

**DECISIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE**

13 September 2010

Present:

- *Councillor Hugh Rayner (Chairman)
- *Councillor Joan Scannell (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

- | | |
|--|--|
| * Dean Cohen | * Jack Cohen |
| * Julie Johnson
(substituting for Alison Moore) | * John Marshall
(substituting for Rowan Turner) |
| * Kath McGuirk | * Barry Rawlings |
| * Daniel Seal | * Mark Shooter |

*denotes Member present

Also in attendance:

- *Councillor Brian Coleman
Cabinet Member for Environment
- *Councillor Daniel Thomas
Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance
- *Councillor Robert Rams
Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Agenda Item 1):

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2010 be approved.**

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS (Agenda Item 2):

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Alison Moore, who was substituted for by Councillor Julie Johnson and Councillor Rowan Turner, who was substituted for by Councillor John Marshall.

An apology for late arrival had been received from Councillor Brian Coleman.

The Chairman called a short adjournment at 7.05pm. The meeting reconvened at 7.09pm.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS (Agenda Item 3):

Member:	Subject:	Interest Declared:
Councillor Joan Scannell	Agenda Item 8 Service Options for Re-modelling Older People's Housing with Support	Personal and prejudicial interest her mother is resident in a Council-managed sheltered housing scheme

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Agenda Item 4):

A resident, Mr John Dix, put a question to the Chairman relating to agenda item 6, Call-in (Implementation of Partnering Contract), as follows:

“The Council has awarded a contract for an Implementation Partner (Delegated Powers Report 1134). This contract appears to be critical for the implementation of Future Shape and is budgeted to cost in excess of £500,000. The scoring sheet suggests that the winning bid scored full marks on cost but only 57.75% on quality (34.65/60). Were the quality criteria in the scoring schedule set too high and was an absolute quality score threshold set? Are committee members satisfied that this contractor should win this bid with such a low quality score? On some contracts, quality makes up 60% of the evaluation criteria whilst on others it makes up 70%; what accounts for the differences? Finally this is the second contract in a few weeks to be awarded to Agilysis (Delegated Powers Report 1094). Is there a strategic relationship with this supplier?”

The Chairman responded to the question as follows:

“The quality scores achieved were based on scoring by an evaluation panel, of bid responses and evidence provided in bid submissions. The bids received were from suppliers on an established framework of providers for these services, all of whom were proven in this field. They scored within a range that demonstrates they could meet the expectations of such a partnership, the winning bid score being at the higher end of this range.

Contract monitoring and management will be overseen by Barnet's Programme Office and quality assurance of delivery will be a focus as part of performance monitoring and budget management by this team.

The overall weighting given to qualitative evaluation will depend on the subject matter of the contract concerned.

This contract was let from an Office of Government Commerce (OGC) buying solutions framework. There was a recognition, as referred to above, that all the contractors had demonstrated an acceptable level of competence through being selected to be on the framework.

The differentiation that needed to be scrutinised was largely on price. In designing the evaluation criteria for this mini-competition 40% price, 60% quality was used. It should be noted that this may differ from procurement to procurement and that procurements in different sectors require different treatment.

With regard to the two appointments to Agilysis these were recommended following competitive quotation exercises the first for Public Health Service Options Appraisal and the second for Implementation Partner. These two exercises had separate evaluation panels and were scored independently of each other. The outcome of the competition is therefore coincidental and not predicted at outset. This implementation partnership is a key strategic relationship going forward. However up to this point Agilisy has not been treated any differently to other bidders and any such differential treatment would have been inappropriate.”

5. MEMBERS’ ITEMS (Agenda Item 5):

There were no Members’ items.

