

Minutes

of the Meeting of

The Executive

Monday, 14 March 2022

New Council Chamber - Town Hall

Meeting Commenced: 4.01 pm

Meeting Concluded: 4.08 pm

Councillors:

Mike Bell (Vice-Chairman)

Steve Bridger
Mark Canniford
Ashley Cartman
Catherine Gibbons
Bridget Petty
Mike Solomon

Apologies: Councillors: Donald Davies (Chairman) .

Also in attendance: Councillors Robert Payne (Assistant Executive Member), Peter Bryant and Terry Porter

Officers in attendance: Jo Walker (Chief Executive), Nicholas Brain (Assistant Director Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer), Aaron Horner (Senior Projects Officer), Ayesha Tinsley (Digital Apprentice)

Partaking via Microsoft Teams:

Councillors: Nicola Holland (Assistant Executive Member), John Cato, Sandra Hearne, Huw James

Officers: Hazel Brinton (Democratic Services Officer), Gemma Dando (Assistant Director - Neighbourhood Management), Jo Jones (Finance Business Partner) (Sheila Smith (Director of Children's Services) and Melanie Watts (Head of Finance)

EXE 96 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (Standing Order 37)

None declared.

EXE 97 Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleansing Contract

Councillor Solomon presented the report. He noted that the recommendation to the Executive had been amended in light of potential difficulties in securing resources and the offer by the current contractor to shorten the notice period for the break clause by two months.

The Assistant Director Legal and Governance confirmed that the recommendation now included a requirement for a legally binding amendment to the contract that 10 months' notice of the intention to activate the break clause from 31 May 2022 be agreed with the contractor.

After comments from members, it was

Resolved:

(1) To allow further time for negotiation with Glendale Grounds Management Ltd (Glendale) and consideration of possible options, the Council will seek to conclude (prior to the current deadline) legally binding amendment(s) to the deadline for exercising the contract termination break clause. The current deadline of 31st March 2022 for giving 12 months' notice of exercise of the break clause to be amended to provide that 10 months' notice of exercise of the break clause be given by 31st May 2022.

(2) Provided that the legally binding amendment(s) in line with recommendation 1 is/are concluded prior to the current deadline date for issuing notice, to then undertake further negotiations with Glendale to ascertain if amendments to the existing contract can be made to provide service and financial benefits to the Council.

(3) In the event that legally binding amendment(s) in line with recommendation 1 is/are not concluded prior to the current deadline date for issuing notice, then:

a. To agree to terminate the grounds maintenance and street cleansing contract with Glendale Grounds Management Ltd (Glendale) on 31st March 2023 in line with the contract extension break clause agreed by the Executive on 11th February 2021, and to notify the contractor prior to 31st March 2022 in line with the agreed contract extension terms.

b. To agree that the services within the grounds maintenance and street cleansing contract that were previously delivered by Glendale will be awarded to the council's local authority trading company North Somerset Environment Company in a legally compliant way by using the Teckal exemption.

Reason for the decision:

As set out in the report and discussed above.

Alternative options considered:

As set out in the report.

Chairman
