

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL
Record of Director's Urgent Action

**PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH PENDING AND
UPCOMING HOMELESSNESS REVIEWS**

Decision of:	Director of Customer and Community Services
Reference:	13/URGENCY/DCCS/01
Date of decision:	8 March 2013
Decision Type:	Director's Urgent Action under the Council Constitution's scheme of delegation to officers – urgency action para. 3.6
Matter for Decision:	To agree an interim process for dealing with both pending, and any upcoming, Homelessness Reviews.
Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):	<p>A judicial review challenge to the City Council's Homelessness Review process has cast doubt on whether the Council's decision to outsource the reviews was properly taken. There is also a lack of clarity as to whether the Council should be treating the reviews as an executive or a regulatory function.</p> <p>Officers will be reporting with recommendations, for the Executive Councillor for Housing at Community Services Scrutiny Committee on 14.3.13, to the Civic Affairs Committee on 20.3.13 and with executive/committee recommendations as appropriate to Council on 18.4.13. However, there is an ongoing need to deal with both pending, and any upcoming, Homelessness Reviews.</p> <p>Waiting for the above meetings to run their course would lead to an unacceptable delay in completing reviews that are pending, and probably the other current reviews.</p> <p>A decision on how to deal with this, and other urgent reviews, is taken by the Director of Customer and Community Services under the urgency powers set out in paragraph 3.6 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation.</p>
The Director's decision(s):	That the reviews be carried out by a senior officer. Where the review is to be carried out by an officer, the officer must not have been involved in the original decision, and he or she must be senior to the officer (or officers) who took that decision. Seniority for these purposes means seniority in rank or grade within the Council's organisational structure.

Consideration: The Director's Urgent Action consultation requirements for both regulatory and executive functions have been met; i.e. consultation with the Executive Councillor (Cllr Smart), Chair and Spokes of Community Services Scrutiny Committee and Chair and spokes of the Civic Affairs Committee.

Comments: A record of the consultation process and of the Director's decision will be held on file and reported back to the next meeting of the relevant committee/s.