CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON C O U N C I L

Cabinet (Resources) Panel

Minutes - 7 July 2021

Attendance

Members of the Cabinet (Resources) Panel

Cllr Stephen Simkins (Chair)

Cllr Obaida Ahmed

Cllr Ian Brookfield

Cllr Paula Brookfield (Virtually)

Cllr Steve Evans

Cllr Bhupinder Gakhal

Cllr Dr Michael Hardacre

Cllr Jasbir Jaspal

Cllr Linda Leach (Virtually)

Cllr Beverley Momenabadi (Virtually)

Employees

Mark Taylor Deputy Chief Executive

Ross Cook Director of City Housing and Environment

Charlotte Johns Director of Strategy
Richard Lawrence Director of Regeneration
David Pattison Director of Governance

Laura Phillips Deputy Director of People and Change

Alison Shannon Chief Accountant

Jaswinder Kaur Democratic Services Manager Dereck Francis Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

Item No. Title

1 Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received for the meeting.

2 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interests were made.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 June 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5 Procurement - Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services

Councillor Ian Brookfield presented the report seeking delegated authority to award contracts for works, goods and services following completion of the tender evaluation process.

Resolved:

- 1. 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 Cash in Transit when the evaluation process is complete.
- 2. 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 Building Fabric Repairs and Maintenance when the evaluation process is complete.
- 3. 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 Static Guarding Services when the evaluation process is complete.

6 Food Service Plan

Councillor Steve Evans presented the report on the Council's draft statutory Food Service Plan for 2021. Delegated authority was requested to approve the final version of the document. He highlighted some of the key achievements of the Environmental Health service during 2020-2021, notably the partnership working with businesses in the city; 414 food hygiene and 374 food standard interventions undertaken; 432 complaints relating to food hygiene standards dealt with; the creation and development of the Covid Support Team; and supporting the setup and management of the Food Hub at Aldersley Leisure Village.

Resolved:

- 1. That the draft 2021 Food Service Plan as summarised in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Environment and Climate Change in consultation with the Head of the Commercial Regulation Service to approve the final version of the Food Service Plan.
- 3. That the requirement to prepare a Food Service Plan be noted.
- 4. That Service's key achievements in 2020/2021 be noted.

7 Additional Covid Grants 2021-2022

The intention to make a key decision on the report 'Additional Covid Grants 2021-2022' at the meeting was not publicised in advance as required by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012. The decision was urgent and could not be reasonably delayed for the following reason:

Following a departmental review at the end of the most recent phase (20 June 2021). The Department for Work & Pensions notified the Local Authority on 22 June of their intentions to continue their support by means of the Covid Local Support Grant, with a revised period extended from 21 June to 30 September 21. This came with no prior notice of the grant determination or the extended timeframe.

In light of the above, consent had been obtained for the key decision to be made at the meeting under the Special Urgency provisions.

Councillor Linda Leach presented the report on an update of further extensions to two Covid Grants announced by government. Approval was requested to establish expenditure budgets for a further instalment of the Local Covid Support Grant allocation, building further on previous spends of this grant and the Winter Fund Grant, supporting vulnerable families and individuals in Wolverhampton. Approval was also requested to build in supplementary budgets from an extension to the Infection and Prevention Grant for Adult Social Care.

The recommendations contained in the report were moved by Councillor Stephen Simkins and seconded by Councillor Ian Brookfield.

Resolved:

- That the establishment of supplementary expenditure budgets totalling £999,457, fully funded from Local Covid Support Grant be approved, and authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, in consultation with the Director of Children's and Adult Services to approve the delivery plan associated with the criteria of the Local Covid Support Grant.
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Adults, in consultation with the Director of Children's and Adult Services and the Director of Finance to build in supplementary budgets fully funded by Infection and Prevention Grant once the allocation has been confirmed, and to make payments to care providers in line with the conditions of grant.

8 Exclusion of press and public

Resolved:

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).

Part 2 - exempt items, closed to press and public

The Chair reported that as stated previously the meeting was in confidential session as the information included in the report could, if released into the public domain, prejudice the financial position of the Council or its partners. As such all present are under a legal duty of confidentiality and must not disclose any confidential information - to do so would not only be a breach of the Council's codes (for councillors and employees) but also a breach of the legal duty of confidentiality.

9 Procurement - Award of Contracts for Works, Goods and Services Councillor Ian Brookfield presented the report on the award of contracts for works, goods and services.

Resolved:

- That the contract with Bushbury Hill Estate Management Team Ltd of 14 Kempthorne Avenue, Wolverhampton, WV10 9JG for HeadStart - Place to Go / Work with Parents be varied from 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021 with a variation value of £140,550.
- 2. That the contract with Gazeebo Theatre in Education Ltd of The Gazebo Hub, Chancel Court, 2 Wellington Road, Bilston, WV14 6AA for HeadStart Place to Go / Work with Parents be varied from 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021 with a variation value of £69,802.
- 3. That the contract with YMCA Black Country Group of 38 Carters Green, West Bromwich, B70 9LG, for HeadStart Place to Go / Work with Parents be varied from 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021 with a variation value of £133,474.