

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 23rd November, 2010 at 5.00 p.m. at the Civic Offices, Telford

PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, 29th NOVEMBER, 2010

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN: THURSDAY, 2nd DECEMBER, 2010)

PRESENT: Councillors A.J. Eade (Leader and Chairman), S. Bentley, S.P. Burrell, E.J. Carter, E.J. Greenaway, M.B. Hosken, S.M. Kelly, A. Lawrence and J.M. Seymour

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors R.K. Austin, G.M. Green and V. Tonks (Opposition Group Leaders)

CB-92 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 9th November, 2010 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

CB-93 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

CB-94 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

CB-95 USE OF SHROPSHIRE CHAMBER PORTAL FOR ADVERTISING CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES

Non-Key Decision .

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Governance that sought approval for the use of the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce portal to advertise all Council procurement opportunities with a value of less than £50,000. The proposal would benefit local businesses by making Council procurement opportunities more widely available to local providers.

The Corporate Procurement Unit (CPU) had an officer dedicated to ensuring that sustainable procurement was embedded in Council procurement practices. That included developing awareness amongst local businesses and Third Sector organisations of procurement practices and contract opportunities.

An analysis of methods available to the Council to advertise procurement opportunities in a way which maximised exposure to local providers had been

undertaken. Two options of either; a regionally available "Find It In" Portal; or a free of charge advertising portal provided by the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce but available to non-chamber members had been identified.

The first was found to be too expensive in the current climate; and it was therefore recommended that the use of the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce portal should be mandated for all Council contracts below £50,000 from 1st December 2010.

Use of the portal was free of charge to businesses and the Council and was extremely easy to use for both buyers and sellers. The primary purpose of the portal was to support opportunities for Shropshire and Telford based business.

The change to advertising methods would further enhance Council's reputation and confirm a desire to work with businesses and organisations within our local communities.

A slightly amended version of the report was tabled which included provision to enhance the service, and explained that in addition to those contracts of value less than £50,000, the Council could now include links to mediums that currently were used for contracts over £50,000, to be also included on the Portal.

Members fully supported the use of the Portal for advertising Council contracts.

RESOLVED – that the use of the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce portal to advertise Council contracts, be approved.

CB-96 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES – LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Non-Key Decision .

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member: Efficient, Community Focussed Council, presented the report of the Head of Governance that requested Cabinet to appoint two representatives to the Telford & Wrekin Local Access Forum for a further two year term of office.

Members were reminded that the Cabinet, at its meeting on 24 November, 2008 appointed two representatives, Councillors S. Bentley and T.J Hope, to the Telford & Wrekin Local Access Forum for a two year term ending in November 2010.

Section 94 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW) imposed a duty on Local Highway Authorities to establish a Local Access Forum for their area. The purpose of the Telford & Wrekin Local Access Forum was to provide advice to Telford & Wrekin Council (and the Countryside Agency and other bodies specified in S94(4) of the CRoW Act if required to do so) on how

to improve public access to land for open-air recreation and enjoyment of the area.

Membership was selected to achieve a balance between users of rights of way (walkers, horse riders, cyclists, people with limited mobility) and owners and occupiers of access land or land crossed by local rights of way. Additionally, interests such as wildlife conservation, tourism, sport and recreation, health, and outdoor education could be represented if relevant.

RESOLVED – that Councillors S Bentley and T J Hope be appointed to the Telford & Wrekin Local Access Forum for the period November 2010 to November 2012.

The meeting ended at 5.04 p.m.

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

**Jonathan Eatough
Head of Governance
Date: 29th November 2010**

Signed:

Date: