

Cabinet minutes

Wednesday 12 September 2012 at 6.00 p.m.

in Conference Room 2 at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor A. Andrew	Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor Arif	Business support services
Councillor I. Shires	Community engagement and voluntary sector
Councillor Towe	Finance and personnel
Councillor Harris	Leisure and culture
Councillor McCracken	Social care and health
Councillor Ansell	Transport and environment

2840 Apologies

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillors Ali, R. Andrew and Bird.

2841 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting 25 July 2012 copies having been sent to each member of the Cabinet be approved and signed as a correct record.

2842 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2843 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.

2844 **Forward plan**

The forward plan as at 13 August 2012 was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the forward plan be noted.

2845 **Transition of public health contracts**

Councillor A. Andrew and Jamie Morris, Executive Director presented the report:

(see annexed)

An amended recommendation was submitted and accepted by the Cabinet.

Resolved

- (1) That members note, in order to protect the council's financial interests, it is assumed that all public health costs will need to be managed within the ring fenced funding that is allocated by the Department of Health.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the portfolio holder for Social Care and the Executive Director for Social Care and Inclusion, to enter into contractual arrangements for public health services using the most appropriate commissioning and procurement procedures and that the report be referred to the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board for their comments.

2846 **Property services procurement**

Councillor A. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Regeneration in consultation with the portfolio holder for Regeneration on behalf of the Council, to enter into the Constructing West Midlands framework contract for limited use only, committed on a job by job basis.

2847 Disabled facility and housing improvement works

Councillor A. Andrew presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That approval be given to undertake a procurement process to seek contractors to undertake building works (excluding lifts and hoists) for Disabled Facility Grants (“DFGs”), and housing repair and improvement projects for a maximum period of 4 years.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Regeneration in consultation with the portfolio holder – Regeneration, to accept tenders and award contracts for the works set out in the recommendation in the above paragraph and to sign or authorise the sealing of any deeds, contracts and other related documents in relation to such works.

2848 Junior ISAs for looked after children

Rose Collinson, Interim Director, Children’s Services presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the Council work with the Share Foundation to set up Junior ISAs for all eligible looked after children.
- (2) That all opportunities be explored to enable additional funds to be invested on behalf of Walsall’s looked after children and bring a future report to Cabinet.

2849 Findings of Ofsted inspection on safeguarding and looked after children

Rose Collinson, Interim Director, Children’s Services presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the findings of the OFSTED report and the actions that have been taken in response, be noted.
- (2) That approval be given to the establishment of an Improvement Board to drive the rapid progress required through the improvement plan.
- (3) That Cabinet receive quarterly updates on progress made by the Improvement Board.

2850 Walsall targeted youth support services

Rose Collinson, Interim Director, Children's Services presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the current level of funding and proposed level of funding to the voluntary and community sector for the provision of Targeted Youth Support activities.
- (2) That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Children's Services, in conjunction with the portfolio holder for Children's Services, to undertake the commencement of a new procurement process for the appointment of suitable organisations to provide Targeted Youth Support activities particularly for vulnerable groups of young people in Walsall.

2851 Localised Council tax support

Councillor Towe presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That following consideration of the options for a localised Council tax support scheme and given the reasons set out in paragraphs 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5 and 3.11, option 3 be approved for public consultation as the preferred local scheme for 2013/14.
- (2) That further work be undertaken to design, evaluate and consult on a more tailored local scheme for 2014 onwards.
- (3) That a further report be received in the autumn to confirm a proposed scheme for adoption by the Council for 2013/14.

2852 Food Law Enforcement

Jamie Morris, Executive Director presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That the Food Law Enforcement Plan 2012/13 be approved.

2853 Support for living at home services

Councillor McCracken presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That Cabinet notes the developments in relation to the award of Support for Living at Home Services Framework Agreements/Contracts as set out in Section 3.2 to 3.8 of this report and authority be delegated to the Executive Director, Social Care and Inclusion to:

- Award Transitional Contract 1 as detailed in section 3.11 of this report
- Award Supplementary Support for Living at Home Services Framework Agreements/Contracts following a further procurement exercise as required and set out in section 3.16 of this report

2854 Development of intermediate care services

Councillor McCracken presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

That approval be given to the closure of Rushall Mews and the transfer of this part of intermediate care services to a combination of the Frail Elderly Pathway and Hollybank House.

2855 Major transport scheme priorities 2015-2019

Councillor Ansell presented the report:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the major transport scheme priorities for the 2015 – 2019 period as set out at paragraph 3.18 and in more detail at Appendix A of the report, be approved.
- (2) That the major transport scheme aspirations for the 2020 – 2026 period as set out at paragraph 3.21 and in more detail at Appendix B of the report, be noted.
- (3) That Cabinet note the ongoing work and timetable for agreeing a Black Country programme of major transport schemes;

- (4) That Cabinet approve the use of the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) Technical Framework Panels to procure essential specialist services such as structural engineering or traffic modelling as necessary to ensure that delivery programmes are met. This would be utilised when the resource is not available in-house or via existing shared services with other local authorities in line with the Council's Contract Rules 2010 and in consultation with the Council's Procurement Team.

2856 **Green space strategy**

Councillor Harris presented the report:

(see annexed)

Councillor Harris pointed out that the full strategy was available on the Council's website.

Councillor Shires suggested that the strategy should be submitted to Area Partnerships in order to consider the implementation of the strategy in relation to their areas.

Resolved

That the Green Space Strategy be adopted.

2857 **Private Session**

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.

Summary of items considered in private session

2858 **Transfer of public health contracts**

Appendix A to the report in the public session of the agenda was submitted to inform the decision taken in the public session:

(see annexed)

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

2859 Sale of former Queslett Centre, Lakeside Close, Walsall

The report was withdrawn.

2860 Future arrangements for education support and related services

Cabinet received and discussed a report on current progress with the Education Transition programme, following a previous Cabinet decision to terminate the contract with Serco. The arrangements for the transfer of services was noted and that, also in accordance with a previous decision of Cabinet, the Director of Children's Services in consultation with portfolio holder for Children's services had agreed the return of traded services where a business case was proven to justify transfer.

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

The meeting terminated at 7.10 p.m.