim for extra relief to those on tight budgets through promoting **collective energy switching**.

### **Homelessness**

We will continue engaging with the problems of alcohol and drug addiction, rough sleeping and homelessness in ways which **help people to improve their lives** rather than further criminalising them. We will keep on working with the health service, the Police and specialist voluntary organisations to rehabilitate where we can.

We will build on the initial success of the Single Homelessness Service to prevent those in temporary difficulties becoming the next generation of entrenched rough sleepers. We will put in place higher levels of support to help newly housed people sustain their tenancies. We will expand the Town Hall Lettings scheme, to give those in temporary difficulties a way out of homelessness.



## Welfare Reform

In a time of anxiety for those on benefits we will continue to **minimise the impact of the national welfare reforms on the most vulnerable**. We will ensure the worst-off are not forced to pay council tax and we will award discretionary housing payments in an efficient and professional way. We will work to ensure that the roll-out of Universal Credit does not negatively affect recipients of benefits.

We will continue to give professional assistance through our own Customer Service Centre and we are committed to funding for the **Citizens Advice Bureau**, which we have increased as their caseload has risen during the recession. In addition, we are actively supporting credit unions to help to prevent recourse to payday lenders.

## Helping Young People into Work

We want to connect local young people much better to opportunities in the successful Cambridge hi-tech companies, which they often have difficulty in filling. With new powers from the City Deal, we will work with employers and providers to better match **vocational training courses and apprenticeships** to the needs of growing sectors of our local economy.

## Keeping older people connected

We will work with the County Council and the NHS to improve services for older people, promoting aspects of health care which prevent the need for hospitalisation. We will aim for services which enable the elderly and disabled to remain actively part of the community, including transport links such as the 199 and 114 buses.

## Targeting help where it is needed

We will continue to reach out to those communities most in need, for example through the work of the Council's Children and Young People's Play Service (ChYpPS)

And we will continue to support a vibrant voluntary sector, which unleashes a huge reservoir of energy for mutual support and philanthropy into the community.

## Bringing the City together

We will continue with events which bring people together in the city as well as initiatives which recognise those who have traditionally been excluded or suffered persecution in society. In new housing developments we will strive to build real communities.

We provide a vibrant programme of artistic and cultural events throughout the year and across the whole City, continuing to support established events such as Bonfire Night and fairs on the City's open spaces. We are particularly proud to be **bringing the Tour de France to Cambridge** – the UK cycling capital – in July 2014.

We recognise the contributions made by people of diverse backgrounds and will continue to commemorate those who have often suffered prejudice: marking Holocaust Memorial Day and celebrating LGBT and Black History months. We will also continue to support the Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum.

In growth areas in and around the city, we will ensure community facilities within new neighbourhoods are developed in a way that promotes the integration of new and existing communities, as well as supporting clustering policies that ensure social housing is fully integrated within new developments.



## The Greater Cambridge City Deal

### Lib Dems in Government locally and nationally - working for Cambridge

Recognising that “city regions” drive national progress and prosperity, the Coalition government invited bids for devolution to address key local constraints. Negotiated “deals” would be customised and based on relevant local councils pooling responsibilities across boundaries and involving other stakeholders.

The Lib Dem Cambridge City Council lobbied strenuously for the chance to negotiate one of these City Deals. We have long believed that local control can be more effective and that pooling of powers would be a welcome first step towards simplifying local government and helping it grapple with decisions in a strategic way through a single unitary council.

The City Council started work with South Cambridgeshire District Council, the County Council, the University of Cambridge and the Local Enterprise Partnership: five partners for “Greater Cambridge”.

The local constraint we targeted for the deal was investment in transport infrastructure, the lack of which held the area back. Better infrastructure, in particular better sustainable transport, would remove obstacles to housing both within and outside the city. It would help the Cambridge technology cluster of hi-tech firms and university research to retain the connectivity which has been critical to their success to date. And it would assist the quality of life of residents, threatened by congestion and shortage of homes.

We advanced perhaps the boldest of all the City Deal bids to central government – for necessary investment to be funded by rebating to the area a share of the national taxation that a more successful Greater Cambridge would generate.

