

Decision Ref No:

EX.326/07

Subject Matter:

SAVING OPTIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

(With the consent of the Chairman and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item had been included on the Agenda as a key decision although not in the Forward Plan)

The Director of Community Services submitted Report CS.99/07 informing Members of the implications of the savings options proposed for Arts, Brampton Live, Community Support Service review, Pub Watch and Shop Watch schemes. The Executive on 28 November 2007 (EX.310/07) had requested further details on savings proposals in relation to these areas.

The Director outlined the following savings proposals along with the implications of each:

(a) Arts - suggested savings of £15,000 in 2008/09, £32,000 in 2009/10, and £32,000 in 2010/11;

(b) Brampton Live - moving ownership to community based organisation was being proposed but would take up to twelve to eighteen months to achieve;

(c) Community Support Service review - the 2008/09 figure of £53,000 of savings would be realised as a result of the work currently under way as part of this review. Savings proposals of £153,000 for 2009/10 and 2010/11 would in part be as a result of this work and consideration would need to be given to funding and support currently provided to areas such as Community Centres and organisations in receipt of grants;

(d) Shop Watch/Pub Watch Schemes - discussions were ongoing with the CDRP with a range of options being pursued for 2008/09.

The Leader advised that he had received an updated copy of an on-line petition and a reasonable amount of correspondence, in support of the retention of Brampton Live. He stated that although Arts provision was being considered as a budget savings proposal, the 2008 Brampton Live event was not in jeopardy and arrangements should be continuing for the 2008 event. The Environment and Infrastructure portfolio holder suggested the need for an exit strategy in relation to Brampton Live.

Decision:

That the Executive notes the options for savings/income which would be taken into account when formulating its budget proposals for 2008/09.

**Key or Non-Key
Decision:**

Key

Key Decision Ref:

General Exception

Portfolio:

Cross cutting

Who made decision:

Executive

Date:

17-Dec-07

**Reports and Background Papers
considered:**

Report CS.99.07 by the Director of Community Services.

Reasons for Decision:

To identify and consider a range of options for savings and further reviews in response to the Council's budget forecast for 2008/09.

Summary of Options rejected: None

Interests declared None

Date published 19-Dec-07

Urgent decision not subject to call in No

Consent of Chairman/ Deputy Chairman of Council to Urgency: Not applicable

Deadline for call-in: 2 Jan 08 at 17:00

Implementation date if not called-in: 3 Jan 08

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Community Overview and Corporate Resources
Overview and Scrutiny

Call-in notified to and date notified:

Approved for implementation on:

Decision Ref No:

EX.327/07

Subject Matter:

POTENTIAL RELOCATION OF THE TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

(With the consent of the Chairman and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item had been included on the Agenda as a key decision although not in the Forward Plan)

The Director of Development Services submitted Report DS.128/07 investigating the feasibility of relocating the Tourist Information Centre from its present site in the Old Town Hall into Tulle House. The Executive on 28 November 2007 (EX.310/07) had requested a further report on a review of the location of the Tourist Information Centre (TIC).

The Director of Development Services outlined the current opportunities in relation to the Tourist Information Centre and highlighted the key issues relating to a potential location of the Tourist Information Centre at Tullie House, including alternative uses for the Old Town Hall. At this stage no detailed work had been done on any alternative locations.

The Director advised that at this stage it was only possible to make outline estimates of potential savings arising from relocation of the Tourist Information Centre to Tullie House, but there could be a net saving of around £44,700 per annum for 2008/09 although it would be more realistic to assume a six month lead in time to achieve a satisfactory letting, with a potential saving in 2008/09 of £32,000.

The Economic Development and Enterprise portfolio holder emphasised the importance of tourism to the economy of the City, but recognised that the way people access tourism services was changing and how service delivery needs to respond to these changes. The Finance and Performance Management portfolio holder added that the Executive was committed to providing a quality Tourist Information Centre in the city, but one which would meet the changing needs and demands on TICs.

The Economic Development and Enterprise portfolio holder proposed a review of the delivery of the TIC service, recognising the current and future changes in order to provide a first class tourism service for Carlisle.

