

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board relevant to the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 28th FEBRUARY 2013

EXB155 CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL SAVE ENERGY ADVICE LINE

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on the Council's contribution to the local Save Energy Advice Line.

The Board was reminded that at its meeting on 24 May 2012, it approved a waiver of Procurement Standing Orders in respect of the delivery of a local energy advice line for 2013/14. The advice line was funded by the Department of Health's Warm Homes, Healthy People Programme for 2011/12. It was noted that the Council had secured additional funding for the delivery of a variety of projects, one of which was the extension of the energy advice line for a further twelve months.

The report advised that a local environmental charity, Energy Projects Plus, were commissioned to deliver the service and had previously delivered a Government funded locally based telephone advice service across Merseyside and Cheshire since 1995. One of the key roles of the local service had been to provide an anchor point for residents to contact which linked to the range of local initiatives and advice schemes.

Since the withdrawal of Government funding, Energy Projects Plus had continued to deliver a locally based advice line, part funded by local authority contributions. The total cost of providing the service was £75,000. The report provided details of the business case and the funding contribution required for 2013/14.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) under Procurement Standing Orders 1.8.3 (f) Standing Orders 4.1 and 4.2 be waived in respect of Energy Projects Plus Local Advice Line; and
- 2) the Operational Director (Prevention and Assessment) be authorised to award a contract to Energy Projects Plus to deliver a local energy

Strategic Director
- Communities

advice line for 2013/14.

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB156 STREET LIGHTING ENERGY PROCUREMENT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which advised on an extension to the Council's un-metered electricity supply contract for street lighting.

The Board was advised that since October 2001, the Council's un-metered electricity had been procured through an energy procurement specialist to the public sector, Utilities Procurement Group (UPG). It was noted that UPG used their knowledge of the market to determine the best time to seek tenders as the energy market was very volatile and often affected by worldwide events.

Since 1 April 2011, the current supplier had been Haven Power, whose contract included an Option to Extend (OTE) for up to two years and which, it was reported, had been taken up for one year. At its meeting on 29 March 2012, Executive Board had approved the switching off of street lighting on high speed roads between midnight and 6.00am as a budget saving option. It was noted that, due to changes in standing charges, the expected savings would fall short of the budgeted £148,000, and in order to achieve a balanced budget, it had been necessary to review the replacement of age-expired equipment with a delay in the programme of works. It was further reported that this in turn would impact on potential future savings that would have resulted from using more energy efficient equipment.

Members were advised that often energy contracts needed to be accepted within a very short time frame, due to rapid changes in the prices on offer and the possibility of offers being withdrawn at short notice. For this reason, it was necessary on occasion to waive Standing Orders to enable offers to be accepted.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the extension to the supply contract for un-metered electricity with Haven Power be endorsed;
- 2) the waiving of Procurement Standing Orders 2.2

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

to 2.11 for the purchase of un-metered electricity be endorsed;

- 3) it be recorded that the expenditure is anticipated to be in excess of £1.0M per annum; and
- 4) Utilities Procurement Group (UPG) continue to be used to manage our street lighting energy provision.

EXB157 WAIVER OF PROCUREMENT STANDING ORDERS - EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR URGENT REPAIRS TO THE HIGHWAY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the waiver of Procurement Standing Orders for repair works for the public right of way footpath network.

The Board was advised that part of the Mersey Way footpath at Hale required emergency structural repairs to reinstate the surface and sides of the path immediately before the Christmas period in 2012. In addition, due to heavy rainfall over the Christmas holidays, and resultant landslip immediately adjacent to the path edge, some additional urgent action was required to prevent further erosion and collapse.

It was reported that the contractors, ELM were instructed to make safe and reinstate the collapse which involved the construction of timber revetments to provide support to the footpath; these works were completed by 16 January 2013. Due to the urgent nature of the work, compliance with Standing Orders was not practicable and Members were asked to note the action taken by the Operational Director, Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Head of Procurement.

