EXECUTIVE

MONDAY 1 JULY 2013 AT 4.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Glover (Deputy Leader; and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder) Councillor Ms Quilter (Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder) Councillor Mrs Riddle (Communities and Housing Portfolio Holder) Councillor Mrs Martlew (Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder)

OFFICERS:

Town Clerk and Chief Executive Deputy Chief Executive Director of Governance Director of Community Engagement Director of Economic Development Director of Local Environment Financial Services Manager Policy and Communications Manager

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs Luckley (Chairman of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel) Councillors Allison, Ellis and J Mallinson (Observers)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Dr Tickner (Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder), the Director of Resources and the Chairman of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Glover declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of agenda item A.2 – Scheme of Housing Assistance (Empty Properties and Disabled Facilities Grants). The interest related to the fact that he was an executor of an empty property.

Councillor Ms Quilter declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct in respect of agenda items A.11 and B.1 – Raffles Re-Development Scheme – Land Disposal. The interest related to her employment.

CALL-IN

It was noted that The Mayor had, on 24 June 2013, agreed that the following items should be exempt from call-in as call-in procedures would overlap the City Council meeting on 16 July 2013 when the matters would be considered:

A.1 – Food Law Enforcement Service Plan

- A.2 Scheme of Housing Assistance (Empty Properties and Disabled Facilities Grants)
- A.3 Treasury Management Counterparties
- A.4 Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030 Preferred Options
- A.10 2012/13 Summary of Service Standards

EX.65/13 **FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE PLAN

(Key Decision – KD.04/13)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Portfolio Environment and Transport

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Community

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.40/13, the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder presented report LE.16/13 concerning the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan, which set out how the Environmental Health Service would protect food safety in Carlisle during 2013 to 2014.

As part of the Food Law Enforcement Plan the "Food Safety Service Plan" (Appendix 1) sat within the full Environmental Health Service Plan and linked to the key priority actions of the Carlisle Plan. The Service Plan sought to direct resources into achieving the priority outcomes for regulatory services as detailed in the Better Regulation Delivery Office document "Priority Regulatory Outcomes – A New Approach to Refreshing the National Enforcement Priorities for Local Authority Regulatory Services" (November 2011). The second part of the Food Law Enforcement Plan was the "Food Safety Enforcement Policy" (Appendix.2) which outlined the decision process the Environmental Health Officers would go through when breaches of Food Safety Legislation were found. The Food Safety Enforcement Policy was written with regard to the Food Standard Agency's Framework Agreement with local authorities, the Enforcement Concordant and the Regulator's Compliance Code.

In improving food standards the Environmental Health Service was contributing to ensuring a safe, healthy and sustainable food chain for the benefit of consumers. Service Plans were an important part of the process to ensure that national priorities and standards were addressed and delivered locally

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder reminded Members that, although the Food Standards Agency's Food Law Codes of Practice detailed national food policy, they did afford local authorities flexibility over how to deliver the national food controls. She added that the Plan set out how and at what level official food controls would be provided in accordance with the Codes of Practice.

The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities (2010) set out what the Food Standard Agency (FSA) expected from Carlisle City Council in delivering official controls on feed and food law. In 2012 the FSA had carried out a review

on the delivery of "Official Controls for Food Safety" concluding that, although under pressure, the local authorities were able to deliver a food safety service. The FSA Board confirmed the strategic importance of the delivery of official controls and the relationship between the FSA and local authorities. The Government was presently consulting on amending the Regulators Compliance Code, making it explicit that in carrying out its duties as a regulator the local authority's role was to ensure compliance and assist businesses to grow.

To help ensure local transparency and accountability, and to show the Service's contribution to the authority's Carlisle Plan, the Framework Agreement recommended that food service plans were approved at the relevant level established for that local authority. The Food Law Enforcement Plan was included within the Council's Policy Framework at Article 4 of the Constitution.

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel had received report LE.17/13 for information only.

The Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder expressed her thanks to the staff involved in the preparation of the report and for the work they undertook to ensure that food outlets were safe.

