

Council

13 December 2016

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 those last reported to Council (17 May 2016) and 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 and the reason for the urgency.

3.0 S278 Highway Improvement Scheme at B4642 Coventry Road/ Site Access, Cawston

- 3.1. On 22 January 2016 the Deputy Leader gave approval for the B4642 Coventry Road, Cawston roundabout scheme to be included in the 2016/17 Capital Programme at an estimated cost of £650,000. Only one of seven suppliers in the framework contract submitted a quotation. It exceeded the

estimated cost but was assessed as valid and accepted by the developer and who will be providing 100% of the funding for the scheme. The Council's standing orders require that any bids that exceed the original estimate by 10% or more for major contracts between £1m and £3m require approval by the relevant portfolio holder before it is awarded. The Portfolio Holder for Finance and Property gave approval on 16 September to increase the capital programme provision for the S278 highway improvement scheme to £1.45m and approved the award of the contract.

- 3.2 The decision was urgent as the highways works were needed to facilitate access to a housing development site. It is also one of three separate developer funded S278 highway improvements. Delaying the contract award would have also delayed the consequent works, the third of which has a pre-commencement condition. The Chair Councillor Matt Western, Chair of the Resources and Fire & Rescue Overview and Scrutiny Committee, gave his approval to this being an urgent decision and for call-in to not apply in this case.

4.0 Consultation on an Early Years National Funding Formula

- 4.1 The Department for Education issued a consultation document on 11 August regarding proposed changes to the way that 3 and 4 year old entitlements to childcare are funding. The document was complex and the deadline for the response was 22 September. The Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Education and Learning agreed a response on 19 September.
- 4.2 The timescale meant that it was not possible to do the necessary analysis and prepare a response until close to the submission deadline. Councillor Dave Parsons, Chair of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee gave his approval to this being an urgent decision and for call-in to not apply in this case.

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

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