

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Wednesday, 17 January 2024

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 Jobs, Skills and Education, in consultation with the Deputy Director of Education, to approve the award of a contract for the Managed Client Caseload System when the evaluation process is complete. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Adults and Wellbeing, in consultation with the Director of Public Health, to approve the award of a contract for Our People Project when the evaluation process is complete.
Options Considered	The options are detailed within the evaluation of alternative options section of the individual contract reports.
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)	22 January 2024

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Item 5	
Title	Acquisition of Privately Owned Empty Property by Agreement or Compulsory Purchase: 52 Bridge Street, Willenhall, WV13 3EQ
Status	Recommendations Approved
Record of Decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Director of Resident Services be authorised to negotiate terms for the acquisition of the property 52 Bridge Street, Willenhall, WV13 3EQ, and, in default of that acquisition, give authority for a compulsory purchase order (CPO) to be made under Part II Section 17 of the Housing Act 1985 in respect of the property. 2. That expenditure for the potential acquisition of the property be approved, with subsequent capital receipts being recycled within the Empty Property Strategy programme. 3. That in the event that the property is improved and re-occupied to the satisfaction of the Director of Resident Services, withdrawal of the property from the CPO be authorised. 4. That following any acquisition, the Director of Resident Services be authorised to dispose of the property on the open market on condition that the property is refurbished and re-occupied within six or 12 months (as appropriate to the scale of the works). 5. That the Chief Operating Officer be authorised to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Take all reasonable steps as soon as it is reasonably practical to secure the making, confirmation and implementation of the CPO including the publication and service of all Notices and the presentation of the Council's case at any Public Inquiry. b. Approve agreements with the owners of the property setting out the terms for the withdrawal of objections to the CPO, and/or making arrangements for re-housing or relocation of any occupiers. c. Approve the making of a General Vesting Declaration (the property is brought into Council ownership via this process).

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	<p>d. Approve the disposal of the whole and/ or parts of the property by auction, tender or private treaty.</p>
<p>Options Considered</p>	<p>a. Do nothing – the property is likely to remain empty, continue to be a wasted housing resource, continue to have a detrimental effect on the amenity of the area and continue to be a drain on the public purse.</p> <p>b. Empty Dwelling Management Order (EDMO) – An EDMO is considered to be a less draconian option than a compulsory purchase. However, the cost of refurbishment could place a strain on the Council’s finances. It may not be possible to recover the cost of initial refurbishment and subsequent management/ maintenance through the rental income generated over the seven years that a Final EDMO could be in place.</p> <p>c. Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) – The prospect of a CPO often prompts the owner to act leading to the property being refurbished and re-occupied. However, if it is necessary to acquire the property, the proposals for the onward disposal and refurbishment ensure that the property is brought back into use at a minimum cost to the public purse.</p> <p>Based on the above it is recommended that the option of a Compulsory Purchase Order is progressed.</p>
<p>Reasons for Decision</p>	<p>a. To ensure that the property provides much needed housing by prompting the owner either to act voluntarily or via enforcement through a CPO.</p> <p>b. To ensure that the property does not continue to be a drain on public resources.</p> <p>c. To ensure that the detrimental effect that the property is having on the area is removed.</p> <p>d. To ensure that the property has a positive financial impact on the public purse through additional New Homes Bonus funding.</p> <p>e. The proposal to pursue a CPO is the most cost effective in terms of financial and physical resources for the Council.</p>

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Record of Conflicts of Interest	None
Dispensation Granted	Not applicable
Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in)	22 January 2024

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Item 6	
Title	Exclusion of press and public
Status	Recommendations 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 remaining 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 7	
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 contract for an Omnichannel Solution be awarded to Charterhouse Voice & Data Ltd of 17 St. Helen's Place, London, EC3A 6DG for a duration of seven years from 5 February 2024 to 4 February 2031 for a total contract value of £2,476,924. 2. That the contract for the Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Services with Nacro of Walkden House, 16-17 Devonshire Square, London, England, EC2M 4SQ be varied for an increase of contract value from 18 January 2024 to 31 March 2024 with a variation value of £47,300. 3. That the Partnership Arrangement to deliver Public Health Services with The Royal Wolverhampton Trust of New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, WV10 0QP be varied for: (1) PrEP service for a duration of five years from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2029 with a variation value of £132,150; and (2) EHC service for the duration of six months from 1 February 2024 to 31 August 2024 with a variation value of £13,500. A total variation value of £145,650. 4. That the contract for the Tuberculosis (TB) Partnership be awarded to Black Country Integrated Care Board, NHS Black Country ICB, Civic Centre, St Peters Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SH for a duration of 10 years commencing 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2034 for a total contract value of £2,251,660. 5. That the exemptions to the Contract Procedure Rules approved by the Head of Procurement and Director of Finance from 1 October to 31 October 2023 be noted.
Options Considered	As detailed in the exempt report.

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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)	22 January 2024