

EXECUTIVE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Cabinet Member with responsibility for Environment Services, Highways, Transport and Community Services and Neighbourhood Services Police and Community Safety :-

MONDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER, 2016

Following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

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| Councillor Peel | Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services |
| Councillor Watters | Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Voluntary Sector and Community Services |
| Councillor D Burrows | Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services Police and Community Safety |
| Councillor Sherrington | Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Highways |
| Councillor Chadwick | Cabinet Member for Special Projects, Transport and Skills |
| Councillor Mrs Fairclough | Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Haslam | Major Opposition Spokesperson |

Officers

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| Mr. S. Young | Director of Place |
| Mr. J. Kelly | Assistant Director Highways and Engineering |
| Ms. E. Long | Head of Services to Schools |
| Ms. J. Pollard | Head of Strategic Finance and Accountancy |

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| Mr. G. Gallagher | Accommodation Services Group Manager |
| Mr. P. Watson | Principal Environmental Health Officer |
| Mr. I.D.Mulholland | Principal Democratic Services Officer |

25. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Borough Solicitor submitted a report which set out details of the decisions made at previous meetings and the progress on each to date.

The Executive Cabinet Member NOTED the report.

26. WINTER GRITTING SERVICE REVIEW

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out details of a review which had been undertaken in relation to the winter gritting service.

The report explained that the last extensive update took place in 2013.

The report went onto summarise the position for the winter period 2015/16 together with an update on the 2015/16 recommendations.

In terms of the proposals for 2016/17, the report explained that given the changes made during the previous season and the fact that it was a mild winter no significant service changes were proposed this year. This would allow the changes to Become embedded and ensure continuity or service delivery.

Further actions were though proposed for the 2016/17 period and these were set out in Appendix two to the report.

The updated Winter Service Policy 2016/17 was also appended to the report.

Following a recommendation from the Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Highways the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED the reviewed Policy, as set out in the report.

27. EMPTY PROPERTY PROGRAMME, 2016/17

The Director of Place submitted report which set out proposals in relation to the Empty Homes Programme for 2016/17.

By way of background information the report explained that empty homes presented the Council and its communities with a number of problems. They restricted supply of housing and could create a negative impact on a local community.

The report explained that there were currently around 4,771 empty properties in Bolton and the report set out further details in terms of the reasons for this position.

The Executive Cabinet Member was informed that in order to tackle the problems posed by empty homes in Bolton an additional resource was identified and brought into the Housing Standards Team for 2016/17 in the form of an Empty Homes Co-ordinator.

The report went onto explain matters around a new owner led scheme which would assist empty property owners who had limited finances to complete works on their properties in order to bring them back into use. This would be in the form of a loan.

It was also proposed that further work would be undertaken regarding improving the visual appearance of properties, initially using an informal approach but if unsuccessful then the use of statutory powers could be used.

The report also referred to proposals concerning assisting Bolton at Home with purchasing long term empty properties where they had a funding gap in their business model. It was envisaged that this would involve a small number of properties.

In terms of lease management, properties which had been refurbished via the owner led scheme might also have the opportunity to sign up to the Council's Lease Management Service where there was capacity.

In conclusion, the report explained that £116,993 had been made available for Housing Standards to spend on schemes and a target of bringing 113 properties back into use had been set by the team for 2016/17.

Following a recommendation from the Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Highways the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED the approaches that constitute the Empty homes Programme for 2016/17 and that the Director of Place be given delegated authority to apply the options, as outlined in the report.

28. PROCUREMENT OF BREAD AND MORNING GOODS AS REQUIRED FOR THE SCHOOL MEALS AND OTHER SERVICES

The Director of Place submitted a report which sought authority to procure bread and morning good products under the YPO UK Food Deal Framework.

The report explained that the supply of bread and morning goods was a staple commodity in the School Meals Service. The 2014/15 annual spend on these goods was approximately £215,000.00 and represented approximately 8% of total food spend in Bolton schools, the fourth highest expenditure line out of ten expenditure groups. As part of the School Food Standards unlimited bread had to be available every day on compliant menus. Nationally it was reported that bread consumption had increased by approximately 0.5% since the new standards came into force in January, 2015.

School Food had been radically standardised over the last decade resulting in much greater collaborative procurement of food. In order to ensure the requisite quality and standards grouped purchasing had the advantage of delivering savings

through economies of scale and supported improved supply chain working relationships.

In the past Bolton School Meals Service had procured through a variety of grouped arrangements and also tendered individually in house for bread and other commodities. The advantage of framework procurement also reduced the specialist and costly resource of in house contracting.

The, "UK Food Deal" framework including bread products was managed by Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO) and included nine suppliers, four of which were local/regional suppliers and one was a small/medium sized enterprise.

The report explained that this call off would cover the supply of all bread and morning goods currently to 92 primary, 3 secondary schools, 3 pupil referral units, 3 children centres and 5 community care homes.

The estimated cost through this framework over the four year term had been assessed to deliver a nil increase in the spend on bread and morning goods which is an equivalent saving of standard inflation i.e. 2%.

Following a recommendation from the Cabinet Member for Social inclusion, Voluntary Sector and Community Services, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED that the YPO UK Food deal framework be called off and NOTED the evidence provide to achieve best value purchasing.