

Cabinet

Wednesday 9 February 2022

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall at 6pm.

Present – in person

Councillor Bird	Leader of the Council
Councillor Andrew	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Perry	Deputy Leader, Resilient Communities
Councillor Pedley	Adult Social Care
Councillor Butler	Clean and Green
Councillor Wilson	Children’s Services
Councillor Towe	Education and skills
Councillor Craddock	Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Statham	Internal Services

In attendance – in person

Dr. H. Paterson, Chief Executive
Mrs D. Hindson, Executive Director, Resources and Transformation
Mr S. Portman, Head of Law
Mrs H. Owen, Democratic Services Officer

In attendance – remote

Mrs K. Allward, Executive Director, Adults, Public Health and Hub
Mr S. Neilson, Executive Director, Economy Environment and Communities
Mrs S. Rowe, Executive Director, Children’s and Customer
Mr S. Gunther, Director of Public Health

3854 Welcome

Councillor Bird opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, and explaining that the Cabinet was meeting that evening in person with appropriate social distancing requirements and would be conducted using the hybrid meeting system to enable it to be streamed on YouTube and to enable officers to contribute remotely if required. He said that voting would be by way of a show of hands which would be witnessed and recorded by the Democratic Services officer in attendance; and that the agenda and reports for this meeting were available on the Council’s website. Introductions took place and a quorum was established.

3855 Apologies

There were no apologies.

3856 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were submitted

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 December 2021 a copy having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

3857 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

3858 Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**Resolved**

That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items set out in the private part of the agenda for the reasons set out therein and Section 100A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

3859 Petitions

No petitions were submitted.

3860 Questions

Ms. F. Macmillan *“Does Cabinet have the power to refuse any single aspect of the Black Country Plan in Walsall Council Area?”*

Ms. Macmillan attended in person. She submitted and summarised a short paper which supplemented the question.

(see annexed)

The Cabinet portfolio holder for Regeneration, Councillor Andrew, responded to the question and said that the answer was essentially yes however, there were processes to be followed. He expanded upon this by explaining as follows:

“Prior to the publication of any draft plan a report is considered at Cabinet.

For the regulation 18 draft plan, Cabinet approved the undertaking of consultation which took place last August/September.

This summer an amended draft plan will again go to Cabinet for consideration by members prior to the regulation 19 Consultation which we expect in August/September.

The regulation 19 consultation is to consult on the ‘soundness of the plan’ as set out paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Modification to the plan can be made after regulation 19 by officers, before the final version is sent to the Secretary of State. However there can be another

opportunity for members to consider the plan with any modifications first and this is likely to happen.

If following any officer modifications it is reported to Cabinet, Members can choose to omit any single aspect of the plan at regulation 19 stage or prior to the submission to the Secretary of State. However the plan must be “sound” so any decision making must be on that basis. At the Examination in Public with the Planning Inspectorate the planning inspector can make modifications to the plan to make it ‘sound’.”

Councillor Bird commented that he had asked officers to contact the new planning minister to see if he was still of a mind to pursue the methodology for identifying housing numbers required. He also reiterated that if any of the Council's in the Black Country were to say no to a piece of land being included, the inspectorate could still impose its inclusion. Councillor Bird then outlined the steps taken to supplement the digital consultation in that hard copies of the document had been made available to view and to distribute to residents.

Councillor Bird thanked Ms Macmillan for her attendance and input.

3861 **Forward plan**

The forward plan as at 6 February 2022 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

That the forward plan be noted.

3862 **Corporate Financial Performance 2021/22 and Covid-19 update**

Councillor Bird presented a report which provided an update on the forecast corporate financial position for 2021/22, based on the position to December 2021, including an updated assessment of the impact of Covid-19 on the Council's financial performance; and Covid-19 Government funding to address cost pressures and income losses.

