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MINUTES OF A CABINET MEETING
Council Chamber - Town Hall
Wednesday, 9 October 2024
(7.30 - 8.43 pm)

Present:

Councillor Ray Morgon (Leader of the Council), Chairman

Councillor Gillian Ford

Councillor Oscar Ford

Councillor Paul McGeary

Councillor Paul Middleton

Councillor Barry Mugglestone

Councillor Natasha Summers

Councillor Christopher Wilkins

Councillor Graham Williamson

Cabinet Member responsibility:

Lead Member for Adults & Wellbeing

Lead Member for Children & Young People

Lead Member for Housing & Property

Lead Member for Digital, Transformation & Customer Services

Lead Member for Environment

Lead Member for Housing Need & Climate Change

Lead Member for Finance

Lead Member for Regeneration

In attendance: Councillor Keith Prince (CON) Councillor Keith Darvill (LAB) and Councillor Martin Goode (EHRG).

1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the Chair, there was an announcement about the arrangements in case of fire or other events that might require the meeting room or building's evacuation.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

4 **MINUTES**

It was noted that the minutes of the previous meeting would be presented at the next meeting of Cabinet.

5 **AWARD OF A PRE-CONTRACT SERVICE AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP THE DESIGNS FOR THE NEW BALGORES SPECIAL SCHOOL**

Report: **Award of a Pre-Contract Service Agreement to develop the designs for the new Balgores Special School.**

Presented by: **Councillor Paul McGeary, Cabinet Member for Housing & Property**

Summary:

A report detailed the procurement process to appoint a developer to design and offer firm price for the delivery of the new Special School on the Balgores Field on Balgores Ln, Gidea Park, Romford RM2 6BS, in order to provide Havering resident children with special educational needs with the educational care they required. Details were provided of the financial (capital) implications of the project and a master programme was also given, to identify where this report sat within the larger governance pathway associated with this development.

It was agreed that updates on progress with the construction of the school should be given to Overview and Scrutiny.

Cabinet **agreed:**

1. To award preferred bidder status for a 2 stage construction contract for the construction of Balgores Special School to Galliford Try Ltd; and
2. To award Galliford Try Ltd a stage 1 Pre Contract Service Agreement (PCSA) for the development of the designs associated with the new school at a value of £2,328,096.

Cabinet **noted** that:

1. The PCSA contract length is anticipated at 51 weeks.
2. Following completion of services under the PCSA, a further report will be brought to Cabinet with a recommendation for award of a construction contract at Stage 2.

6 **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR ULEZ COMPLIANT BUSES FOR PTS TO TRANSPORT CLIENTS ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES**

Report: **Award of Contract for ULEZ compliant buses for PTS to transport clients on behalf of Children and Adult Services**

Presented by: **Councillor Barry Mugglestone, Cabinet Member for Environment**

Summary:

A report considered the procurement of 13 replacement buses for the Passenger Transport Service (PTS), primarily for Home to School transport for SEN children, but also other transport work conducted on behalf of Children and Adults Services. These vehicles represented some of the remaining fleet assets that were not currently Euro 6 standard and therefore required replacement before the grace period for the TFL Community Bus Certificate expired in October 2025. After this date the buses would be subject to a £100 charge per vehicle per day to operate within the ULEZ.

These vehicles were also at least 3 years beyond their typical operating life and if not replaced were likely to present increased maintenance and reliability risks to PTS operations.

Cabinet **agreed** the award of contract to:

- Treka Bus Limited (Company No. 15320085) for the purchase of thirteen 16 Seater Coach Built Buses.

As set out within the exempt appendix A to the report, for the provision of replacement vehicles.

7 **DIRECT AWARD OF SOCIAL CARE CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM - LIQUIDLOGIC**

Report: **Direct award of Social Care Case Management System to Liquidlogic**

Presented by: **Councillor Gillian Ford – Cabinet Member for Adults & Wellbeing**

Summary:

A report advised that the current Liquidlogic contract was due to expire on 31st December 2024 and it was critical that the Council procured a new contract.

The new contract would support the Social Care case recording and management systems, finance systems and customer portal modules. The proposed contract would also assist with hosting, support & maintenance for Adult and Children Social Care Services. The new contract would be for a period of a total of 7 years (an initial 5-years with the option to extend for a further 2 years).

The report sought approval to direct award a new contract to Liquidlogic, using the compliant Crown Commercial Services Framework Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) Lot 2.

This report sought approval of the expenditure from the revenue budget for a maximum value of c.£1.8million over the next seven years.

Cabinet agreed:

1. To approve the award of a Call-Off contract for a 7-year (5+2) period to Liquid Logic Limited (Company Number 11227217) for the provision of a Social Care Case Management System & ContrOCC payment Systems from Liquidlogic / System C in accordance with the strategy set out in the report, by utilising the Crown Commercial Services Framework Agreement (Vertical Application Solutions - RM6259).
2. To delegate to the Strategic Director of Resources/S.151 Officer authority:
 - (a) for implementation of the contract,
 - (b) to exercise the option to extend the contract for a period of 2-years, and
 - (c) for any budgetary change variances (including price increases and expenditure in implementing any new software modules) over the contractual period.

8 COMMENCEMENT OF PROCUREMENT OF THE REPLACEMENT HOUSING SYSTEM

Report: **Commencement of Procurement of the Replacement Housing System**

Presented by: **Councillor Paul Middleton, Lead Member for Digital, Transformation & Customer Services**

Summary:

A report advised that Capita Open Housing software has been used by the Council's Housing service since 2018. The existing contract expired on 31st March 2026.

Following an in-depth review of the current systems and a market test of alternatives it had been determined that the best option for the Council was to procure a new, fully integrated Housing technology platform.

It was recommended that a mini-competition process using the Crown Commercial Services Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) framework Lot 3 (Housing, Environmental and Planning Solutions) be undertaken to identify a replacement system in accordance with the Council's procurement requirement.

This report sought Cabinet approval to procure and publish the tender as well as approval to award a contract through delegated authority via the s.151 Officer.

It was proposed that the replacement system would be subject to a 3+2+2 (total 7 year) contract. It was estimated that the total value of the contract (including implementation services) would be within a range of £970,000 to £2,368,000 depending on the supplier selected via the mini-competition process. The allocated budget has been approved.

Cabinet agreed:

1. To commence procurement of a maximum 7 year contract (3 +2 +2) for an integrated housing technology platform via a mini-competition through the Crown Commercial Services Vertical Application Solutions (VAS) framework Lot 3 (Housing, Environmental and Planning Solutions).
2. To delegate authority to the Corporate Director of Resources/S.151 Officer to:
 - a. award and implement the contract (following completion of the mini-competition referred to above) provided that the value of the contract does not exceed £2,368,000 but further provided that the s.151 Officer may authorise budgetary change variances (for example price increases and expenditure) of an additional £500,000.

Chairman