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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, 20th FEBRUARY, 2017

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

Councillor Peel	Executive Cabinet Member for Environmental Services
Councillor Sherrington	Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Highways
Councillor Chadwick	Cabinet Member for Special Projects, Transport and Skills
Councillor Burrows	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services, Police and Community Services
Councillor Mrs Fairclough	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor Haslam	Major Opposition Spokesperson

Officers

Mr. S. Young	Director of Place
Ms. J. Pollard	Head of Strategic Finance and Accountancy
Ms. L. Swann	Assistant Head of Waste and Fleet Strategy

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Ms. E. Long	Head of Services to Schools
Mr. K. Roberts	Head of Service, Community Services
Mr. M. Fairhurst	Senior Engineering Manager
Mr. I.D.Mulholland	Principal Democratic Services Officer

58. 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.

59. PETITION FOR THE REMOVAL OF GRASS VERGE AT ROCKHAVEN AVENUE, HORWICH

The Director of Place submitted a report which advised the Executive Member of the receipt of a petition received from residents requesting the removal of the grass verges at Rockhaven Avenue, Horwich.

The Executive Member was reminded that a feasibility study had been carried out by officers in July 2016 in response to a request from Horwich North East Ward Councillors to look at costs associated with the possible conversion of the grassed verge areas on Rockhaven Avenue into hard standing for parking. The works would offer improved parking arrangements for residents who were currently experiencing ongoing issues of on road parking.

The estimated costs for the works were £22,000 however, at the time of request, there was no funding available from the Highways Capital Maintenance Budget.

Subsequently, a petition had been received by residents in December, 2016 requesting that the works be carried out in the

next Financial Year 2017/18.

Following the consideration of the request, the report now recommended the Executive Member to approve the works subject to funding becoming available.

Following a recommendation from the Executive Cabinet Member for Housing, Procurement and Highways, the Executive Member NOTED the report and petition and AUTHORISED –

- (i) The work to convert the grass verges to hard standings for parking at Rockhaven Avenue should the funding become available and that officers explore funding opportunities via ward member Forum budgets; and**
- (ii) Officers to write to the residents advising them of this decision.**

60. PROCUREMENT OF SNACK FOODS AND FRESH MEAT FOR THE SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

The Director of Place submitted a report which sought approval to procure various snack foods and fresh meat for the School Meals Services using the following Framework Agreements:

- ready-made sandwiches – the ESPO Sandwiches and Food to Go Framework 121;
- street food (pasta and sauce pots, wrapped chicken products – the YPO UK Food Deal Framework;
- fresh and cooked meat non-halal – the YPO Food Deal Framework.

The report reminded the Executive Member that Bolton School Meals Service had previously procured products through a variety of grouped arrangements and also tendered individually in house. However, it was now proposed to use a framework procurement method which would reduce the specialist and costly resource of in-house contracting.

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In this regard, the report outlined the tenders received from within the supplier groups within the Framework and sought approval to award the contract to the most economically advantageous tenders on the basis now detailed. The framework would include the ability to make specific purchases (call-offs) throughout the term of the agreement.

Projected annual spend on the goods was also detailed as follows:

- sandwiches - £40k
- street food £60.4k (£17.5k on pasta and sauce, £42.9k on chicken wrapped products); and
- cooked/fresh meat £185.5k

Following a recommendation from the Executive Member for Social Inclusion, Voluntary Sector and Community Services, the Executive Member APPROVED –

The Assistant Director – Community Services being authorised to call off the ESPO Framework 121 for ready-made sandwich provision and from the UK Food Deal Framework for Schools 1st School Meals Service, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

61. REVIEW OF BRING SITES

The Director of Place submitted a report which outlined the findings of a recent review of bring sites in Bolton.

By way of background information, the report informed the Executive Member that recycling bring sites had been introduced many years ago as the main collection service for recyclable waste. However, with the introduction of kerbside collections through the burgundy, beige and green bins, there had been a significant reduction in the recycling tonnages collected from the bring sites over the years. Tonnages collected in recent years were particularly low and figures for 2016/17 indicated further decline with possible figures below 100 tonnes.