(see annexed)

Resolved (unanimously)

That Cabinet

- 1) Notes the total Covid-19 funding available to Walsall in 2021/22 of £38.44m as set out in section 4.5 and **Appendix 1** of this report, and that this may be insufficient to cover the additional costs of supporting the council's Covid-19 response beyond the short term.
- 2) Notes that of the £38.44m grant, £24.24m is ringfenced for specific activity as set out in **Appendix 1** and this is expected to be fully spent, with the exception of the Winter grant of £37k, Local Authority Practical Support grant

of £300k, and Protect and Vaccinate for Rough Sleepers of £35k; that New Burdens funding of £452k and Wellbeing for Education of £22k are expected to be carried forward into 2022/23; that all funding is being reviewed against respective grant conditions to determine those that require to be fully allocated by March 2022 and those that are allowed to be carried forward into 2022/23.

- 3) Approves summary expenditure plans for additional grant funding to date for 2021/22 as set out in section 4.8.
- 4) Notes the forecast impact of Covid-19 to December of £9.56m and total forecast of £13.96m for 2021/22 based on known assumptions in relation to costs not covered by specific grant, as set out in section 4.5 to 4.11, and the estimated financial impact on the delivery of 2021/22 approved savings as set out in sections 4.12 to 4.13 and **Appendix 3**, which results in a marginal underspend of c£235k against the £14.20m unringfenced grant.
- 5) Notes the non Covid-19 forecast overspend £1.08m relating to demand and other service pressures as set out in 4.16 to 4.26, and actions being taken to address these; and that this is a £30k reduction on the position reported to Cabinet in December of £1.11m.
- 6) Notes that there are high risks of £5.80m to the forecast identified within services as set out in **Appendix 4**. These risks are actively being monitored and action is being taken to reduce / eliminate them.
- 7) Approves amendments to the capital programme as set out in section 4.27.
- 8) Notes that the forecast on the approved capital programme is an overspend of c£15k, after re-phasing of c£132m into 2022/23.
- 9) Notes financial health indicator performance as set out in section 4.30 to 4.35 and **Appendix 6**.
- 10) Notes the prudential indicators as set out in section 4.36 to 4.38 and **Appendix 7**.

3863 Corporate Budget Plan 2022/23 to 2025/26, incorporating the Capital Strategy; and the Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2022/23

Councillor Bird presented a report which proposed the Council's Budget Plan, being the financial representation of the Council's plans and supports the delivery of the Council's priorities and objectives.

(see annexed)

In presenting the report, Councillor Bird stressed that the major roadworks currently in place in Walsall in relation to the A34 Sprint bus project were the responsibility of Transport for West Midlands and not Walsall Council.

Resolved (unanimously)

1) **That Cabinet note:**

- a) That at the time of despatch of this report, the final local government settlement for 2022/23 has not been received. Any changes will be included within the final papers to Council.
- b) That at the time of despatch of this report, the precepting authorities (fire and police) had not formally notified the authority of their final council tax precept levels for 2022/23. Draft figures have been included. Final figures will therefore be provided prior to or at the Council meeting of 24 February 2022 should they change.
- c) That at the time of despatch of this report, the levy authorities, (Environment Agency and West Midlands Combined Authority - Transport Levy) had not formally notified the authority of their final demand for 2022/23. Estimates have been used for the Transport Levy based on informal communication. (The final Transport Levy is expected to be approved early February, and will be included within the final papers to Council).
- d) That the council tax base, set by the S151 Officer under officer delegations, is 71,803.35 for 2022/23.
- e) The feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committees on the draft capital programme and revenue budget and responses to recommendations, as set out in **Section A - Part 1** of this report, and general consultation feedback.
- f) The amendments to the revenue budget arising from the provisional settlement, including changes to the savings proposals identified since the October Cabinet report, as set out in section 4.25.
- g) That Members must have due regard to consultation feedback and the public sector equality duty (Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) when making budget decisions.

2) **That Cabinet approve:**

- a) The attached report as set out in **Section A - Part 2 and Part 3**: The Findings from Budget Consultation: Financial Year 2022/23+ and Cabinet responses and that Members have had regard to their duties in relation to consultation, and in relation to the public sector equality duty, in forming their budget recommendations.
- b) That delegated authority be given to the S151 Officer to make any necessary amendments, after consultation with the Leader (Portfolio Holder for Finance), to take account of the final local government settlement, final levies and precepts, final grant allocations and final technical guidance or legislation on the budget; and to make any necessary amendments to the statutory determinations and council tax bands to take account of those changes and the resulting final analysis of the budget and for these amendments to be submitted and therefore

recommended to Council at its meeting on 24 February 2022, after consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance (Leader of the Council).

