

20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 144

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

AUTHOR: MARK WALL

THE DECISION

That the notice of motion be noted and an officer report on the matter be requested for the next meeting in May 2014.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

Not applicable.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 145

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2014-15

AUTHOR: KATIE OGDEN, MATT NAISH

THE DECISION

That the Council be recommended to approve the adoption of the pay policy statement 2014/15 attached at Appendix A to the report.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The Pay Policy Statement is a statutory publication and we are therefore obliged to publish it. Consideration has been given to the levels of transparency contained within the report, but the conclusion reached is that the detail is in compliance with guidance issued on this subject.

CONCLUSION

It is a requirement of the Localism Act 2011 that members are consulted prior to the publication of the Pay Policy Statement. It is therefore recommended that Policy and Resources approve this report and make the recommendation to members to approve the Pay Policy Statement 2014/15

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 146

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY
STRATEGY 2014/15

AUTHOR: MARK IRELAND

THE DECISION

- (1) That it be noted that that there are no changes to the Treasury Management Policy Statement and Treasury Management Practices approved by Policy & Resources Committee on 15 March 2013; and
- (2) That the Borrowing Strategy for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix 3 to the report be approved.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Treasury management is governed by a code that is recognised as “best and proper practice” under the Local Government Act 2003. The code requires local authorities to report annually in advance on their treasury management plan and strategy. This report fulfils this requirement.

CONCLUSION

This report confirms there are no changes to the treasury management policy statement approved by Policy & Resources Committee last year. The Strategy continues with the strong emphasis on risk management and the impact this may have on the performance of the treasury management service.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 147

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY
2014/15

AUTHOR: MARK IRELAND

THE DECISION

That the Annual Investment Strategy for 2014/15 as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be recommended to council for approval.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The 2010 investment guidance requires that local authorities produce an investment strategy to be approved and amended by full council. This report fulfils this requirement.

CONCLUSION

This report confirms there are no changes to the Annual Investment Strategy approved by full Council in December 2013. The AIS continues with the strong emphasis on risk management and liquidity, two cornerstones to the draft guidance issued by the Secretary of State and the impact these have on investment performance.

Proper Officer:

Date 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 148

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: EDUCATION CAPITAL RESOURCES
AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT
PROGRAMME 2014/15

AUTHOR: MICHAEL NIX

THE DECISION

- (1) That the level of available capital resources totalling £8.887 million for investment relating to education buildings financed from capital grant, revenue contributions and borrowing be noted; and
- (2) That the allocation of funding as shown in Appendices 2 and 3 to the report be agreed and included within the council's Capital Investment Programme 2014/15.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The proposed capital investment programme will enable us to continue to ensure that we secure school places in areas of the city where they are required and to improve the condition of our education property portfolio.

CONCLUSION

The only option available would be to not make use of this funding to improve or extend the education property portfolio. This is not recommended as it would limit our ability to maintain, modernise and improve our school buildings property portfolio and to secure sufficient school places.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 149

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: 2014/15 LOCAL TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

AUTHOR: ANDREW RENAUT

THE DECISION

- (1) That the 2014/15 Local Transport Plan [LTP] capital programme budget of £8.899m for the Capital Renewal (Maintenance) and Integrated Transport work programmes set out in Appendix 1 of this report;
- (2) That the Committee approves funding for the LTP programme of £7.479m from the LTP 2014/15 grant allocation as set out Appendix 1, and up to £1.420m brought forward from the LTP 2015/16 grant allocation to enable completion of the King's Road Arches (adjacent to the i360 site) as set out at paragraph 3.5 of the report;
- (3) That officers be instructed to continue to seek alternative sources of external funding for transport schemes in the LTP Capital Programme and that any LTP funding freed up in this way, or not required on the projects listed in Appendix 1, be allocated to the Maintenance Funding Block.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The decision of the committee to approve the allocation of the 2014/15 LTP capital programme to projects and programmes will provide a clear indication of proposed plans for capital investment in transport using the LTP budget, and therefore enable works to be continued or started, which will continue to support the council's and city's wider objectives.

