

Cambridge City Council

Notice of Council

Date: Thursday, 20 July 2023

Time: 6.00 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of Cambridge City Council will be held in the Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Market Square, Cambridge, CB2 3QJ on Thursday, 20 July 2023 at 6.00 pm and I hereby summon you to attend.

Dated 12 July 2023

Yours faithfully

Robert Pollock

Chief Executive

Agenda

- 1 Minutes (Pages 13 - 38)
- 2 To Note the Returning Officer's Report that the following have been elected to the Office of Councillor
Kings Hedges – Delowar Hossain
- 3 Mayor's announcements
- 4 Public questions time
- 5 To consider the recommendations of the Executive for adoption

- 5a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Outturn Report 2022/23 (Executive Councillor for Housing and Homelessness) (Pages 39 - 62)
- 5b Greater Cambridge Impact Fund- (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 63 - 162)
- Appendix B to the report relates to information which following a public interest test the public is likely to be excluded by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 ie. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- 5c Place Group Resource for Key Projects - (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 163 - 170)
- 5d Annual Treasury Management Outturn Report 2022/23 - (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 171 - 194)
- 5e 2022/23 General Fund Reserve and Capital Outturn, Carry Forwards and Significant Variances - (Executive Councillor for Finance and Resources) (Pages 195 - 228)
- 6 To consider the recommendations of Committees for adoption
- 6a Civic Affairs Committee - Review of Budget Process Timetable for 2023/24 and Constitutional Updates (Pages 229 - 284)
- 7 To deal with oral questions
- 8 To consider the following notices of motion, notice of which has been given by:
- 8a Councillor Flaubert - Removal of Restrictive Covenants on Childminders

Council **notes** that some housebuilders impose restrictive covenants prohibiting residents from running businesses from homes and that such a prohibition can prevent the operation of domestic childcare provision within the community and shares the concern about the implications of this with Cambridgeshire County Council, which debated the matter earlier this year.

Council **considers** that the availability of childcare is an important component of a sustainable community - in terms of service, social integration, employment and parental participation in the workforce: its

absence encourages unnecessary travel and presents a barrier to securing family livelihoods and the pursuit of chosen lifestyles – and that this is particularly true of wholly new neighbourhoods.

Council **calls on**:

- (a) the Planning Committee and members on the Joint Development Control Committee to explore the use of planning conditions to avoid restrictive covenants on business use which preclude domestically based childcare provision, where this can be supported by evidence of need
- (b) the Greater Cambridge Planning Service to engage with housebuilders active in Greater Cambridge to address the childcare deficit for new communities being delivered as part of the current adopted Local Plan 2018; and in view of predicted growth, seek their support for approaches that will meet the needs of childcare providers and families in the emerging joint local plan
- (c) the Executive Councillor for Planning and Infrastructure to develop a planning policy regarding childminders that will include feedback from the engagement with housebuilders and stakeholders across Greater Cambridge, including organisations like PACEY, to ensure that needs are balanced across all the interests in the community so that childminders are exempt from blanket covenants to restrict businesses being run from homes.

8b Councillor Bennett - Community Wealth Building and Procurement

The purpose of this motion is to:

- *Encourage smaller businesses, community organisations and local businesses and organisations to consider becoming council suppliers*
- *Identify and remove invisible barriers to participation while.*
- *continuing to comply with the strict statutory rules and best practice guidelines for public sector procurement.*

- 1. This council proposes to encourage more small and local suppliers by showing that other such suppliers already do so. It will do this by publishing its participation statistics as prominently as possible.**
- 2. This council recognises that invisible barriers for smaller organisations do exist. Sole traders may struggle to find time to access training at conventional times. For this reason, council officers will explore options on all Council media channels available for the most suitable way in which to engage with novice suppliers**
- 3. The Council shall draw these steps to the attention of “multipliers” and ask them to share this with their networks. Multipliers are professional organisations and industry bodies that deal with a large number of potential suppliers.**

Background Notes (not part of active motion):

- 1 By law, public procurement must be a level playing field open to all potential suppliers. Councils cannot for example offer preferential treatment to local or smaller businesses or community organisations.
- 2 However, nothing prevents councils from working to eliminate invisible barriers to participation.
- 3 In particular, smaller organisations are time poor and may struggle to research opportunities or access training.
- 4 Cambridge City Council current available figures (2021) shows we achieved the following participation rates
 - a. Spent £48,344,507 with SMEs. This is 51% of Cambridge City Council's total procurement spend.
 - b. Spent £2,773,347 with VCSEs This is 3% of Cambridge

City Council's total procurement spend.