In conclusion, the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder requested that the Executive agree the recommendations as detailed in the report, which were seconded by the Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

- 1. Agreed the key actions of the Environmental Health Service Plan with respect to Food Safety and approved the Food Law Enforcement Policy,
- 2. Referred the said plans to Council for approval in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Reasons for Decision

The recommended key actions had been identified following consultation and reflected the resources available to the Environmental Health Service in the financial year 2013 to 2014

EX.066/13 **SCHEME OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE (EMPTY PROPERTIES AND DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS)

(Key Decision – KD.08/13)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest Councillor Glover left the meeting for the consideration of the following item. Councillor Martlew chaired the item.

Portfolio Communities and Housing

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Community

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.41/13, the Communities and Housing Portfolio Holder reported (CD.33/13) that the current Scheme of Housing Assistance had been updated to reflect new services which Carlisle City Council could offer to private sector landlords on the back of successful funding bids to bring empty properties back into use.

The Portfolio Holder drew Members' attention to the revised Scheme of Assistance. attached at Appendix 1, which included empty property grants and loans. The Scheme had been updated as a result of a successful funding bid by the City Council. She added that the updated Policy re-stated the position with regard to Disabled Facilities Grants. which would remain mandatory.

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel had, on 30 May 2013, considered the matter and resolved:

"1) That Members were concerned about the quality of potential work to be undertaken on empty properties

2) That the Communities, Housing and Health Manager would monitor the work and follow up the issues raised"

A copy of the Minute Excerpt COSP.39/13 had been circulated

The Chairman of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel gave an overview of discussions, commenting that the Panel had some concerns regarding the quality and monitoring of the work to be undertaken, however, the concerns had been addressed in the report. She also congratulated staff on the successful funding bid which had enabled the amendments to the Scheme.

In conclusion, the Communities and Housing Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations which were seconded by Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

- 1. That the Executive agreed the new Policy for Housing Assistance and the use of funds as described in Appendix 2 of Report CD.33/13 and recommended it to Council in accordance with the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.
- 2. That the use of the funds, as outlined at Appendix 2 and granting of grants and loans, would be the responsibility of Officers and, as such, delegated to the Director of Community Engagement and the Director of Resources.
- 3. That a decision to proceed with future Empty Property Schemes be delegated to the Portfolio Holder.

Reasons for Decision

The revised Housing Assistance Policy would enable the provision of loans and grants to be made to the owners of empty property and assist in bringing them back into use

EX.067/13 **TREASURY MANAGEMENT COUNTERPARTIES

(Key Decision – KD.013/13)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Resources

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.42/13, the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder submitted report RD.08/13 concerning Treasury Management Counterparties.

The Portfolio Holder reminded Members that the Treasury Management Strategy for 2013/14 had been approved by Council on 5 February 2013. However, since that date average investment balances had increased as a result of asset sales, in addition to which there had been significant changes to investment return interest rates.

As a result of the above the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder outlined a proposal to amend the limits which could be invested with different counterparties. He further summarised the revised limits and investment criteria (as set out at Appendix A), namely:

Lloyds Group / RBS	£8 million
HSBC	£6 million (split £4 million long term, £2 million less than 1 month)
Other Credit Rated Banks/institutions	£4 million
Non Credit Rated Banks/Building Societies	£2 million

He added that a further review of counterparty limits would be undertaken later in the year to ensure limits continued to best meet the investment needs. Officers had attended a Treasury Seminar on 25 April 2013 where alternative investments instruments were discussed such as corporate bonds; all alternatives would continue to be reviewed.

The Director of Resources had, under delegated powers, re-tendered and awarded the contract for Treasury Management Advisory Services for a two year period, with an option to extend for a further two years.

The Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel had, on 6 June 2013, considered the matter and resolved that the report be noted.

A copy of Minute Excerpt ROSP.38/13 had been circulated.

In conclusion the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations which were duly seconded by Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

- 1. Had considered the response provided by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel with regard to changes to the counterparty limits (as detailed in Minute ROSP.38/13).
- 2. Approved the investment counterparty limits as outlined at Appendix A and set out in paragraph 2.7 of Report RD.08/13 for recommendation to Council.
- 3. Noted that the contract for Treasury Management Advisory Services had been re-tendered and awarded under powers delegated to the Director of Resources.

