

SUMMARY OF URGENT DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE LEADER REPORTED TO CABINET FOR INFORMATION

The following reports were considered in accordance with paragraph 1.21 of the Leader's Portfolio.

ITEM

16.1 WEST LONDON JOINT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF PRIVATELY MANAGED ACCOMMODATION

The report seeks authority for the Council to join a West London framework agreement with providers for the supply of private sector accommodation.

The accommodation will be used to assist with the council's legal duties to house clients as well as a tool to prevent homelessness.

The scheme is referred to as Private Managed Accommodation and will involve a framework of providers procuring and managing accommodation directly from the private sector.

Reasons for Urgency:

Due to the current shortage of properties and increasing numbers of families in Bed and Breakfast accommodation, a Leader's Urgent Decision is being sought in order to enable the Council to access the framework agreement at the earliest opportunity.

Decision taken by the Leader on: 21 July 2011

Recommendations:

- 1. That the Council participate in (including the calling off of services) in the West London joint framework agreement led by Brent Council for the provision of the Privately Managed Accommodation (PMA) scheme.**
- 2. That officers in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Housing be authorised to enter into agreements with any of the seventeen successful suppliers within the framework.**

Wards: All

16.2 HOUSING SERVICES IMPROVEMENT AND SAVINGS PROGRAMME, 2011 TO 2015

In order to achieve the Housing Revenue Account MTFS savings a transformation consultant is required to work alongside the Housing and Regeneration department. This report sets out the reasons for initiating this procurement process.

Reasons for Urgency:

In order to achieve the Housing Revenue Account MTFS savings a transformation consultant is required to work along side the Housing and Regeneration department. To deliver the savings on time this consultant needs to have been procured by September 2011 following the receipt of the high level review. This report sets out the reasons for initiating this procurement process and summarises the work arising from the review. The next cabinet meeting is not due until 5th September 2011. In order to realise the savings in full as required by the Housing Revenue Account MTFS the decision must be taken before that date.

Decision taken by the Leader on: 1 August 2011

Recommendations:

- 1. That approval is given to tender for a transformation consultant via the Buying Solutions Framework to work alongside the Housing and Regeneration department to deliver the Housing Services Improvement and Savings programme, 2011 to 2015. This programme will include the delivery of an ongoing annual saving of £4m per annum in the Housing Revenue Account from 2014/15 onwards. The estimated cost of the consultancy is £1.3m which will be funded by savings made in 2011-2015.**
- 2. That the Cabinet Member for Housing in consultation with the Director of Housing and Regeneration be authorised to enter into agreements with any of the successful suppliers.**

Wards: All

16.3 SUPPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF WORK & PENSIONS INNOVATION FUND BID AND INVESTMENT IN NEW SOCIAL INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP

Resurgo is a successful Hammersmith & Fulham based charity which brings together a number of synergised projects targeted at disaffected and disadvantaged young people. It is currently bidding to the Department for Work & Pensions Innovation Fund for funding which is payable upon achievement of key results.

The Council is keen to support the development of Resurgo's emerging social investment partnership and to offer loans to the partnership to stabilise cash flow needs as DWP funding will be awarded on a payments by results basis.

Reasons for Urgency:

Resurgo, a HF based charity, invited senior officers and the Leader to a meeting with the

Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) to discuss Resurgo's bid for DWP Innovation funding on 21st July 2011. At the meeting the DWP expressed support for a bid.

Resurgo's bid seeks to address the disaffection and disadvantage of young people in the borough.

The Council is keen to support the development of Resurgo's emerging social investment partnership and to offer loans to the partnership to stabilise cash flow needs as DWP funding will be awarded on a payments by results basis.

The deadline for bids is 5th August 2011.

This report seeks in principle support for this venture and requests a further more detailed report to Cabinet.

Decision taken by the Leader on: 5 August 2011

Recommendations:

- 1. That the Leader agrees in principle support for the establishment of the Resurgo led social investment partnership and the application for DWP funding.**
- 2. That the Leader pledges a loan of up to £350,000 per year from the Council's General Reserves in order that this sum serves as a significant investment in order to attract other investors and alleviate early cash flow requirements.**
- 3. That Cabinet receives a report detailing the financial commitment sought, performance management and terms and conditions of loan repayment.**

Wards: All

16.4 TENDER FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE STEP UP TO SOCIAL WORK DEGREE PROGRAMME COHORT 2

Hammersmith and Fulham is the lead authority of a regional partnership formed to deliver an innovative programme, funded by the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC), to attract and train new applicants to a social work career. This report seeks approval from the Leader to award the contract to the University of Hertfordshire for delivery of a Masters in Social Work within very tight time-scales.

Reasons for Urgency:

The timetable for the procurement is driven by the CWDC and it is not possible to comply with this timetable and the Council's Contract Standing Orders. The CWDC timetable requires the Programme to be developed by the university for validation by the General Social Care Council (GSCC) in order for the programme to start on the 20th February 2012. Also, the timetable does not allow submission to the Cabinet meeting, after the last possible date for evaluation of tenders on the 21st July and before the awarding of the contract in August, prior to the 5th September which is the next Cabinet meeting after the 18th July.

Key dates for a contract commencing in September are:

Invitation of tenders: 20 June

Evaluation of tenders: 21 July

Contract award: 25th August

Decision taken by the Leader on: 11 August 2011

Recommendations:

That approval is given to award the contract to deliver the Step Up to Social Work programme for the West London Regional Partnership to the University of Hertfordshire. The Contract will have a value of £379257 and will commence on the 31st August for a period of 24 months as set out in paragraph 1.6 of the report.

Wards: All