- c) Approve deferral of the policy service change as set out in section 4.28, Table 1 of this covering report.
 - d) That delegated authority be given to the S151 Officer, after consultation with the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive, to agree the council's final contribution to the West Midlands Combined Authority.
- 3) **Cabinet is asked to approve and recommend to Council, subject to receipt of the final local government settlement, final precepts and levies, receipt of final grant allocations, technical/legislative guidance and final specific grant allocations (*substitute figures and resolution to be provided to Council by the S151 Officer to take account of any changes arising from these*) the following:**

3.1 Revenue

- a) The financial envelope of resources for 2022/23 as set out in **Section B - Part 1** "The Revenue Corporate Budget Plan and Capital Programme".
- b) A Walsall Council net council tax requirement for 2022/23 of £138.43m and a 1.99% increase in council tax, plus a further 1% increase for Adult Social Care precept (total council tax increase of 2.99%).
- c) That the recommendations of the S151 Officer in respect of the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the budget calculations and the adequacy of reserves **be approved**, including the levels of central contingency and an opening general reserve of no less than £16.11m, as set out in the S151 Officer Section 25 statement in **Annex 11** of the Budget Plan.
- d) The (estimated) levies below for outside bodies and Cabinet **approve** that the final figures **be substituted** for these provisional ones once they are available at the Council meeting on 24 February 2022. (An estimate has been used within this report based on informal notification from the authorities).

LEVY	AMOUNT (£)
West Midlands Combined Authority Transport Levy	11,411,844
Environment Agency	83,781

- e) The following statutory determinations (references are to the Local Government Finance Act, 1992 as amended), and subject to any final changes arising from receipt of final precepts and levies, receipt of final grant allocations, technical/legislative guidance and final specific grant allocations, **and Cabinet approve that these will be substituted** at the Council meeting on 24 February 2022 for the final figures once received:

- I. **£703,984,510** being the aggregate gross expenditure, which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act.
- II. **£565,559,260** being the aggregate income which the council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) (a) to (d) of the Act.
- III. **£138,425,250** being the amount, by which the aggregate at (e) (I) above exceeds the aggregate at (e) (II), calculated by the council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act, as its council tax requirement for the year.
- IV. **£1,927.84** being the amount at (e) (III) above, divided by the council tax base of 71,803.35, calculated by the council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year (average council tax at band D).
- V. Valuation bands

Being amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) (IV) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Local Government Act 1992, is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the council in accordance with Section 30 and 36 of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwelling listed in different valuation bands.

A	B	C	D
1,285.23	1,499.43	1,713.63	1,927.84
E	F	G	H
2,356.25	2,784.66	3,213.06	3,855.68

- f) The draft precept from the Fire and Rescue Authority and the Police and Crime Commissioner, issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, for each of the categories of dwelling shown below and Cabinet **approve** that the final figures **be substituted** once they are available at the Council meeting on 24 February 2022.

PRECEPTING AUTHORITY	VALUATION BANDS			
	A	B	C	D
Police And Crime Commissioner	125.03	145.87	166.71	187.55
	E	F	G	H
Fire & Rescue	229.23	270.91	312.58	375.10
	A	B	C	D
	45.35	52.91	60.47	68.03
	E	F	G	H
	83.15	98.27	113.38	136.06

- g) That having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (e) (v) and (f) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts of council tax for 2022/23 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below and Cabinet **approve** that the final figures **be substituted** once the final precepts are available at the Council meeting on 24 February 2022.

A	B	C	D
1,455.61	1,698.21	1,940.81	2,183.42
E	F	G	H
2,668.63	3,153.84	3,639.02	4,366.84

- h) That notice **be given** of the council tax within twenty one days of it being set by publishing details of the same in the “Express and Star” newspaper circulating in the Authority’s area.
- i) That the S151 Officer **be instructed** to take all necessary action in relation to council tax, community charge and national non-domestic rates, including, where appropriate, the signing of all documents, billing, the giving of notices and the taking of necessary steps to ensure collection thereof.
- j) That the S151 Officer **be given delegated authority** to make transfers to and from reserves in order to ensure that reserves are maintained as necessary and in particular, adjusted when reserves are no longer required, or need to be replenished.
- k) That, pursuant to Section 52ZB and 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the relevant basic amount of council tax for the Council is not excessive in relation to determining whether a referendum is required.

