

MEETING

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DATE AND TIME

TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER, 2014

AT 7.00 PM

VENUE

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4AX

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
5.	Public Questions and Responses	1 - 4

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Question Number	Item No	Raised By	Question Raised	Answer
1.	7	Ms AM Poppy	<p>Appendix B: Section 2 - Revenue budget proposals 2016/17-2019/20 Overall Savings, Efficiency Row E10 Buried near the bottom of an appendix set out as a table in, I think, point 9 type is this proposal: "outsourcing for Waste, Recycling, Street Cleansing services and the Grounds Maintenance services."</p> <p>How could savings be made in street cleaning, park keeping, and rubbish collection - which is very labour intensive - except through cutting pay and conditions for the workers? Your document, Appendix C Commissioning Plan states plainly: "The first is a focus on fairness." How is it in keeping with your FIRST focus to plan the erosion of your own low paid staff's remuneration?</p>	<p>Any decision to implement an alternative delivery model (ADM) will be based on evidence how different models help reduce costs going forward.</p> <p>In estimating the likely savings to be made we would expect different delivery models, including outsourcing, to evidence cost reductions through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowering the unit cost of vehicles and plant & equipment through economies of scale • Reducing overheads by integrating and improving back-office functions • Identifying and implementing a range of commercial opportunities not available to the Council <p>Furthermore, as part of any decision to take forward a new delivery model it is likely that any affected staff will have protection of pay and conditions at the point of transfer as part of their general employment conditions.</p>

AGENDA ITEM 5

Question Number	Item No	Raised By	Question Raised	Answer
2.	7	Mr John Dix	At efficiency savings £10 why has the council chosen to include consultation on the potential outsourcing of this service within the “general budget consultation” when Lord Justice Underhill made it quite clear in his previous ruling on outsourcing of the NSCSO and DSG contracts that inclusion within a budget consultation “did not constitute consultation as such”.	<p>As stated in the cover report “5.1.3 The budget projections within these commissioning plans contain indicative figures through to 2020. These budgets will be formally agreed each year, after appropriate consultation and equality impact assessments, as part of Council budget setting, and therefore could be subject to change.”</p> <p>The process for determining which, if any, alternative delivery model is recommended will be informed by a full business case which will include an extensive consultation period. Proposed alternative delivery models (ADM) of these services are timetabled for Autumn 2017.</p>
3.	7	Mr John Dix	At G1 why is the council proposing to invest in 3G pitches across the borough when it has, for the last two years, prevented a charitable organisation that has a funded scheme in place, from developing a “trophy” 4G football pitch on derelict land at Chase Lodge.	<p>The item is intended to review and identify opportunities for the provision of additional 3G pitch pitches across the borough, particularly in areas of deficiency (based on a needs assessment informed by data from Sports England).</p> <p>The Chase Lodge expansion includes a request to take land at Copthall to expand a current site. The Council is reviewing and developing a Masterplan for Copthall in line with the Sports and Physical Activity review and requirements and consideration of the best use of this entire site to provide a centre of sporting excellence and top class facilities is being considered and developed in due course.</p>

Question Number	Item No	Raised By	Question Raised	Answer
4.	7	Mr John Dix	At R2 has the Council considered the additional cost of clearing up fly tipping that will inevitably arise if the opening hours of Summers Lane recycling centre are reduced and surely this is a classic case of a false economy.	<p>Any decision to change the opening hours of Summers Lane Recycling Centre will be informed by an analysis of usage to ensure that the impact on residents is minimised and any reduction is aligned with less busy times.</p> <p>Additional mitigation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of re-use services across the borough • Promotion of the Council's bulky waste collection service • Ensuring local businesses have a relevant commercial waste contract in place, and • Appropriate enforcement activities to prevent fly-tipping.
5.	7	Mr John Dix	At R4 the council has already spent over £11 million to introduce a new recycling system and yet you are now saying that there needs to be a step change in residents attitude to increase recycling levels. Does this mean that the £11 million investment has been wasted and how much additional money will need to be spent to deliver the proposed savings.	<p>The previous investment was required to procure new vehicles, new bins and containers as part of the roll-out of the new waste and recycling service in October 2013. Since the launch of the new service the Council's recycling performance has increased to 41.88% (for quarter one 2014/15) as a result of collecting an additional 5,000 tonnes of recycling and 6,000 tonnes of food waste.</p> <p>The Council is seeking to further increase recycling with the aim of achieving a non-statutory target of 50% by 2020 as set out in the EU Waste Directive.</p>

			The next stage is to work in partnership with residents and businesses to effect a long-term change in attitudes that includes increasing participation in the range of recycling opportunities available, as well as promoting greater re-use and encouraging a reduction in packaging. The required programme of engagement, education and awareness raising will be funded from existing budgets and by making relevant bids into any external funding that may become available.
6.	7	Mr John Dix	Please can you clarify if Appendix C was written by a London Borough of Barnet employee or a Capita employee and if a Capita employee surely they have a major conflict of interest in promoting another outsourcing exercise?
7.	7	Mr John Dix	Given that in Appendix A the report states that "A majority of those who responded as an individual resident strongly disagreed with the council's approach to work as a commissioning council" why do you completely ignore that consultation and insist on promoting further commissioning.