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CABINET
22/01/2018 at 6.00 pm



Present: Councillor Stretton (Chair)
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, F Hussain, Jabbar and Moores

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chadderton and Harrison.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 18TH DECEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 18th December 2017 be approved.

6 **KINGFISHER SCHOOL EXPANSION OF PAN AND HYDRO POOL REPLACEMENT**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Education and Early Years which sought approval of a proposed classroom expansion and new hydro pool provision at Kingfisher Academy. It was reported that Kingfisher academy had provided outstanding provision for children with special educational needs for many years and there continued to be an increase in demand for places in the special school sector.

Kingfisher was now over the planned commissioned numbers of 160 with 177 pupils on roll, all with complex and severe needs. The pool at the school was over 40 years old and had significant limitations and was often out of action due to maintenance issues.

The Council had already committed £750,000 to a new hydro pool and this had been match funded by a local donor. The school had also managed to raise £100,000 towards the project. This left a shortfall of £250,000. A further contribution of £750,000 would enable both the provision of a new pool and the provision of two extra classrooms.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do nothing – This will mean that valuable access to additional provision and new enhanced hydrotherapy would be lost.

Option 2 - Approve the funding of £750,000 from the Basic Need Grant to enable the expansion of Kingfisher and the provision of a new Hydro pool.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The proposed classroom expansion and the new hydro pool provision be agreed.
2. The £500,000 cost of the additional classrooms and £250,000 cost of the hydro pool via the Basic Need Grant be approved.
3. In accordance with the agreed schools expansion programme, authority be delegated to the Director of Education and Early Years in conjunction with the Director of Legal Services, to procure and arrange the necessary works and subsequent contracts and documentation required for the additional classrooms and replacement Hydro Pool project.

7

HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods which sought approval for all tender award decisions, including those of value over £400,000, in the Highways Improvement Programme to be delegated to the Cabinet for Environmental Services and the Executive Director Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods. The Highways Improvement Programme was agreed at Cabinet in November 2017 with a value of £6.428m. The report and approved list of schemes was appended to this report. In order to meet delivery timescales on the programme, approval was sought for all tender award decisions including those with a value of £400,000, be delegated to the relevant Cabinet Member and Executive Director.

Options/ Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Members agree that all tender award decisions, including those with a value of over £400,000, in the Highways Improvement Programme be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and the Executive Director for Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods. This would shorten delivery timescales and allow the improvement programme to be delivered within agreed timescales.

Option 2 – Members do not agree to the delegation and all tender awards are submitted to Cabinet, possibly causing delay.

RESOLVED – That:

1. An exemption to the Council's Contract Procedure rule 14 be agreed to enable to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services and the Executive Director for Economy, Skills and Neighbourhoods to award tender decisions with a value of £400,000 and above in relation to the Highways improvement Programme 2017/18, 2018/19.
2. Authority be given to the Director of Legal Services to execute all contracts and any incidental and ancillary documentation in relation to the Highways Improvement Programme/schemes.

8

EARLY HELP POSITIVE STEPS CONTRACT EXTENSION

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to extend the

contract with Positive Steps for Early Help, for one year at a cost of £1.9m ending on 31st March 2019.

The Early Help service was established nearly three years ago and was a service which grew out of the Council's involvement with national Troubled Families programme.

The service was formed from a range of 20 existing services and was tasked with engaging residents in resolving their own issues, supporting them to understand the root cause of their issues, supporting them to resolve those issues and helping residents to learn strategies which would help prevent the reoccurrence of issues.

During 2016/17 Early Help worked with 4932 households, across a wide range of ages and achieved positive outcomes across a range of issues as detailed within the report.

In order to maintain service continuity and to undertake a piece of work to look at the long term future of Early Help, Cabinet were asked to extend the contract for a year.

Options/Alternatives

Option 1 – Extend the Positive Steps contract for a further 12 months at the existing price of £1.9m.

Option 2 – Re tender the external contract.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 11 of the agenda.

9

CONTRACT EXTENSION REQUEST: PROVISION OF STAIRLIFTS, CEILING TRACK HOISTS AND VERTICAL AND STEP LIFTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval to extend a contract for the provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts to domestic properties for residents with disabilities.

The original contract was awarded following a tender process in 2014 led by Oldham Council to provide provision for Oldham and Tameside Boroughs. The contract commenced on 2nd February 2015 and was due to expire on 1st February 2018.

The contract provided an option for a final year extension and approval was sought from Cabinet to utilise the option to extend the contract.

It was reported that if the contract extension was approved, the intention would be to review the specification and to jointly procure with Tameside again during the final year of the contract, possibly with additional Greater Manchester authorities' involvement.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Allow the contract to expire at the current end date.

This was not the preferred option as the Council had a statutory duty to approve eligible application and the provision must therefore be available.

Option 2 – Re-tender the service. This was not the preferred option as the current provision had achieved efficiency savings and delivered social value benefits, met the required quality

standards and key performance indicators and for the final year would be more efficient in some areas of work.

Option 3 - That the contract for the provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts be extended for a further year until 1st February 2019. That rates be uplifted by 3.2% during the extension period. This was the preferred option as:

- this would enable service continuity whilst both authorities collaborate to procure a new contract to be in place at the end of the 12 month extension;
- the three suppliers had indicated that they would be willing to continue for a further 12 months with the application of a 3.2% uplift during the extension period.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information detailed at Item 12 of the agenda.

10 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

11 **EARLY HELP POSITIVE STEPS CONTRACT EXTENSION**

The Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 8 of the agenda – Early Help Positive Steps Contract Extension.

RESOLVED – That the extension to the Positive steps contract for Early Help for one year to 31st March 2019 be approved at a cost of £1.9m.

12 **CONTRACT EXTENSION REQUEST: PROVISION OF STAIRLIFTS, CEILING TRACK HOISTS AND VERTICAL AND STEP LIFTS**

Cabinet gave consideration to the commercially sensitive information in relation to Item 9 – Contract Extension Request: provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts.

RESOLVED – That the contract for the provision of stairlifts, ceiling track hoists and vertical and step lifts be extended for a further year until 1st February 2019 including a rate uplift of 3.2% during the extension period.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and finished at 6.06pm