

**CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL**  
Record of Executive Decision

<b>MIDSUMMER FAIR 2016</b>
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**Decision of:** Councillor Richard Johnson, Executive Councillor for Communities

**Reference:**

**Date of decision:** March 2016                      **Recorded on:**

**Decision Type:** Non Key Decision

**Matter for Decision:** **Changes to the provision of Midsummer Fair in 2016**

**Why the decision had to be made (and any alternative options):** Midsummer Fair is a 10 day event covering significant parts and paths over Midsummer Common. Since the incident on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (when a member of the public was seriously injured in the build up to Bonfire Night) the Council and Cambridge Live have taken advice from the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) to review arrangements for the management of events on open spaces, including Midsummer Fair. The Council and Cambridge Live have now concluded that it is not possible in the time available this year to organise the funfair aspect in a form which can guarantee compliance with HSE guidance. Therefore the funfair aspect will not take place in 2016. The Council understands this will be disappointing, particularly for traders and families who attend the funfair. The decision is being made now to provide fun fair operators with time to make alternative plans. We will continue to work with all parties in order to plan a safe and successful event in 2017. The traditional traders market is more straightforward and having received advice from the City's Safety Advisory Group, the Council believes this can be managed safely albeit with some changes and acknowledging there may be some extra cost to the Council. The Council will consult with those involved to see whether - in the absence of a funfair - if and how they wish to proceed in 2016.

- The Executive Councillor's decision(s):**
- a) The funfair aspect of the Midsummer Fair will be cancelled in 2016.
  - b) The Council will consult with the traditional traders' market to see if they wish to proceed with an event this year.
  - c) If the traders do not wish to proceed the event will not take place at all in 2016
  - d) The whole event will be reviewed – in discussion with stakeholders - for 2017.

**Reasons for the decision:** The Midsummer Fair is more complex than other fairs due to its scale, duration and management arrangements. The Council has concluded that more planning time is required to ensure the Midsummer Fair funfair can be run safely.

<b>Scrutiny consideration:</b>	The Chair and Spokesperson of Community Services Scrutiny Committee were consulted prior to the action being authorised.
<b>Report:</b>	A report detailing the background and financial considerations is attached.
<b>Conflicts of interest:</b>	None
<b>Comments:</b>	None