

Decisions taken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Thursday, 7 March 2019

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Part A – Items considered in public

A1	Minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2019	RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2019 be agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
A1	Declarations of Interest	Councillor Hall declared a non-prejudicial interest as a Member of the Lewisham Trade Union Council.
A2	Referral from the Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel on the Council's Procurement Procedures	<p>RESOLVED: That the following referral be forwarded to Mayor and Cabinet:</p> <p><i>Business Panel:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Notes that the scoring system and the balance between quality and price is not robust nor transparent when awarding contract to organisations.</i> 2. <i>Calls for the Council to re-examine its process of quality versus cost, and ensure there is a thorough examination of the factors within both price and quality.</i> 3. <i>Is not convinced continuity or proximity of provision are given sufficient thought in the transition period as part of the evaluation and that needs to be weighted accordingly.</i> 4. <i>In accordance with the Administration's Manifesto commitments to use an in-house provider and secure services locally whenever possible, prominent sections of the process should examine the advantages and disadvantages of in-house and local provision.</i>

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		<p><i>It is proposed that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The scoring system should be very clear and easy to understand.</i> • <i>Mayor and Cabinet should take time to consider proposals from officers before making a decision.</i> • <i>Sufficient time and consideration must be given to responses to scrutiny in recognition of the need for parity of esteem.</i> • <i>In future: quality, location, continuity and in-house consideration should feature largely when awarding contracts.</i> <p><i>The Committee also asks that Mayor & Cabinet asks officers to consider best practice, including with regard to social value, from other local authorities and report back to Mayor & Cabinet and the Public Accounts Select Committee. Salford City Council is cited as a potential example of good practice.</i></p>
A3	Cabinet Member Question and Answer Session	RESOLVED: That the updates be noted and that a referral be sent to Mayor and Cabinet requesting that a report be prepared by the Head of Law explaining why written reports had not been prepared for this meeting, including a timeline of events; outlining the current legal advice pertaining to Cabinet Member Question and Answer Sessions; and explaining the procedure going forward.
A4	Items to be referred to Mayor and Cabinet	RESOLVED: That two referrals be made to Mayor and Cabinet as outlined above in sections 3 and 4.