

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 23 February 2022

Item 4	
Title	Procurement Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Digital City, in consultation with the Director of Strategy, to approve the award of a contract for the Audio-Visual project when the evaluation process is complete. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Digital City, in consultation with the Director of Strategy, to approve the award of a contract for the GIS Mapping project when the evaluation process is complete. 3. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Digital City, in consultation with the Director of Strategy, to approve the award of a contract for the Student Management System when the evaluation process is complete. 4. That authority be delegated to the Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to approve the award of a contract for Procurement and Contract Management Solution when the evaluation process is complete. 5. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change, in consultation with the Director of Communications and External Relations, to approve the award of a contract for Bars & VIP Area Provision at Creation Day Festival when the evaluation process is complete. 6. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive, to approve the award of a contract for Provision of Electrical Repairs and Maintenance when the open tender evaluation process is complete.

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	<p>7. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive, to approve the award of a contract for Provision of Mechanical Repairs and Maintenance when the open tender evaluation process is complete.</p> <p>8. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, in consultation with the Executive Director of Families, to approve the award of a contract for Key Workers for the Power2 team when the evaluation process is complete.</p> <p>9. That authority be delegated to the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Director of Finance and Chief Operating Officer to award contracts up to £1 million to be utilised by Public Health relating to the Council Covid-19 response.</p>
Options Considered	The evaluation of options are detailed within the relevant section of each contract report.
Reasons for Decision	The reasons for the decisions are detailed within the relevant section of the individual contract reports.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	1 March 2022

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Item 5	
Title	Homes England Affordable Homes Programme 2021-2026 Grant Agreement
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Council enter into the standard form Homes England Grant Agreement (local Authority) in relation to the Affordable Homes Programme 2021-2026 for Continuous Market Engagement. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing in consultation with the Director of City Housing and Environment to approve any grant funding applications and claims made under the Affordable Homes Programme as part of the Continuous Market Engagement process.
Options Considered	The Council is an Investment partner with Homes England, and thus eligible for funding through its funding programmes. The securing of funding through Homes England supports the Council's aspirations in meeting its Better Homes for All and More and Better Homes strategic objectives. Council officers will continue to make applications for all Local and Central Government funding streams in support of its development strategic objectives.
Reasons for Decision	The Council is required to enter into the Affordable Homes Programme 2021-2026 Grant Agreement for its continued eligibility for grant funding. The securing of grant funding supports the Council's objectives within the Council's Plan, in delivering new affordable housing in the City.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	1 March 2022

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Item 6	
Title	Children's Residential Provision Review
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the recommended option to progress the development of a full feasibility business case to create a new restorative practice, multi-agency Children's Home(s) within the city be approved. 2. That the allocation of £35,000 from the Transformation reserve for further development of the project's overall business case to be presented to Cabinet (Resources) Panel in June 2022 be approved. 3. That a strategic change in commissioning of spot purchasing local placements over out of city or national, in order to build successful stronger working relationships with our Wolverhampton providers and to ensure quality oversight improvements be noted.
Options Considered	Appendix 2 details the five options considered and rationale for the recommended option as part of a full Options Paper. The Children's Residential Provision Review project group analysed and gave collective analysis on all options.
Reasons for Decision	Appendix 2 details the five options considered and rationale for the recommended option as part of a full Options Paper. The Children's Residential Provision Review project group analysed and gave collective analysis on all options.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	24 February 2022