- c. Spent £68,062,517 with locally based suppliers This is 72% of Cambridge City Council's total procurement spend.

5 Out of 259 authorities, Cambridge City Council achieved:

- a. 44th place for its SME spending (51%)
- b. 195th place for its VCSE spending (3%)
- c. 4th place for its locally based supplier spending (72%)

6 Overall, this puts Cambridge City Council in the top quartile.

- a. Rankings may be affected by differences between the functions of the councils.
- b. Locally placed suppliers may include local branches of national and international businesses.
- c. There are no figures for smaller SMEs such as micro businesses

NB – figures for 2022 are due to be published later this month

7 Abbreviations:

- a. SME means small and medium enterprises. The UK definition of SME is now a small or medium-sized enterprise with fewer than 500 (was 250) employees. and a turnover of less than €50 million, or a balance sheet total of less than €43 million
- b. VCSE means an incorporated voluntary, community or social enterprise which serves communities solely within England.

- c. Community wealth building is usually defined as creating a resilient and inclusive economy for the benefit of the local area.
- d. And is one of the key principles of “doughnut economics” a term coined by Kate Raworth.
- e. Cllrs Bennett and Tong wish to thank officers and councillors from Bristol, Preston, Stroud and Cambridge for their help in putting this motion together. Any errors or omissions are of course our own.

8c Councillor Tong - Open Doors at the Guild Hall

1. This council resolves to promote a closer relationship between the council and residents by opening the Guild Hall to the public.
2. It is envisaged that initially this would be on a trial basis and hours would be limited, or by appointment only.
3. It is envisaged that priority would be given to school groups and other educational visits.
4. This council resolves to consider ways of opening up its collection of antique ceremonial objects to public view, perhaps by partnering with a suitable local Museum.

Background Notes (not part of active motion):

1. We understand that before lock down, school visits were made to the Guild Hall on occasion.
2. The Guild Hall still contains a court house and functioning cells which were used up until the 1920s.
3. The Guild Hall is also home to the Council’s collection of ceremonial objects, such as maces and trowels.

8d Councillor Moore - Waste Strategy

This council notes:

- Cambridge City Council is the waste and recycling collection authority for Cambridge City.
- Cambridgeshire County Council is the waste disposal authority for Cambridgeshire including the city of Cambridge
- The County Council has a PFI contract with Thalia (previously Amey Cespa) for the disposal of residual (black bin) waste, which is treated in the Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility before it is sent to landfill in Waterbeach.
- The Waterbeach landfill is predicted to be full in the next 8-10 years (2031-2033).
- Food waste represents the largest material category in England's waste stream, and is generally sent for disposal, also forming the largest component of England's residual waste. Detailed waste analysis from 2019 shows that one third of residual waste in Cambridgeshire is food waste, although residents are asked to dispose of their food waste in the green bin.
- Estimates suggest that 8-10% of global greenhouse gas emissions are from with food waste.
- In 2020 10% of greenhouse gas emissions in Cambridge were caused by waste management, which equates to 49.6 ktCO₂e.
- The government's 2018 Waste & Resources Strategy has a target of achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12.3 which aims at halving per-capita global food waste by 2030 and standardising waste collection across the UK in order to increase recycling rates.
- The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service recently carried out a successful separate food waste collection trial.

- The City Council's climate strategy has an ambition of Cambridge being a net zero carbon city by 2030.
- Upgrade works at the treatment facility provide an opportunity to ensure the future needs of the city and county and our carbon reduction targets.
- The government is offering collection authorities (including all of the districts in Cambridgeshire) funding, through the waste and resources strategy, to introduce separate weekly food waste collections.

This council will:

- Ask the leader of the City Council to write to the Leader of Cambridgeshire County Council requesting that they create a waste disposal strategy to ensure both the best service and continuity for residents alongside improving opportunities for food waste treatment and increased recycling rates.
- Ask the leader of the City Council to write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to support both waste collection and waste disposal authorities to establish separate weekly food waste collections as set out in the Waste and Resources Strategy, in order to achieve our waste reduction and net zero targets.

8e Councillor Thornburrow - Stop Dumping Sewage in our River and Chalk Streams

This Council notes that:

On 21st July 2022, a motion was passed by the Council regarding Rivers, Safe Swimming and Sewage, which recognised the cumulative impact of sewage discharge events.

The responsible bodies are the Environment Agency for general oversight, Cambridge Water for water supply, and Anglian Water for sewage. Despite members highlighting the issues in this Council, and engaging with the Environment Agency and Anglian Water, recent evidence shows that pollution levels in our rivers and

chalk streams remain unacceptable.

Many residents and local organisations have rightly raised concerns about the health implications of the poor water quality in our rivers and chalk streams, especially during summer months when local children and families would expect to be able to bathe and enjoy nature-rich river banks. Cam Valley Forum have undertaken water quality tests for the year 2021 to 2022, and Anglian Water continue to take weekly tests. All show poor water quality.

On 22nd September 2022, South Cambridgeshire District Council agreed a motion calling for measures to stop water companies dumping raw sewage in our chalk streams, and has begun working towards a formal application to Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs for an inland bathing water stretch within their district under the Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC).

A designation as a bathing water site from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs imposes a legal obligation on Anglian Water to reduce sewage pollution in the area concerned until the level 'good' or 'excellent' is reached; requires the Environment Agency to test the water regularly during the bathing season in order to produce an annual classification as "excellent", "good", "sufficient" or "poor"; requires the local council and agencies to publish the annual water quality classification; and can help residents enjoy the benefits of wild swimming, reducing stress, and improving wellbeing, fitness and contact with nature.

Therefore, this Council calls on everyone to engage with the River Cam and its associated chalk streams and tributaries with respect, accepting our stewardship of this vital natural resource, and asks all residents and organisations of Cambridge to act as guardians of the river and be mindful of the impact of our own actions and those of others that threaten its health and survival.

Furthermore, in order to reduce threats to the River Cam and its tributaries caused by pollution and over-abstraction, this Council:

- will support a formal application to Defra for an inland water stretch along the River Cam within Cambridge City Council boundaries to be designated as a bathing water site, working with Anglian Water and local partners such as Cam Valley Forum, recognising that designation would bring tangible

benefits to the health of the river and city residents, subject to approval of the Executive Councillor following consideration by the Environment & Community Scrutiny Committee;

- asks the Chief Executive to send a formal letter to the Environment Agency, Cambridge Water, and Anglian Water expressing its concerns over the state of the River Cam and associated chalk streams and other tributaries, and calling for their assistance in improving water quality and reducing pollution;
- will continue to consider the impact of the emerging Local Plan on the water environment through the cross-party, cross-boundary Shared Planning Local Plan Advisory Group, and the cross-party Cambridge City Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee;
- affirms the goal, agreed by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service, of having the water management plan for our chalk streams based on being an 'environmental destination' with subsequent protection as sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), rather than 'business as usual plus';
- will provide public access to the full response of Greater Cambridge Shared Planning to the Cambridge Water, Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) consultation.

References

Information provided by the Government on Bathing Water Quality

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bathing-waters>

Information from Cam Valley Forum <https://camvalleyforum.uk/water-quality/>

South Cambridgeshire District Council motion, agreed on 22 September 2022

<https://scambsmoderngov.co.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=93434>

9

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.

Information for the public

The public may record (e.g. film, audio, tweet, blog) meetings which are open to the public.

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- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
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