

Council 24 September 2015

Decisions Taken Under the Urgency Procedure

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

1.0 Introduction

This report summarises decisions taken under the urgency procedure since the last meeting of Council in accordance with the reporting required by Standing Order 19.1

2.0 Procedure for decisions taken under the Urgency Procedure

- 2.1 Standing Order 16 sets out the procedure for consideration of issues requiring urgent decision and where any delay likely to be caused by call-in would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interest.
- 2.2 This procedure requires the consent of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny (or in his/her absence the Chair of Council, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chair of Council).
- 2.3 The consent is given on the basis that:
 - (a) the decision cannot reasonably be deferred; and
 - (b) the decision should be treated as a matter of urgency; and
 - (c) where the proposed decision is contrary to or not wholly in accordance with the Policy Framework or Budget it is not practicable to convene a quorate meeting of the full Council.
- 2.4 The Constitution requires that the Leader reports to the next available Council meeting on urgent decisions taken containing details of each decision taken and the reason for the urgency.

3.0 Decisions Taken under the Urgency Procedure since those reported to the meeting of Council on 21 July 2015

3.1 Education and Learning (Schools) Capital Programme 2015/16

Cabinet on 16 July agreed a range of school capital projects and requested that Council approve these as part of the Capital Programme (see earlier report on the agenda for this Council meeting). The report included a proposal to make a contribution of £300,000 towards the cost of expanding Stratford

Girls Grammar School. This recommendation would have been put to this Council meeting for approval but, given the need to complete the work before the start of the academic year, the Leader was asked to give approval to this addition to the Capital Programme.

The Leader gave approval on 20 August to the addition of £300,000 to the Education and Learning (Schools) Capital Programme in 2015/16 funded from Developer Contributions as a contribution towards the cost of expanding Stratford Girls School. (The funding was paid to the school as a grant).

The Chair of the Corporate Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee gave his consent to this decision being urgent in view of the need to complete construction before the start of term.

3.2 Municipal Bonds Agency

Cabinet in 2014 agree to become a founder member and investor in the Local Government Association's Municipal Bonds Agency. The Agency now intends to convert to being a public limited company but this required a decision by the Agency at their Annual General Meeting which was held on 11 September 2015.

The papers regarding the AGM were not received until 21 August and therefore the earliest opportunity for Cabinet to consider the proposal was at its meeting on 10 September when an instruction was needed on whether or not to vote for the proposal on 11 September. The Chair of the Corporate Services Committee gave his consent to this being accepted as an urgent decision as the Council would not be able to vote at the AGM if it had to wait for the expiration of the five clear days call-in.

The full details of the proposal to become a plc is set out in the report to Cabinet on 10 September, available on the website. Cabinet agreed to support the Municipal Bonds Agency's conversion to a public limited company and authorised the Strategic Director of Resources to submit documentation prior to the AGM on 11 September. The Strategic Director was also authorised to take any subsequent decisions on the future operations of the Municipal Bonds Agency on behalf of the County Council where these are consistent with this and previous Cabinet approvals.

Background Papers

Published public reports and records of the decisions referred to in this report. These are available on the Warwickshire web www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cmis

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Janet Purcell	Tel.01926 413716 janetpurcell@warwickshire.gov.uk
Head of Service	Sarah Duxbury	sarahduxbury@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	David Carter	davidcarter@warwickshire.gov.uk
Leader of Council	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	cllrmssecombe@warwickshire.gov.uk