

Written questions - Council 4 December 2008

1. From Councillor Walker to The Leader

What was a) CAB's and b) Advice for Life's request for i) core funding and ii) particular project funding, over the last 3 years, and what was the actual funding?

Answer from Councillor Nimmo-Smith, the Leader

(Please see attached sheets)

2. From Cllr Herbert to the Leader

Prior to 30 September 2008, what if any written information was received in 2008 by the Council including emails, and on what dates, from other local authorities/organisations raising concerns re investment in Icelandic banks, including Landsbanki and Heritable?

Answer from Cllr Nimmo-Smith, the Leader

The following information was received by email by the Council during the period 1 January to 30 September 2008:

Date	Received From	Item Received
29 Feb. 2008	Sector	Credit Rating Update 290
12 May 2008	RP Martin	Email from broker
13 May 2008	Kaupthing, Singer & Friedland	Email from Icelandic Bank
1 Apr. 2008	Sector	Credit Rating Update 299
3 Apr. 2008	Sector	Credit Rating Update 301
13 May 2008	Sector	Credit Rating Update 315

These pre-dated the receipt of Sector's Credit Rating Update 366 on 1 October 2008, which notified the Council of the downgrading of both Landsbanki Islands hf and Heritable Bank from F1 to F3.

3. From Cllr Walker to the Executive Councillor for Housing

How many homes were built by the council for affordable rent in
2004?
2005?
2006?
2007?
and 2008 to date?

Answer from Cllr Smart, Executive Councillor for Housing

Year	Total	Social Rented	Intermediate sale/rent
2004/05	120	75	45
2005/06	302	178	124
2006/07	225	111	114
2007/08	239	97	142
2008/9 projected	208	146	62
Total	1094	607	487

4. From Cllr Newbold to the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services

- a) What changes will be proposed to dry material recycling collections in 2009?
- b) What are the current net costs to the council per tonne collected of:
- household dry materials recycled?
 - green waste?
 - plastics?
 - household waste?
- c) What extra capital costs, and changes in operating costs, will result from planned changes to recycling collections?

**Answer by Cllr Rosenstiel, Executive Councillor for
Environmental and Waste Services**

a) All the changes proposed are explained in a report submitted for the Environment Scrutiny Committee on the 13th January 2009 and will be circulated in draft prior to this meeting.

b) End of year 2007/8 Figures

Dry and Plastic £509,278 – 8,068 tonnes = £63.12 per tonne

Green waste £ 543,775 – 10,786 tonnes = £50.41 per tonne

Domestic waste £937,138 – 26,543 tonnes = £35.31 per tonne

Please note the dry and plastic figure is net of material income and recycling credits and includes the Bring scheme as well. Recycling credits and income are not received for green waste.

c) Capital and revenue financial information will be incorporated into the Environment Scrutiny Report for January.

Answer for question 1

Legal Advice Services Funding 2005 – 2008

Attached are two documents detailing the bids and awards for the past four years for:

- Cambridge and District Citizens Advice Bureau
- Advice for Life – Cambridge Law Centre
(formerly Cambridge Independent Advice Centre)

(Both received a modest increase in 2008/9)

Community Development Grants/Funding Strategy

The 2006-2009 funding strategy, adopted in 2005, incorporated

- an annual reduction of at least £21,000 after inflation
- a programme to enable the Executive Councillor to re-distribute funds to new purposes

2006/07

City Council grants allocation in 06/07 recommended 5.5% reduction in CAB and CIAC grant levels.

Groups were told : Grants budgets have been cash limited over the past three years and this will continue until 08/09. Within these standstill budgets, funds will also be allocated for new priorities over the following three years. There is no guarantee that groups will receive the same amount of money in 2006/07 as they did in 2005/06. It is likely that groups will receive less.

The City Council will not generally replace grants, which are reduced or withdrawn by other statutory agencies - for example, South Cambs District Council.

2006/07		% of total budget	£ available	£ bids	£ offer	£ remaining
2	Legal advice services	39%	286,670	341,339	286,670	0

2007/08

In 2007/08 the overall budget was inflated and then reduced by £34,500 – the total available was £17,910 less than in 2006/07. Of this total budget:

- Just over 10% of the total budget will be allocated to area committees
- 5.75% is reserved in the Future Fund to help organisations plan for the impact of expected population growth in and around the city. City Council budget allocation recommended 7% reduction in CAB and CLC grant levels.

2007/08		% of total budget	£ available	£ bids	£ offer	£ remaining
2	Legal advice services	36.75%	263,030	326,591	262,832	198

2008/9

In 2008-09 the overall budget was inflated and then reduced by £25,750. Of this total budget:

- 10% will be allocated to area committees
- 5% will be reserved in the Future Fund to help organisations plan for the impact of expected population growth in and around the city

2008/09		% of total budget	£ available	£ bids	£ offer	£ remaining
2	Legal advice services	37%	264,830	348,270	264,830	0

Other issues

- January 2007 County withdrew benefit contract £300,000 – CAB lost 40% of funding with limited notice
- CAB total income reduced from £834,000 to £697,000 in 07-08 a reduction of £137K or 16%
- CAB County wide benefit project lost £30,000 – meant redundancies
- In October 2007 Legal Services Commission LSC changed their payment to providers including CAB and Advice for life to payment in arrears causing cash flow difficulties
- S Cambs have a 3 year SLA 2007-10 for £53,360pa with CAB
- A significant proportion of the CAB funding is through contracts with the County Council and LSC

**Cambridge City Council, Community Development
Funding History for Advice for Life (previously
Cambridge Independent Advice Centre).**

Awards

DRR = Discretionary Rate Relief
Bid figure is in brackets

	08-09	07-08	06-07	05-06
Regular funding				
x hours of specialist welfare benefits, debt and employment advisor time	96,410 (3213 hours) (144,300)	96,000 (3510 hours) (131,505)	98,906 2.5 full time specialist caseworkers (127,691)	104,808 full costs of 3 caseworkers (172,188)
% change year on year	0.43% increase	2.94% decrease	5.6% % decrease	-
DRR	160	158	142	-
DRR	918	882	861	839
DRR	189	319	103	-
Project/one off funding				
Outreach, casework, publicity in north of city – from North Area Committee	1,500 awarded. £750 returned as project cancelled.	-	-	-
Co-ordination of policy development and preparation of strategic plan to inform LAA on advice service needs (Future Fund)	-	2,000 (4999)	-	-
Contribution to consultancy for basic CLAN proposals and research	-	-	1,800 (2,000)	-
Total for year	99,177	99,359	101,812	105,647

Cambridge City Council, Community Development Funding history for Cambridge & District Citizen's Advice Bureau

Awards

DRR = Discretionary Rate Relief
Bid figure in brackets

	08-09 £	07-08 £	06-07 £	05-06 £
Regular funding figure in brackets	Bid			
Generalist advice services plus debt and benefits specialist advice	164,150 (199,700)	163,700 (179,706)	179,706 (190,229)	190,229 (240,802)
% change year on year	0.28% increase	8.9% decrease	5.5% decrease	-
DRR	2,183	2,098	2,046	1,994
DRR	780	688		
Project/one off funding				
Links with Cambridge City Council customer access strategy (Future Fund)	7,000 (13,000)			
Advice hub co-ordinator (Future Fund)		10,850 (16,000)		
Programme to deliver information at area level using touch screen kiosks (Future Fund)	5,000 (5,000)	15,000 (15,000)		
Contribution to CAB training hub			4,500 (6,962)	
Yellow route and fast track money training for CAB staff				13,172 (15,744)
Total for year	179,113	192,336	186,252	205,395