3.2 Capital

- a) The allocation of capital expenditure plans as set out in **Section B - Part 1** “The Revenue Corporate Budget Plan and Capital Programme” and that the capital and leasing programme as set out in **Annex 9 be approved** bearing in mind the principle that unless affordable from within current resources, specific projects funded by borrowing will not be commenced until a payback agreement is in place. Schemes funded from grant will commence when final allocations are published.
- b) That the S151 Officer be **given delegated authority** to determine how each source of finance is used to fund the overall capital programme and to alter the overall mix of financing as necessary, to maximise the flexibility of capital resources used and minimise the ongoing costs of borrowing to the council.
- c) That the S151 Officer, after consultation with the Leader (Portfolio Holder for Finance), be **given delegated authority** to release capital resources held back for any contingent items that may arise (earmarked capital receipts for essential or emergency spend), and also for any match funding requirements that may be required of the council in order to

secure additional external capital funding (e.g. bids for government or other funding).

- d) The Capital Strategy set out in **Annex 8** of the Budget Plan **be approved**.
- e) The Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy set out in **Annex 10** of the Budget Plan **be approved**.

3.3 Treasury Management

1. **Section B – Part 2A** – The Treasury Management and Investment Strategy 2022/23 onwards, including the council's borrowing requirement, borrowing limits, and the adoption of prudential indicators, **be approved**.
2. That decisions to effect movements between conventional borrowing and other long term liabilities, such as leases, **be delegated** to the S151 Officer.
3. That decisions to use capital receipts or borrowing within the framework of approved prudential indicators **be delegated** to the S151 Officer.
4. **Section B – Part 2B** – Treasury Management Policies, **be approved**.

3864 **Our Council Plan 2022-25**

Councillor Bird presented a report which set out the strategic direction for the Council and how it measures its success.

(see annexed)

Resolved (Unanimously)

- 1) That Cabinet supports the newly drafted Our Council Plan for 2022-25, as appended to the report.
- 2) That the 2022-25 Our Council Plan be recommended to Council for approval.
- 3) That the final design of the document be agreed with the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader.

3865 **Willenhall Framework Plan**

Councillor Andrew presented a report which sought support for the Willenhall Framework Plan and further approvals to support delivery of new homes in the area and act as a catalyst for further investment.

(see annexed)

Note: The decision was made in the private session following consideration of confidential information – see minute number 3876.

3866 **Contractor Procurement Strategy – Connected Gateway Project**

Councillor Andrew presented a report which proposed a procurement strategy for the appointment of a contractor to carry out the design and build of the project to deliver a transformative regeneration scheme in Walsall Town Centre.

(see annexed)

Resolved (unanimously)

- 1) That the procurement strategy for the project be noted.
- 2) A further report will be submitted to seek approval to enter into the Pre Construction Services Agreement (PCSA)

3867 **Black Country Framework Contract for Minor Works**

Councillor Andrew presented a report which sought approval to utilise the framework to provide a mechanism for the delivery of minor works; typically minor highway improvements, work on bridges and structures together with other transport related highway and civil engineering and construction.

(see annexed)

Resolved

- 1) That Cabinet authorise the Head of Highways & Transport, in liaison with the Executive Director for Economy, Environment & Communities, to formally utilise the Black Country Collaborative Framework Contract for Minor Works 2020 – 2024/25 with an anticipated expenditure by the council of up to £10,000,000 until the contract expiry date, 31 October 2024, with an option to extend use of the framework for further year until 31 October 2025.
- 2) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Executive Director for Economy, Environment and Communities to award call-off contracts from the framework and subsequently authorise the sealing of Deeds and/or signing of contracts and any other related documents for the provision of such works and services as well as any extension and variation of the contractual arrangements or other related documents should this be required throughout the duration of the contract.