Decision:

1. That the Executive notes the implications of relocating the Tourist Information Centre which would be taken into account when formulating its budget proposals for 2008/09.
2. That the Director of Development Services undertake a review of the delivery of tourism services, recognising current and potential future changes, and reports the outcome of the review to the Executive by May 2008.

Key or Non-Key Decision:

Key

Key Decision Ref:

General Exception

Portfolio:

Economic Development and Enterprise

Who made decision:

Executive

Date:

17-Dec-07

Reports and Background Papers considered:

Report DS.128/07 by the Director of Development Services

Reasons for Decision:

To enable the Executive's draft budget proposals for consultation purposes to be prepared.

Summary of Options rejected:

None

Interests declared

None

Date published

19-Dec-07

Urgent decision not subject to call in

No

Consent of Chairman/ Deputy Chairman of Council to Urgency:

Not applicable

Deadline for call-in:

2 Jan 08 at 17:00

Implementation date if not called-in:

3 Jan 08

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny

Call-in notified to and date notified:

Approved for implementation on:

Decision Ref No:

Subject Matter:

CARLISLE CONFERENCE GROUP

(With the consent of the Chairman and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item had been included on the Agenda as a key decision although not in the Forward Plan)

The Director of Development Services submitted report DS.127/07 setting out the background to the operation of the Conference Group and examining the potential for making efficiency savings. The Executive on 28 November 2007 (EX.310/07) had requested this report on savings proposals in relation to the Conference Group.

The Director outlined the potential for and the implications of savings in relation to the Conference Group. She commented that it would be difficult to make the service self-funding and thus save around £29,000 in the short term and a requirement to achieve a saving of this magnitude in 2008/09 would close down the service.

The Economic Development and Enterprise portfolio holder commented that the work of the Carlisle Conference Group (CCG) and particularly the CCG officer was appreciated, but suggested that a review of the services should be undertaken to establish how it can move forward to a position of being self funding.

Decision:

1. That the Executive notes the implications of potential savings in relation to the Carlisle Conference Group, which would be taken into account when formulating its budget proposals for 2008/09.
2. That the Director of Development Services undertake a review of how the Carlisle Conference Group service could be best provided for the city, with a report on the outcome of the review to the Executive by May 2008.

Key or Non-Key Decision:

Key Decision Ref:

Portfolio:

Who made decision:

Date:

Reports and Background Papers considered:

Reasons for Decision:

Summary of Options rejected:

Interests declared

Date published

Urgent decision not subject to call in

Consent of Chairman/ Deputy Chairman of Council to Urgency:

Not applicable

Deadline for call-in:

2 Jan 08 at 17:00

Implementation date if not called-in:

3 Jan 08

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny

Call-in notified to and date notified:

Approved for implementation on:

Decision Ref No:

EX.318/07

Subject Matter:

CONCESSIONARY FARES SCHEME 2008/09

(With the consent of the Chairman and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item had been included on the Agenda as a key decision although not in the Forward Plan)

The Executive on 19 November 2007 (EX.269/07) had requested a further report on Concessionary Fares when the Government announcement on which reimbursement option had been selected was available.

The Head of Revenues and Benefits Services presented Report CORP.65/07 outlining options for the Concessionary Fares scheme 2008/09, and an addendum advising that the Government had opted for a grant calculation based on eligible population / passenger journeys / overnight visitors / retail floor space. He advised that the Council's grant of £492,000 under the revised formulae was considered inequitable compared to other Cumbrian District allocations. Many of the metropolitan authorities across the country appeared to have suffered under this system of grant allocation. The Cumbrian Districts would not come together to pool their allocations as some authorities benefited more greatly than others.

The Head of Revenues and Benefits recommended that for 2008/09 budget projections, the Council assumes that increased ridership would be 18.5%, with a projected budget shortfall of £272,250 if maintaining the current 24/7 scheme and £157,250 if reverting to the statutory off peak scheme. Members could also consider a contingency of £90,000 within 2008/09 base budgets in case the ridership figures were 22.5%.

