

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board Sub Committee Minutes Relevant to the Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE 21st DECEMBER 2006

EB74 HIGHWAY SKIDDING RESISTANCE POLICY

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Environment outlining the current position regarding the measurement and treatment of highway skidding resistance and proposing the introduction of a policy for analysing skid resistance data to produce programmes of treatment. A copy of the policy was attached to the report for information.

It was noted that the Council had approved an overall policy document in relation to Highway Maintenance Strategy in 1998, incorporating the method by which the measurement of skidding resistance of highway surfacing was to be carried out. However, national guidance on skidding resistance had changed significantly since then and a specific policy was now required.

The Board was advised that the new policy had been prepared to take account of developments, meeting current requirements and recognising the contribution of accident analysis to the assessment process. The policy had been presented to the Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board on 15th November 2006 where it had been agreed that the policy should be recommended for approval.

RESOLVED: That the Skidding Resistance Policy, submitted as an appendix to the report, be adopted.

EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEE 25th JANUARY 2007

EB79 VICTORIA SQUARE – DEVELOPING THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive and the Strategic Director – Environment outlining the approach to be taken in developing a Management Plan for Victoria Square.

It was noted that much progress had been made in regenerating Widnes Town Centre over recent years and, of particular note, was the progress made in and around Victoria

Square. To ensure the benefits were maximised and the current momentum was maintained, it was considered appropriate to develop a Victoria Square Management Plan.

Much discussion had already taken place with the Police in this regard and the Board was advised that the Police saw that the development of such a plan was a good way forward for the partners and authorities to meet their duties to reduce crime and disorder within the areas they served (Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998). To this end, a preliminary workshop session had taken place with representatives from all appropriate Council departments, and partners, to look at the issues and opportunities that would need to be considered in the Management Plan.

An integral part of the management plan related to the issues of “al-fresco” drinking and dining and, following discussions with the Police, it was proposed to permit al-fresco drinking/dining on designated parts of Victoria Square adjacent to certain buildings.

It was noted that the development of a Management Plan for Victoria Square at this time would be a very complex task. In addition, it was confirmed that this was a pilot and, if successful, the intention was to develop it across the Borough.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the development of a Management Plan including al-fresco drinking and dining on Victoria Square be approved, subject to resolving any legal, health and safety, and risk management issues; and
- (2) further reports be provided on the progress of the Victoria Square Pilot with a view to developing the night-time economy across the Borough.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE 25th JANUARY 2007

EBS70 INSTALLATION OF UNDERGROUND RECYCLING UNITS

The Sub-Committee was advised on four quotations received from Contractors to carry out excavation work for the installation of underground recycling units.

In considering the quotations received, it was proposed that the quote from Paddison Construction of £18,869.48 be accepted for the following reasons:

- (i) none of the other companies had direct experience of undertaking similar work;
- (ii) the requested work was very specialist and not just a standard excavation;
- (iii) when considering the variation in quotes there was uncertainty that the companies without the relevant experience completely understood the job specification;
- (iv) Paddison Construction Limited had the most relevant experience, having undertaken excavation work for several hundred underground banks, including 90% of the underground banks in the UK;
- (v) Paddison Construction was the appointed contractor of the Unit Manufacturers and used for installations of the underground unit following excavation;
- (vi) if problems occurred during the excavations it was felt that they would be able to deal with them much more efficiently due to their wealth of experience.

Due to the reasons outlined above, it was requested that Standing Orders be waived and Paddison Construction be appointed to carry out these works.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) for the reasons stated in the report, the quotation submitted by Paddison Construction Limited, be accepted and the Operational Director, Environmental and Regulatory Services, in consultation with the portfolio holder for Environment, Leisure and Sport, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements to enter into a contract with that company;
- (2) Standing Order 4.1 of the Procurement Standing Orders be waived accordingly.

ESB71 INVITATION TO TENDER FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT RELATED CONTRACTS

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought authority to carry out all the necessary steps in relation to the procurement of the following contracts:

- (i) Landfill Disposal; and
- (ii) Interim arrangements for the Management and Operation of Recycling and Household Waste Centres; (Civic Amenity Sites).

The Council's contractual arrangements for all Landfill Disposal and the Management and Operation of the Civic Amenity Sites end on 31st January 2008 and authority was sought to put in place contractual arrangements for these services as from 1st February 2008.

At its meeting on 21st September 2006, the Executive Board resolved that a formal partnership with the Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority be established for the procurement of appropriate Waste Treatment and Disposal for Services and Facilities. (EXB40/2006 refers).

The Council was to be included in the joint procurement arrangements for the management and operation of the Council's Civic Amenity Sites as from October 2008, but not the Landfill Disposal Contract as the Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA) had already issued an OJEU Notice and PQQ for Landfill Disposal. The Council's Consultants had not finalised their advice to the Council as to future arrangements with the MWDA and as such a number of contingencies had to be provided.

The Landfill Disposal Contract would commence on 1st February 2008. Halton would seek to participate with the MWDA on joint landfill disposal arrangements at the first opportunity. Given the review periods within the MWDA contract, the period of contract could be between 5 years and 8 months and 8 years and 8 months. The estimated value was as follows:

- Estimated annual value - £621.000;
- Estimated value for 5 years and 8 months
 - £3.90m
- Estimated value for 8 years and 8 months
 - £6.98m

With regard to the provision of interim arrangements for the management and operation of recycling and household waste

centre (Civic Amenity Sites), it was proposed that the estimated value from 1st February 2008 for a period of 8 months would be £690,000 (excluding Landfill Tax), based on the existing specification.

Despite the position set out above, the Council's consultants were still evaluating the process of integrating into the arrangements being prepared by the MWDA. There were a number of potential outcomes of that evaluation which could impact on the Council's proposals for either or both of the contracts, details of which and the possible contingency arrangements were outlined in the report.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the Operational Director, Environmental and Regulatory Services, be authorised in consultation with the Portfolioholder for Environment, Leisure and Sport, to proceed with the procurement process as outlined in the report and to take all steps deemed appropriate (including the selection of tenderers) up to the point of receipt of tenders;
- (2) the tenders be reported back to the Executive Board Sub Committee for decision;
- (3) should negotiations with the MWDA result in a conclusion that the subject matter of proposed Landfill Disposal Contract (Contract A) could be included within arrangements being entered into by the MWDA, the Operational Director, Environmental and Regulatory Services, shall be authorised, in consultation with the Portfolioholder for Environment, Leisure and Sport, to negotiate with the MWDA on that basis and shall be authorised to proceed with Contract A on the basis of the same contract period as proposed in Contract B; and
- (4) subject to the sanction of the European Commission to the non- application of the Public Procurement Rules, authority be given to negotiate extensions to Contracts A and/or B.