3868 **Domestic Abuse Services Contract**

Councillor Andrew and Councillor Wilson presented a report which sought approval to award contracts for Emergency Accommodation and Independent

Domestic Violence Advocacy to support the delivery of new duties in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021

(see annexed)

Note (1) : Additional recommendation:

- 4) That a progress report be submitted to the Scrutiny Overview committee after 12 months following the commencement of the contract.

Note (2): The decision was taken in the private session following consideration of confidential information. See minute number 3878

3869 **Fly tipping and Littering Enforcement**

Councillor Perry presented a report which updated on work to further progress the Council's response to fly-tipping and littering to continue to reduce the incidence of fly-tipping and littering and to further reduce its acceptability in Walsall.

(see annexed)

Resolved (by assent)

- 1) That Cabinet acknowledges the considerable efforts through joint working, between the Clean and Green and Resilient Communities teams undertaken to tackle the issue of fly-tipping, littering and the management of waste in the Borough.
- 2) That the work against those that deliberately seek to damage our borough and our environment by fly-tipping and littering, continues to be a high priority for this Council and every effort will be made to find and punish perpetrators.

3870 **Green Spaces Strategy**

Councillor Butler presented a report which set out how the Council could enhance the quality of play and adult fitness equipment in our open spaces, increasing opportunities for children and adults to use green spaces more effectively for physical activity.

(see annexed)

Resolved (Unanimously)

- 1) That Cabinet approve the installation of 6 new outdoor gyms and the improvement of 13 main play sites at a total cost of £1,644,000
- 2) That Cabinet approves consultation with stakeholders including play area users, residents and Ward Members to inform the design process

3871 **School Admission Arrangements Scheme**

Councillor Towe presented a report which set out the proposed scheme for co-ordinated secondary and primary admissions and mid-year admissions for the 2023/24 academic year and the proposed admission arrangements for primary community and voluntary controlled schools for the 2023/24 academic year.

(see annexed)

Resolved (unanimously)

- 1) That the proposed schemes as set out in **Appendix A** for inter-authority coordinated admissions for 2023/24 are approved.
- 2) That the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary schools for the academic year 2023/24, as set out in **Appendix B** of this report, are determined.
- 3) That Walsall Council informs all relevant stakeholders of the determination of its admission arrangements for the 2023/24 academic year in accordance with the provisions of the School Admissions Code 2021.

3872 **Building Repair and maintenance Contract**

Councillor Statham advised that this report was deferred to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

3873 **Mechanical and Electrical Service Contract**

Councillor Statham presented a report which sought approval to enter into a contract to ensure that electrical and mechanical responsive repairs and breakdowns, preventative maintenance, routine servicing, and statutory testing compliance works continue to be undertaken on Council owned and occupied buildings.

(see annexed)

Resolved (unanimously)

- 1) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Interim Executive Director, Resource and Transformation to award a contract to the successful bidder to deliver The Mechanical and Electrical Service and Maintenance Contract from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2025 and to extend the contract for up to 24 months if required. The estimated contract value will be £700,000 per Annum.
- 2) That Cabinet delegate authority to the Interim Executive Director for Resources and Transformation to enter into the contract and to subsequently authorise the sealing, signing or variation of any deeds, contracts or other related documents for such services including the optional extension periods. The outcome of the tender evaluation to be reported back to cabinet at the earliest opportunity following the completion of the tender process.

3874 **Customer Focused Ways of Working Update**

Councillor Statham presented a report which updated on the Council wide customer focused approach to ways of working.

Resolved (by assent)

That the report be noted

3875 **Exclusion of public**

Resolved

That during consideration of the remaining items on the agenda, the Cabinet considers that the items for consideration are exempt information by virtue of the appropriate paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972, and accordingly resolves to consider the items in private.

