

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 21 June 2023 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Brenda Dacres (Deputy Mayor) (In the Chair), Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Andre Bourne, Sophie Davis, Amanda De Ryk, Louise Krupski, Kim Powell and James-J Walsh

ALSO PRESENT VIRTUALLY: Damien Egan (Mayor) and Councillor Campbell.

N.B. Virtual attendance does not count for the purposes of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of meeting of held on 10 May 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.

2. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Bell declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5. His employer was mentioned in the report. He confirmed that he did not take part in the decision to sign the UNISON's Ethical Care Charter, nor work on any area connected with the report.

Councillors Bell, Campbell, De Ryk, Krupski, Powell and Walsh declared a non-pecuniary interest as members of UNISON.

3. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

No matters were raised by Scrutiny or any other Constitutional Bodies.

4. Permission to award Maximising Wellbeing of Unpaid Carers contract

Councillor Bell introduced the report. He took the opportunity to celebrate unpaid carers and thanked them for their support. He invited Tristan Brice to address members of the Committee. Mr Brice had put a lot of work into this service and the contract. Councillor Bell said that the work undertaken had been outstanding and he had been inspired by Mr Brice and his team.

Mr Brice thanked everyone who had been involved in this work over the past 14 months. He said that, along with colleagues, he was looking forward to mobilising the new service, which would ensure that unpaid carers were visible. By the end of the contract, just under 60% of all unpaid carers would have been identified, valued and supported.

Having considered an open and closed officer report, Cllr Bell MOVED, Cllr De Ryk SECONDED and it was RESOLVED that Mayor & Cabinet gives approval to award the Maximising Wellbeing of Unpaid Carer Service contract to Imago

Community. The contract would be for an initial period of 3 years with an option to extend for up to a further 2 years up to a total contract value of £1,602,285.

5. Contract Award for Maximising Wellbeing at Home services (Lots 1,2,3,4,7)

Councillor Bell introduced the report and invited Mr Brice to address members of the Committee. He said that, along with Mr Brice, he had visited the current providers, fed back staff survey results and provided clarity of the current contracts expectations. Councillor Bell thanked the providers for engaging in this process. He then explained what the new model was and outlined the core elements.

Mr Brice thanked a long list of people and organisations who had been involved in the process; there had been a high level of engagement and support over the past 16 months which included weekly meetings. He drew members' attention to:

- The person centred and outcome focussed element of the survey. Annual satisfaction surveys with the client, wellbeing worker and unpaid carer every November and actions plans developed to increase satisfaction year on year.
- The provider will be CQC rated as outstanding within 3 years
- Promoting real choice and control for the clients.

Mr Brice said that he looked forward to welcoming everyone to the launch of the service on 1 September 2023 in the Council Chamber.

The Mayor thanked all those involved in this ground breaking report. He said that he was proud of this service because it gave a voice to those who had previously been unheard.

Councillor Campbell said that it was important to recognise the distinction between carers and unpaid carers and valuing unpaid carers in our society. She also highlighted the importance of a review with all those involved with the person who needed care. This was particularly important when unpaid carers need support because they were unable to continue to provide the level of care required

Councillor Powell commended this service and the invaluable support it provides for the unpaid carer and particularly people who receive dignified care as they approach the end of their lives.

Having considered an open and closed officer report, Cllr Bell MOVED, Cllr Powell SECONDED and it was RESOVED that Mayor and Cabinet gives approval to:

1. Award the contract for Neighbourhood 1 to Carepoint Services Ltd (lot 1), for 5 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years, at an estimated current value of £17,500,000.
2. Award the contract for Neighbourhood 2 to Eleanor Nursing & Social Care (lot 2), for 5 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years at an estimated current value of £42,000,000.
3. Award the contract for Neighbourhood 3 to Westminster Homecare (lot 3), for 5 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years at an estimated current value of £37,100,000.

4. Award the contract for Neighbourhood 4 to Nomase Care Ltd & Unique Personnel (lot 4), for 5 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years at an estimated current value of £22,400,000.
5. Award the contract for Solution-Focused Coaching: Specialist advice, support and training to support the effective management of individuals with advanced dementia including those presenting with behaviours that challenge to Bluefield Care Services. The contract value will be £120,000 per annum, equating to £600,000 over 5 years, and £840,000 over 7 years if the option to extend is utilised.

Each of the 5 contracts will commence on the 01 September 2023.

6. Permission to direct award to Medequip Assistive Technology Limited until 31 March 2024

Having considered an open officer report, It was MOVED by Councillor Bell, SECONDED by Councillor Barnham and RESOLVED that Mayor and Cabinet approve the decision:

- To use the Kent framework agreement
- To make a direct award in accordance with the framework agreement

This will enable officers to undertake a comprehensive review of the procurement options available in reprocurring this contract. A permission to procure paper will be brought to Mayor and Cabinet in July 2023 following the comprehensive review.

7. Refugee Programme Contract extension

Having considered an open officer report, it was MOVED by Councillor Dacres,, SECONDED by Councillor De Ryk and RESOLVED that Mayor and Cabinet approve the extension of Refugee Council's contract to deliver Lewisham Council's refugee resettlement programme at a cost of £914,785 over two years

8. Distribution of Household Fund 4

Having considered an open officer report, it was MOVED by Councillor De Ryk, SECONDED by Councillor Barnham and RESOLVED that Mayor and Cabinet:

1. Note and agreed the contents of the report including the administration and distribution of the funding received under HF4;
2. Agree delegated authority for the Executive Director for Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Strategy to amend the distribution formula in the event of further changes to e.g. the government's cost of living (COL) response or any change in the proposed funding arrangements for provision of free school meals (FSM) for primary school children from September 2023 onwards;
3. Note the detailed equalities screening carried out in respect of the proposed allocation;

4. Note the proposed allocation for HF4 is part of a wider set of COL Support measures provided by the Council, as set out in paras 3.1 to 3.6 of this report;
5. Agree the recommendations in the proposed distribution of the funds, as set out in para 5.1 to 5.15 of the report.