In 2007/08, there had been 26 bring sites located throughout the Borough although this had gradually reduced to 7. The remaining sites were now increasingly being used by fly tippers and traders to dispose of their waste. Enforcement action had taken place but it was difficult to control and the type of waste dumped made it difficult to establish its source. Typical examples of issues faced and images were attached to the report at Appendix 1.

Given the ongoing problems and issues and increased abuse of the site which was putting a strain on resources, the report now recommended that that remainder of the bring sites be removed.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The removal of the 7 remaining bring sites in Bolton, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted.

62. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND HOUSING SERVICES – FEES AND CHARGES

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out the proposed fees and charges for 2017/18 which were above or below the 1% inflationary target.

The report reminded the Executive Member that as part of the corporate financial guidance there was an assumption that all external fees and charges should be increased by 1%. However, there were a number of charges within Environmental Services and Housing Services where no increase or a percentage increase above the guidance was proposed.

Full details of these together with the reasons for the variation from the 1% were provided in the report and were summarised as follows:

- cremation charges – 6% increase;
- burial charges – 3% increase;

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- waste services – grey bins (no change), bulky waste collection charge (no change), trade waste (2% increase)
- regulatory services (Licensing Fees to remain as set out in the Licensing Fees Review 2016/17 report)
- depot garage – MOT prices (no change)
- bowling green – a fee of £20 per person be introduced; and
- housing services – all fees and charges to be increased by 1%.
- Housing services – non-compliance with remedial notices connected with Smoke and Carbon Monoxide (England) Regulations 2015 – 1st offence (£1,000), 2nd offence (£2,000), subsequent offences (£5,000).

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The proposals relating to Environmental Services and Housing Services fees and charges, on the basis detailed in the report now submitted, to take effect from 1st April, 2017.

63. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND HOUSING SERVICES – FINANCE REPORT 2016/17 QUARTER THREE

The Director of Place submitted a report which outlined the financial position of the Environmental Services and Housing Services portfolios as at 31st December, 2016.

The report advised that revenue expenditure was projected to underspend against the budget by £25,000 after planned reserve movements. There were no significant variances to report.

Capital expenditure as at quarter three was £19.1m against a revised budget at quarter 3 of £35.2m.

In relation to reserves, the report stated that Environmental

Services plus Housing (part of the Department of Place) had a projected general reserve of £191,845 for the end of the year.

With regard to efficiency targets, the budgeted efficiency savings for 2016/17 for Environmental and Housing Services were £2,146,000.

All planned efficiencies were projected to be achieved.

Specific areas of financial risk identified for the year related to loss of income due to the economic downturn and energy prices for street lighting.

The Executive Member NOTED the report.

64. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The background papers and reports in relation to the following item were considered confidential as defined in paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that it be deemed that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in their exemption outweighs the public interest in their disclosure.

65. HEATON FOLD SERVICE IMPROVEMENT – POST CONSULTATION REPORT

The Director of Place submitted a report which set out the results of consultation on proposals to implement an amended staff structure and amendments to working arrangements which were fit for purpose at Heaton Fold and sought the Executive Cabinet Member's approval to implement the final proposals.

The report outlined the feedback which had been received as part of the consultation process and the formal response from the Trades Unions, together with, the corresponding management responses was detailed in Appendix 5 to the report.

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As a result of the consultation a number of changes had been made to the final proposals and these were outlined in the report. It was anticipated that, if the final proposals were approved, a phased implementation of the new structure would take place during February/March, 2017.

The relevant Equality Impact Assessment had been undertaken and was detailed in Appendix 6 to the report.

The report had also been considered and approved by the Executive Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Resources at his meeting on 13th February, 2017.

Following a recommendation by the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion, Voluntary Sector and Community Services, the Executive Cabinet Member APPROVED –

The final proposals to implement the new structure and working arrangements in respect of Heaton Fold.