RESOLVED: That the two waivers to Procurement Standing Order 4.1(Competition Requirements) by the Operational Director Policy, Planning and Transportation and Head of Procurement, in respect of the award of contracts, of estimated value £9,750 and £5,751 for urgent repairs to the Highway be noted.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PORTFOLIO

EXB158 GREEN DEAL AND ENERGY COMPANY OBLIGATION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, informing them of two new national energy schemes.

The Board was advised that the Energy Act represented a step change in the provision of energy efficiency for homes and businesses. Significantly, it replaced the grant scheme Warm Front, with two new schemes known as the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO). It was reported that ECO funding and Green Deal finance would work alongside each other to help fund heating and insulation installation measures for tenants and homeowners.

The report outlined the details of the Green Deal finance framework which aimed to provide energy efficiency work for “able to pay” households that reduced energy consumption. It also detailed the role of the local authority as both Green Deal Provider, Partner and Advocate. In terms of ECO, it was noted that unlike Green Deal, it would place an obligation on gas and electric suppliers to achieve energy savings through a smaller range of measures, and expected them to subsidise or fully meet the costs of the measures. It was further noted that there were three elements to ECO having different eligibility criteria, as outlined in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Council supports a partnership approach to Green Deal and ECO, as set out in paragraph 3.2.4 of the report, to deliver and facilitate the new energy initiatives.

Strategic Director
- Communities

EXB159 LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COLLECTIVE ENERGY SCHEME

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive which provided background information on the Collective Energy Scheme.

The report detailed the background to the collective purchasing and switching approach of consumers banding together to negotiate a better deal with their gas and energy suppliers. Although there was no set model for the operation of such schemes it was noted that usually this kind of activity was facilitated by a third party, that negotiated and ran an auction to provide a better tariff on behalf of the consumers they represent.

The Board was advised that during November 2012 a local based charity, Energy Projects Plus worked with the six local authorities of the Liverpool City Region (LCR) to develop a proposal for Department of Energy and Climate Change's (DECC) Cheaper Energy Together fund. The proposal included developing a programme of repeated switching auctions, which recognised that a significant proportion of vulnerable residents could be supported to take advantage of an energy tariff collective switching scheme. However, the bid to DECC was unsuccessful, but it was noted that there remained a desire to explore how a collective switching scheme could be delivered.

The LCR scheme would enable people from across the city region to join together to negotiate cheaper energy bills and would be open to each Authority's residents. To date, Wirral, Sefton and Knowsley had signed up to the scheme. Members were advised that to participate in the scheme, residents would be invited to register free of charge, either via a web site or through direct contact with the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council join the Liverpool City Region Collective Energy Switching Scheme and make an initial £5,000 contribution to the set up costs (refundable subject to the generation of referral fees).

Chief Executive

EXB160 PURCHASE OF UNO ENERGY DATABASE

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive which sought agreement to award a contract without conducting a tender exercise for the purchase of the UNO Energy database.

The Board was advised that in January 2013, the Borough Council was successful in being awarded £115,000 under the Department for Energy and Climate Change's (DECC) Fuel Poverty Fund. The fund would be used to offer grants for heating and insulation to Halton residents which met a set of criteria, as detailed in the report.

The DECC bid submission also included £10,000 to purchase a database to collate energy information for individual Halton properties. The database would enable the authority to get the most out of the Government's new funding regime for domestic energy efficiency, which included the Energy Company Obligation. The deadline for

spending the DECC funding was extremely tight and consequently there was not sufficient time to conduct a formal tendering exercise for the database.

