

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board, Executive Board Sub Committee and Executive (Transmodal Implementation) Sub Board Minutes Relevant to the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 8th SEPTEMBER 2011

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

EXB34 MERSEY PORTS MASTER PLAN - CONSULTATION RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF HALTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources which outlined the consultation exercise undertaken by Peel Ports on the draft Mersey Ports Master Plan.

The Board was advised that the draft Master Plan for the Mersey Ports contained a twenty year strategy to develop the potential of its port assets. The consultation exercise commenced on 6 June 2011 and concluded on 5 September 2011.

The draft Master Plan strategy was broadly supported by the existing policies contained within Halton's third Local Transport Plan (LTP3), which became effective on 1 April 2011. The LTP3 was supportive of the SuperPort concept, seen as a key driver of the Liverpool City Region economy as well as delivering sustainable low carbon transport.

It was noted that Halton's consultation response had been formed from existing LTP3 policies, Halton's Sustainable Community Strategy, the needs and impact of the Mersey Gateway project, advice from the Major Projects Team within the Council and the transport policies of the Merseyside Authorities. In addition, representations received from Councillors and Moore and Daresbury Parish Councils had been incorporated into the response, a copy of which was circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the proposals contained in the draft Mersey Ports Master Plan be welcomed; and

- 2) the comments made on the draft Master Plan be noted, in particular, that the development of the Mersey Gateway Port is seen as complementary to the Master Plan forming part of the SuperPort concept.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB35 PARK PAVILIONS & VISITOR CENTRES

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities on alternative ways of opening the Council's Visitor Centres and Park pavilions to the public.

The Board was advised that the Council had a number of Visitor Centres/ Pavillions in public parks which act as information outlets, staff accommodation, venues for events, educational activities and community group meetings, a café and places for site-based security.

The report contained details of proposals identified at the following locations:

- Wigg Island
- Spike Island
- Pickerings Pature
- Runcorn Hill Park
- Phoenix Park
- Hough Green park and Rock Park; and
- Victoria Park

The Board noted that the parks themselves would remain wholly as Council facilities, managed by the Council through its Open Space Service. Buildings would also remain under the ownership of the Council. The visitor centres/ pavilions could be staffed by third party organisations, such as charitable sector organisations or established community groups, or could be let as franchise cafes. As part of any agreement, the centres would be open to the public at least during the summer months and at peak times including weekends. Groups could carry out their own activities which would be complimentary to the Council's park sites.

RESOLVED: That the Board approve

- 1) a five year agreement be drawn up with Cheshire Wildlife Trust that would allow them to operate from Wigg Island Community Park Visitor Centre. The Trust be allowed to carry out their educational and conservation work and related activities from the centre and also operate the centre as a visitor centre for park users.
- 2) a five year agreement be drawn up with the West Bank Community Group that would allow them to operate from the Spike Island Visitor Centre. The group be allowed to carry out their community work and related activities from the centre and they also operate the centre as a visitor centre for park users.
- 3) a five year agreement be drawn up with Groundwork Merseyside that would allow them to operate from the Pickerings Pasture Visitor Centre. The group be allowed to carry out their activities from the centre and they also operate the centre as a visitor centre for park users.
- 4) to identify alternative methods of operation at Phoenix Park and Runcorn Hill Park. Franchise agreements would be let through delegated powers of the Strategic Director, Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Physical Environment and the Portfolio Holder for Resources.

Strategic Director
- Communities

EXB36 APPROVAL OF PUBLICATION OF HOT FOOD TAKEAWAYS PLANNING DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the publication of the draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): Hot Food Takeaways, for the purposes of statutory public consultation.