- An injection of up to £500m to support progressive investment in transport infrastructure - reported by the BBC to make it the highest value City Deal so far
- A commitment between the local partners to powers on transport strategy and spatial strategy (the determination of a single Local Plans next time) enabling a step change in integrated, joined up decision making
- Agreement to work together to develop means of funding more affordable housing
- Power to redirect vocational skills spending to future employer need combined with additional apprenticeships in the growth sectors of our local economy
- A joint leadership for the economic development of Greater Cambridge, consisting of a 5-person Executive (leaders from each partner) to operate only by consensus, answerable to a politically proportionate assembly from each of the three councils

### 3. Keeping Cambridge Moving

Cambridge has suffered from poor transport infrastructure for years – and yet the City Council has not held the main levers of power to make significant change. Growth of the city has put this further under strain and the **City Deal** we have won the Government has not come a moment too soon. The deal not only brings huge additional investment, but also secures participation of the City Council itself in how that investment is used.

Our priority is to ensure that the undisputed importance of serving the new and enlarged communities outside the city is properly balanced with the need to address the capacity of the city itself by measures which protect the character and quality of life here. This means a preference for schemes which facilitate **public transport** and make **cycling** and



walking more attractive. This should include investment in bringing about the dedicated north-south cycleway, the Chisholm Trail.

We will work hard to defend the sustainability theme of our **Cambridge Local Plan** as it completes its final stages of approval. It aims to minimise commuting by maximising new homes within the city to the degree consistent with our compact character and landscape setting. This is reinforced by requiring new developments to provide high capacity broadband. We also expect adequate domestic cycle parking and cycle links to the rest of the city.

### **Public Transport**

With the forthcoming enlargement of the A14, the City Council has set aside money to help ensure it doesn't result in gridlock in Cambridge. We will use this to encourage transfer to public transport by seeking agreement for a new **Park and Ride** facility near the Girton interchange.

We will advocate early determination of a **bus and coach management strategy** for the city centre to ensure the best balance between safety, protection of the historic fabric and convenience.

We will review the Council's policy relating to **air quality** following a recent research report. We will encourage more taxi drivers to have petrol hybrid or electric cars and will work with the County Council to ensure the Better Bus fund requires use of new technology to reduce air pollution.

Delighted with the eventual success of our longstanding campaign for a second train station in Chesterton, it is time for a **broader debate to improve rail** access to and within the city. A third station at Addenbrookes should be evaluated, as should improvements in the services to Stansted and to the East Coast mainline to the north, the re-establishment of the line to Bedford enabling a link to Oxford.

### **Cycling and Walking**

We will continue to directly promote cycling by investing in better facilities including improved **cycle parking** as we are currently providing in the city centre. We will also press for allowing two way cycling in one way streets where it is safe, and an investigation of camera enforcement against driving and parking in bus and cycle lanes.

We will promote **safety on paths** in the city by reviewing signage to give pedestrians and cyclists better awareness of those that are pedestrian only, cyclist only, or for shared use, enabling an appropriate level of alertness and mutual consideration.

Following implementation of the widely welcomed 20 mph limit in the north of the city, we will work with residents to expand it to all residential roads across the rest of the city.

## **4. Quality of Life**

Residents, both new and established, businesses and visitors all tend to agree that the common factor drawing people to Cambridge and encouraging them to stay is its high quality of life. The unique way the city is built around open spaces, its iconic historical built environment combining with the many excellent examples of the new; the values of a small city that is youthful, outward-looking and tolerant in character; the rare intensity of interest, participation and pride in the public domain. Even as the city grows, we are determined to protect and develop these characteristics.



## Liberal Democrat values for Cambridge

*We have defined the kind of liberal and democratic city we champion in order to guide our decision making and the Council has reflected this in these vision statements:*

### Cambridge - where people matter

- A city which celebrates its diversity, unites in its priority for the disadvantaged and strives for shared community wellbeing
- A city whose citizens feel they can influence public decision making and are equally keen to pursue individual and community initiatives
- A city where people behave with consideration for others and where harm and nuisance are confronted wherever possible without constraining the lives of all

### Cambridge - a good place to live, learn and work

- A city which recognises and meets needs for housing of all kinds - close to jobs and neighbourhood facilities
- A city which draws inspiration from its iconic historic centre and achieves a sense of place in all of its parts with generous urban open spaces and well- designed buildings
- A city with a thriving local economy that benefits the whole community and builds on its global pre-eminence in learning and discovery
- A city where getting around is primarily by public transport, bike and on foot

### Cambridge - caring for the planet

- A city in the forefront of low carbon living and minimising its impact on the environment from waste and pollution.