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Item 7																			
Title	Care and Support Provider Fee Review 2022/2023																		
Status	Recommendations Approved																		
Record of Decision	<p>1. That the proposed increase in fee levels for 2022-2023 as recommended in the report to meet the additional costs (employee and employer) resulting from the increases to the National Living Wage (NLW) and where applicable increases to sustain the care market be approved.</p> <p>2. That any increase in fees be with effect from 4 April 2022. (This date is aligned to charging processes and the capability of the current payment system and that due to current IT payment systems – rates for care homes need to be divisible by 7 and for hourly rates by 4).</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Type of provision</th><th>Recommendation</th><th>% Increase</th><th>Current £</th><th>Proposed £</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Home Care</td><td>Increase fee levels to meet the additional costs (employee and employer) resulting from the increases to the National Living Wage and other costs *</td><td>6.3%</td><td>15.84 (Hourly rate)</td><td>16.84*</td></tr> <tr> <td>Home Care – rapid response /reablement</td><td>That the rate remains at the level funded in the mid-year increase. This rate is higher than the standard home care rate to incentivise providers to move people from hospital settings quickly.</td><td>3.2%</td><td>17.44 (Hourly rate)</td><td>18.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table>				Type of provision	Recommendation	% Increase	Current £	Proposed £	Home Care	Increase fee levels to meet the additional costs (employee and employer) resulting from the increases to the National Living Wage and other costs *	6.3%	15.84 (Hourly rate)	16.84*	Home Care – rapid response /reablement	That the rate remains at the level funded in the mid-year increase. This rate is higher than the standard home care rate to incentivise providers to move people from hospital settings quickly.	3.2%	17.44 (Hourly rate)	18.00
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	Home Based Respite	Home base respite is aligned to the supported living rate. *	6.3%	15.12 (Hourly rate)	16.08
	Direct Payments Agency rate	Direct payment agency rate is aligned to the supported living	6.3%	15.12 (Hourly rate)	16.08
	Direct Payments for Personal Assistants – Employed	Direct payment PA employed rate to receive the % increase that Home Care and Supported Living receives with the note that each PA's costs are individually calculated to ensure the payment covers employment costs and the proposed rate is the maximum amount.	6.3%	10.76 (Hourly rate)	11.44
	Direct Payments of Personal Assistants – Self-Employed	This is a new rate to be introduced in 2022 to enable self-employed personal assistants to support people	N/A	N/A	14.03

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	Residential Care for Older People	Increase to meet NLW increases, on costs and to maintain market sufficiency.	5%	468.65 (Weekly rate)	492.10
	Residential Care for Older People with Dementia Support	Increase to meet NLW increases, on costs and to maintain market sufficiency.	5%	503.86 (Weekly rate)	529.06
	Nursing Care for Older People	Increase to meet NLW increases, on costs and to maintain market sufficiency.	10%	468.65 (Weekly rate)	515.55
	Nursing Care for Older People with Dementia	Increase to meet NLW increases, on costs and to maintain market sufficiency.	10%	503.86 (Weekly rate)	554.26
	Extra Care	Increase each contract to reflect inflationary rise	3%	Increase to all contracts	N/A block amount
	Supported Living	Increase fee levels to meet the additional costs (employee and employer cost) resulting from the increases to the National Living Wage. *	6.3%	15.12 (Hourly rate)	16.08

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	Nursing and Residential Care for people under 65 years old	Increase fees of placements to reflect inflationary rise	3%	Increase to all contract totals	
	Community Activities for Older People	Increase fees to enable sufficiency, with intention to review the provision in 2022	10%	27.90 sessional rate	30.69
	Community Opportunities for Adults with Complex Needs	Ensure that the rate is consistent with the supported living rate and proportionate to 1:1 1:2 1:3 staffing ratios	6.3%	15.12 per hour for 1:1 staffing 7.56 per hour for 1:2 staffing 5.04 per hour for 1:3 staffing	16.08 per hour for 1:1 staffing 8.04 per hour for 1:2 staffing 5.36 per hour for 1:3 staffing
	<p>*Except where the provider has tendered below the current rate, in this case it will be uplifted proportionately. Note that ISF's (Individual service funds) are aligned to the rate of the care type.</p> <p>3. That it be noted that engagement had been undertaken with current care and support providers as part of the fee review to listen to feedback and inform the recommendations in the report, however due to current financial restraints the recommendations are not solely based on provider requests.</p>				

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. That it be noted that during 2022 the activity to implement the requirements of the Health and Social Care Bill and the Government policy paper; Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund: purpose and conditions 2022 to 2023; is undertaken and would inform the fee review for 2023-2024. Further details are in Appendix 1: Legislation and Government Policy which impacts on the 2023 - 2024 Fee Review. 5. That it be noted that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic had changed the usual demand and take up of care services. The long-term impact of COVID-19 cannot be predicted, and the Adults Commissioning Team would continuously review sufficiency within the market. 6. That it be noted that the Adults Commissioning Team continuously works with providers in developing the social care market to ensure a shared approach between the Council and social care providers to meet resident's needs. 7. That it be noted that this report was presented to Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel on 15 February 2022. The Panel supported the details and recommendations within the report and agreed to receive an update at a future meeting.
<p>Options Considered</p>	<p>Option 1: Doing nothing. This is not an option that could be considered as the Council would not be able to demonstrate supporting sufficiency within the external social care provider market in Wolverhampton.</p> <p>For Home care, Supported Living, Home based Respite, Rapid Response/ Re-ablement Home Care, Direct Payments and Community Activities for Younger Adults, two further options were considered, Option 2 was an option based on applying the previous fee review methodology and Option 3 was an option based on information from the regional ADASS about potential costs to providers as well as considering benchmarking against the funding rates of other Councils within CIPFA comparators and neighbouring within the Black Country. For these sectors Option 3 has been recommended.</p> <p>The locally agreed rates for older people's care home provision were previously based on a rate for general residential and nursing and a different rate for residential and nursing with dementia</p>