6. MATTERS REFERRED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE RELATING TO KEY DECISIONS (Agenda Item 6):

(A) Cabinet on 6 September 2010:

The Sub-Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet held on 6 September 2010 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships in respect of the following:

Decision Item No:	Subject:
9	Report of the Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships Strategic Library Review

The Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships undertook to provide the Sub-Committee with:

- (i) information on the total cost of providing the Library Service, particularly building costs and salaries; and
- (ii) statistics on the coverage of the Library Service across the borough, particularly the percentage of residents within one mile of a library.

The Sub-Committee decided not to refer the above matter back to Cabinet for reconsideration.

(B) Cabinet Resources Committee on 19 July 2010:

The Sub-Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet Resources Committee held on 19 July 2010 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance in respect of the following:

Decision Item No:	Subject:
--------------------------	-----------------

11	Report of the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance Monitoring 2010/11
-----------	--

The Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance undertook to include additional information in future Monitoring reports being presented to the Cabinet Resources Committee on agency/consultant spending.

The Sub-Committee decided not to refer the above matter back to the Cabinet Resources Committee for reconsideration.

(C) Cabinet Resources Committee on 19 July 2010:

The Sub-Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet Resources Committee held on 19 July 2010 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance in respect of the following:

Decision Item No:	Subject:
13	Report of the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance Conversion of Schools to Academy Status, Transfer of Land

The Sub-Committee commented that the Cabinet Member's report was misleading and failed to make clear that it was the government's intention that, in most cases, land would be made available to Academies by way of a 125-year lease from the local authority. Concern was expressed that any land directly transferred to the academy from the local authority could later be sold on.

The Sub-Committee decided not to refer the above matter back to the Cabinet Resources Committee for reconsideration.

(D) Delegated Powers Report, 27 July 2010:

The Sub-Committee considered the following decision taken under delegated powers on 27 July 2010 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance in respect of the following:

Delegated Powers Report No:	Subject:
1134	Report of the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance Award of Implementation Partner Contract

RESOLVED that –

- (1) Delegated Powers Report 1134 (Award of Implementation Partner Contract) be referred back to the Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance for reconsideration with particular reference to the precise role of the contractor and overall cost of the contract.**

(E) Cabinet Resources Committee on 19 July 2010:

The Sub-Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet Resources Committee held on 19 July 2010 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Environment in respect of the following:

Decision Item No:	Subject:
14	Report of the Cabinet Member for Environment Refocusing Resources and Activity on the Maintenance and Development of the Borough's Highway Network

The Cabinet Member for Environment undertook to provide the Sub-Committee with details of the 13 schemes that had been deferred to facilitate implementation of the Pothole Elimination Programme.

The Sub-Committee decided not to refer the above matter back to the Cabinet Resources Committee for reconsideration.

7. COUNCILLOR CALLS FOR ACTION (Agenda Item 7):

There were no Councillor Calls for Action.

8. SERVICE OPTIONS FOR RE-MODELLING OLDER PEOPLES HOUSING WITH SUPPORT TASK AND FINISH GROUP – FINAL REPORT (Agenda Item 8):

The Sub-Committee considered the final report of the Service Options for Re-modelling Older Peoples Housing with Support Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED that –

- (1) **That the recommendations of the Service Options for Re-modelling Older Peoples Housing with Support Task and Finish Group be agreed by the Sub-Committee and forwarded to the meeting of the Cabinet on 20th October 2010 for consideration, subject to the amendment of recommendation 1 as follows:**

“That a robust programme of consultation be undertaken prior to any decision regarding service options, including proactive engagement with service users.”

9. COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO COLD WEATHER TASK AND FINISH GROUP – INTERIM REPORT (Agenda Item 9):

The Sub-Committee considered the interim report of the Council's Response to Cold Weather Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the Sub-Committee note progress of the Council’s Response to Cold Weather Task and Finish Group, as set out in the report.**
- (2) the Sub-Committee agree that consultation on the draft report of the Council’s Response to Cold Weather Task and Finish Group takes place via e-mail, with the Sub-Committee Chairman being delegated authority to make any amendments to the report in consultation with the Task and Finish Group Chairman.**
- (3) the Sub-Committee agree that the findings and recommendations of the Council’s Response to Cold Weather Task and Finish Group be forwarded to the Cabinet meeting on 20th October 2010 for consideration.**

10. TASK AND FINISH GROUP / SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATE (Agenda Item 10):

The Sub-Committee received a report updating them on the position relating to currently convened Task and Finish Groups and Overview and Scrutiny Panels (Future Shape and Housing Allocations).