Reasons for Decision

To ensure that the Council's investments are in line with appropriate policies, including the Treasury Management Strategy Statement

EX.068/13 **CARLISLE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN 2015 – 2030 – PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION (Key Decision – KD.014/13)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Portfolio Economy and Enterprise

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Environment and Economy

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minute EX.55/13, the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder submitted report ED.17/13 setting out details of the draft Preferred Options stage Carlisle District Local Plan.

Members of the Executive had previously considered the policies of the draft plan and made the draft plan available for the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel to consider at their meeting on 13 June 2013. The feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Panel had been included in the report along with suggested changes and minor amendments that had come to light as Officers continued to refine the policies during the Committee cycle (Table 1). A copy of Minute Excerpt EEOSP.38/13 had been circulated.

In conclusion, the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder moved the recommendation, which was seconded by the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

- 1. Had considered the feedback provided by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel (as detailed in Minute EEOSP.38/13) and the table of minor amendments
- 2. Referred the draft Preferred Options stage Carlisle District Local Plan to Council on 16 July 2013 for approval for public consultation.

Reasons for Decision

Approval for the draft preferred options policies, along with the site allocations, would enable continued progress on the development of the Local Plan in line with the timescale set out in the Local Plan project plan. Having an up to date Local Plan in place was a requirement set out by central Government and was essential in providing the Council with the tools for an effective Planning Service and ensured that Council and community aspirations for Carlisle District were met.

EX.069/13 ARTS CENTRE DEVELOPMENT (Key Decision – KD.015/13)

Portfolio Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Community

Subject Matter

The Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder submitted report CD.37/13 concerning the potential development of an Arts Centre for Carlisle.

The Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder commented upon the long history of exploring the idea of a mid-scale Arts Centre and performance venue in Carlisle, adding that the Carlisle Plan provided a pledge for the development of an Arts Centre within the City.

It was proposed that a venue be identified for an Arts Centre which could:

- bring a new performing arts and entertainment focus into the Carlisle, delivering an offer to the city and its wider hinterland.
- deliver exciting and developing programmes of quality arts and entertainments, aimed at building and broadening audiences.
- offer a varied range of opportunities for Carlisle residents as participants, creators and performers.

- stimulate local talent and build the profile of Carlisle and Cumbria's creative and digital industries sector. That would include supporting emerging, Carlisle based, commercial artists and designers.
- contribute distinctively to Carlisle's visitor offer, linking into, and being a resource for, festivals, events, projects and cultural providers.
- provide the foundation for future developments in arts and entertainment.

Having considered potential venues in Carlisle, the former Fire Station in Rickergate (a substantial building with straight forward structure on a prominent corner site on the edge of the historic quarter) was proposed as the preferred option.

Details of the proposed format; market potential; management and programme aspects; design concept and capital costs; and the anticipated timetable were provided.

In conclusion, the Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations which were duly seconded by the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder. The Deputy Leader commented that there had been positive feedback regarding the proposals following press coverage and the proposals met the aspirations of the City and would drive economic regeneration.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive:

- 1. Approved the Warwick Street Fire Station for development as an Arts Centre for Carlisle
- 2. Approved the increase in the capital programme from £586,000 to £1,064,500 for recommendation to Council, noting that the increase will be funded from additional capital receipts generated from the Asset Review Programme.
- 3. Approved the release of the current budget and re-profiling of the overall scheme, subject to Council approval above, with £50,000 being incorporated within the 2013/14 Capital Programme and £1,014,500 in the 2014/15 Capital Programme.
- 4. Delegate authority to the Portfolio Holder for Culture, Health. Leisure and Young People in consultation with the Director of Community Engagement to produce and progress the plans to deliver the Arts Centre as detailed in report CD.37/13.
- 5. Make report CD.37/13 available for consideration by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

Reasons for Decision

Carlisle had a recognised weakness in 'mid-scale' arts and entertainments programmes and, in line with the aim of the Carlisle Plan, now sought to develop a sustainable facility which would act as a focal point for creative arts complementing and supporting the existing offer in and around the City. That was in line with the vision and actions in the Carlisle Plan

EX.070/13 NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-Cutting

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Community; Environment and Economy; and Resources

Subject Matter

The Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 31 May 2013 was submitted for information.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Notice of Executive Key Decisions dated 31 May 2013 be noted.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

EX.071/13 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY OFFICERS (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel Resources

Subject Matter

Details of decisions taken by Officers under delegated powers were submitted.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the decisions, attached as Appendix B, be noted.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

EX.072/13 JOINT MANAGEMENT TEAM (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Various

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Community; Environment and Economy; and Resources

The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 15 May 2013 were submitted for information.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 15 May 2013, attached as Appendix C, be received.

