Extract of Executive Board, Executive Board Sub Committee and Executive (Transmodal Implementation) Sub Board Minutes Relevant to the Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 12 DECEMBER 2008

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE MERSEYSIDE JOINT WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT SPATIAL STRATEGY AND SITES (SSS) REPORT - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Environment which advised Members that the Council was involved in producing a Joint Waste Development Plan (DPD) for the Merseyside sub-region. Production had now reached the stage where the sites and strategy underpinning the policies contained in the Waste DPD would be subject to public scrutiny. The Spatial Strategy and government policy (PPS10) required that waste must be dealt with in a sustainable way.

The Board was advised that during the period of 17 November 2008 to 9 January 2009, now extended to 16 January 2009, the Spatial Strategy and Sites (SSS) Report had been placed on public consultation. As a consultee, the Council had prepared a formal response to the consultation.

RESOLVED: That the content of the report as the formal response of Halton Borough Council to the public consultation on the Halton Council, Liverpool City Council, Knowsley Council, Sefton Council. St Helens Council and Wirral Council Joint Waste Development Plan Document Spatial Strategy and Sites Report be approved.

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 15 JANUARY 2009

TO SEEK NOMINATIONS TO SERVE ON THE INEOS LOCAL LIAISON FORUM

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Environment regarding the requirement for Members to serve on the Ineos Local Liaison Forum.

It was noted that, prior to commencing development on the Energy from Waste CHP Plant, which had been consented to by the Department for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, there was a requirement to satisfy the terms of the associated planning obligation. The Ineos Local Liaison Forum (LLF) was required by

virtue of the terms of the Section 106 Agreement entered into between Halton Borough Council and INEOS Chlor Limited. The purpose of the Forum would be to act as conduit between INEOS ChlorVinyls, Halton Borough Council and community stakeholders from those areas located nearest to the Energy from Waste CHP plant in order to keep residents fully informed during construction of the plant and to respond to any queries raised. INEOS ChlorVinyls had agreed to extend the duration of the Forum to cover operation of the plant for as long as it was deemed beneficial.

The proposed membership of the LLF was outlined within the report for Members' consideration. In particular, it was noted that four Elected Members from Halton Borough Council were required. It was intended that the Forum be established in Spring 2009 meeting bimonthly and that the Council review the purpose and need for the Forum periodically.

The Board was advised that, subject to agreement of the principal of four elected Members being nominated, this matter could then be dealt with under delegated powers to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader. It was intended that two Members would be from the leading group and two Members would be from the opposition.

RESOLVED: That four elected Members be nominated to serve on the Forum.

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 12 FEBRUARY 2009

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2009

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director – Environment, seeking approval of the Local Development Scheme (LDS) attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

It was noted that the LDS was a public statement of Halton Borough Council's three-year work programme for producing the Local Development Framework (LDF): all Councils were required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) to produce an LDS.

This LDS formed the 5th LDS that had been prepared by Halton Borough Council and moved the preparation of the LDF forward to the 2009/2010 period. The LDS had been reviewed at this stage following the issues highlighted in the Annual Monitoring Report and to ensure that the requirements of PPS12 had been met.

The Board was advised that Government Office for the North West (GONW) was keen for LDSs to become definitive programme management documents and, from 1st April 2009, would only expect them to be departed from in exceptional circumstances or as agreed in response to annual monitoring. The process for the LDS' production was outlined within the report for Members' information and it was noted that this new LDS involved the production and adoption of further Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), the next stage of consultation on the Core Strategy Development Plan Documents (DPD), and the second stage of consultation on the Waste DPD.

Requirements of the LDS were outlined within the report for Members consideration, together with the questions that GONW would be considering when assessing whether the LDS was "fit for purpose". Following approval by the Executive Board, the LDS had to be submitted to GONW. It should then come into effect four weeks after being submitted to GONW unless the Secretary of State intervened in this period or requested more time.

Reason for Decision

As required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and Part 3 Section 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 as amended by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

Not applicable.

<u>Implementation Date</u>

The Local Development Scheme 2009 to be implemented with effect from 1 April 2009.

RESOLVED: That

(1) the revision to the Local Development Scheme, appended to the report, shall come into effect from 31st March 2009, or from the date on which the Council receives notification from the Secretary of State in accordance with Regulation 11 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008, whichever is earlier;

- the Operational Director Environmental and Regulatory Services, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Planning, Transportation, Regeneration and Renewal, be authorised to make any changes to this document as required by the Planning Inspectorate or the Government Office for the North West; and
- (3) further editorial and technical changes and/or correction of printing errors that do not affect the content be agreed by the Operational Director Environmental and Regulatory Services before the document is published.