## Natural Environment

We will fight to protect **Cambridge's open spaces** – its green lungs. We will ensure delivery of the equally generous provision in new developments around the city that we have stipulated. We will also ensure that, even where new provision is not publicly owned, it is open and managed in the public interest, as we have insisted in our joint management venture for the new Storey's Field in North West Cambridge.

We will equip open spaces to enable uses expected of them by **the whole community**, while respecting the different character of each.

We will continue to invest in the maintenance of **trees**, and will plant more, to ensure succession to those that fail, so that this valued feature of our city benefits residents for generations to come.

We will ensure that **allotments** have the highest level of statutory protection, so that they are not squeezed by the enormous pressure to develop within Cambridge.

## Built Environment

We will promote **excellence in design** as a requirement for development within the city, by encouraging pre-application discussion between the urban design team and applicants, using masterplans for significant new development areas and making best use of public art contributions.

We will aim to reduce Cambridge's carbon footprint and mitigate the impact of **climate change** here with the use of sustainable urban drainage systems in our new developments and protecting biodiversity



## Community

To balance the city centre, we will promote other neighbourhood hubs around the city. We will progress our new **Local Centres Improvement Programme**, aimed at regeneration of such hubs through environmental enhancement, in concert with local residents and in partnership with businesses and developers: starting with Mitcham's Corner.

With the powers that we have available, we will support **independent shops**. We will build on our earlier attempts to seek planning powers to ensure a diversity of shops can co-exist.

We will continue to support the **city centre**, conducting a widespread review of its physical accessibility. We will enhance the Market Square by realising the Public Realm strategy enshrined in the Local Plan, and completing a management review of the market itself, to support the vibrancy of the city centre.

## Values

We will maintain the tempo of a **city at ease with itself** through focus on

prevention and education rather than heavy-handed enforcement of the big city government kind. We will resist the kind of regulation which jeopardises reasonable behaviour by all in order to tackle the misbehaviour of the few.

We will use the Council's role in community safety to work with the Police and others on **root causes** of petty crime and anti-social behaviour. We will build on the early progress of Neighbourhood Resolution Panels, the pilot restorative justice scheme we have started, which brings first time offenders face to face with their victims to agree future actions and behaviour.

We will defend the innovations of **openness and participation** we have introduced and which enable the city's high level of public involvement. In particular we leave unchanged the powers we have given to area committees, providing for elected councilors to take transparent decisions in their own neighbourhoods at times that most residents can attend. We will develop the Council's on-line presence and accessibility, working progressively towards a proactive, open data regime.

## 5. Making ends meet to protect and improve basic services

The success of the city is happening despite declining funds to run local government services. Liberal Democrats have worked successfully for over a decade to mitigate this through efficiency savings - and this must go on. But the numbers now force more difficult choices for any party running the council.

### Basic environmental services

We are the only provider of many universal environmental services to the city and remain firmly committed to providing them to an excellent level and to developing them as the city changes and grows - as we always have. In our sights right now are:

- An expansion of **kerbside recycling** to include textiles and more plastic packaging
- An increase in the services of our recently introduced **Rapid Response street cleaning team** to include Autumn leaf fall priority
- Ongoing refurbishment of **public toilets** across the city



- Complete our programme of **new litter and recycling bins** across the city on streets and open spaces

## Financial Plan

We have mapped out plans which we are already starting to implement, to generate the resources needed to continue providing at the level we do in these hostile times, and to keep enabling further improvements

We will:

- **Share some services** with neighbouring councils to further reduce costs, as we have started by combining our CCTV control room with Huntingdonshire. We are jointly exploring further opportunities with South Cambridgeshire and are working towards sharing waste collection operations.
- Consider **alternative models** for the provision of some services, such as a trust for the Corn Exchange and the Folk Festival, outsourcing of building cleaning, an arms length arrangement for our tourist service
- Maximise income through an **entrepreneurial approach** to key local assets, such as our major commercial property asset portfolio and trade waste business
- Within some of our discretionary services, **target resources** where only the council can make an impact, as we are doing with our children's play service, elsewhere encouraging and helping those who are willing to organise for themselves
- **Benchmark** the way the council discharges its statutory services, to be sure that choices about the nature and level of delivery are consciously made in relation to public need
- Continue to reduce carbon emissions and **energy costs** in the council's operations by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy through our Carbon Management Plan

In navigating the way forward, we are determined to **protect vulnerable residents** and are committed to subject all our plans to equalities impact assessments.

