

**Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2010**

**ES12 ACCEPTANCE OF PANTOMIME TENDER**

The Sub-Committee was advised that in March 2010 an advertisement was placed for expressions of interest in providing the seasonal pantomime at The Brindley to run from December 2010 to January 2011. From this advertisement seven pre-qualification questionnaires were returned. Of these, two were from organisations who were not production companies. Two other applicants had no experience of producing pantomimes. Of the remaining three applicants two companies failed the financial checks and were therefore disqualified from tendering. As such, this left New Pantomimes Production Limited the only company meeting the criteria.

In order to provide a cost comparison, and be confident that value for money was being achieved, two other comparators were used:-

- the cost of last year's pantomime that had the same number of performances. In this case, the tender submitted was some £6,000 lower than the cost of the previous year's production; and
- two writers/performance directors were invited to submit a proposal to stage a pantomime as a joint production with The Brindley. The initial cost estimate was £116,350. This figure was later reduced but was still higher than the tendered figure.

The process of achieving comparisons was discussed with legal services and given the imperative to provide a pantomime this year, the course of action undertaken was seen as a pragmatic solution to ensure that the tender was competitive and provided value for money.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the contract be awarded to New Pantomime Productions Limited for the sum of £84,000; and
- 2) the tendering process to provide pantomimes at The Brindley for up to three years from 2011 – 14 is started with immediate effect.

