

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD

17 April 2013

The meeting commenced at 3.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Paul Thompson (Finance and Corporate Services Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Graham Frankland, Assistant Director (Resources)
Damien Johnson, Principal Estates Surveyor
David Hart, Strategic Procurement Manager
Philip Timmins, Principal Estates Surveyor
Rachael White, Democratic Services Officer

71. Commissioning and Procurement Strategy 2013-2014 (Assistant Director - Resources)

Type of decision

Non Key Decision.

Purpose of report

To provide an update and seek endorsement of the Commissioning and Procurement Strategy for 2013-2014.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Commissioning and Procurement Strategy was considered at the Portfolio meeting on the 13th March 2013 but was deferred to seek to views of the Chairs of the proposed Policy Committees. A briefing session was held on the 28th March 2013 and comments from the session and from the previous Portfolio meeting had been incorporated into the Strategy. The Assistant Director (Resources) gave an overview of the feedback from the Policy Committee Chairs which was outlined in the report.

The Portfolio Holder enforced the need for the Contract Procedure Rules to control and monitor the need for contract exemptions and extensions as this

had been raised previously by the Portfolio Holder and by the Policy Committee Chairs. The Assistant Director (Resources) advised that changes had been made in conjunction with comments, feedback and consultation.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder endorsed the Commissioning and Procurement Strategy for 2013/14 and acknowledged that the endorsement was given on the basis that further minor amendments may be made to the document by the Assistant Director (Resources) to accommodate any appropriate feedback received following the completion of the consultation.

72. Localism Act 2011 – Community Right to Bid *(Assistant Director - Resources)*

Type of decision

No Key Decision.

Purpose of report

To consider the proposals and procedures for dealing with the legal implications and requirements placed on the local authority under the recently introduced “Community Right to Bid” legislation.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Community Right to Bid came into force on 21st September 2012 following the publication of the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations. A report was received by Cabinet on the 7th January 2013 outlining the legislation. The scheme provided communities with the opportunity to identify assets of community value and have them listed. When put up for sale, communities would then be given time to raise finance and put in a bid to acquire them.

It was proposed that a new web-page be uploaded to the Council's website which would clearly explain the Council's procedures in relation to the scheme and how to make a nomination to the authority, together with the option to download the nomination form. There would also be a link to guidance on how to complete the nomination form. The report detailed procedures and protocols that the Council would be following in order to effectively manage the legal requirements placed upon the authority.

The Portfolio Holder expressed the need to ensure that the procedures put in place were not abused and managed correctly.

Decision

The proposals for dealing with the Community Right to Bid scheme were approved.

73. Delegated Property Transactions *(Assistant Director - Resources)*

Type of decision

Non Key Decision.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the recent Minor Property Issues dealt with under Delegated Powers.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The Assistant Director (Resources) advised that a number of issues had been dealt with under Delegated Powers including the sale of a number of garage bases and the granting of grazing licenses. These issues had been discussed with the Portfolio Holder in a briefing session as it was agreed in June 2012 that the Portfolio Holder would receive briefings on such issues which would then be formally recorded in a Portfolio Holder Report.

Decision

The contents of the report were noted.

74. Closing Comments

The Portfolio Holder thanked a number of Officers for their support over the year. The Portfolio thanked the Officers for ensuring that he received all of the information needed in order to make the required decisions so that the process could be as efficient as possible.

The meeting concluded at 3.13pm.

P J DEVLIN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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