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the Sub-Committee note the progress of the current Task and Finish Groups / Scrutiny Panels, as set out in paragraphs 9.1 to 9.5 of the report of officers.**

11. TASK AND FINISH GROUP / SCRUTINY PANEL APPOINTMENTS (Agenda Item 10):

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the membership of the Housing Allocations Overview & Scrutiny Panel be agreed by the Sub-Committee as follows:-**

Conservative

Councillor John Marshall

Councillor Sury Khatri

Councillor David Longstaff

Councillor Wendy Prentice

Substitutes:

Councillor Andrew Strongolou

Councillor Rowan Turner

Labour

Councillor Alex Brodtkin

Councillor Ross Houston

Substitutes:

Councillor Julie Johnson

Councillor Pauline Coakley-Webb

Liberal Democrat
Councillor Susette Palmer

Substitutes:
Councillor Jack Cohen
Councillor Monroe Palmer OBE

- (2) the membership of the next tranche of three Task and Finish Groups be agreed by the Sub-Committee as follows:

Social Housing Standards

Conservative
Councillor Maureen Braun
Councillor Brian Gordon
Councillor Sury Khatri

Labour
Councillor Gill Sargeant
Councillor Julie Johnson

Fostering and Adoption Recruitment

Conservative
Councillor Maureen Braun
Councillor Sury Khatri
Councillor Reuben Thompstone

Labour
Councillor Agnes Slocombe
Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb

Early Intervention Services and Prevention for Children

Conservative
Councillor Tom Davey
Councillor Sury Khatri
Councillor Brian Salinger

Labour
Councillor Kath McGuirk
Councillor Barry Rawlings

- (2) the following topics be added to the list of potential task and finish groups set out in paragraph 9.2.4 of the report:

- Carbon Footprint
- Commissioning Strategy and Procurement Processes

12. CABINET FORWARD PLAN (Agenda Item 12):

The Sub-Committee considered the Cabinet Forward Plan, covering the period August 2010 to January 2011.

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the report be noted**
- (2) Officers be requested to bring forward a reports on the following items to the Sub-Committee meeting on 1st November 2010 (prior to consideration by Cabinet on 29th November 2010):**
 - New Barnet Town Centre Framework**
 - Sustainable Community Strategy**
- (3) Officers be requested to bring forward a report on the Finchley Church end Town Centre Strategy to the Sub-Committee meeting on 13th December 2010 (prior to consideration by Cabinet on 10th January 2011).**

13. BUSINESS MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11 (Agenda Item 13):

The Sub-Committee considered its draft work programme for 2010/11.

Members noted that the Call-in Review and Pre-Decision Scrutiny items listed in the Forward Work Programme would now form part of a review of the overview and scrutiny arrangements instituted in May 2009. Findings of this review would be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the report be noted**
- (2) New Barnet Town Centre Framework, Sustainable Community Strategy and Finchley Church end Town Centre Strategy be added to the work programme, as set out in decision 12 above.**

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES IS URGENT (Agenda Item 14):

At the meeting held on 12th July 2010, the Chairman was delegated authority by the Sub-Committee to engage with Property Services to question how Council owned vacant and derelict properties are managed, with findings reported to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee. He reported that the Budget & Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee had recently considered proposals relating to the Council's Estates Strategy.

Copies of the Strategy were tabled. The Chairman encouraged the Sub-Committee to attend the meeting of the Budget & Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 25th November 2011 when a revised version of the Strategy would be considered.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm