

DECISION RECORD

Gloucester City Council

Publication Date

3rd April 2014

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	6
Title	Open Space Strategy 2014-2019		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Environment		
Report Author	Kay Lillington, Landscape Architect		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	Yes

DECISION:

Cabinet agreed that

- (1) The Open Space Strategy for Gloucester 2014-2019 be approved.
- (2) Officers should progress the completion of Open Space Action Plans for each city ward, in consultation with local residents, ward members and community groups.
 - (3) Up to 15% of the available S.106 monies (allocated for fees in the legal agreements) may be used to procure consultants' input for expediting the implementation of S.106 funded open space projects.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To enable the council to deliver its open space vision of 'a diverse network of quality, sustainable and accessible open spaces to serve the needs and aspirations of the residents of Gloucester'.

To set out a detailed open space evidence base to inform the creation of associated planning policies in the new City Plan.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Option to not update the open space strategy would impact on the council's ability to provide an evidence base for the City Plan and future housing development. There would be a lack of focus for open space development and maintenance across the city, no agreed framework for prioritising funding and improvements.

With no up to date strategy it would also become increasingly difficult to negotiate new open space provision with developers.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

No interests were declared

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the publication of the decision.

Call-in Deadline: 10th April 2014

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 and is a true and accurate record of that decision:

Decision Maker: Date: 2nd April 2014

Councillor Paul James Leader of the Council

Proper Officer Date: 2nd April 2014

Peter Gillett Corporate Director Resources

CALL-IN PROCEDURE

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	7
Title	City Centre Investment Funds Allocations and Update		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture		
Report Author	Anthony Hodge Head of Regeneration and Economic Development		
Wards Affected	Westagate	Key Decision	Yes

Cabinet agreed to

- (1) Reallocate the sum of £40,000 from the replacement of the boundary wall at Station Road Car Park to improve existing street furniture within the City Centre.
- (2) Note the updates in respect of the specific funding proposals.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The recommendations for further allocations have been based on the objectives of the City Centre Investment Fund which is to improve the attractiveness of the City Centre.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The alternatives for the allocation of the remaining money in this fund were assessed in Section 5 of the September 2013 Cabinet report.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

No interests were declared

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	8
Title	Citywide Environmental Projects		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Environment		
Report Author	Ross Cook, Head of Neighbourhood Service	es .	
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to

- (1) Note the ongoing partnership working across the City to improve the environment, on road verges, open spaces, in the City Centre and at Robinswood Hill.
- (2) Endorse the proposals to extend the successful Urban Wildflower Planting to provide a suitable floral WWI commemoration in the City.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The report seeks Cabinet support for the ongoing activities and to thank the Council's many partners who work with the City Council to keep the City tidy and provide environmental improvements for all to enjoy.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The report covers a number of environmental projects to be carried out across the City and no alternative options are proposed.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest declared.

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	9
Title	New Housing Development and New Homes Bonus		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Leisure and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources		
Report Author	Helen Chard, Housing Strategy and Enabling officer		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the content of the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

These are important issues that contribute to the City Vision and Corporate Plan.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

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Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	10
Title	Empty Homes Programme Update		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Leisure		
Report Author	Julie Wight, Private Sector Housing Service Manager		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the contents of the report and the success of the Empty Homes Strategy to date.

REASON FOR DECISION:

Since the introduction of the Empty Homes Strategy the overall percentage of empty homes in the City has reduced from 4% to 3%.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Offering grants and loans to owners of empty homes owners is no longer an option as Government Housing Renewal funding is no longer available to support these schemes.

Do nothing to tackle empty homes. This is not an option as empty properties are a waste of a valuable housing resource and only add to the housing shortage.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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Decision Of	Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Leisure			
Date of Decision	02 April 2014 Item No. 11			
Title	Housing Services			
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Leisure			
Report Author	Mary Hopper, Housing Services Manager			
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No	

Cabinet agreed -

- (1) The continued use of the Homelessness Prevention Grant to provide Housing Options for vulnerable households threatened with homelessness, and
- (2) To support the Housing Service to achieve 'The Gold Standard Award' by striving for continuous improvement in front line housing services.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To highlight the Council's work in the area of Housing Services.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

Not applicable

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations if interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	12
Title	Heritage Statement		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture		
Report Author	Charlotte Lewis		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the report for information on the progress of work from April 2013 – March 2014 only.

REASON FOR DECISION:

Environmental Planning Service Officers as identified within this report are responsible for the care and protection of heritage assets, places and spaces of architectural and historic interest together with archaeological assets. The City Council has a duty to protect and enhance both the historic and built environment for future generations to enjoy.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None at present.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no interests declared

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	13
Title	Rugby World Cup Update Report		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Culture		
Report Author	Adam Balding, RWC Event Coordinator		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the progress against key issues for the delivery of the Rugby World Cup 2015.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To advise Members of progress of arrangements for hosting the World Cup 2015.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Anthony Hughes
Democratic Services Officerr
anthony.hughes@gloucester.gv.uk
01452 396127

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	14
Title	Hearty Lives Gloucester Project – Schools Programme		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Housing Health and Leisure		
Report Author	Gareth Hooper, Environmental Health Officer		
Wards Affected	Various across the City	Key Decision	No

DECISION:

Cabinet noted the contents of the report and the achievements of the programme to date.

