

CABINET

Decision Notices and Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet held on Tuesday, 25th January, 2011 at 5.00 p.m. at the Civic Offices, Telford

PUBLISHED ON MONDAY, 31st JANUARY, 2011

(DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN THURSDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY, 2011)

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-113 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 11th January, 2011 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

CB-114 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

CB-115 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

CB-116 CREATION OF A 'TOWN WARDEN' SCHEME USING COUNCIL FUNDED COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS

Non-Key decision

Councillor M.B.Hosken, Cabinet Member for Community Protection & Cohesion, presented the report of the Assistant Chief Executive which suggested that the role of the 5 Community Support Officers (CSOs), that were funded by the Council and employed through West Mercia Police, be revised in order to support the implementation of a new 'Town Warden' scheme that would deliver priorities primarily within the key local Borough Towns.

Local Authorities had at their disposal a range of legislation designed to protect individuals, communities and the environment. A number of Local Authorities did employ their own 'Wardens' to carry out limited enforcement activity on behalf of the Local Authority. That enforcement activity generally included issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for litter, graffiti, fly-posting and dog fouling.

Since 2004 the Council had made a contribution towards funding a team of 5 Community Support Officers (CSOs) that were employed through West Mercia Police. The CSOs had been successful in addressing a wide range of issues. However, the officers were currently directed by the Police, which could result in their work focusing on responding to Police issues.

However, through discussions with Town Councils, it had become clear that there was a greater need to address a range of environmental, crime and anti-social behaviour, and road safety issues that it was not been able to address previously. The Council had identified the need, in conjunction with the Police, to revise and refocus the role of the Council-funded CSOs via the establishment of a Telford and Wrekin Council 'Town Warden' Scheme.

It was proposed that the role of the 5 Council funded CSOs be revised and that their duties be more closely aligned to those of 'Town Wardens'. They would continue to carry out the enforcement powers that were held within the Council including issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for litter, graffiti, fly-posting and dog fouling. It was proposed that the role of the Council Community Support Officers would be as follows :- Issue polite notices in relation to parking issues; provide support on tackling Anti Social Behaviour (ASB); carry out high visibility patrols within the Borough Town Centres and surrounding areas; carry out enforcement activity including issuing FPNs for litter, graffiti, fly-posting and dog fouling; support operations such as environmental maintenance, trading standards, education welfare, and road safety; collect appropriate evidence; support community safety campaigns and provide support to the Town Park Wardens in relation to carrying out enforcement action.

The implementation of the Council's 'Town Warden' Scheme was in full agreement of the local Police Commander, and would no longer be assigned by West Mercia Police but rather would be directed by the Council, in liaison with the relevant local Town Council to focus upon addressing issues that fell within the responsibility of Telford and Wrekin Council. The Council CSO's work would be prioritised to deal with issues within the 6 Borough Towns.

Members wholeheartedly supported the important initiative and commended the move to return control of activities to the Council that would bring dividends to the local community.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the implementation of a new 'Town Warden' scheme and the continued funding of 5 Community Support Officers be agreed.**
- (b) that the role of the 5 Community Support Officers that it funds via West Mercia Police be revised to take on the responsibilities of 'Town Wardens' linked to the key local Borough Towns.**
- (c) that the 5 CSOs funded by the Council be directed by the Council via the Anti Social Behaviour Unit and that their role as Council**

CSOs be recognised through appropriate additions to their uniform.

- (d) **that delegated authority be given to the Assistant Chief Executive to negotiate, agree the terms of, and sign the ongoing Partnership Agreement between the Council and West Mercia Police governing funding and deployment of the CSOs.**

CB- 117 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

CB-118 PROCUREMENT OF A RESOURCE ALLOCATION SYSTEM

Key decision identified as **Procurement of a Resource Allocation System** in the Forward Plan published on 15th December 2010.

Councillor J.M.Seymour, Cabinet Member for Adult Care & Support, presented the report of the Head of Care & Support, which sought approval, subject to formal competitive tender in accordance with the council's constitution and procurement rules, to enter into contractual arrangements with a preferred provider for the provision of a resource allocation system to calculate personal budgets for customers in receipt of adult social care services.

The report outlined that a major service review was currently being undertaken of Adult and Children's Social Services which would lead to a significant restructuring to enable the national personalisation agenda and service efficiencies and savings to be delivered. The personalisation agenda required the Authority to develop systems, processes and services to offer greater choice and control to people in receipt of adult social care services, to achieve the vision set out in the original Putting People First concordat and the new "*Vision for Adult Social Care: Capable Communities and Active Citizens*" consultation document.

