

Minutes of a meeting of the **CABINET** held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, on Tuesday, 9 May 2017 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

G A Porter (Leader)

M G Chandler (Deputy
Leader)
A Casson
P E Coupland

R Gambba-Jones
C J Lawton
S-A Slade

G J Taylor

Cabinet Support Member: C N Johnson

The Chief Executive, the Executive Director – Strategy and Governance, the Executive Director – Place, the Executive Manager – People and Public Protection, the Executive Manager – Strategy and Governance, the Place Manager and Lead Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from or on behalf of Councillors C N Worth, E J Sneath and A M Newton, together with Lincolnshire Community & Voluntary Service and Welland Seniors Forum.

In Attendance: Councillor B Alcock (Chairman, Performance Monitoring Panel) and Councillor G R Aley (Chairman, Governance and Audit Committee)

Community Representatives: Citizens Advice Bureau

50. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Leader as a correct record.

51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest.

52. QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC UNDER THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION (STANDING ORDERS).

No questions were raised under the Council's Constitution (Standing Orders).

53. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO CALL-IN.

There were no matters subject to call-in.

Action By

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- 54. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING PANELS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE OR THE BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK PROCEDURE RULES.**

There were no matters arising from the Policy Development Panel and Performance Monitoring Panel in accordance with the Overview and scrutiny Procedure or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

- 55. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE LEADER DECIDES ARE URGENT.**

There were no urgent items.

- 56. TO CONSIDER RESOLVING THAT, UNDER SECTION 100A (4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY INVOLVE THE LIKELY DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 3, 4 AND 5 OF PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE ACT.**

DECISION:

That, under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1,3,4 and 5 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

- 57. PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SHARED CENTRAL CONTRACTS TEAM**

Consideration was given to the report of the Deputy Leader of the Cabinet and Executive Manager – People and Public Protection seeking member approval to establish a shared Centralised Contract Team.

Councillors discussed the projected savings as set out in the report and acknowledged that they were based upon current figures as it was impossible to accurately predict what contracts would be required in the future. It was suggested that the report to Council included additional financial information that had been considered in the drafting of the report.

Councillors were supportive of the idea and stressed the importance of monitoring the performance of the Centralised

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Contract Team to ensure that the predicted savings were being realised. The monitoring would be ongoing and would involve the Performance Monitoring Panel.

RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL:

- 1) That the proposal to establish a Shared Central Contracts Team be approved;
- 2) That the creation of 3.0 FTE posts and a Modern Apprenticeship, that will be delivered within the existing budget envelope and from savings generated from contract efficiencies, be approved; and
- 3) That the proposed split of funding between the two councils is 60 percent Breckland, 40 percent South Holland, which reflects the levels of support needed by both councils at the present time. This will be reviewed annually to reflect work levels.

(Other options considered:

Option 1 – Do nothing. If this option was taken, there would continue to be inconsistency in the procurement and management of contracts - those that were dealt with by the Procurement Team and those that were dealt with by the services themselves. The opportunity to realise contract efficiencies, become more consistent, have clearly defined roles and appropriate skills and knowledge to put robust contracts in place and improve transparency, would be lost.

Option 2 – Establish a Central Contracts Team. This option enabled clearly defined roles to be established for the procurement of goods and services and the management of contracts thereafter. It was imperative that a consistent approach was used in procurement, with sufficient knowledge and skills of the regulations and process. Services would be able to play their part by managing the day to day contract delivery and ensuring service quality.

Reasons for Decision:

This report proposed the establishment of a Central Contracts Team in order to improve the operation and transparency of the procurement and contract management function, bringing them into a central function.)

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58. FORMER BULL AND MONKIE PUBLIC HOUSE

Consideration was given to a report by the Portfolio Holder for Place, updating members on the Council's continued efforts to secure environmental improvements to the street scene and the heart of Spalding's Conservation Area in relation to the former Bull and Monkie public house.

DECISION:

To approve the instigation of legal action to enable the Council to recover its costs along with other action as set out in the report's recommendation.

Reason for Decision:

As set out in the report.

(The meeting ended at 10.20 am)

(End of minutes)

These minutes are published on 11 May 2017. In accordance with the Council's Constitution the DECISIONS detailed above will, unless otherwise stated, come into force and may then be implemented on 19 May 2017 (i.e. after the expiry of working days from the date of publication of these minutes), unless during that period a notice which is signed by at least one member of the Council and complies with the requirements of the Council's Constitution is served on the Executive Manager Governance requesting that the decision be called-in and the Executive Manager Governance approves the request for call-in. Where a decision is called-in it will firstly be considered by the Performance Monitoring Panel on a date to be fixed.

Any FINAL DECISIONS and any URGENT DECISIONS take effect immediately.

Any RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL detailed above will be submitted for consideration to the meeting of the full Council on 24 May 2017.