Public Summary of items considered in the Private Session

3876 **Willenhall Framework Plan**

Following consideration of a report containing confidential information, the Cabinet:

- 1) Supported the Willenhall Framework Plan attached as **Appendix A** as a 10-year vision for housing growth and place making in the area.
- 2) Approved further work to develop the Willenhall Framework Plan into a Supplementary Planning Document noting that adoption of any Supplementary Planning Document would be subject to a future Cabinet report.
- 3) Approved the use of Compulsory Purchase Powers in-principle for the Moat Street/Villiers Street site (Phase 1) as shown on Plan EPMS 4960 (**Appendix B**) where land cannot be acquired by agreement within a reasonable timeframe, noting that approval to make any compulsory purchase order would be subject to a future Cabinet report.
- 4) Delegated authority to the Executive Director for Resources and Transformation, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration to amend the red-line boundary of the Site as indicated on Plan EPMS 4960 following further title investigations in respect of the Moat Street/Villiers Street site (Phase 1).
- 5) Delegated authority to the Executive Director for Resources and Transformation, to appoint land referencing agents to carry out a land referencing exercise to identify all owners, tenants and occupiers and others with a legal interest in the Moat Street/Villiers Street site (Phase 1) and which

may be included in any future compulsory purchase order and/or become eligible for compensation.

- 6) Noted that reasonable attempts will be made to acquire the various land interests of owners, tenants and occupiers and others with a legal interest in the Site by agreement.
- 7) Agreed that subject to reasonable attempts being made to assemble the Moat Street/Villiers Street site (Phase 1) by agreement/private treaty approval is given to undertake all required due diligence and preparatory work and a detailed report in relation to the proposed compulsory purchase order and setting out detailed justification, the draft Order documents and a Statement of Reasons will be presented to a future Cabinet meeting prior to the making of any compulsory purchase order.
- 8) Approved the outline business case for the Moat Street/Villiers Street site (Phase 1) and the associated budget to support land assembly.
- 9) Approved the property acquisitions required to deliver the Moat Street/Villiers Street site up to the value of the land acquisition budget, and delegate the agreement of the terms of each of the acquisitions to the Executive Director for Resources and Transformation in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration.
- 10) Approved the reallocation of £520,500 of the Town and District Centre and £40,516 of the Markets capital budgets to support land assembly as detailed in paragraph 4.36 of this report.
- 11) Approved that the scope of the Feasibility and Options Appraisal Revenue Reserve for 2021/22 be extended to support delivery of the Moat Street/Villiers Street site (Phase 1).
- 12) Noted that additional public sector funding to address the viability gap is estimated to be required to complete the scheme and that securing funding from partners such as West Midlands Combined Authority will be explored.
- 13) Approved further work to identify a preferred development partner procurement route noting that approval of the procurement approach will be subject to a future Cabinet report.
- 14) Endorsed the draft Business Charter for Moat Street/Villiers Street attached as **Appendix D** setting out the initial support the Council can offer to businesses impacted by the proposals and notes that the draft Business Charter can be further developed through dialogue with those businesses.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

3877 Sale of Land in Blakenall

The Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the sale of Council land in order to bring the land into beneficial use.

The Cabinet approved the unconditional sale of the land edged in black on plan reference EPMS4956 and extending to approximately 7.97 acres or thereabouts to the neighbouring landowner for a sum representing best consideration subject to there being no outstanding objections arising from the notification requirements of the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the sale of public open space.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

3878 Domestic Abuse Services Contract

Following consideration of a report containing confidential information, the Cabinet:

- 1) Approved the award of the following contracts:
 - For the period 16 May 2022 to 15 May 2024 with an option to extend for 2 x up to 12 months to 15 May 2026 with an anticipated lifetime value of £1,184,739 (including all option periods) to GreenSquareAccord Limited for the provision of Domestic Abuse Accommodation.
 - For the period 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2024 with an option to extend for 2 x up to 12 months to 31 March 2026 with an anticipated lifetime value of £1,527,772 (including all option periods) to Black County Women's Aid for the provision of the Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service.
- 2) Delegated authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services, to enter into a new contract/s to deliver the 'Domestic Abuse Emergency Accommodation, and Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy services' and to subsequently authorise the sealing or signing of any associated contracts, deeds or other related documents for such services including the optional extension periods.
- 3) Delegated authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Regeneration, or Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, to authorise any variations to the contractual arrangements or other related documents for the services identified above, should this be required at any time during the contract term, in line with Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Council's Contract Rules.
- 4) Asked for a progress report be submitted to the Scrutiny Overview Committee after 12 months following the commencement of the contract.

[Exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)]

3879 Building Repair and Maintenance Contract

Item deferred to the next meeting

The meeting terminated at 7. 34p.m.

Chair:

Date: