

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 JUNE 2015

PRESENT

Councillor J. Coupe (in the Chair).

Councillors M. Cordingley (Vice-Chairman), R. Bowker, C. Boyes, K. Carter, C. Candish and D. Hopps

In attendance

P. Forrester	Democratic and Performance Services Manager
C. Gaffey	Democratic and Scrutiny Officer
C. Hindle	Contracts Director

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S.K. Anstee, Mrs. P. Dixon and J. Lloyd

1. CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE 2015/16

RESOLVED: That Councillors Coupe and Cordingley are appointed as Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee respectively for the municipal year 2015/16, as determined by Council at the Annual Meeting held on 28 May, 2015.

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE 2015/16

RESOLVED: That the membership of the Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2015/16, as determined by Council at the Annual Meeting held on 28 May 2015, be noted.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE 2015/16

The Vice-Chairman commented that the Terms of Reference were still relatively new, and recommended they be monitored by the Committee to ensure they are kept up to date.

RESOLVED: That the Committee's Terms of Reference as agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 28 May 2015, be noted.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED: To receive and, if so determined, to agree as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February, 2015.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interests were made by Members.

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6. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2015/16

The Committee received a report of the Democratic and Performance Services Manager setting out the proposed work programme for the 2015/16 municipal year, as discussed with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

The Democratic and Performance Services Manager answered questions relating to specific items on the work programme. It was explained that children's education has been a long standing topic for the Committee to discuss, but a full work programme during the previous year meant this had not been possible. It was noted that a specific topic would need to be agreed upon for the meeting on 2 September 2015, and the Acting Corporate Director, Children, Families and Wellbeing would be invited to answer any questions the Committee might have.

Members also mentioned library closures and the provision of leisure within Trafford as possible topics for the Committee to add to the programme over the year if there was capacity.

RESOLVED: That the work programme be approved.

7. JOINT VENTURE CONTRACT - UPDATE

The Committee received a presentation of the Contracts Director detailing the progress made on the Joint Venture Contracts to date, and what could be expected over the coming months.

The presentation reminded Members of the services in scope, the bidding process and the desired outcomes of the Joint Venture. It was confirmed that the contract for all lots was awarded to Amey, and this would officially commence on 4 July 2015 with a 100 day transition period. The Contracts Director detailed how staff would receive information about the transition, as well as explaining the governance requirements, confirming the Council will retain responsibility for strategy and policy. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were explained, as well as the provider's responsibility to engage with stakeholders and provide social value.

The Contracts Director answered several questions regarding the length of the contract, the 20 percent savings target and staffing. Members were pleased that no permanent staff members had lost their position with the awarding of the contract, having been TUPEd over to Amey. It was confirmed that communications would be distributed to Members before 3 July to explain how they can contact Amey to discuss issues in their wards. Other topics discussed included the Council's ability to step in if there were provider failures, and contingency plans.

Members requested a further update on the Joint Venture Contracts at the meeting on 27 January, 2016. The Contracts Director hoped to bring representatives from Amey to the meeting to enable Members to ask questions.

RESOLVED: That the presentation be noted, and that the Committee receive a further progress update on the Joint Venture Contracts at the meeting on 27 January, 2016.

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8. HARMONISED CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES

The Committee received a report of the Director of STaR Shared Procurement Services presenting the proposed harmonised Contract Procedure Rules, which were approved by the STaR Joint Committee on 22 April 2015. The report was brought to the meeting to confirm that the Scrutiny Committee was content for these changes to be adopted by Council on 15 July.

The Committee discussed how the changes would affect the council's flexibility, staff training relating to procurement, and made suggestions for minor changes to the wording of the contract.

RESLOVED: That the Committee note the proposed changes and confirm that they have no comments.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 pm and finished at 7.45 pm