The Board was advised that the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for Halton set out the spatial planning policy priorities for the Council. Included within the LDS programme of works, was the production of a Hot Food Takeaway SPD. The SPD explained the Council's overall

approach to hot food takeaway development and set out considerations related to:

- Proximity to Schools and Health Impact
- Over-concentration and clustering
- Highway Safety
- Protection of Residential Amenity
- Hours of Operation
- Odours and Cooking Smells
- Disposal of Waste Products
- Litter
- Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

It was noted that once the formal public consultation exercise had been conducted, responses to it would be recorded and taken into account when finalising the SPD.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): Hot Food Takeaway SPD be approved for the purposes of statutory public consultation;
- 2) further editorial and technical amendments that do not materially affect the content of the SPD be agreed by the Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation in consultation with the Executive Board Member for the Physical Environment, if necessary, before the document is published for public consultation; and
- 3) the results of the public consultation exercise and consequent recommended modifications to the draft SPD be reported back to the Executive Board for resolution to adopt as a Supplementary Planning Document.

Strategic Director
- Policy &
Resources

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 22nd SEPTEMBER 2011

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PORTFOLIO

EXB47 MERSEYSIDE AND HALTON JOINT WASTE DEVELOPMENT
PLAN DOCUMENT - PUBLICATION AND SUBMISSION STAGES-
KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Development Plan - Publication and Submission Stages document (Waste DPD).

The Board was reminded that the 6 week consultation period on the Preferred Options 2 (New Sites) Consultation ended on 20 June 2011. The scope of the consultation was limited to only four new sites proposed for allocation for waste management use. Detailed feedback was contained in Appendix 1 which highlighted key issues raised against each of the sites.

As a result of the consultation, all four sites would be included within the publication of the Waste DPD, alongside those moving forward from Preferred Options 1 stage. This would give a total of six sub-regional sites, 13 local sites proposed as allocations, and 2 inert landfill sites.

The Board was advised that the Publication Stage of the Waste DPD would be the final 6-week consultation stage whereby the consultees could submit comments based on “soundness matters”, which related to technical content or procedural matters. Publication Consultation was planned to start in November 2011, followed by submission of the Waste DPD to the Secretary of State for formal examination.

Reason(s) for Decision

Government policy (PPS10) required that waste must be dealt with in a sustainable way. The Council was producing a Joint Waste Development Plan Document (DPD) for the Merseyside sub-region. Drafting of the Plan had reached the stage where the policy framework contained in the Waste DPD needed to be subject to public scrutiny.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

The Waste DPD had been prepared through a multi-stage process. Four previous public consultation stages had been completed and these were detailed in section 5.7.

These reports document the evolution of the Plan and the options for policies and sites that had been considered and rejected. The results of the public consultation, engagement with stakeholders, industry and the Local Authorities and, detailed technical assessments had all been used to inform the preparation of this Report, forming a fifth and final public

consultation stage. The Preferred Options stage reports set out the alternative options considered.

Implementation Date

The Joint Merseyside Waste DPD was scheduled to be adopted by all six partner Districts in November 2012.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended to

- 1) note the results of consultation (Appendix 1) undertaken between May and June 2011 on the Waste DPD Preferred Options 2 (New Sites) Report;
- 2) approve the Joint Waste DPD Publication Document (Appendix 2) and a final six-week public consultation commencing at the end of 2011;
- 3) approve the Submission of the Waste DPD to the Secretary of State in early 2012 and that this approval be subject to the detailed comment in paragraph 3.19;
- 4) approve the spatial distribution of one sub-regional site per district (Table 2 and paragraph 4.11); and
- 5) give delegated authority to the Operational Director, Policy, Planning and Transportation, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, Physical Environment, to make any minor drafting amendments to the Waste DPD.

Strategic
Director - Policy
& Resources

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO

EXB48 RUNCORN HILL PARK, "PARKS FOR PEOPLE" PROJECT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities, on the successful achievement of a Round 1 Pass from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) "Parks for People" Programme, for the refurbishment and development of Runcorn Hill and Heath Park.

The Board was advised that the "Parks for People"

programme was a funding stream administered by the HLF, to improve parks and open spaces and support their historic and cultural heritage for the benefit of local communities. The application process consisted of two competitive assessment stages, with Round 1 awarded in February 2011. A Round 2 decision, if successful, would not be known until September 2012.

A Project Development Group had been set up, which included Ward Councillors, Council Officers and community group representatives. Others consulted on a regular basis included park users, local residents and Friends of Runcorn Hill and Runcorn Model Boat Club, Runcorn Bowling Club, Scout and Youth Group Leaders, the Police and Fire Service.

The Board noted that a key feature of the "Parks for People" Programme was a five year part time development post, to promote the site heritage, help community involvement in the Park and enable user group activities to improve self sustainability.

RESOLVED: That delegated authority be given to the Strategic Director, Communities, in consultation with the Executive Board Member for Physical Environment, to progress the project and to prepare and submit all necessary information for a Round 2 submission to Heritage Lottery Fund.

Strategic
Director
-
Communities

EXB52 AFFORDABLE HOMES AND LAND DISPOSALS

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources on the disposal of seven Council owned sites to Halton Housing Trust (HHT).

The Board was advised that HHT had been working with partners to secure funding from the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), to build new housing under the HCA's 2011-15 Affordable Housing Programme.

RESOLVED: That the disposal to HHT of the 7 sites shown edged red in the Appendices on the terms outlined in the report, subject to planning permission and HHT (via its Consortium partner) entering into a development framework agreement with the HCA be approved.

Strategic
Director - Policy
& Resources

EXB58 LAND DISPOSAL FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Children and Enterprise on Land Disposal for Housing Development.

The Board was reminded that, after extensive stakeholder and community consultation, in September 2003 the Council formally adopted the 'Castlefields Masterplan - An ambition for regeneration and a plan for action'. In doing so, the Council also authorised a series of supporting actions to help deliver the Masterplan, as outlined in the report.

The Board noted that to facilitate the delivery of the Masterplan the Council adopted the Castlefields and Norton Priory Action Area Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in June 2005, to formally guide the physical regeneration of the area. The Masterplan and SPD provided the basis for approval by the Local Planning Authority in August 2008 of outline planning permission for residential development of Lakeside and Canalside. In July 2009 the outline permission was extended for a further three years.

RESOLVED: That the disposal of c. 5.9 acres of land, subject to planning permission, and subject to a formal valuation report from the District Valuer, be approved.

Strategic Director
- Children and
Enterprise

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2ND SEPTEMBER 2011

ES39 3MG WESTERN APPROACH LINK ROAD

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought a waiver of Standing Orders to begin construction work on the 3MG western approach link road.

It was noted that in order to comply with planning permission granted by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council and Halton Borough Council commencement of the Western Approach Link road was required. In June 2011 the Council had entered into an agreement with Prologis UK Limited for the development of the HBC Field. As part of the agreement the developer was obliged "to complete the Infrastructure Works" which included the western approach link road. Therefore the tender process to let a small

contract to undertake advanced drainage works was managed by Prologis.

Members were advised that the tender process carried out by Prologis had resulted in Balfour Beattie Civil Engineering Limited being the preferred contractor for the western approach link road. The primary reason for the waiver was that compliance with Standing Orders would result in the Council having to forego a clear financial or commercial benefit.

RESOLVED: That the waiver of standing orders for this discrete area of work be agreed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13TH OCTOBER 2011

ES42 EXTENSION TO HOUSING AGENCY AGREEMENT WITH HALTON HOUSING TRUST

As part of the Housing Stock Transfer to Halton Housing Trust (HHT) in December 2005, an agreement was made whereby for a period of 5 years HHT would deliver certain housing services on the Council's behalf, the arrangement being capable of extension with the written agreement of both parties. The agreement expired on 4th December 2010 and it had been hoped that it would not prove necessary to renew it due to different contractual arrangements being developed for the introduction of a new Choice Based Lettings scheme. However these new arrangements were still some months off, due to delays in agreeing the final technical specification for the sub regional scheme. The new scheme was now estimated to be introduced in April 2012.

