

CABINET

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL

6TH JANUARY 2010

1. WORCESTERSHIRE ENHANCED TWO TIER (WETT) PROGRAMME
– BUSINESS CASE FOR REGULATORY, AUDIT AND PROPERTY
SERVICES

The Cabinet has considered a report on the WETT programme and in particular the detailed business cases for Property Services, Regulatory Services and Internal Audit.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED IN PRINCIPLE:

- (a) that the two tier and joint working proposals for Property Services, Regulatory Services and Internal Audit contained within the WETT detailed business cases attached to the report be approved, on the basis that the associated risk implications and governance arrangements are to be finalised;
- (b) that subject to the agreement of the Worcestershire Councils i.e. Worcestershire County Council, Worcester City, Bromsgrove District, Redditch Borough, Malvern Hills District, Wychavon District and Wyre Forest District, a unified Regulatory Service for the Worcestershire Councils, jointly hosted by Bromsgrove and Redditch Councils (with Bromsgrove as the employing authority) be established from 1st June 2010 under the auspices of a Joint Committee; on the basis set out in the Regulatory Service Detailed Business Case V10, Part 1 and Part 2 (Rev.1) and supported by the Regulatory Services Detailed Business Case Executive Summary V3.2 attached as an appendix to the report;
- (c) that this Council's functions in relation to Environmental Health and Licensing Services (other than those licensing functions which cannot be delegated) be delegated to a Joint Committee in accordance with Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 20 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Arrangement for the Discharge of Functions) (England) (Regulations) 2000;
- (d) that subject to such an agreement being concluded, relevant staff from all Councils agreeing to the Regulatory Services Business Case be transferred to this Council under TUPE arrangements;
- (e) that the financial arrangements for the new Regulatory Service as set out in the Detailed Business Case V10 be approved as the basis for Regulatory budgets;
- (f) that subject to the agreement of the participating Worcestershire Councils i.e. Worcestershire County, Worcester City, Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough, a Shared Property Service (hosted by Worcestershire County Council) be established on the basis set out in the Property Services Detailed Business Case V6 and the supporting Detailed

Business Case Executive Summary V1 attached as an appendix to the report;

- (g) that the transfer of staff to Worcestershire County Council as service provider be approved on the terms proposed from the commencement date;
- (h) that this Council enters into a Service Level Agreement on the basis set out in the Property Services Detailed Business Case V6 and supporting Property Services Detailed Business Case V1, as amended to reflect any final agreement made between the Partner authorities;
- (i) that the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services be authorised to finalise the terms of the collaboration agreement and the Service Level Agreement and to execute the agreements on behalf of the Council;
- (j) that subject to the agreement of the participating Worcestershire Councils i.e. Worcester City, Bromsgrove District, Redditch Borough, Wychavon District and Malvern Hills District, agreement be given to the creation of a Shared Service Internal Audit Service on the basis set out in the Internal Audit Detailed Business Case V10 and the supporting Detailed Business Case Executive Summary V2 as attached as an appendix to the report;
- (k) that the proposal that Worcester City Council acts as service provider be supported;
- (l) that the transfer of staff to Worcester City Council as service provider be approved on the terms proposed from the commencement date;
- (m) that this Council enters into a Service Level Agreement on the basis set out in the Internal Audit Detailed Business Case V10 and supporting Internal Audit Detailed Business Case V2 attached as an appendix to the report as amended to reflect any final agreement made between the Partner authorities;
- (n) that the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services be authorised to finalise the terms of the Service Level Agreement and to execute the agreement on behalf of the authority;
- (o) that the proposed timeline attached as an appendix to the report, containing the order and dates for each consultation and decision point relating to the detailed business case development for Property Services, Regulatory Services and Internal Audit be approved;
- (p) that the establishment of a Joint Appointments Committee with appropriate terms of reference in relation to the appointment of the proposed Head of Regulatory Services be approved on the basis the Committee comprises one member of each participating Council ;
- (q) that the consequential amendments to the Council's Constitution to reflect the Shared Services arrangements be approved.

2. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2010/2011 TO 2012/2013

The Cabinet has given consideration to the Medium Term Financial Plan 2010/2011 to 2012/2013 relating to revenue and capital expenditure.

The Portfolio Holder for Resources referred to the current position relating to the Medium Term Financial Plan and to the proposal to produce an Older Persons Directory of Services at a one off cost of £8,000 as included in Appendix A. It was proposed and agreed that this should be designated as a high pressure rather than a medium pressure and should be funded from balances. Reference was also made to additional capital expenditure required as a result of the agreement in principle of the WETT programme proposals as referred to in Minute No. 136/09 above.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the budget pressures identified as high in Appendix A of the report (now including the Older Persons Directory) be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2010/11	£100,000
2011/12	£69,000
2012/13	£69,000

- (b) that the budget pressures identified as unavoidable in Appendix B of the report be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2010/11	£725,000
2011/12	£699,000
2012/13	£677,000

- (c) that the savings identified in Appendix C of the report be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2010/11	£1,088,000
2011/12	£1,348,000
2012/13	£1,787,000

- (d) that the capital bids identified as high in Appendix D (i) of the report (now including the WETT programme proposals) be included within the Medium Term Financial Plan as follows:

2010/11	£365,000
2011/12	£140,000
2012/13	£110,000

- (e) that the use of reserves totalling £593,000 as set out in Appendix E of the report be approved;

- (f) that the virements as set out in Appendix F of the report be approved; and

- (g) that the efficiency savings to be delivered during the period of the Medium Term Financial Plan as set out in Appendix D of the report be noted.

**3. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT (CAA) –
ORGANISATIONAL ASSESSMENT**

The Cabinet has given consideration to a report on the Audit Commission's Organisational Assessment of the Council.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED:

That the Audit Commission's report be noted, in particular the areas identified for improvement which will be included within the 2010/2013 Council Plan and the 2010/2011 Improvement Plan.

4. INVESTIGATION COSTS

The Cabinet has considered a report requesting approval for the transfer of funds of £45,000 from balances to cover the costs relating to the investigation and hearings into complaints made to the Standards Committee following the Council meeting on 29th July 2009.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED:

That £45,000 be transferred from balances to meet the costs relating to the investigation and hearings into the complaints made to the Standards Committee following the Council meeting on 29th July 2009.

**5. PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
2010/2011**

The Cabinet has considered a report containing the proposed programme of Council and Committee meetings for 2010/2011.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that the Committee Programme for 2010/2011 as set out at Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
- (b) that authority be delegated to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader and relevant Portfolio Holder, to agree the programme of Council and Committee meetings for future years; and
- (c) that the responsibility for considering and formally approving by resolution the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with Regulation 10 (3) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 be transferred from the Audit Board to the full Council; and that, as a consequence, the proposed June meeting of the Council be changed to 30th June 2010

6. **DOLPHIN CENTRE – TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT TO A LEISURE TRUST**

The Cabinet has considered a report outlining the case for re-opening discussions with Wychavon Leisure and Community Association Limited (WLCAL) regarding the transfer of the management of the Dolphin Centre to the Trust.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED:

That negotiations be completed to enable the transfer of the management of the Dolphin Centre to WLCAL to take place, based on the production of a business case that meets the savings proposed in the Medium Term Financial Plan and on a range of targets that will further improve the efficiency of the Dolphin Centre.