CONCLUSION

The proposed LTP capital programme is consistent with the Strategy and the principles of the Delivery Plan in the approved LTP3, and the proposed allocation of capital investment will help contribute to meeting local transport and wider policy objectives and outcomes.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 150

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: CONCESSIONARY BUS TRAVEL - 3
YEAR FIXED DEALS

AUTHOR: MARK IRELAND

THE DECISION

- (1) That the forecast comparisons between the current fixed deal payments and the estimated level of reimbursement through the DfT model be noted;
- (2) That the progress made to date on the negotiations for new fixed deals; as set out in appendix 1 (in part 2 of the agenda) be noted; and
- (3) That the Executive Director of Finance & Resources, after consultation with the Chair of Policy & Resources Committee, be authorised to finalise terms for concessionary fares fixed reimbursement deals with both Brighton & Hove Bus and Coach Company and Stagecoach South.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The fixed deal proposals set out in this report are designed to give the council greater certainty over future costs and potentially offer better value for money than using the DfT reimbursement model.

CONCLUSION

The council could use the DfT reimbursement model to pay both operators. This payment may be less than the fixed deal sums if journey numbers fall significantly and bus fares rise by less than the going rate of inflation. The likelihood of these events is considered to be relatively small therefore this alternative is not recommended.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 151

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION - OFFICES TO
RESIDENTIAL

AUTHOR: HELEN GREGORY

THE DECISION

- (1) That the amendment to the boundary of Central Brighton, New England Quarter and London Road article 4 direction area as shown in Appendix 2b for the reasons outlined in this report be authorised; and
- (2) That the re-consultation on the article 4 direction in view of the boundary change for a period of 6 weeks be authorised.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

In response to consultation comments, this report seeks authorisation for an amendment to the boundary of the proposed non-immediate article 4 direction to remove the permitted development rights for change of use from office use to residential use before it comes into effect and for this boundary change to be subject to a six week period of consultation.

CONCLUSION

An article 4 direction is considered justified on the basis that the blanket introduction of permitted development rights will have a significantly harmful impact on the highest growth, highest value sectors of the city economy that are key drivers of private sector job creation. This is not considered to be offset by the positive benefits the new rights would bring in terms of delivering new housing.

Consideration of the appropriateness of further amendments to the boundary has been set out in section 3 of the report.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services
Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 152

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: PLANNED MAINTENANCE BUDGET
ALLOCATION 2014-15 AND
PROGRAMME OF WORKS FOR THE
COUNCIL'S OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS

AUTHOR: MARTIN HILSON

THE DECISION

- (1) That the annual programme of planned maintenance works to the council's operational buildings at an estimated cost of £3,827,880, as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report be approved; and
- (2) That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be granted delegated authority to enter into contracts within this budget, as required, and in accordance with Contract Standing Orders.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

To approve the financial allocation to an annual programme of maintenance works to the operational buildings excluding council housing, highways and educational properties which have their own budgetary provisions.

CONCLUSION

Failure to maintain our building stock and conform to Health and Safety and other statutory legislation to meet liabilities will increase risks, inhibit service delivery, may lead to a negative perception of the council, reduce the value of the assets and prevent fulfilling the council's priorities, aims and objectives as stated in the AMP & CPS and Corporate Plan.

To provide the financial allocation to the proposed annual programme of maintenance works to the operational buildings excluding council housing, highways and educational properties which have their own budgetary provisions.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 153

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: ICT DATA CENTRE AND HOSTING

AUTHOR: MARK WATSON

THE DECISION

- (1) That the findings of the options appraisal of the council's future needs for data centre services as set out in paragraph 3.6 of the report be noted;
- (2) That the procurement of a contract for off-site data centre provision, with a contract term of up to 5 years with an option to extend for a further 2 year period be authorised; and
- (3) That the Executive Director Finance & Resources be granted delegated authority to identify and implement the most appropriate method of procurement, in accordance with the council's Contract Standing orders, to award the contract and, subject to satisfactory performance of the contractor, to exercise the option to extend the contract for a further 2-year period.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Following the assessment of risk to council service without investment the tender of a contracted service is recommended. This will allow the migration of business critical equipment and data to a new location ahead of work on-site at Hove Town Hall in January 2015.

CONCLUSION

The following options have been considered as part of the analysis.

- Remediation work to existing Computer Rooms
- New Build Data Centre on existing Council premises
- New Build Data Centre at a new site
- Shared Service provision from a Public Service partner – Co-location and/or shared service
- Commercial Service provision – Co-location and/or shared service.

A summary of the options appraisal is set out in Appendix 1.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 154

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S
CONSTITUTION 2014

AUTHOR: ABRAHAM GHEBRE-GHIORGHIS

THE DECISION

- (1) That the proposed changes to officer delegations set out at paragraphs 3.13 to 3.15 and Appendices 7 (a) to (c) of the report and that the changes come into effect on 1st April 2014 be approved;
- (2) That the Chief Executive be authorised to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the changes agreed by Policy & Resources Committee and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend and re-publish the Council's constitutional documents to incorporate all the changes referred to at (1) above;
- (3) That the proposed changes to the Council's constitution as set out in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.11 and Appendices 1 to 6 of the report be recommended to the Full Council for approval;
- (4) That the Full Council approve the proposed changes to the Council's constitution recommended in paragraphs 3.2 to 3.11 and Appendices 1 to 6 of the report be approved and adopted from 1st April 2014;
- (5) That the Full Council authorise the Chief Executive to take all steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the changes agreed by Council and that the Monitoring Officer be authorised to amend and re-publish the Council's constitutional documents to incorporate all the changes referred to at (4) above.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

This report continues the work of the cross party Constitution Working Group in reviewing the operation of the council's constitution and suggesting revisions where it is considered these will have a positive impact on the Council's internal governance.

CONCLUSION

There were no alternative options.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services
Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 155

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: LOCAL DISCRETIONARY SOCIAL FUND
REVIEW

AUTHOR: JOHN FRANCIS

THE DECISION

- (1) That the Local Discretionary Social Fund Policy as amended and set out in Appendix 1 to the report, to take effect from 1st April 2014 be agreed; and
- (2) That the planned funding approach to enable a scheme to continue beyond 2014/15 as set out in paragraphs 4.14 - 4.21 of the report be noted.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The remit of the LDSF is to help vulnerable people in a position of emergency or crisis or to help them move into or remain in the community. The scheme is achieving this aim but work needs to be done to publicise the scheme; to improve the accessibility of the scheme and some areas of the criteria need slight revision.

It is clear that the council needs to plan what provision it can have in place from April 2015 as it is determining its policy for 2014/15. The alternative may mean establishing and embedding a scheme into the city which meets a crucial need only for it to be withdrawn overnight. This would create serious issues for the users of the schemes and the agencies that support their clients in applying for it.

Until the announcement of the loss of funding from April 2015 the central part of this review was focussed on increasing take up of the scheme and expanding the areas on which it could provide relief. However given that the council is now in a position of effectively having to use a two year budget to cover a four year scheme the ongoing approach to the scheme must be to focus on the most acutely needy cases and cases where making a small payment will save higher further costs in the future.

CONCLUSION

Current Scheme

An analysis of LDSF awards can be found in **appendix 2**. In summary, there have been 1,512 applications to the scheme from 1st April 2013 to 31st January 2014, of which 871 (58%) have been given an award. In this time, the LDSF team have provided 308 beds, 219 cookers and 213 fridge/freezers; they have assisted 352 households with food and 204 households with gas and electricity top-ups; whilst 122 households have been given shop cards for new clothing.

A significant amount of work was done at the outset of the scheme to publicise it to advice agencies, support services, the Job Centre Plus and users of those services. Ongoing feedback has continued to be sought and received. Despite this the immediate take up of the scheme in April 2013 was slow. However, as awareness of

the scheme has grown and staff have gained practical experience in interpreting the policy, take up and the number of awards have increased. In addition to awards made based on applications, managers of the scheme are working to make awards from the scheme directly to people who do not cope well with any application process, for example funding the costs of fresh bedding at homeless hostels.

A number of cases have been turned down because there is alternative statutory provision to which the person is entitled. In most cases these alternatives are provided by DWP but customers have not been aware of them or have been incorrectly signposted. The Revenues and Benefits service are working closely with the local Job Centre Plus to make sure the information channels around the scheme are as effective as possible.

Up until the end of January 2014 the total expenditure has been £263,786. The total forecast for 2013/14 is £293,370. The underspend has been reported in the Targeted Budget Management (TBM) process throughout the year.

The scheme has been kept under review for the year in which it has been operating. The review has been undertaken by staff working on the team who administer the scheme; from colleagues in other services in the council and through seeking feedback from the advice sector specifically through the Advice Services Network (ASN) on a regular basis.

Scheme review

Specific consultation was undertaken as a part of this review. Advice agencies and support services fed back via a survey and previous customers were contacted by phone and their experiences discussed.

The main findings of the consultation in terms of administration were that:

- awareness of the scheme was good in advice agencies and support services but poor in the population generally;
- many people require assistance with the online form and it is not well known that people can make applications over the phone or in person;
- the work of the team who administer the scheme is highly regarded and referred to as 'helpful and efficient' and 'well informed and extremely quick at providing updates'; and
- some advisors lacked confidence about whether the applications they made on behalf of clients would be successful or not because they were unfamiliar with the scheme.

Questions were raised about the value of the evidence requirements. Many individuals were given assistance in applying to the scheme and people who received support with the application were more likely to receive an award than those who were not.

There were some comments as to whether the scheme was generous or flexible enough in terms of what it provides, but the number of comments were small in number. It is also apparent that people who are turned down for an award need to be provided with clear and in some cases specific referrals for further advice.

The main suggestions from the consultation in terms of the scheme itself were that it ought to be able to deal with the cumulative impact of several small scale occurrences in addition to singular dramatic crises or emergencies. Additionally it

was felt that it should be clear an emergency or crisis can relate to any member of a family, not just an adult in a family.

Part of the review has been to undertake an analysis of claims where a negative decision was given. This has led to some specific changes to the policy, including re-drafting the criteria to allow decision makers to treat the cumulative impact of a series of small scale incidences as a crisis or emergency; clarifying that 'care' means engagement with any support service (statutory or voluntary) not just care in terms of social services care; and ensuring payment can be made where Job Centre Plus benefit processes leave people without means for a temporary period.

The review has looked at other council schemes. A major part of the learning from this has been putting into place ways of people benefitting from the scheme where they are not capable, or are very unlikely to make, a direct application to the fund. For example the council is now providing fresh bedding to some hostels within the city paid for from the LDSF budget. Some residents of these hostels are unlikely to make applications to the scheme but would be likely to benefit from it if they did. By making direct provision to the hostel the barriers these residents face are avoided and they are provided with a healthier and warmer environment.

Response to scheme review

The information collected during this review period has informed the proposed changes to the scheme set out in **Appendix 1**. This includes addressing the points in 4.7 to 4.10.

The council will review and refresh its publicity around the scheme in addition to other discretionary schemes the council runs. This will include promoting the option people have to telephone the team to make an application. The online application is currently being reviewed and will be updated to take into account of the comments made. The information about the support required will also be fed into the financial inclusion work the council is undertaking.

Although there is room to develop the scheme further it is also clear that broadly it is meeting its aims of assisting people in crisis and helping people to remain in the community. In a case of a family with no money or food an advisor commented that she 'doesn't know what the family would have done without this help'

Budget & scheme from April 2015

The decision contained within the Local Government Finance settlement not to continue LWP funding on an ongoing basis was unexpected. The council had been preparing a scheme on the understanding that some LWP funding would be available in the medium term. It is now clear there will be no funding from April 2015. (The DCLG have stated that councils may choose to continue to fund local schemes from their general funds if they wish to).

As referred to in 4.14 there is a clear need from some of the citizens in Brighton & Hove for such a scheme. Without it, or alternative provision, there is a very clear risk of real and genuine suffering caused by hunger and cold occurring and further pressures being created on social services, health and housing budgets.

However the budget position makes this situation complex. Despite the clear demand for the scheme the council faces the dilemma of meeting that need over the period of one further year (14/15) only, and, due to the cancelation of the funding,

being placed in a position where it can no longer afford to do so from April 2015. Abruptly ending the scheme from this date will lead to issues of unmet demand and expectations that cannot be met.

To resolve this issue this report proposes that current unused reserves of £300k earmarked to top up the discretionary funds are used to extend the scheme beyond April 2015. In addition it is proposed to plan for the 2014/15 funding allocation to be used over two years. This means any underspend in 2014/15 would be carried forward to 2015/16.

This approach carries a risk because the DWP have implied they may withdraw LWP funding if they are not satisfied it is being spent though 2014/15. The council is seeking to negotiate a position with the DWP which allows the fund to be used over two years rather than one. At the time of writing this report there is no indication as to whether this request will be successful. If this approach proves untenable a further report will be presented to Policy and Resources committee during 2014 setting out alternative options.

If this approach is successful it will allow the council to run the LDSF scheme in 2015/16 and 2016/17. The rollout of Universal Credit is due to be complete by 2017 which will mark such a significant shift in national welfare provision that any local discretionary schemes will need to be reviewed in full then anyway.

The scheme will continue to be reviewed throughout 14/15. The purpose of this review will be to identify and establish the types of claim where the most acute hardship would have occurred if not for the award. It will also be to establish most clearly where an award has saved further and higher costs from being created. Any proposal for an ongoing scheme once the residual funding has run out will focus on these two elements.

In addition to this review the council is also working with the Job Centre Plus to identify an approach to support claimants of Universal Credit when it is rolled out nationally. (DWP have published a document setting out a joint Local Authority and Job Centre Plus commissioning approach called the Local Support Services Framework). Part of the support needed for this rollout will be around supporting online benefit applications and access to emergency funds. This is very similar to the work the LDSF team currently undertakes.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 156

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2014 - 2017

AUTHOR: JACKIE ALGAR

THE DECISION

- (1) That the Risk Management Strategy 2014 – 2017 (Appendix 1); and the Risk Management Programme by year (Appendix 2) be approved;
- (2) That the Executive Director, Finance & Resources be delegated authority to alter the risk management process (which is published on the intranet 'the Wave') as necessary so that it is kept up to date with changing requirements and best practice;
- (3) That it be noted that any changes made to the risk management process will be reported as part of the risk management annual progress report to the Audit & Standards Committee;
- (4) That it be noted that the Audit & Standards Committee will monitor the performance and progress in the implementation of the Risk Management Strategy over the next three years.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The Risk Management Strategy 2014 - 2017 sets out the council's approach to managing risk and uncertainty so that it is understood and applied to contribute to more successful outcomes and delivery of the council's objectives.

The city council could decide not to have any approved Risk Management Strategy but this would not accord with best practice for corporate governance and would not enable a proactive and well understood approach to prioritising issues to enable decisions on the most appropriate course of action.

CONCLUSION

The city council could decide to update the Risk Management Strategy each year (as for 2012; and 2013) but experience of the annual approach has shown that little change to the risk management process was required, and more focus could be directed to progress reporting over the longer term as part of corporate governance arrangements.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services
Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 157

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: ANNUAL UPDATE OF THE COUNCIL'S
CORPORATE PLAN 2014/15

AUTHOR: CAROLYN BRISTOW

THE DECISION

- (1) That the Corporate Plan annual update 2014/15, given as Appendix 1 and subject to a revision to include secondary school places, be approved, and recommended to Full Council on 27th March 2014 for adoption; and
- (2) That the progress made on the Corporate Plan commitments from the 2013/14 annual update, as summarised in Appendix 2 to the report be noted.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Committee are asked to approve the 2014/15 annual update of the Corporate Plan to give a clear sense of direction for the organisation for the year ahead. It aims to explain and prepare for the necessary changes in the nature and role of local government and public services more widely. The alignment to budget is important in terms of significant activities but equally important is the expectation of all employees to understand our expected behaviours across the organisation to meet future challenges.

CONCLUSION

The established process is an annual review and update of the Corporate Plan during its cycle, 2011-15. For the reasons described in the report it was considered that a full refresh of the Corporate Plan would be appropriate at this time.

Any changes to the content of the Corporate Plan must be agreed by Policy and Resources Committee and Full Council according to the council's Constitution.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

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20 March 2014

This record relates to Agenda Item 158

RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION

SUBJECT: SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICES

AUTHOR: STEPHEN NICHOLSON

THE DECISION

- (1) That it be agreed that the commissioners should seek to negotiate a contract to deliver an integrated sexual health service with the current providers; with the option of moving to a competitive process if negotiations fail;
- (2) That the Director of Public Health be granted delegated authority to conduct the negotiations on the Council's behalf, and to run a competitive procurement in the event that the negotiations fail; and
- (3) That the committee should receive a report on the outcome of the negotiations before a new contract is awarded.

ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The negotiation of a new contract for sexual health services with the current service providers would be more efficient and cost effective than undertaking a competitive tender process

A competitive tender would not necessarily lead to any improvements in quality or price that could not potentially be achieved by negotiation

A competitive tender process is not ruled out should it not be possible to negotiate a contract.

CONCLUSION

The alternative option to the recommendations would be to move straight to a competitive tender from the open market.

Proper Officer:

Date: 24/03/14

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

Signed:



CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to:

- (i) any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision or,
- (ii) the decision being called in for review by 5 Members from two or more

Groups represented on the Council.