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	<p>support. Monitoring of bed availability/capacity within Wolverhampton and considering benchmarking with other Councils within CIPFA comparators and neighbouring within the Black Country area rates has identified potential sufficiency issues with nursing provision and nursing with dementia support provision. To mitigate this there will now be four rates for: residential care, residential care with dementia, nursing care, nursing care with dementia support. Option 2 was an option based on applying the previous fee review methodology and Option 3 was based on also considering ongoing capacity in the market to secure placements within Wolverhampton. Option 3 has been recommended.</p> <p>For Residential Provision for Young Adults, the options considered included, option 2 raise in line with home care rates and option 3 raise in line with anticipated inflation. These placement costs are negotiated on placement and vary, based on this the recommended proposal is option 3 to raise in line with anticipated inflation.</p> <p>For Extra Care Provision, the options considered included, option 2 raise in line with home care rates and option 3 raise in line with anticipated inflation. The majority of Extra Care in Wolverhampton is being migrated to payment on an individual basis via Individual service Funds (ISF'S). One scheme will remain as a block contract and the contract value covers all costs and the staffing cost is not broken down and that there isn't an hourly rate identified based on this the proposal recommended is option 3 to raise in line with anticipated inflation.</p>
Reasons for Decision	The proposed recommendations are based on ensuring the Council meets its statutory duties in relation to Section 5 of the Care Act to ensure a sustainable market of care in Wolverhampton, which has including considering benchmarking information, provider feedback and local market trends and available budget to determine the final recommendation.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	24 February 2022

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Item 8	
Title	Community Asset Transfer - Former Tettenhall Railway Goods Depot
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Community Asset Transfer of the Former Tettenhall Railway Goods Depot, WV6 8NZ to Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre for a term of 35 years subject to terms be approved. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets and Housing in consultation with the Deputy Director Assets to approve the terms of the Community Asset Transfer and execution of the lease.
Options Considered	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Should the Community Asset Transfer not be approved TTHC will not have a long-term solution for the development of the transport heritage museum as proposed 2. The Council could continue with the current Tenancy at Will, but this will not provide the security of tenure required by TTHC to secure grant funding and continue to invest in and develop the asset. 3. The Council could look to end the tenancy with TTHC which would result in the loss of the museum being the only one of its kind in Wolverhampton. The Council could then look to lease the property at market value currently estimated at £11,500 per annum.
Reasons for Decision	The transfer of the asset provides Tettenhall Transport Heritage Centre with the opportunity to enhance the building and service delivery of their very unique organisation improving the local community and environment and serving the City of Wolverhampton.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable

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Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	1 March 2022

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Item 9	
Title	Exclusion of press and public
Status	Recommendation Approved
Record of Decision	That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
Options Considered	Not applicable.
Reasons for Decision	Not applicable.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	Not applicable.
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable.
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	Not applicable.

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Item 10	
Title	Procurement Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the award of the contract for Website Development Partner to Big Blue Door of Crown & Sceptre House, 60 Queen Elizabeth Street, London, SE1 2PZ for a duration of four years from 1 April 2022 to 1 April 2026 for a total contract value of £770,000 be approved. 2. That the award of the contract for Energy Efficiency Improvements to Broad Oak Properties Ltd of Broad Oak Estate, Broad Oak Lane, Green Head, Kingsley Moor, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST10 2EL, for a duration of one year four months from 1 March 2022 to 30 June 2023 for a total contract value of £625,000 be approved. 3. That the award of the contract for Project Management Resource for Interchange Project to Matrix SCM (Limited) of Partis House, Davy Avenue, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK58HJ for a duration of 10 months from 1 March 2022 to 30 December 2022 for a total contract value of £100,000 be approved. 4. That the exemptions to the Contract Procedure Rules approved by the Head of Procurement and the Director of Finance from 1 to 31 December 2021 be noted.
Options Considered	As detailed in the exempt report.
Reasons for Decision	As detailed in the exempt report.
Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	1 March 2022