

<p style="text-align: center;">RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL (THE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH - COUNCILLOR BICK AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR FOR ARTS, SPORT AND PUBLIC PLACES - COUNCILLOR CANTRILL)</p>
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DEVOLVING DECISION MAKING TO AREA COMMITTEES

Cambridge City Council is keen to devolve decision making to area committees wherever appropriate, in line with the principle of subsidiarity and the spirit of localism and community participation in decision making.

As part of the project over the past year to explore ways to engage citizens and communities in decision making more effectively, officers and Executive Councillors have been exploring which decisions could be devolved to area committees.

The fruit of this work is the list of decisions to be devolved as discussed at Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 10 October 2011:

- Approvals of projects funded by developer contributions for:
 - Public Art
 - Public Realm
 - Community Facilities
 - Open spaces (Children & teenagers and informal open space)

- Neighbourhood Planning Briefs
- Safer City Grants
- Non-statutory tree planting

In devising the process for decision making under devolved arrangements officers and Executive Councillors have considered both the principles in Appendix A of the officer's report and also the need for transparency, accountability, clarity over who is making what decision, the City Council's Constitution and other legal or process constraints. It has been the intention to devise clear and consistent principles for decision making across the piece, to aid efficient and effective decision making.

Accordingly, Council is recommended to:

Extend the terms of reference of Area Committees to include exercise of the following delegated functions:

- public art
- public realm
- community facilities
- play and open space projects funded by developer contributions
- non-statutory tree planting
- safer city grants