Reasons for Decision

Not applicable

EX.073/13 MARKET MANAGEMENT GROUP (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio Various

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Community; Environment and Economy; and Resources

Subject Matter

The Minutes of the meeting of the Market Management Group held on 22 April 2013 were submitted for information.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Market Management Group held on 22 April 2013, attached as Appendix D, be received. **Reasons for Decision**

Not applicable

EX.074/13 **2012/13 SUMMARY OF SERVICE STANDARDS (Non Key Decision)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should not be applied to this item)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Community, Environment and Economy; and Resources

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder submitted report PC.10/13 presenting the end of year performance report against the 2012/13 Service Standards which helped measure the City Council's performance and customer satisfaction.

Members' attention was drawn to Appendix 1 which provided details of each service standard. The table illustrated the cumulative end of year figure; a month by month breakdown of performance; and, where possible, an actual service standard baseline which had been established either locally or nationally.

The Community; Environment and Economy; and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panels had considered the matter at their respective meetings held on 30 May, 6 June and 13 June 2013.

Copies of Minute Excerpts COSP.40/13, ROSP.44/13 and EEOSP.37/13 had been circulated.

The Chairman of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel informed the Executive that benefit claims standard was the only standard which fell within the remit of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel. The Panel had been pleased to see the improvement in the number of days in which new benefit claims were being processed but felt that more narrative on how the standards supported the Council's priorities would make more effective scrutiny.

In conclusion the Deputy Leader and economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder moved the recommendation which was seconded by the Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive had considered the performance of the City Council presented in report PC.10/13) with a view to seeking continuous improvement in the manner by which the Council delivered its priorities.

Reasons for Decision

To seek Executive approval of the End of Year Performance Report.

EX.075/13 RAFFLES RE-DEVELOPMENT SCHEME – DISPOSAL OF LAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING – THOMLINSON AVENUE, CARLISLE (Non Key Decision)

Having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest Councillor Ms Quilter left the meeting for the consideration of the following item.

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio reported (RD.19A/13) that the Raffles Redevelopment Scheme was an ongoing initiative in the west of the City, aimed at bringing transformational change and regeneration to a local community where previously failing housing stock, with high voids and turnover, fuelled increasing social problems and deprivation.

Physical regeneration of the Estate had commenced in 2004, and was being delivered through a public / private partnership between Carlisle City Council (CCC) and Lovell Partnership Ltd (LPL). The Partnership Agreement master plans proposed to build 435 affordable homes for sale and to date approximately 225 units had been built and sold.

There was a clear and increasing need for suitable, quality affordable social rented housing in the Carlisle District. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment for Carlisle indicated a need for 222 affordable houses per annum, particularly for family sized dwellings. The District-wide delivery of affordable housing had suffered in tandem with the economic downturn.

The Raffles Redevelopment Scheme also formed part of the Council's Asset Review Business Plan where it was included within the investment portfolio. The Business Plan programmed the asset for disposal, within the Lovell Partnership Framework, over the next 4 years in order to generate capital receipts through which reinvestment would be recycled to assist corporate service delivery.

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio drew Members' attention to the plan appended to the report identifying the Thomlinson Avenue site, which extended approximately 0.64 hectares situated within the Raffles Estate.

He then outlined the proposal to develop the site with 21 dwellings. The dwellings would be built by Lovell, sold to the Riverside Group, and managed by them as a Registered Provider for the provision of affordable rented accommodation. Subject to planning and final design, the development would comprise traditionally constructed predominately semi detached properties. The scheme mix had been developed in conjunction with the City Council's Housing Strategy Team to ensure that the development met the housing needs of the locality. Lovell had already submitted a planning application for the scheme.