He then reported that since the report had been written he had been informed of an increase in the cost of Railcards which would have a cost of £24,000 to the Council, instead of £20,000 as anticipated. He asked Members to consider this and make a decision on the way forward.

The Environment and Infrastructure portfolio holder expressed concern and disappointment with the level of Government grant awarded to Carlisle and commented that the allocations for all Cumbrian Districts should have been made to Cumbria County Council, as the transport authority, for allocation between the Districts.

Decision:

1. That Option1 - Move to Statutory "Off Peak" Scheme (after 9.30am and all day Saturday and Sunday) be included as part of the Executive's budget proposals for 2008/09 and the £157,250 budget shortfall and the timetable for implementation of the Scheme, be noted.
2. The Executive notes the position in relation to Rail Cards, which would be taken into account when formulating its budget proposals for 2008/09.
3. That the Council contact the other Cumbrian Districts to request that they consider adopting a County wide Concessionary Fares Scheme, make representations to the relevant Government Departments and liase with the Local Government Association.

**Key or Non-Key
Decision:**

Key

Key Decision Ref:

General Exception

Portfolio:	Finance and Performance Management
Who made decision:	Executive
Date:	17-Dec-07
Reports and Background Papers considered:	CORP.65/07 by the Director of Corporate Services
Reasons for Decision:	
The Council was obliged to give four months notice to advise the bus operators of its proposed scheme for 2008/09.	
Summary of Options rejected:	The other alternative options outlined in the report were rejected.
Interests declared	None
Date published	19-Dec-07
Urgent decision not subject to call in	No
Consent of Chairman/ Deputy Chairman of Council to Urgency:	Not applicable
Deadline for call-in:	2 Jan 08 at 17:00
Implementation date if not called-in:	3 Jan 08
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny have also
Call-in notified to and date notified:	
Approved for implementation on:	

Decision Ref No:

EX.319/07

Subject Matter:

ENERGY SAVINGS TRUST ADVICE CENTRES (ESTAC) FOR CUMBRIA AND LANCASHIRE

The Director of Development Services submitted Report DS.118/07 advising that the contract for Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre finishes at the end of financial year 2007/08. The Energy Saving Trust had decided to discontinue the funding of the Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and put in place Energy Savings Trust Advice Centres (ESTAC) to cover a wider geographical area, including one serving Cumbria and Lancashire.

The Executive on 19 February 2007 (EX.032/07) had considered a previous report on the matter which gave extensive details of the strategic and operational issues in setting up such a Centre. The Executive at that time had supported the principle of a working relationship between Cumbria Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and Lancashire Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and for the submission of a tender for a sustainable energy centre for Cumbria and Lancashire, subject to a further report to a future meeting of the Executive.

The Director advised that the new centres would have a wider remit than the current EEACs, dealing with energy efficiency, transport, renewable energy, water recycling and waste minimisation etc. She also provided further details on the proposal and sought permission for completion of the full EU tender for the Energy Saving Trust Advice Centre for Cumbria and Lancashire.

The Executive on 28 November 2007 (EX.310/07) had also requested further details on potential savings in relation to the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre and the response to that request was incorporated within the Director's report.

Decision:

That permission be granted to complete the tender on terms to be agreed by the Health and Wellbeing portfolio holder, the Director of Development Services and the Director of Corporate Services.

Key or Non-Key Decision:

Key

Key Decision Ref:

KD.053/07

Portfolio:

Health and Wellbeing

Who made decision:

Executive

Date:

17-Dec-07

Reports and Background Papers considered:

Report DS.118/07 by the Director of Development Services
Background papers - Report DS.15/07 by the Director of Development Services

Reasons for Decision:

Supporting the proposal for the ESTAC would result in:

- Continued high profile of Carlisle City Council in the domestic carbon field
- Continued development of the Cumbria Affordable Warmth strategy, currently led by

CEEAC

- Attraction of a significantly higher proportion of utility and central government funding per capita than other similar areas
- Further development of the Local Area Agreement for affordable warmth for which CEEAC leads
- Further integration of the public, private and third sector organisations to deliver income maximisation, social inclusion and environmental objectives