As more of the income coming to the city council in future is likely to be linked to the growth in business rates, it is important we are well placed to support businesses as they start up, move to the city or develop here. We propose to fund a new **Business Partnership Officer** post to provide better liaison between the Council and businesses in the city and vice versa.

## The Council punching its weight

To deliver for the benefit of the city, the City Council must be willing to bring its democratic legitimacy to the table to **rally and co-operate with others**. This we have done with neighbouring councils in the City Deal and with our draft Local Plan; with the formation of the city centre's new Business Improvement District, with the universities in their outreach to the community, and with organisations in the voluntary sector like the Citizens Advice Bureau. We will continue to provide this leadership, increasing the council's reach through partnership within the broader community.

Through working together with neighbouring councils we will continue to build the case and the conditions for a **single Greater Cambridge council**, offering simpler, integrated local government with clear accountability for the natural unit of the city and surrounding countryside.

# Agenda Item 17

## Attendance at Meetings May 2013 - April 2014

User Name	Party	Total Meetings	Present	% Present
Councillor Andrea Reiner	Liberal	14	14	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Andy Blackhurst	Liberal	23	23	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Carina O'Reilly	Labour	38	35	92%
Councillor Caroline Hart	Labour	17	15	88%
Councillor Catherine Smart	Liberal	34	34	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Colin Rosenstiel	Liberal	56	56	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Damien Tunnacliffe	Liberal	40	39	98%
	Democrat			
* Councillor Gail Marchant-Daisley	Labour	29	16	55%
Councillor George Owers	Labour	29	28	97%
Councillor George Pippas	Liberal	27	27	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Gerri Bird	Labour	33	28	85%
Councillor Jean Swanson	Liberal	18	18	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Jeremy Benstead	Labour	37	33	89%
Councillor John Hipkin	Independent	27	26	96%
Councillor Julie Smith	Liberal	13	12	92%
	Democrat			
Councillor Kevin Blencowe	Labour	55	55	100%
Councillor Kevin Price	Labour	47	47	100%
Councillor Lewis Herbert	Labour	34	31	91%
Councillor Margery Abbott	Labour	19	17	89%
Councillor Mark Ashton	Labour	23	23	100%
Councillor Max Boyce	Liberal	38	37	97%
	Democrat			
Councillor Mike Pitt	Liberal	34	34	100%
	Democrat			
Councillor Mike Todd-Jones	Labour	19	18	95%
Councillor Nigel Gawthrope	Labour	36	32	89%
Councillor Paul Saunders	Liberal	48	46	96%
	Democrat			
Councillor Peter Roberts	Labour	19	19	100%
Councillor Philip Tucker	Liberal	28	23	82%
	Democrat			
Councillor Richard Johnson	Labour	31	30	97%
Councillor Robert Dryden	Labour	41	30	73%
Councillor Rod Cantrill	Liberal	28	24	86%
	Democrat			
Councillor Russ McPherson	Labour	18	15	83%
Councillor Sarah Brown	Liberal	22	20	91%
	Democrat			
Councillor Shapour Meftah	Conservative	24	24	100%
Councillor Sheila Stuart	Liberal	31	28	90%
	Democrat			

Councillor Sian Reid	Liberal Democrat	34	28	82%
Councillor Simon Brierley	Liberal Democrat	38	35	92%
Councillor Simon Kightley	Liberal Democrat	24	23	96%
Councillor Sue Birtles	Labour	22	15	68%
Councillor Susannah Kerr	Liberal Democrat	24	23	96%
Councillor Tim Bick	Liberal Democrat	17	14	82%
Councillor Tim Ward	Liberal Democrat	22	22	100%
Councillor Zoe Moghadas	Labour	21	21	100%

\* Cllr Gail Marchant Daisley was granted leave of absence because her partner was seriously ill.