

CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE
30th June, 2014

Present:- Councillor Wyatt (in the Chair).

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Buckley and Tweed.

K1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

K2. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE GROUP

Consideration was given to a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Group held on 15th April, 2014.

Resolved:- That the minutes be received and the contents noted.

K3. ICT ISSUES - VERBAL UPDATE

Richard Copley, Corporate ICT Manager, reported on several issues, including:-

- The significant progress made on migration from the DRL Network, which was due to be switched off on the 14th August, 2014.
- The next meeting of the Corporate ICT, Information Governance and Web Strategy Board would take place on 4th September, 2014, which would be attended by the Cabinet Member for Finance.
- Exploration work was taking place on the Rotherham Customer Index. This highlighted the need for an Information Asset Register and the need to undertake a gap analysis and in ensure appropriate structures were in place.

Resolved:- That the information be noted.

K4. CABINET REPORTS AND MEMBERS' ISSUES

Colin Earl, Director of Audit and Asset Manager, reported on:-

- The report being presented to Cabinet on the 9th July, 2014 on BDUK was seeking South Yorkshire support.
- The Corporate Risk Register would next be presented to Cabinet in September, 2014 following a refresh to reflect the new objectives.
- The Council's claims record was also amongst the best Metropolitan Authorities, as was the number it was able to successfully defend.

Insurance premiums had been reduced by 8% as a result. Current emerging issues were discussed.

- A significant piece of audit work had been undertaken on the virement of some DSG funding to Learners First. This highlighted the inadequacy of the governance arrangements and would be referred to in the Council's Annual Governance Statement.

Stuart Booth, Director of Finance, reported on:-

- The update position regarding the delivery of the Council's banking arrangements.
- Reports would be presented to Cabinet on the 9th July, 2014 on the General Fund:- Budget Principles: 2015/16 and onwards; 2015/16: Proposed Budget Setting Timetable; and 2014/15: Reporting in year Financial Budget Performance and on settlement arrangements for South Yorkshire Trading Standards.
- The first budget monitoring report for 2014/15 was also due to be presented to the re-arranged Cabinet date for the 6th August, 2014.

Resolved:- That the information be noted.

K5. SIGOMA ISSUES

The Chairman reported on the forthcoming SIGOMA Annual General Meeting which would take place as part of the LGA Conference on the 10th July, 2014.

It was also noted that Rotherham would continue to be part of the South Yorkshire Executive Authorities and would share the good work being undertaken.

Resolved:- That the information be noted.

(THE CHAIRMAN AUTHORISED CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING TWO URGENT ITEMS IN ORDER TO PROCESS THE MATTERS REFERRED TO QUICKLY)

K6. LGA/RSN ANNUAL RURAL CONFERENCE 2014: SUSTAINABILITY OUT OF AUSTERITY

Consideration was given to the nomination of a Member to attend the LGA/RSN Annual Rural Conference 2014: Sustainability out of Austerity on Tuesday, 9th September, 2014 in Chester.

Resolved:- That Councillor Tweed be authorised to attend.

K7. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006) (information relating to the financial or business affairs).

K8. RENEWAL OF MICROSOFT ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

Consideration was given to a report presented by Colin Earl, Director of Audit and Asset Management, which detailed how the Council used a wide range of Microsoft software – most of this is licenced under a single contract known as the 'Enterprise Agreement'.

The Council's existing Microsoft Enterprise Agreement was due for renewal. The enterprise agreement covered the Council for desktop licenses including the operating system (Windows 7/8) and MS Office 2010. It was essential to have valid licensing to support the latest systems and applications, maintain security compliance for PSN and continue to have valid, legal, licences for all the software used.

It was also necessary to change the current licence to match our more flexible workforce and the deployment of multiple devices to staff.

Microsoft required authorities to procure its licences through a Large Account Reseller and the contract for this was now separated from the licence contract. As a result it was subject to competitive tender requirements. However, in view of the lack of time to complete a procurement exercise and the good value received from the Council's current Large Account Reseller, it was proposed to renew the contract with the current supplier and commence a procurement exercise prior to the next renewal.

Resolved:- (1) That the renewal of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement be approved.

(2) That the contract for the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement be approved to be exempted from the provisions of Standing Order 48.1 (requirement to invite three to six tenders for contracts with a value of over £50k) and the contract be awarded to Microsoft via Softcat.

K9. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Advisers take place on Monday, 21st July, 2014 at 11.30 a.m.