Members were advised that the local environmental charity, Energy Projects Plus, managed a database known as the UNO system on behalf of Wirral, St Helens, Knowsley and Sefton. It was proposed that Halton purchase the UNO system which included the cost of software, the Green Deal module and the cost of matching and converting all data, which brought the total to £9,950, which was within the application funding from the DECC.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) under Procurement Standing Order 1.8.3 (f) Standing Orders 4.1 and 4.2 be waived in respect of the UNO Energy Database and purchase of Energy Performance Certificate data; and
- 2) the Assistant to the Chief Executive be authorised to purchase the UNO Energy Database and to enter into a contract with Energy Projects Plus to manage the Database.

Chief Executive

PART II

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB169 AWARD OF THE HALTON HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE TERM SERVICES CONTRACT 2013-2019 - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the award of the Halton Highways Improvement and Maintenance Term Services Contract 2013-2019.

The Board was advised that the current contracts would expire on 31 May 2013. In line with national guidance, Halton and Warrington Borough Councils embarked upon a joint procurement process which provided an opportunity for a single contractor to undertake highways improvement and maintenance services for both authorities under separate contracts.

It was noted that the contracts would be for an initial six year period, with the potential to extend to a maximum of

ten years, subject to performance satisfying set targets in a number of agreed areas.

The report detailed the tender process, the evaluation process and comparisons with the previous contract, for Members' information.

RESOLVED: That the tender from the company referred to in paragraph 3.3.9 be accepted for the Halton Highways Improvement and Maintenance Term Services Contract 2013-2019.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 28TH MARCH 2013

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB196 TRANSPORT CAPITAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME 2013/14

The Board considered a response of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Transport Capital Implementation Programme 2013/14.

The Board was reminded that at its meeting on 17 March 2011, Halton's Local Transport Plan (LTP3) was approved. It contained the key issues for transport in Halton, identified through a public consultation exercise, and were attached at Appendix 1. These issues were addressed by LTP3 through a series of local goals which linked to both national and local priorities.

It was reported that capital funding for local transport was provided by central Government through the Integrated Transport and Highway Maintenance Block Allocations. The grant was based on needs-based formulae which took account of a wide range of road, transport and other related data, specific to the authority.

The Department for Transport (DfT) confirmed the funding settlement for 2013/14 on 21 December 2012. The report provided details of the Major Scheme Capital Funding, Additional Maintenance Funding, Transport Block Implementation Programmes and Detailed Implementation Programmes.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Local Transport Settlement final allocations for 2013/14 and 2014/15 be noted;
- 2) Council be recommended to approve the following sums for incorporation into the Council's Capital Programme for 2013/14:
 - Transport Implementation Programme £2,685,000;
 - Transport Major Scheme Capital Funding (SJB) £2,460,000
 - Additional Local Highways Maintenance Funding £355,000; and
- 3) authority to agree the detailed programme of schemes, based, where appropriate, upon the four year Implementation Programme described in the Local Transport Plan, be delegated to the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Transportation.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PORTFOLIO

EXB197 KENNELING ARRANGEMENTS AND OUT OF HOURS COLLECTION OF STRAY DOGS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the kennelling arrangements and out of hours collection of stray dogs.

The Board was advised that the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1990, placed a duty on each local authority to appoint an Officer to deal with the issue of stray dogs. Under the current arrangements, Halton, Knowsley Liverpool and St Helens Councils worked jointly as a Consortium to procure arrangements for dealing with stray dogs. A full procurement process resulted in the award of a contract for the kennelling of dogs to the RSPCA in Halewood and the collection of stray dogs out of hours to Animal Wardens Ltd. Both contracts were awarded for a three year period, which would end in April 2013.

The report provided further details on the kennelling re-charges, costs and the out of hours service. It was reported that, due to a change in policy at national level, the RSPCA would no longer be willing to provide a kennelling service when the current contract had expired. It was

proposed that the Consortium lease the kennel block at Halewood and through procurement, find an organisation to staff and manage the facility. Some of the advantages to this approach were outlined in the report.

RESOLVED: That the proposed changes for the kennelling arrangements and out of hours collection of stray dogs be approved.

Strategic Director
- Communities

EXB198 HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT (HECA) REPORT 2013

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the Home Energy Conservation (HECA) report 2013.

The Board was advised that new guidance placed a duty on local authorities to prepare and publish a HECA report by the end of March 2013, with follow up progress reports every two years to 2027. The document should set out the energy conservation measure the authority considered practicable, cost effective and likely to result in significant improvement in the energy efficiency of residential accommodation.

A copy of the draft HECA report was attached at Appendix A. Specific areas covered were detailed in the committee report and included:

- Local ambitions and priorities;
- Measures which took advantage of financial assistance and other benefits offered by Central Government initiatives;
- Area based/street by street approaches; and
- A timeframe for delivery and national and local partners.

RESOLVED: That the Home Energy Conservation Act report, attached at Appendix A, be endorsed for onward submission to the Department for Energy and Climate Change.

Strategic Director
- Communities

PART II

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PORTFOLIO

EXB209 WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which provided an update on the outcome of a tender exercise for the provision of Waste Management Services.

The report provided Members with information on the Council's current Landfill Disposal Contract and made recommendations to ensure that the Council maintained adequate arrangements to fulfil its statutory duty relating to the treatment or disposal of residual household waste.

Reason(s) for Decision

In order for the Council to fulfil its statutory obligations as a Waste Disposal Authority, it must have in place arrangements for the treatment or disposal of residual household waste. It was important to ensure that any arrangements that were in place continued to represent the most cost effective and value for money solution available to the Council.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

By undertaking a procurement exercise for the provision of waste treatment services through an 'Open' process, the Council had sought to consider the widest range of options that were currently available. As a result of the outcome of the procurement exercise, the Council was left with no alternative options to consider other than that referred to in the report.

Implementation Date

Subject to the successful negotiation of contract prices that were acceptable to the Council, implementation was expected in May 2013.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) the Strategic Director, Communities, be authorised to seek to negotiate with the company named in the report, for a reduced tender price for the Interim Waste Treatment Services contract and, subject only to reduced, cost effective prices

Strategic Director
- Communities

being agreed, the contract be awarded to the company named in the report;

- 3) in the event that the Council is unsuccessful in securing reduced tender prices with the company named in the report, then no contract for Interim Waste Treatment Services should be awarded and a further market testing exercise should be undertaken; and
- 4) a further report be presented to Members in due course.

NEIGHBOURHOOD LEISURE AND SPORT PORTFOLIO

EXB210 ICI RECREATION SITE DEVELOPMENT WIDNES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, which provided an update on the re-development of the ICI Recreation Site, Widnes.

The Board had previously considered a report on the future use of the site at its meeting on 28 June 2012 (Minute EXB 36 referred). A key aim of the Council was to ensure a sustainable use of the site which did not require revenue support from the Council.

The report updated Members on the current proposals and the planning, financial and community implications of the re-development of the site.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the proposals for redevelopment of the ICI Recreation Site, Liverpool Road, Widnes, be noted;
- 2) in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods, Leisure & Sport, the Strategic Director, Communities, be authorised to explore the development of a Community Sports hub combined with a health facility; and
- 3) a further report be submitted with a business proposal(s) and costings; this may include a recommendation to sell some land to contribute to any shortfall for the development.

Strategic Director
- Communities

(N.B. Councillor Wharton declared a Disclosable Other Interest in the following item of business as he was a Board Member of Halton Transport Ltd and left the room during consideration of this item)

LEADER'S PORTFOLIO

EXB211 HALTON BOROUGH TRANSPORT LIMITED

The Board considered a report of the Operational Director, Finance, on Halton Borough Transport Limited (the Company).

The report outlined proposals received from the Company's Board for consideration. The proposals were intended to support the Company in the continuing development and improvement of their services for the benefit of the community and to enhance the customer experience.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to note the developments made by Halton Borough Transport Limited as outlined in the report, and approve the recommendations i) to v) as set out in the report.

Operational
Director - Finance