The move to more personalised services would require councils to change their finance and IT systems in order to link expenditure to individuals rather than services. In order to do that, a Resource Allocation System (RAS) was required that would determine, clearly and transparently, a proportion of the council's budget that would be allocated to service users, based on their required outcomes, to enable the purchase of appropriate care and support. In addition, the Council was required to provide regular statements to service users detailing how their allocation had been spent in supporting them.

Members expressed their support for the new system.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the award of a tender for the provision of a Resource Allocation System, following a competitive tendering process, be endorsed.
- (b) that a six year contract (with the option to extend twice for a further two years each time subject to satisfactory performance) be awarded to the preferred provider, in accordance with the Council's Constitution and the appropriate contractual documentation be entered into, subject to the terms and conditions recommended by the Head of Governance.
- (c) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Care & Support to enter into the contractual agreement, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Care and Support.
- (d) that delegated authority be granted for the Common Seal of the Council to be affixed to the resulting contractual documentation as, in the opinion of the Head of Governance, is appropriate under Part 4 of the Constitution.
- (e) that approval be given to use the Transforming Social Care Grant funding proposed to purchase and maintain the system for the six year contract period.

CB-119 TRANSFER OF COMMUNITY RELATED ASSETS

Key decision identified as **Transfer of Community Related Assets – CRA 5 Phase II** in the Forward Plan published on 15th October 2010.

Councillor E.J. Carter, Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration & Prosperity, presented the report of the Head of Property & ICT which informed the Cabinet of the transfer of the remaining sites under Package 5 of Community Related Assets (CRA 5) from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) in accordance with an Agreement dated 31 March 1999. Property & ICT had negotiated with HCA to transfer various parcels of land together with the income from New Town House as a commuted sum to fund the costs of maintaining the assets.

Each site, identified in accompanying plans to the report, was assessed by Engineers and categorised according to ground stability and contamination issues. Sites considered as acceptable were then inspected by Environmental Maintenance officers (and Engineers where appropriate) to assess any works that needed to be undertaken by HCA prior to transfer. In addition, the annual maintenance costs for each site were assessed.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that the transfer of assets, as detailed in the report, be approved.

- (b) that the Head of Governance be authorised to agree and execute all documentation.

CB-120 BROADBAND & TELEPHONY CONTRACT

Key Decision not in the Forward Plan (taken with the consent of the Chairman of the Efficient & Community Focused Council Scrutiny Committee, in accordance with paragraph 2.7 of the Cabinet Decision Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4, Section 4 of the Constitution).

Councillor S.M. Kelly, Cabinet Member for Community Focussed, Efficient Council, presented the report of the Head of Property & ICT which sought delegated authority to cancel what term was left of the existing contract for broadband and telephony, and enter into a new 3 year contract with the current provider to enable greater savings from the contract. The contract end date would remain at December 2013.

The new contract would enable ICT to achieve savings targets, provide a greater level of bandwidth and then prepare for a full converged network EU Tender at the start of 2013.

RESOLVED – that the Head of Property & ICT be granted delegated authority to award a 3 year contract for the provision of broadband and telephony services in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Efficient, Community Focused Council.

CB-121 REDEVELOPMENT OF MALINSLEE LOCAL CENTRE

Key Decision identified as **Malinslee Local Centre** in the Forward Plan published on 15th December 2010.

Councillor E.J. Carter, Cabinet Member for Housing, Regeneration & Prosperity, presented the report of the Head of Property & ICT which informed Members of the progress made in re-developing Malinslee Local Centre and to allocate resources to deliver a new local centre as detailed within the report.

In 2007 Cabinet approved the redevelopment of Malinslee Local Centre which included a retail centre, play facilities, a doctor's surgery and residential development. The report highlighted the need to generate capital receipts from the sales of residential land to fund the construction of the new facilities.

Members were reminded that Malinslee had seen significant investment with the opening of both Old Park Primary School and Stepping Stones Centre in 2009. However, in May 2010 Malinslee Local Centre suffered a major fire which destroyed the supermarket. The fire had provided an opportunity to proceed with the redevelopment of the Local Centre now, as the original programme was not delivered due to the residential market conditions. The contribution of insurance monies would provide additional funds to enable the

development to proceed. The development would be funded from the sale of residential land at Royal Way.

RESOLVED –

- (a) that approval be given for the proposed redevelopment of Malinslee Local Centre as described in the report.
- (b) That delegated authority be granted to the Head of Property & ICT to dispose of the site in Royal Way (as shown in an appendix to the report) and the site of the existing Local Centre as a contribution towards the investment in Malinslee Local Centre.
- (c) That approval be given to the investment as detailed in Section 5 of the report.
- (d) That delegated authority be given to the Head of Governance to execute any documents necessary to give effect to the recommendations in the report.

The meeting ended at 5.19 p.m.

Signed for the purposes of the Decision Notices

**Jonathan Eatough
Head of Governance
Date: 31st January 2011**

Signed:

Date: