

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES – 12TH JUNE 2014

EXB2 MERSEY GATEWAY CROSSINGS BOARD PENSIONS GUARANTEE

The Board considered a report of the Chief Executive which advised Members on his use of Delegated Authority in respect of the Mersey Gateway Crossings Board Limited (MGCB).

It was reported that the Department for Transport Funding letter dated 19 October 2011, required the Council to establish a Crossings Board to deliver, manage and act as agent for the Mersey Gateway. The report provided details on the governance arrangements and the Council's position.

It was reported that the Mersey Gateway Executive Board had granted authority for the Chief Executive to make all necessary appointments and commissions for those staff seconded to the Mersey Gateway Project Team; it was noted that these staff would be made permanent employees of the MGCB effective 1 June 2014. Existing HBC staff that had transferred under these arrangements would be allowed to retain access to the Cheshire Pension Fund and remain on the superannuation scheme. Further details of how this would affect new employees were also contained within the report.

It was further noted that in order to be able to make formal offers of Employment, MGCB needed to make a Board resolution and for the Council to act as Guarantor. Using delegated authority, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, the Operational Director, Finance and the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, agreed to provide the Guarantee.

RESOLVED: That the action taken by the Chief Executive in the use of his Delegated Authority in respect of the Execution of a Deed of Guarantee to Cheshire Pension Fund, in relation to the pension scheme for Mersey Gateway Crossings Board, be noted.

EXB11 PROCUREMENT OF A HOUSING SUPPORT SERVICE FOR THE ALBERT ROAD SCHEME FOR HOMELESS SINGLE PERSONS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the procurement of a Housing Support Service for the Albert Road Scheme for Homeless Single Persons.

The Board was advised that construction of the 32

unit supported housing scheme for single homeless persons in Albert Road was due for completion in March 2015. The Council's Supporting People Fund would finance the housing support service for future residents.

Members were advised that it was now necessary to undertake a procurement exercise to secure a service provider, using an open tender procedure; a contract would be awarded for three years, with an option to extend for a further two years. The results of this exercise would be reported to the Board prior to acceptance.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the commencement of a procurement exercise for a housing support service at the Albert Road supported housing scheme be approved; and
- 2) a further report be received on the outcome of the tenders.

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- Communities

EXB12 CONNECTING CHESHIRE PROJECT EXTENSION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Connecting Cheshire Broadband project extension.

The Board was advised that the Connecting Cheshire Project was the fastest deployment of high-speed broadband in the world. By June 2015, the project would have achieved 96% fibre broadband coverage across Halton, Cheshire and Warrington. It was now proposed to extend coverage further to 99% by 2017, with a total cost of the project extension including partner contributions and grants expected to be £5.1m. It was noted that Halton's contribution would be £444.5k over a three year period of 2014-17.

The report provided information for Members' consideration on partnership delivery, unlocking grant funding, return on investment and the current delivery position at May 2014.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the extension of the Connecting Cheshire Project be approved, subject to identifying the necessary

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match funding of £444.5k, to increase broadband coverage from 96.3% to 99% of homes and businesses across Halton. This investment would target the final tranche of approximately 2,100 premises that currently lack access to good quality broadband;

- 2) the Council may enter into an Open Market review and procurement process with Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) to scope and define the project extension, including specific costs, timescales and outputs;
- 3) the existing Connecting Cheshire Project's governance arrangements continue. Cheshire East will remain the accountable body for the project;
- 4) delegated authority be given to the relevant Portfolio Holder and the Operational Director, Economy and Enterprise, for decision making in relation to the recommendations set out above; and
- 5) the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, be authorised to negotiate and enter into any necessary legal documentation to give effect to the recommendations as set out above.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES – 7TH JULY 2014

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB26 PASSENGER TRANSPORT TENDERS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, which informed them of the forthcoming publication of transport tenders via The Chest.

The Board was advised that the Transport Co-ordination Section were responsible for a complex range of passenger transport contracts. If these arrangements were not covered by the Council's in-house fleet of passenger transport vehicles or by volunteer drivers, then they were required to be contracted-out to external transport providers for a period of up to four years.

The arrangements for the advertising of such transport tenders on behalf of the Children and Enterprise and Communities Directorates respectively were set out in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Board note the advertising of transport tenders for services on behalf of the Children and Enterprise and Communities Directorates, required from September 2015, and support the process.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB28 PROCUREMENT OF HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING AND SUPPORT GATEWAY IT SYSTEMS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the proposals to develop and implement a Housing and Support Gateway IT System.

The Board was advised that the aim of the Housing Support Gateway (the Gateway) was to provide a single point of access for people with housing support needs into short term housing support services. It was reported that the Gateway system would be implemented on a sub-regional basis through the Liverpool City Region (LCR), with details of those arrangements and costs contained in the report.

The Board was reminded that on 12 July 2012, it considered a report which highlighted the requirement to replace the then existing Homelessness IT system, in line with audit recommendations. A replacement IT solution would be purchased from Capita, who would also provide the IT solution for the sub-regional housing and support Gateway. Therefore, permission was sought to waive Procurement Standing Orders to enable the Council to purchase the Homelessness IT system. The Business Case contained in the report set out reasons for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) Halton's participation in the development of a sub-regional Housing and Support Gateway be approved; and
- 2) Pursuant to Procurement Standing Order 1.8.4

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(c), Procurement Standing Order 4.1 be waived to enable the procurement of the preferred Homelessness IT system.

EXB29 FIXED PENALTY NOTICES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the pilot scheme for issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for litter and dog control offences.

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 13 October 2013, it had approved a six month pilot scheme delivered by 3GS (UK) Limited for the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for litter and dog control offences. This service commenced on 14 February 2014, and aimed to support the Council's efforts to reduce anti-social behaviour and improve the safety and attractiveness of the Borough. The report set out details of the enforcement patrols undertaken, the number of FPNs issued, arrangements for the non-payment of notices and the added value of additional and proportionate enforcement for environmental crime offences.

It was reported that the current scheme would end in August 2014. The report sought permission to extend the pilot scheme until the end of February 2015 during which time further consideration would be given to arrangements for the procurement of these services beyond 28 February 2015.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the pilot scheme for the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices for litter and dog control offences by 3GS (UK) Limited be extended until 28 February 2015; and
- 2) the Strategic Director, Communities, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Physical Environment and the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services, be authorised to determine all matters relating to the procurement of services for the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices for litter and dog control offences by a private enforcement company on behalf of

Strategic Director
- Communities

the Council beyond 28 February 2015.

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