Summary of Options rejected: **Interests declared** **Date published** **Urgent decision not subject to call in** **Consent of Chairman/ Deputy Chairman of Council to Urgency:** **Deadline for call-in:** **Implementation date if not called-in:** **Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:** **Call-in notified to and date notified:** **Approved for implementation on:**

Decision Ref No:

EX.320/07

Subject Matter:

REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S NEW HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES
(With the consent of the Chairman and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item had been included on the Agenda as a key decision although not in the Forward Plan)

The Director of Community Services submitted Report CS.103/07 on the review of the Council's new household waste collection services. The Executive on 19 November 2007 (EX.275/07) had noted the outcomes and proposals from the review and referred it to the Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee for consideration.

The review had been considered by the Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 29 November 2007 and an excerpt from that meeting was submitted. The Chairman of the Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee attended the meeting and commented that the Committee was pleased with the success of the new arrangements for the collection of household waste in Carlisle which had exceeded expectations. The Committee would welcome extension of the scheme as far as possible, but recognised that there were limited resources available to extend the scheme. The Committee had also expressed concern about the proposal to charge for the collection of bulky items and would welcome a decision not to charge for this collection.

The Director of Community Services then outlined the contents of the Report which:

(a) provided Members with further details with respect to the key recommendations contained in the review of the Council's new household waste collection service;

(b) responded to the concerns of Members detailed in the resolution of the City Council at its meeting on 6 November 2007 (C.198/7v), specifically those issues concerning the incidence of refuse-related fly tipping and extending the provision of facilities for the recycling of plastics and cardboard;

(c) addressed the comments and observations of the Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee raised at the meeting on 29 November 2007.

The Environment and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder commented that the report addressed the concerns raised in the Council motion.

Decision:

1. That a contract be entered into for the two Green Box collection vehicles/crew (GB5 and GB6) pursuant to the negotiated procedure in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006, as set out in Report CS.103/07

2. That, with approval of the Director of Corporate Services, an appropriate alternative to the current short-term hire arrangement for the fourth plastic and cardboard collection vehicle (PC4) be procured, subject to written confirmation from Cumbria County Council that funding was available for this deficit.

3. That Officers investigate the feasibility and financial implications of increasing the utilisation of the existing kerbside plastic and cardboard resources to extend the kerbside collection. The findings of this feasibility study to be reported back to the Executive.

4. That the 2008/09 Waste Performance and Efficiency grant be utilised to fund the

Enforcement Officers' posts in 2008/09

5. That Officers assess the success, or otherwise, of the trial "front of property" collection of purple sacks and, where appropriate, extend to all relevant properties.
6. That the proposed amendments to the waste services staffing structure, as detailed in paragraphs 15.1 and 15.2 of the Review of the Council's new household waste collection services, be noted as a management decision by the Director of Community Services.
7. That a charge for the collection of bulky household waste should not be introduced.
8. That the Director of Community Services report to the Executive by March 2008 on the introduction of small plastics recycling containers on "bring" sites.
9. That the Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee be thanked for their comments which were taken into consideration in reaching the Executive decision.

Key or Non-Key Decision:

Non-Key

Key Decision Ref:

General Exception

Portfolio:

Environment and Infrastructure

Who made decision:

Executive

Date:

17-Dec-07

Reports and Background Papers considered:

Report CS.103/07 by the Director of Community Services
Background Papers - Report CS.87/07 by the Director of Community Services, including the review of Carlisle City Council's new arrangements for the collection of household waste in Carlisle

Reasons for Decision:

The decision would enable the Council's Waste Services to be provided in the most efficient manner possible.

Summary of Options rejected:

None

Interests declared

None

Date published

19-Dec-07

Urgent decision not subject to call in

No

Consent of Chairman/ Deputy Chairman of Council to Urgency:

Not applicable

Deadline for call-in:

2 Jan 08 at 17:00

Implementation date if not called-in:

3 Jan 08

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Call-in notified to and date notified:

Approved for implementation on:
