

CORPORATE RESOURCES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Corporate Resources on:-

TUESDAY, 5th AUGUST, 2008

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

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Councillor Mrs Thomas | Executive Member Corporate Resources |
| Councillor R. Allen | Major Opposition Spokesperson |
| Councillor Hayes | Minor Opposition Spokesperson |
| Mr. A. Eastwood | Director of Legal and Democratic Services |
| Mr. S. Arnfield | Director of Corporate Resources |
| Mr. A. Donaldson | Assistant Director, Policy Improvement and Area Working |
| Mr. A. Fisher | Group Manager - Licensing |
| Mr. F. O'Malley | Head of Employee Relations and HR Relations |
| Andrew Jennings | Democratic Services |

16. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report which monitored the progress of decisions within the portfolio of the Executive Member Corporate Resources.

The Executive Member Corporate Resources NOTED the progress of the decisions taken.

17. CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS BIG ISSUES 2009/12

The Chief Executive submitted a report that set out the big issues facing the three central departments following consideration of the Corporate Big Issues and Financial Forecast 2009/12 at the Executive's meeting on 25th July, 2008.

The Executive Member AGREED the central departments' big issues 2009/12.

18. CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS VALUE FOR MONEY STRATEGY 2009/12

The Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which set out an outline value for money strategy for the three central departments.

At the heart of the approach was a series of value for money reviews across the three departments, as follows:

- Corporate ICT – a major review of existing ICT services and relationships that would lead to significant improvements in services and efficiency savings.
- Implementation of the HR Review – the Council had already agreed the findings of the HR review and work was now ongoing to deliver a full implementation. Phase one – realignment of responsibilities and the shared service centre was nearly complete, phases 2 and 3 were now being pursued. In addition to significant improvements in HR and OD support, the review would deliver at least 4% efficiencies during 2009/10.
- Corporate Property Services – the review had a number of dimensions including energy, financial management, contracts framework and the property review. Good progress was being made and significant savings were expected over coming years. A more detailed update would be brought forward to the Executive Member later in the year.

- Financial Services – preparatory work was underway to deliver a review of Financial Services during 2009/10 which would look to deliver greater value for money.
- Revenues and Benefits – already a high performing service, the review would look to deliver at least 4% efficiency savings during 2009/10 and possibly further savings in future years.
- Review of Licensing – the review was being scoped at the moment with implementation during 2009/10 leading to improved levels of service and greater value for money.

In addition to the programme of service reviews outlined above, every service across the departments would be challenged to remodel itself and find new ways of working to deliver greater value for money. A series of challenge sessions were planned with senior managers towards the end of the year whereby options could be challenged and developed.

Information was also provided with respect to the following areas for development;

- Procurement;
- Shared services;
- Accommodation and property; and
- Minor efficiencies/day to day costs.

With respect to shared services the Director of Corporate Resources explained that opportunities across Greater Manchester would also be examined.

The Executive Member AGREED the outline strategy and to receive more detailed reports on the overall approach and specific elements at future meetings.

19. SERVICE RESTRUCTURE – HUMAN RESOURCES CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Assistant Chief Executive submitted a report that detailed proposals to restructure the HR delivery in the Children's Services Department to meet current and future need.

The report indicated that there were a number of local and national drivers that were impacting on and influencing the need for a review of the provision of HR Services in Children's Services;

- HR/OD review;
- Building Schools for the Future;
- Departmental projects and restructures;
- Pay and Grading Review;
- Equal Pay;
- Legislation;
- Attendance Management; and
- Work force census.

These drivers combined with the ongoing OD/HR Review had created an opportunity to realign the HR service provision within Children's Services to better meet service requirements and business needs.

It was proposed that the provision of HR in Children's Services be realigned and that a discrete specialist Schools HR team and a Units team for Children's Services be created. It was envisaged that inter- team and cross department working would continue to be a model of delivery to support the HR/OD review.

Funding for the increases and re – alignment would be provided via BSF funds to support the delivery of the BSF by providing monies for both direct posts and backfill funding; Departmental funding for additional posts for the department; Corporate funding to backfill for equal pay resources and realignment of departmental budgets and school SLA income so that the roles were better defined.

All posts had been evaluated and were subject to the Pay and grading review outcomes.

The Executive Member AGREED the proposed restructuring of the Children's Services HR Team with an implementation date of 1st April, 2008, subject to the agreement of the Executive Member Human Resources and Diversity.

20. APPLICATIONS TO VARY HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report that requested the Executive Member to determine a variation to the fares charged by hackney carriages in the Borough.

The Executive Member had considered a variation to the fares charged by hackney carriages at her meeting held on 8th July, 2008 and had agreed a fare structure which resulted in a tariff 1 fare of £5.20 for a two mile journey and a tariff 2 fare of £6.00 for a two mile journey.

The fare structure was reported to the Licensing and Environmental Regulation Committee at its meeting on 22nd July, 2008 and the report included two alternative options for the 'Tariff 2' fare structure, both of which resulted in a £6.00 charge for a two mile journey. The Committee agreed to refer this back to the Executive Member to recommend which should be adopted.

The two alternative proposals were as follows;

Tariff Two (10:00pm – 6:00am and all day Sat & Sun)

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Current fare | up to 1300 yards/first 1300yards | £2.60 |
| | for each additional 180 yards | 20p |

proposed:

either

- | | | |
|----|---|--------------|
| a) | Up to 1000 yards/first 1000 yards and for each additional 150 yards (or part thereof); or | £2.60 20p |
| b) | Up to 600 yards/first 600 yards and for each additional 175 yards (or part thereof) | £2.60 20p |

The proposed fares would have the following effect on typical journeys;

| Tariff Two | | | |
|------------|---------|-------------|----------|
| | Current | Recommended | |
| 1 mile | £3.20 | a)£3.80 | b)£4.00 |
| 2 mile | £5.20 | a)£6.00 | b)£6.00 |
| 5 mile | £11.00 | a)£13.00 | b)£12.00 |

It was proposed that the Director of Legal and Democratic Services ,in consultation with the Chair, Vice-Chair and major opposition spokesperson of the Licensing and Environmental Regulations Committee, would use his delegated authority to action the Executive Member's decision once made.

The Executive Member AGREED option (a) as the preferred option for the variation to Tariff 2.