



Council 22 October 2020 Decisions

Full meeting recording available on the webpage

1. Minutes

- Approved

2. Petitions

- Please see the video recording of the debate and Executive Councillor replies to the two petitions. Council minutes will follow.

5a. Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020/21

- Approved proposals for changes in existing housing capital budgets, as introduced in Sections 6 and 7 and detailed in Appendix E of the officer's report with the resulting position summarised in Appendix H.
- Approved the revised funding mix for the delivery of the Housing Capital Programme, recognising the latest assumptions for the use of Devolution Grant, Right to Buy Receipts, HRA Resources, Major Repairs Allowance, Section 106 Funding and HRA borrowing.

- Approved to extend the existing delegated authority to the Strategic Director in consultation with the Executive Councillor for Housing to approve use of Council land as sites for rough sleeper next steps POD's on an individual basis based on the criteria as set out in the Housing Development Options for Homeless People report to Housing Scrutiny Committee in January 2020.

5b. Treasury Management Half Yearly Update Report 2020/21.

- Approved the Council's estimated Prudential and Treasury Indicators 2020/21 to 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix A of the officer's report.

5c. General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy

- Agreed the budget strategy and timetable as outlined in Section 1 [pages 5 to 7 refer] of the MTFS document.
- Agreed the incorporation of changed assumptions and specific, identifiable Covid-19 pressures, as presented in Sections 3 and 4 respectively [pages 18 to 23 refer]. This provides an indication of the net savings requirement, by year for the next five years, and revised projections for General Fund (GF) revenue and funding as shown in Section 5 [page 27 refers] and reserves [section 7 pages 32 to 35 refer] of the MTFS document.
- Noted the changes to the capital plan and funding as set out in Section 6 [pages 28 to 31 refer] and Appendix A [pages 40 to 44] of the MTFS document and agree the new proposals.

Ref.	Description/ £'000s	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total

	Proposals							
SC744	L2 – Development loan to CIP	-	3,400	5,200				8,600
SC745	L2 – Equity loan to CIP	500	800	500				1,800
PV554	Development of land at clay Farm (reprofiling existing spend)	(783)	49	14	15	705		0
	Total proposals	(283)	4,249	5,714	15	705		10,400

- Agreed changes to GF reserve levels, the prudent minimum balance being set at £6.33m and the target level at £7.59m as detailed in section 7 [pages 32 to 35 of the MTFS refers] and Appendix B [pages 45 and 46 of the MTFS refers].

7a Motion Trans rights are human rights

- Agreed the following:

Trans Rights are Human Rights

Trans women are women. Trans men are men. Non-binary individuals are non-binary. We believe in the dignity of all people and their right to respect and equality of opportunity. We value the strength that comes

with difference and the positive contribution that diversity brings to our community. Our aspiration is for Cambridge and the wider region to be safe, welcoming and inclusive¹.

The Council notes:

1. The failure of the Tory Government to keep its promise to reform the gender recognition act, claiming that these reforms are not a priority for the trans community, despite overwhelming support from that community to de-medicalise the process, remove the spousal veto, and allow non-binary individuals to gain legal recognition.
2. The concerning number of reported hate crimes against LGBTQIA+ people, with hate crime against trans people having quadrupled in the last 5 years².
3. The strong partnership the council has had with LGBTQIA+ groups in the city, including the Kite Trust, Dhiverse, the Encompass Network and Cambridge Pride and the desire to continue to build and develop these relationships as part of our equality work.
4. Council's support for LGBTQIA+ initiatives including:
 - i. participation in schemes such as the Encompass Network Safe Spaces initiative,
 - ii. financial support to LGBTQIA+ groups through the grants programme, with grants of £23,500 in the period 2020/21,
 - iii. LGBT+ History Month and Cambridge Pride,
 - iv. arranging awareness training for staff and councillors.
5. That despite many positive initiatives there is always more to do to ensure that we are a genuinely supportive, inclusive and welcoming city.

¹ City council equality pledge Text starting 'we believe' onwards

² <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/uk-54486122>

6. Our commitment to the Black Lives Matters movement, and our recognition that LGBT+ people of colour face particular challenges and prejudices.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Recognising that it should be up to LGBTQIA+ groups to decide what flag is flown to represent them, continue to consult with all LGBTQIA+ community support and voluntary groups within the city about flying the Progress Pride Flag, at every occasion where the Pride flag would previously have been flown. This also represents LGBTQIA+ people of colour, in line with our commitment to supporting the BLM movement.
- State publicly that trans rights are human rights and affirm the legal rights of all protected groups under the 2010 equality act.
- Facilitate and strongly encourage all councillors to attend relevant training, such as Safer Spaces and trans awareness training.
- Fly the trans flag on international trans day of visibility (March 31st) and international trans day of remembrance (November 20th)
- Look into what we can do as a council to further promote our equality pledge and to raise awareness of the community grants fund amongst LGBTQIA+ groups.
- Recommit to ensuring a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful relationship with all groups recognised under The Equality Act as having protected characteristics³, and to reviewing what additional work can be done to support all these groups as part of the upcoming review of the Single Equalities Scheme. And recommit to doing this in an environment of kindness, compassion and mutual respect.

For more information please contact Democratic Services:

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³ Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.