

CALL-IN REQUEST

We, the under-signed, hereby request that the Scrutiny Committee review the decisions made by the Cabinet on Friday 15 June 2012 relating to the revised Revenue Grant Policy and Procedure, as we believe that they do not comply with the principles set out in Article 13 of the Constitution, specifically:

An explanation of the options that were considered before a decision was taken, and the reasons for that decision and **Social, economic, and environmental well-being of the community** and **Proportionality ie the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome**

There appears to have been no detailed consideration of the options for determining and awarding Revenue Grants –but merely a decision that they would be determined the head of corporate strategy in consultation with the cabinet member for Finance, and that “... *other cabinet members or local members could be consulted also, depending on the application*”. We would suggest that the views of the local member(s), and/or members of the relevant Area Committee should always be sought.

- a) The “criteria” listed in Appendix 1 of the Cabinet paper, which we understand have been adopted without major alteration by Cabinet appear not to be justified by evidence, and that Cabinet appear not to have considered any alternative criteria. For example, we find it puzzling
- a. That Parish and Town councils, or charitable bodies are not permitted to apply for funds
 - b. That by requiring two years previous accounts to be submitted, this excludes the possibility of funding new events or granting funds to newly established bodies
 - c. That awards will not normally be for more than £1,000 when the grants made to Festivals in 2011 in Wantage, Faringdon and Abingdon all exceeded that sum
 - d. That there will be no requirement for the organisation to provide evidence that expenditure for which the grant was made actually took place – the sole criteria is whether the event took place or not
 - e. That there is no requirement for the project’s financial plan to be submitted with the application
 - f. That there is no definition of what constitutes a “local festival or event”

Cllr Jim Halliday, Cllr Tony de Vere, Cllr Julie Mayhew-Archer, Cllr Andy Crawford