EXECUTIVE SUB BOARD – 12 FEBRUARY 2009

STREET LIGHTING ENERGY PROCUREMENT

The Sub-Committee was presented with a report which detailed the acceptance of an extension of the current un-metered electricity supply contract for street lighting with Scottish and Southern Electricity, by the Operational Director – Highways, Transportation and Logistics.

The report also sought approval to the waiving of standing orders and to inform Members that the anticipated expenditure was likely to be over £1m per annum.

Members were advised that since October 2001 un-metered electricity had been procured through UPG (Utilities Procurement Group), with the first contract beginning in April 2002. Initially, the contract was awarded to Eon and then in April 2007 it was awarded to Scottish and Southern Electricity for a period of two years.

The current contracts which included an Option to Extend (OTE) expired in April 2009. UPG had been monitoring the situation and recommended that we take up the Option to Extend rather than re-tender due to the market being volatile.

Members were advised that the current contract had a rate of 8.090p per kwh and the annual cost was about £900,000. The revised contract rates were 9.160p/kwh, which equated to an annual cost of about £1,150,000 and the unit rate was fixed for two years. If any electrical equipment was installed or removed, then the total amount payable will be adjusted accordingly.

It was noted that the total amount payable was determined from an itemised listing of our equipment which was submitted to Scottish Power, who in turn issued a Certificate of Estimated Annual Consumption. This certificate was updated every month therefore any equipment removed or added was included within a relatively short period of time.

Members were advised that the Street Lighting Energy contract needed to be accepted within a very short timescale, sometimes within a day as happened on this occasion, due to the rapid changes in the prices charged for electricity, which could result in an offer being withdrawn at short notice. Hence the need to waive standing orders to enable the offer to be accepted.

It was noted that this was done after consultation with the Council's Finance and Internal Audit Sections who supported our acceptance of the contract. The process had recently been reviewed by Internal Audit, who were satisfied that the system represented good value for money for the Council.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the extension to the existing supply contract for un-metered electricity be endorsed;
- (2) procurement Standing Orders 2.2 to 2.11 be waived for the purpose of un-metered electricity; and
- (3) it be recorded that the expenditure was anticipated to be in excess of £1m per annum.

CONFIRMATION OF AWARD OF HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL BRIDGE MAINTENANCE PARTNERSHIP

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Strategic Director – Environment, which reported the circumstances of the award of the HBC Bridge Maintenance Partnership Contract to Wrekin Construction Company Limited.

Members were advised that on the 4th December 2008 the Strategic Director, Environment, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Planning, Transportation Regeneration and Renewal, was given delegated authority to accept the most advantageous tender for the HBC Bridge Maintenance Partnership Contract.

The Sub-Committee was advised that six tenders had been received and had been evaluated based upon quality and price. The overall quality score contributed to a maximum of 60% of the points available and the overall price score contributed to a maximum 40% of the points available.

Following a rigorous evaluation and scoring process, the bids were ranked as follows:

- 1. Wrekin Construction Company Limited
- 2. Balvac Limited
- 3. A. E. Yates Limited
- 4. Nuttall BAM Limited
- 5. AMCO Limited
- 6. Interserve Project Services Limited

Members were advised that as a result, following Strategic Director and Board Member approval, Wrekin Construction had been awarded the HBC Bridge Maintenance Partnership Contract.

Following initial meetings to establish the structure of the partnership and its processes and procedures, Wrekin had also commenced formalisation of their supply chain.

Members were advised that it was anticipated that major maintenance work on the Silver Jubilee Bridge, in particular, would be underway before the end of the financial year.

RESOLVED: That the circumstances of the award of the HBC Bridge Maintenance Partnership contract be noted.

PROMOTIONS & TOURISM FEES AND CHARGES 2009/10

The Sub-Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Environment, which set out the proposed fees and charges to be applied by the Promotions and Tourism service for the financial year 2009/2010.

Members were advised that the fees and charges applied to the activities of the Promotions and Tourism service. This covered the charges for the exhibition unit, small marquees and items such as small public address systems and road cones.

The proposal was to increase the current fees and charges by 3% in 2009/10, which was consistent with guidance received from financial services. The proposed fees and charges were set out in Appendix 1 to the report. Members were advised that these were based on the same fees structures as 2008/09 which had previously been approved by the Sub-Committee.

It was noted that to ensure that fees and charges offered a degree of flexibility, to enable discounted and special offers to be made for bulk purchasing etc. it was proposed that the Promotions and Tourism Manager agreed any such offers in advance with the Operational Director for Regeneration and that a record be maintained for audit purposes.

RESOLVED: That the proposed fees and charges for 2009/10, as set out in Appendix 1 to the minutes be approved.