

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE CABINET

WEDNESDAY, 5TH JUNE 2013 AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors R. Hollingworth (Leader), Dr. D. W. P. Booth JP,
M. A. Bullivant, C. B. Taylor and M. J. A. Webb

Officers: Ms S. Hanley, Ms J. Pickering, Mr G. Revans, Mrs S. Sellers,
Ms R. Dunne, Ms. T. Beech and Ms R. Cole

1/13 **APOLOGIES**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs M. A. Sherrey.

2/13 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

3/13 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 3rd April 2013 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 3rd April 2013 be approved as a correct record.

4/13 **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

The minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 26th March and 22nd April 2013 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 26th March 2013 and 22nd April 2013 be noted.

5/13 **SHARED SERVICES BOARD**

The minutes of the meeting of the Shared Services Board held on 15th April 2013 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Shared Services Board held on 15th April 2013 be noted.

6/13 **CORPORATE DASHBOARD PILOT**

The Leader welcomed Becky Dunne and Tracy Beech from the Council's Policy Team to the meeting of the Cabinet.

Officers reminded Cabinet of the background to the proposed introduction of the Corporate Dashboard of measures which was still in the process of being developed but which would replace the previous quarterly reports on performance targets. The starting point was the Council's Strategic Purposes and behind these there were large numbers of measures which would help in the understanding of how the purposes could be achieved.

The Dashboard would enable Members and officers to view data which was far more current than previously and in some instances would be in "real time". This would enable trends to be picked up at an early stage and issues to be addressed where necessary. The intention was that the Cabinet or Overview and Scrutiny Board would be able to identify issues and call on relevant officers for clarification and discussion of options where appropriate.

It was noted that some of the measures included were not in the direct ownership of the District Council but were related to services provided by partners such as the Police, Worcestershire County Council and Bromsgrove District Housing Trust. Officers were working with these organisations to ensure that relevant and timely data was available. It was stressed that measures may well change fairly frequently if it became clear that they were not contributing to the real information required.

Members accepted that a vital role of a District Council in future was to act as a "hub" and work to bring together partners to better meet the needs of communities.

It was noted that training would be required for officers and Members to ensure that the data was analysed and utilised effectively to "drill down" and identify underlying issues. It was reported that work was also on going with the Joined up Working Group to learn from that project. It was anticipated that the Corporate Dashboard would be in use from Autumn 2013.

Members expressed support for the new approach and thanked officers for the work undertaken to date.

7/13 **THE GREEN DEAL**

The Cabinet considered a report on the preferred option for moving forward with the Authority's participation in the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation as the main delivery mechanism for fulfilling the aims of the Home Energy Conservation Act.

Members were reminded that since late 2012 the Council had been exploring how to best interact with the Government's Green Deal Programme which had been formally launched in January 2013. It was noted that the likely benefits from economic development and the reduction of fuel poverty within the

District represented strong incentives to ensure that the Green Deal and the associated Energy Company Obligations were taken up as widely as possible and that any barriers to the take up across all tenures and communities were removed.

It was reported that across Worcestershire two options had been investigated. The first was a Community Interest Company which had been discounted as a suitable delivery partner could not be identified. The second and preferred option was the Birmingham Energy Savers/Carillion option.

Members considered the details of the Carillion option which would not involve any further cost to the Authority. A revenue budget had previously been agreed in respect of the set up costs for the Green Deal and the costs of drawing up specifications for the contract would be contained within that budget.

Key Performance Indicators would be established and included within the Contract for example creation of Apprenticeships. If these targets were not met by the Company there would be financial penalties. The inward investment value of the contract was estimated at £18,000,000 for Bromsgrove District over the eight year period.

Members felt that a contract with Carillion on a County wide basis would be preferable but if this was not achievable then a Bromsgrove and Redditch contract with the Company would be an appropriate alternative course of action.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the proposal that this Council works with Carillion in partnership with Redditch Borough Council via the Birmingham Energy Savers procurement route be approved and that this arrangement be formalised by entering into a contract with Carillion;
- (b) that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, to negotiate the contract referred to in (a) above and to finalise the contract documents and any other associated legal documents;
- (c) that it be noted that discussions are on-going with Carillion and the other Authorities in Worcestershire and that in pursuing the negotiations for the contact officers will in the first instance be aiming to secure an agreement with Carillion which is County wide. In the event this does not prove to be possible, officers be authorised to enter into a contract with Carillion on the basis of a Bromsgrove and Redditch contract (subject to the consideration of this by Redditch Borough Council).

8/13 **FINANCIAL RESERVES STATEMENT 2013**

The Cabinet considered a report on the earmarked reserves and capital carry forward requests for the year ending 2012/13. The report also referred to the creation of new reserves which were required to support the future plans of

the Authority and which had been proposed following discussions with Heads of Service.

The Executive Director (Finance and Resources) drew attention to the inclusion in Appendix 1 of a proposed reserve of £150,000 in relation to "Potential Appeals" and reported that on reflection officers now felt this was not sufficiently specific to be an earmarked reserve and requested that this be deleted from the list so that the sum remained in working balances.

It was noted that a number of capital schemes which were due to be completed in 2012/13 were requested to be carried forward to enable the works to be completed in 2013/14. In addition three additional capital schemes were included for consideration.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the establishment of the new reserves of £1,994 as detailed at Appendix 1 be approved subject to the deletion of the "Potential Appeals" item;
- (b) that the movements of £220,000 reserves as included in Appendix 1 which reflects the approval required for January-March 2013 be approved;
- (c) that the addition of new reserves of £158,000 as included in Appendix 1 which reflects the approval required for January-March 2013 be approved subject to the deletion of the "Potential Appeals" item
- (d) that the carrying forward of capital budgets of £1,607,000 as set out in Appendix 2 to be utilised in 2013/14 be approved ; and
- (e) that the additional capital expenditure of £87,000 as set out in Appendix 2 be approved.

9/13 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

That under Section 100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the item of business the subject of the following minute on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of "Exempt Information" as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act the relevant paragraph of that part being as set out below and that it is in the public interest to do so

<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Paragraphs</u>
11/13	1 and 4

10/13 **RESTRUCTURE ENABLING HEADS OF SERVICE**

The Cabinet considered a report on the proposed restructure of a number of Heads of Service roles and responsibilities within the Finance and Resources Directorate.

Following discussion it was

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RECOMMENDED that the business case in respect of the restructure of the Finance and Resources Directorate be approved.

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

Chairman