

City of Wolverhampton Council – Decisions taken by the Cabinet (Resources) Panel on Tuesday, 2 April 2019

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| Item 5 | |
| Title | Corporate Complaints Procedure |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | That the amendments to the Corporate Complaints Procedures to put in place a 12- month time limit for making a corporate complaint and revisions to the compliment process be approved. |
| Options Considered | Different time periods have been considered, however, they have been rejected as this is not in line with best practice for local authorities as outlined by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and which is already contained in existing statutory complaint regulations for social care complaints. |
| Reasons for Decision | Introducing a 12-month time limit and compliment process would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bring the Council in line with best practice and policy from other Local Authorities, the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman and public bodies; b. Provide consistency in approach; c. Provide effective early information to local people who may wish to raise a complaint. |
| Record of Conflicts of Interest | None |
| Dispensation Granted | Not applicable |
| Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in) | 9 April 2019 |

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| Item 6 | |
| Title | Appointeeship Charging |
| Status | Item Deferred |
| Record of Decision | That consideration of the report be deferred. |
| Options Considered | Not applicable |
| Reasons for Decision | To enable further work to take place on the proposal. |
| 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 | Acquisition of Privately Owned Empty Property by Agreement or Compulsory Purchase: 45 Springhill Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV11 3AW |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Service Director of City Housing be authorised to negotiate terms for the acquisition of the property to negotiate terms for the acquisition of the property 45 Springhill Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV11 3AW, and, in default of that acquisition, give authority for a compulsory purchase order (CPO) to be made under Part II Section 17 Housing Act 1985 in respect of the property. 2. That expenditure for the potential acquisition of the property, with subsequent capital receipts being recycled within the Empty Property Strategy programme be approved. 3. That in the event that the property is improved and re-occupied to the satisfaction of the Service Director of City Housing the property be withdrawn from the CPO. 4. That following any acquisition, the Service Director of City Housing 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 Director of Governance 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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| | d. Approve the disposal of the whole and/ or parts of the property by auction, tender or private treaty. |
| Options Considered | <p>a. Do nothing – the property is likely to remain empty, 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 of this property would place a strain on the Council’s finances and it would be unlikely that the cost of initial refurbishment and subsequent management and maintenance would be recovered through rental income over seven years.</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> |
| Reasons for Decision | <p>a. To ensure that the property provides much needed housing by prompting the owner to either act voluntarily or via enforcement through a CPO.</p> <p>b. To ensure that the property does not continue to be visually detrimental to the area.</p> <p>c. To ensure that the property has a positive financial impact on the public purse through additional New Homes Bonus funding.</p> <p>d. The proposal to pursue a CPO is the most cost effective in terms of financial and physical resources for the Council.</p> |
| Record of Conflicts of Interest | None |
| Dispensation Granted | Not applicable |
| Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in) | 9 April 2019 |

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| Item 8 | |
| Title | City East Gateway A454 Phase 1 and 2 Consultation Feedback and Preferred Option |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That option D be endorsed as the preferred principles of a scheme for further development following the public consultation. 2. That continued development work to progress the principle of option D to detailed design options and full business case be approved. 3. That the submission of bids for potential funding be approved. 4. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Environment and the Director of Finance to approve submission of funding bids and receive funding related to development activity for the major scheme preferred option D. 5. That a further report be submitted in Autumn 2019 to provide detailed design options, enhanced costing information, funding options and provide feedback on on-going discussions with interested parties and potentially affected land owners. |
| Options Considered | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The consultation undertaken considered four alternative options. 60 % of the responses received favoured option D. This is the option that meets the Council’s and Black Country objectives for the corridor so it is being recommended for further development. b. The study work that has been undertaken to date into option D has shown a potential cost benefit ratio of circa 2.5 for a scheme of this scale. It is not realistically possible to establish a cost benefit ratio of the other options but it is estimated that they would be much lower. |
| Reasons for Decision | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Options for improving travel conditions and supporting the regeneration objectives for the Willenhall Road have been considered and four options developed. The public have been consulted on these options and 60 percent of respondents supported the multi-modal option D. |

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| | <p>b. Option D has been established to have a cost benefit ratio of circa 2.5. Initial bids for funding based on a cost of £25-30 million with this cost benefit ratio have been well received and the scheme given a high ranking against the Major Roads Network funding.</p> <p>c. In view of the importance of this transport corridor to the city and the proposed regeneration schemes, combined with the indication that funding is possible it is considered appropriate to further develop designs related to the principles of Option D to a stage where a detailed design can be progressed, a full business case developed and the scheme could be implemented if funding is secured.</p> |
| Record of Conflicts of Interest | None |
| Dispensation Granted | Not applicable |
| Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in) | 9 April 2019 |