Details of the timetable and practical arrangements for delivery of the scheme; Asset Management Plan and statutory considerations; and outputs were provided.

In conclusion, the Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio moved the recommendation, which was seconded by the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

The Executive supported the proposal to vary the Lovell Partnership Agreement and approved the release and freehold disposal of the Thomlinson Avenue land to the Riverside Group, subject to the finalisation of terms and conditions agreed by the Property Services Manager.

Reasons for Decision

The proposal would deliver an additional twenty one units towards the Council's strategic housing targets, whilst also generating a capital receipt in line with the objectives of the Asset Review Business Plan

EX.076/13 CALL-IN : REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES (Non Key Decision)

Portfolio All Areas

Subject Matter

The decision taken by the Executive on 31 May 2013 (EX.60/13) to agree the nomination of representatives to serve on various outside bodies had been called in by the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel, and scrutinised at a special meeting of the Panel held on 20 June 2013.

The Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel had resolved (COSP.43/13):

"That the matter be referred back to the Executive for reconsideration and that the Executive be asked to ensure that the observations and comments of the Panel be taken into consideration when appointments are being made to outside bodies."

Copies of the Minute Excerpt had been circulated.

The Chairman of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel informed the Executive that the meeting had been a worthwhile examination of the role of representatives on outside bodies, looking at experience, the importance of regular attendance and the appropriateness of the nominees. She asked that the Executive took on board the observations and comments of the Panel when they considered future reports regarding nominations to outside bodies.

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio stated that there were a number of vacancies which had yet to be appointed and gave an undertaking to reconsider the nominations to the outside bodies which had been the subject of the call in alongside the vacancies.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the nominees for the City Council's representatives on the Downagate Community Centre Management Committee, Cumbria Health Scrutiny Committee, LGA Rural Commission and the Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust Board be reconsidered by the Executive at a future meeting.

Reasons for Decision

To respond to a reference back from the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel

PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Public and Press were excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraph number (as indicated in brackets against each minute) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the 1972 Local Government Act.

EX.077/13 RAFFLES RE-DEVELOPMENT SCHEME – DISPOSAL OF LAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING – THOMLINSON AVENUE, CARLISLE (Non Key Decision)

(Public and Press excluded by virtue of Paragraph 3)

Having declared a disclosable pecuniary interest Councillor Ms Quilter left the meeting for the consideration of the following item

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

Subject Matter

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio submitted private report RD.19B/13 outlining the financial aspects of the proposal, as set out in Part A, to dispose of land to the Riverside Group for the provision of affordable housing at Thomlinson Avenue, Carlisle in conjunction with the Council's private sector partner, Lovell Partnership Ltd.

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio Holder then moved the recommendation, which was seconded by the Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Executive noted and endorsed the financial aspects of the scheme in support of the proposal set out in Report RD.19A/13 to provide affordable housing on land at Thomlinson Avenue, Raffles, Carlisle.

Reasons for Decision

The proposal would deliver an additional twenty one units towards the Council's strategic housing targets, whilst also generating a capital receipt in line with the objectives of the Asset Review Business Plan

EX.078/13 INTERNET CONNECTION UPGRADE (Non Key Decision) (Public and Press excluded by virtue of Paragraph 3)

Portfolio Finance, Governance and Resources

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio submitted private report RD.18/13 outlining proposals to upgrade the Council's internet connection, together with the associated reasons.

The Deputy Leader and Economy and Enterprise Portfolio moved the recommendations detailed in the report, which were seconded by the Culture, Health, Leisure and Young People Portfolio Holder.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

- (1) The Executive had considered and agreed to the waiving of Contract Procedure Rule 10(ii) which required the Council to seek tenders for services over £35,000 (but under £70,000) for the reasons set out in section 2.1 of Report RD.18/13.
- (2) That the Council accepted the lowest quote for the 3 year internet connection upgrade of £47,500 from Vodafone.

Reasons for Decision

The proposal to upgrade the internet connection would satisfy capacity problems and future proof the connection for at least the next three years.

(The meeting ended at 4.20pm)