The Council had previously agreed that when the Choice Based Lettings scheme is introduced HHT would be the delivery partner (EXB98, 4th March 2010). Therefore it was proposed that the current contractual arrangements be extended for a period of 18 months.

RESOLVED: That the extension of the Housing Agency Agreement between the Council and Halton Housing Trust be agreed for 18 months for the reasons set out in the report.

Strategic Director
Communities

TRANSPORTATION PORTFOLIO

ES43 TRANSPORT CONTRACT TENDERS

The Sub Committee was advised on the outcome and results of public and passenger transport tenders which were recently publicised by The Chest e-tendering procurement system. Members were advised that there was likely to be a saving to transport related budgets, however at this stage this level of saving could only be projected as new and emergency contracts needed to be taken into consideration. Currently from the overall analysis of results breakdown this projected saving from recent transport tendering and re-scheduling could be in the region of £53,585.64 for the remainder of this financial year or £77,130.86 as a full year total.

Members were advised that feedback on the tendering process from potential tenderers was that the e-tendering system had been complicated. Therefore due to the low response rate to The Chest e-tendering exercise it was proposed to carry out further tendering in 12 months time.

RESOLVED: That the Sub Committee:

1. acknowledge those transport tenders that have been advertised for services on behalf of Children and Enterprises and Communities Directorates;
2. acknowledge those transport contracts which commenced from the beginning of September 2011;
3. acknowledge those tenders that have been advertised for supported local bus transport tenders; and
4. confirm that they support the overall process.

Strategic Director
Policy and
Resources

ES44 EXTENSION TO TERM CONTRACT FOR HIGHWAY SURFACE TREATMENTS TO 31ST MARCH 2017

The Sub Committee was advised that the existing Term Contract for Highway Surface Treatments was awarded to Road Maintenance Services Limited (RMS) on 1st April 2007. The Contract was for the completion of preventative highway maintenance measures including surface dressing, slurry surfacing and micro asphalt

treatment to the carriageway and footway network. These activities were specialist and therefore outside the scope of the Highway Maintenance Term Contract.

The contract was initially for a 5 year period with an option to extend the duration by up to 5 years by agreement of the parties. RMS had met all of the quality thresholds set out in the existing contract and their overall performance, in terms of quality, customer service and Health and Safety had been deemed to be excellent.

In addition it was noted that negotiations with RMS had taken place regarding a potential contract extension and this had led to RMS offering a 5% reduction in the original contract base rates for the duration of the 5 year extension.

RESOLVED: That the proposed 5 year extension to the current Term Contract for Highway Surface Treatments, making its expiry date 31st March 2017, be approved.

Strategic Director
Policy and
Resources

ES45 WINTER MAINTENANCE - WEATHER FORECASTING AND DATA COLLECTION

The Sub Committee was advised that the current contract for weather forecasting and data collection, utilising joint collaborative arrangements with Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester and Warrington Councils expired on 31st March 2011. Subsequently Cheshire East and Cheshire West & Chester Councils had successfully let and awarded a contract for data collection which was won by Vaisala Ltd. In addition they had also successfully let and awarded a contract for weather forecasting, which had been won by the Met Office.

The report proposed that the Council continues to utilise the joint collaborative arrangements for weather forecasting and data collection with the Cheshire Council's and Warrington BC until 31st March 2014. It was anticipated that the amount for 2011/12 would be approximately £15,000 based on the percentages used to calculate last year's figures for the cost of the two contracts. This was a saving on last year of £10,000.

RESOLVED: That the Sub Committee

1. agree a 3 year (plus the option of a 1 year extension) contract, utilising joint collaborative arrangements, for weather forecasting until

Strategic Director
Policy and
Resources

31st March 2014; and

2. agree to subscribe to a 3 year (plus the option of a 1 year extension) contract, utilising joint collaborative arrangements, for data collection until 31st March 2014.