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| Item 9 | |
| Title | Schedule of Individual Executive Decision Notices |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | That the summary of open and exempt individual executive decisions approved by the appropriate Cabinet Members following consultation with the relevant employees be noted. |
| Options Considered | Not applicable in relation to the summary report. |
| Reasons for Decision | In accordance with the Council's Constitution, a summary of open and exempt individual executive decisions approved by the appropriate Cabinet Members following consultation with the relevant employees must be reported to the next available meeting of the Cabinet (Resources) Panel. |
| Record of Conflicts of Interest | None |
| Dispensation Granted | Not applicable |
| Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in) | 4 April 2019 |

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| Item 11 | |
| Title | Sufficiency of Extra Care Housing |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the title of the report be amended to ‘Future Extracare Strategy for City of Wolverhampton’. 2. That the extracare strategy to meet future need be supported. 3. That the Panel receive a future update report setting out the proposed ambition timeline following market engagement including any known financial implications. |
| 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) | 9 April 2019 |

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| Item 12 | |
| Title | Schools Capital Programme 2019/2020 |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the detailed projects for school's condition allocation capital funding in 2019-2020 as listed in paragraph 3.7 of the report be approved. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills in consultation with the Director of Education, to initiate works in relation to emergency works preventing a school closure, the nature of which would not allow sufficient time to gain normal Council approvals, the works to be confirmed through an Individual Executive Decision Notice. 3. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills in consultation with the Director of Education, to initiate works in relation to asbestos removal preventing a school closure, the nature of which would not allow sufficient time to gain normal Council approvals, the works to be confirmed through an Individual Executive Decision Notice. 4. That it be noted that the resources available for implementing the 2019-2020 school's capital maintenance programme are provisionally £1.3 million (This figure would be adjusted once grant confirmed) against a condition backlog of £3 million for priority 1 items. 5. That it be noted that the resources available for basic need have been fully committed toward the expansion of the primary and secondary school estate, to support the provision of additional pupil places given a continued increase in demand. |
| Options Considered | As detailed in the exempt report. |
| Reasons for Decision | As detailed in the exempt report. |

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| Record of Conflicts of Interest | None |
| Dispensation Granted | Not applicable |
| Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in) | 9 April 2019 |

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| Item 13 | |
| Title | 2 April 2019 - Procurement - Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services |
| Status | Recommendations Approved |
| Record of Decision | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the extensions of the following contracts be approved: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Electrical and Mechanical Repairs, Maintenance, and Minor Works with RMC Mechanical Services Ltd of Unit 1, Steelhouse Lane, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV2 2AF; R D Jukes of Walsingham Works, Walsingham Street, Walsall WS1 2JZ and Midwest of 1 Pelham Street, Wolverhampton, WV3 0BJ for six months from 01 May 2019 to 31 October 2019 with a combined estimated extension value of £1,509,973. b. Building Repairs, Maintenance, and Minor Works, with Gough Group Holdings Limited of Tudor House, Moseley Road, Bilston, WV14 6JD for six months from 01 May 2019 to 31 October 2019 with an extension value of £737,487. 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Environment, in consultation with the Director of Environment, to approve the award of a contract for Supply of LED Street Lighting and Accessories when the evaluation process is complete. 3. That an exemption from compliance with Contract Procedure Rules, to allow the transfer of funding up to £794,000 to Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, who would host employment of Public Health staff working within the Prevention and Population Health Unit be approved. 4. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Director of Education, to approve the award of a contract for e-Learning when the evaluation process is complete. 5. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Deputy Managing Director, to approve the award of a contract for Network Cabling when the evaluation process is complete. |

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| | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, in consultation with the Director of Education, to approve the award of a contract for Managed Client Caseload Information System when the evaluation process is complete. 7. That the contract for the Provision of Programme Management for the City Learning Quarter be awarded to Turner and Townsend Limited of Low Hall, Calverley Lane, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4GH for a duration of 3 months from 4 April 2019 to 3 July 2019 for a total contract value of £200,000 8. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Economy, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration, to approve the award of a contract for the City Learning Quarter (CLQ) Design associated services when the scope of services is finalised. 9. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Economy, in consultation with the Director of Regeneration, to approve the award of a contract for the CLQ Demolition of Faces Night Club and other associated buildings when the evaluation process is complete. 10. That the use of the budget currently allocated to Midland Heart for the provision of extra care housing-based care services for the re-tendered services be approved. 11. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Adults, in consultation with the Director for Adult Services, to approve the award of contracts for extra care housing-based care services contracts once the procurement process is complete. 12. That the Director of Governance and staff with appropriate delegated authority be authorised to execute contracts in respect of the above as required. |
| Options Considered | As detailed in the exempt report. |
| Reasons for Decision | As detailed in the exempt report. |

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| Record of Conflicts of Interest | None |
| Dispensation Granted | Not applicable |
| Decision available for implementation (subject to call-in) | 9 April 2019 |