9. Supported Accommodation sites and leases

Having considered an open officer report, it was **MOVED** by Councillor Bell, **SECONDED** by Councillor Davis and **RESOLVED** that Mayor and Cabinet agree that

1. subject to the Secretary of State's approval, the appropriation of the Lewisham Assessment and Recovery Site from the Housing revenue Account (HRA) to the general fund be approved and an application to the Secretary of State be authorised to consent to this appropriation.
2. Permission be given to negotiate up to 30 year leases for the below sites:
 - 2.1. subject to the Secretary of State's consent to appropriate the site to the General Fund, Lewisham Assessment and Recovery Centre site to St. Mungo's
 - 2.2 Perry Vale supported housing site to Metropolitan and Thames Valley Housing Trust (MTVHT)
3. Authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Community Services in consultation with the Director of Inclusive Regeneration and Executive Director for Corporate Resources and the Director of Law and Corporate Governance to agree the detailed lease terms and enter into the final form leases, provided where the rent is less than market value these fall within the General Consent

10. Procurement of Adventure Playgrounds: Play Service and Site Maintenance and Development Service

Having considered open officer report, it was **MOVED** by Councillor Barnham, **SECONDED** by Councillor Walsh and **RESOLVED** that Mayor and Cabinet:

1. Approves the procurement for the Adventure Playground Play Service for a period of five years from 1 December 2023, with the option to extend for a further two years. In line with the proposal within this report, the Play Service will provide a core offer across Lewisham Council's five APGs to children and young people. The value of the contract over the seven years will be up to £1,386,000 (£198,000 pa).
2. Approves the procurement of the Adventure Playground Maintenance and Development Service for a period of five years from 1 December 2023, with the option to extend for a further two years. In line with the proposal within this report, the Adventure Playground Maintenance Service will provide a core maintenance offer across Lewisham Council's five APGs to ensure they are safe to operate for the duration of the Play Service contract. The value of the contract over the seven years will be up to £658,000 (£94,000 pa).
3. Notes the intention to seek approval from the Mayor and Cabinet for the Contract Award for the Play Service and the Site Maintenance Service.

4. Authorises the advertisement of the disposal by way of seven-year lease to the selected Adventure Playground Space Provider of open space at Home Park APG, Honor Oak APG and Ladywell Fields APG in accordance with section 123(2A) Local Government Act 1972 and note that a further report will be brought to Mayor & Cabinet to consider any objections received to the proposed disposals.

Issuing of non-repairing leases to the Adventure Playground Play Service provider is expected to increase the provider's ability to maximise site occupancy and increase the ability to secure long-term funding to grow play sessions and draw in external funding to refurbish and replace (where deemed necessary) the APGs.

11. Decision – Adding a new SEN Provision at Launcelot Primary School

Having considered an open officer report, it was MOVED by Councillor Barnham, SECONDED by Councillor Davis and RESOLVED that Mayor and Cabinet:

1. Notes the results of the period of representation conducted on the proposal to add a SEN provision at Launcelot Primary School.
2. Agrees to the proposal of an addition of a SEN provision of up to 16 ASD places at Launcelot Primary School, with an implementation date of January 2024.
3. Delegates authority to the Executive Director for Children and Young People to procure and award the necessary construction contracts

12. Housing Futures Progress

Having considered an open and closed officer report, it was MOVED by Councillor Davis, SECONDED by Councillor Barnham and RESOLVED that Mayor and Cabinet

1. Notes progress of the Housing Futures programme.
2. Approves the use of up to £1.9m of existing reserves, including the £0.6m agreed preparatory commitment.
3. Agrees a further up to £2.6m for additional transfer costs now identified, including a £0.5m contingency, funded from HRA reserves if available or the use of General Fund reserves if not.
4. Agrees that the level of reserves should be restored through the delivery of a planned HRA savings programme so that the necessary prudent position to meet future unforeseen costs is restored at the earliest opportunity

13. Annual Complaints Report

Having considered an open officer report, it was MOVED by Councillor De Ryk, SECONDED by Councillor Walsh and RESOLVED that Mayor and Cabinet note the content of the report.

14. Financial Outturn Report 2022/23

Having considered an open officer report, it was **MOVED** by Councillor De Ryk, **SECONDED** by Councillor Krupski and **RESOLVED** that Mayor and Cabinet

1. Notes the Outturn Position for 2022/23, including the utilisation of Provision and Reserves funding, applied legacy Covid grant funding and money held within Corporate provisions to partially mitigate the service overspend. This is summarised in section 4 with additional detail in the subsequent sections of the report.
2. Notes as part of routine financial year closing work, the proposed write-off of debts totalling £0.2m under delegation as detailed in section 16.
3. Agrees the proposed write off of the specific debts each over £50k totalling a further £0.4m as detailed in section 16, with supporting detail in Appendix B of the report.

15. Exclusion of Press and Public

All closed (Part 2) reports were considered alongside their open (Part 1) counterparts, therefore there was no need to exclude the Press and Public.

16. Permission to award Maximising Wellbeing of Unpaid Carers contract

Considered alongside Item 4.

17, Permission to award Maximising Wellbeing at Home contracts

Considered alongside Item 5.

18. Housing Futures progress report - Appendix B - transition costs - Part 2

Considered alongside Item 12.

The meeting ended at 18:56