REASON FOR DECISION:

The schools project focuses on a specific and important audience. By supporting healthy lifestyles through appropriate interventions it not only encourages physical and

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mental wellbeing it illustrates the key facets of strong communities: team work, good communication and enjoying activities which benefit themselves.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

The alternative options are for Gloucester City Council itself to deliver schools projects. This was not seen as a valid option because educating children and working with teachers is quite esoteric and requires a specific knowledge of how to fit within the National Curriculum and syllabus as well as knowing how children will respond to different interventions and what will and will not work.

The city council could do nothing in this area of work. This is not a viable option as input is needed to reduce health inequalities and instil pride in our communities. In addition unless the funding provided by the BHF is spent appropriately the money would be withdrawn and any funds received by the Council returned to the BHF.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION: None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	15
Title	Waste and Recycling Project Plan		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Environment		
Report Author	Lloyd Griffiths, Environmental Services Mana	ager	
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the contents of the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

With a need to improve recycling rates and reduce the amount of residual waste being sent to landfill it is clear that officers need to implement a series of projects over the next 2-3 years that promotes re-use and recycling through education, simplification and incentivisation

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

At present we are continuing to develop our waste and recycling service around our current collection arrangements. However in order to meet such an ambitious recycling target, a range of alternative options should be considered. The Waste and Recycling Task & Finish Group have requested that the option of a co-mingled recycling collection service be considered to coincide with our fleet review when our waste & recycling vehicles will be changed.

Preliminary discussions with AMEY are ongoing regarding the co-mingled option and the Cabinet Member for Environment along with members of the Waste & Recycling Task & Finish Group have been invited to view a facility that processes co-mingled waste in the West Midlands area during early April.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

Not applicable

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	16
Title	Positive Impact of Flood Risk Management Work in Protecting Communities during Weather/Tidal Events		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Environment		
Report Author	Lloyd Griffiths, Environmental Services Manager		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

As outlined in Section 4 of the report, longer term a fundamental review of collection/recycling arrangements is planned to coincide with the renewal of our fleet of vehicles. With these considerations ongoing and any such change a number of years away it is important that we do not stand still and look to implement a series of well thought out measures in the interim period that have the potential to impact positively on our recycling and residual waste targets.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

At present we are continuing to develop our waste and recycling service around our current collection arrangements. However in order to meet such an ambitious recycling target, a range of alternative options should be considered. The Waste and Recycling Task & Finish Group have requested that the option of a co-mingled recycling collection service be considered to coincide with our fleet review when our waste & recycling vehicles will be changed.

Preliminary discussions with AMEY are ongoing regarding the co-mingled option and the Cabinet Member for Environment along with members of the Waste & Recycling Task & Finish Group have been invited to view a facility that processes co-mingled waste in the West Midlands area during early April.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

Not applicable

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	17
Title	Police and Crime Commissioner Funding		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods		
Report Author	Ed Pomfret, Health , Partnerships and Engagement Manager		
Wards Affected	All	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the achievements of the Safer Gloucester Community Safety Partnership in securing funds from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and actions arising.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To highlight the work of the community safety team and how the funding from the PCC has contributed towards this.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

None

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact:

Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	18
Title	Summary of Financial Performance 2013/14		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources		
Report Author	Jon Topping, Head of Finance		
Wards Affected	None	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed to note the report.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To advise on the Council's financial position.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Not applicable.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

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Decision Of	Cabinet		
Date of Decision	02 April 2014	Item No.	19
Title	Confirmation of CPO 134 Reservoir Road		
Report Of	Cabinet Member for Housing, Health and Leisure		
Report Author	Julie Wight, Private Sector Housing Services Manager		
Wards Affected	Tuffley	Key Decision	No

Cabinet agreed that the Compulsory Purchase Order made on 20th November 2013 in respect of 134 Reservoir Road, Gloucester be confirmed.

That the steps required for the acquisition of the property be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION:

To ensure the CPO can now be confirmed and the next steps taken to secure occupation of a property which has been vacant for over 10 years. The owner has not brought the property back into use, despite numerous promises to do so. Since the CPO was made, the owner has made considerable progress in bringing the property back into use.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

An alternative option is for the Council to decide not to confirm the CPO. However, this may result in the owner not completing the renovation work and/or ensuring the property is brought back into use. The Council would then potentially have to go to the time and expenses of beginning the CPO process again.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION:

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (including any dispensations granted):

There were no declarations of interest.

SCRUTINY (including details of call-in procedure where applicable):

This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the publication of the decision.

Call-in Deadline: 10th April 2014

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD:

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 and is a true and accurate record of that decision:

Decision Maker: Date: 2ndApril 2014

Councillor Paul James Leader of the Council

Proper Officer: Date: 2nd April 2014

Peter Gillett

Call-in should only be used in exceptional circumstances, such as where Members have evidence which suggests that the Cabinet did not take the decision in accordance with the principles set out in Article 12 (Decision Making) of the Council's Constitution.

Call-in of a decision must be requested within five working days of the publication of an executive decision. The request must be communicated in writing to the Corporate Director of Resources by at least five Members of the Council.

Implementation of a decision that has been called-in is suspended until such time as it has been considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and re-considered by the Cabinet in light of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's conclusions and any recommendations.

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If you have any queries about the content of Cabinet Decision Records please contact: