



CHELTENHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee
8th June 2006

Reference from Cabinet – Extract of Draft Minute
Cheltenham CAVA merger with Gloucester CVS (Agenda item 9e)

The Community Development Manager provided a brief summary of the report which had been circulated with the revised agenda and drew particular attention to a number of key issues.

In response to questions from the Deputy Quality of Life, the Community Development Manager indicated that as far as he was aware all staffing issues had been resolved as at 01 April 2006.

He confirmed to the leader that the annual conditional offer of grant previously awarded to Cheltenham CAVA for 2005-08 would automatically transfer to GCVS (Cheltenham) and would be reviewed in due course in line with the process currently adopted. This had been done under officer delegation, without member involvement in the decision.

The Leader explained that a number of the voluntary and community services represented at the AGM had subsequently indicated that they had not been totally clear of the options available because they were not explained fully at the time and they had felt press-ganged into making this decision.

The Cabinet suggested that a review of the role of GCVS (Cheltenham) should be undertaken by a cross-party group of members as a matter of urgency.

The cabinet expressed concern at the presumption that the grant would transfer to GCVS automatically and agreed that the funding would be held in abeyance pending a review of agreed outcomes by the Social and Community overview and scrutiny committee and a recommendation back to cabinet by the Deputy Stronger and Safer Communities to proceed with a funding agreement & detailed SLA.

The Cabinet noted the report and requested that the Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny be invited to review the role of GCVS (Cheltenham) in relation to

- **the ability to deliver agreed outcomes**
- **the future of the CVS**

- **the organisation and effectiveness of the AGM which purported to give voluntary sector agreement to the merger.**

Questions for the Committee

- 1) Does the Committee wish to accept the referral?
- 2) Does the Committee wish to deal with the issue by discussion at the next meeting?; or
- 3) Does the Committee wish to set up a small working group to look at the issue and bring a report back to the next meeting