

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL (Leader of the Council)
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Fixed Term Growth Related Posts

On 17 February 2011, Full Council approved the Budget with one-off provision in 2011/12 of £873,900 for growth-related/fixed-term funded posts. This provision followed the 2010 Medium Term Strategy and was proposed to be funded 50:50 from Reserves and from an expected future New Homes Bonus award.

The FTE growth-related/fixed-term funded posts have been in place for a number of years and have been funded from: Housing & Planning Delivery Grant; via Cambridgeshire Horizons' core funding or joint planning budget; and fixed-term base budget funding until 31 March 2011. These funding sources are coming to an end or, in the case of Housing & Planning Delivery Grant, have already been terminated. It has therefore been necessary to find alternative sources given that delivery of growth continues to be a major priority for the City Council.

Also on 17 February 2011, the Government announced the final scheme design of the New Homes Bonus along with provisional allocations payable in 2011/12. This timing did not allow for consideration of the Award as part of the budget setting process.

The Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the recommendations on 21st March 2010, and supported the recommendations by 6 votes to 0.

Accordingly, Council is recommended to agree that:

- i. 18.68 full-time equivalent (FTE) growth-related/fixed-term funded posts and associated costs are made permanent.
- ii. The revenue contribution for General Fund capital spending in 2012/13 is increased by £220,000.
- iii. An additional contribution of £184,770 is made to the Climate Change Fund in 2011/12.