

02 May 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 185

## **RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION**

**SUBJECT:** DISCRETIONARY HOUSING  
PAYMENTS

**AUTHOR:** SUSANNA MCLAREN, JOHN FRANCIS

### **THE DECISION**

- (1) That the principles for the administration of the DHP be agreed as set out in paragraph 3.12 of the report;
- (2) That the proposed scheme for assessing applications to DHP as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be agreed; and
- (3) That the Executive Director of Finance & Resources, the Head of City Services and other appropriate officers exercising relevant functions be authorised to take all appropriate steps to administer the scheme.

### **REASON FOR THE DECISION**

The impact of the Government's reforms on those in receipt of Housing Benefit could potentially mean that many tenants will struggle to pay their rent. The additional funding for this financial year and for 2014/15 recognises this need for help, but the council anticipates that the level of funding is unlikely to be sufficient to meet it in full. However, the council considers that the provisions set out in this report are the best way to meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents.

A policy is required to ensure that the increased funding is used, as far as it is able to be, to support affected residents to move into a tenancy that will be sustainable in the long term and to support the transition into work.

### **DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

The DHP policy could be left as it is. This would mean it would not take into account the changes from welfare reform. In turn this approach would lead to an increased risk that the council was not administering individual awards appropriately; as such the council may be at a higher risk of successful legal challenge against the administration of the scheme. For the reasons set out above, it is not recommended the council adopt the 'do nothing' approach in this instance.

**Proper Officer:**

Date: 07/05/2013

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

**Signed:**



## **CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY**

Note: This decision will come into force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of the meeting at which the decision was taken subject to:

- (i) any requirement for earlier implementation of the decision or,
- (ii) the decision being called in for review by 5 Members from two or more Groups represented on the Council.

02 May 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 186

## **RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION**

**SUBJECT:** COASTAL DEFENCE STRATEGY -  
BRIGHTON MARINA TO RIVER ADUR

**AUTHOR:** MARTIN EADE

### **THE DECISION**

- (1) That the officers be authorised to undertake consultation on a number of management options for coastal defences within the 3 defined sections of the coast between Brighton Marina and the River Adur as set out in paragraph 3.6 of the report; and
- (2) That the results of the consultation be reported back to the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee, in order that a preferred option for the defence of this section of the city's coast can be considered and agreed.

### **REASON FOR THE DECISION**

In order to assist in raising awareness and understanding of the Coastal Defence Strategy, it is necessary to seek permission to consult on possible options for management. Consultation at various stages in the development of a strategy is also recommended in the Environment Agency's guidance.

### **DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

A number of options for coast defence will be developed for each of the 3 sections of coast. These will subsequently be consulted on.

**Proper Officer:**

Date: 07/05/2013

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

**Signed:**



### **CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY**

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02 May 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 187

## RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### COUNCIL DECISION

**SUBJECT:** RESPONSE TO TRANS SCRUTINY  
PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

**AUTHOR:** EMMA MCDERMOTT

#### THE DECISION

- (1) That the excellent process undertaken by the scrutiny team, assisted by the communities and equality team, to produce the Trans Equality Scrutiny Report be noted;
- (2) That the scrutiny report be welcomed and the significance of its findings be noted;
- (3) That the recommendations relevant to the city council be accepted and the responses to the individual recommendations as detailed in appendix 1 to the report be agreed;
- (4) That those recommendations that are for either other or all public sector organisations or third sector partners be noted, and it be agreed that the council would work in partnership to implement these recommendations; and
- (5) That the Trans Equality Report and the committee report be shared with the Local Government Association and other appropriate local government peer groups/forums.

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:** That the Council be recommended to note the response to the Trans Scrutiny Panel's recommendations.

#### REASON FOR THE DECISION

A formal response to a scrutiny panel is required. Therefore the committee is recommended to endorse the report and refer it to Full Council.

#### DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

No other options were considered as a response is required to a scrutiny panel report.

**Proper Officer:**

Date: 07/05/2013

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

**Signed:**



**CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY**

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02 May 2013

This record relates to Agenda Item 188

## **RECORD OF POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE DECISION**

**SUBJECT:** RE-PROCUREMENT OF CORPORATE  
PRINT & COPY DEVICES

**AUTHOR:** MARK WATSON

### **THE DECISION**

- (1) That the procurement of a corporate contract for the supply and maintenance of MFD equipment through a framework agreement be approved;
- (2) That the re-tendering of the contract for an initial term of 3 years with an option to extend for periods of up to 24 months (possible maximum 5 year term) be approved;
- (3) That the timetable and process for procurement, as detailed in section 3 of the report be approved; and
- (4) That the Executive Director for Finance & Resources be granted delegated authority:
  - (i) to award and let the contract following evaluation of tenders; and
  - (ii) to extend the initial 3-year term of the contract by up to 24 months, should the Director consider it appropriate, and subject always to satisfactory performance by the appointed contractor.

### **REASON FOR THE DECISION**

Print, copy and scan services are essential to the council's daily business. Procurement of the contract as proposed assures the availability of the tools and functions used by staff and supports business continuity across the council's services.

Care will be taken to ensure, as far as possible, that the contract is tendered to allow for the office accommodation changes that may result from further implementation of the Workstyles programme.

### **DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

#### Do nothing:

As the existing devices are supplied under lease via this fully managed service, doing nothing would lead to the complete removal of services at the contract end date. An alternative would be to not reinvest in a centralised and managed service and allow individual departments to purchase their own devices. This is not considered a viable or safe option as it would lead to uncontrolled procurement of individual devices, significantly increased cost, higher maintenance and management overheads and increased carbon usage. It would also be counter to the council's investment in the Workstyles programme and may mean that the full

benefits of this programme would not be realisable.

Further extension of existing contract:

There is no provision for further extension of the existing contract.

It is appropriate to go out to market to ensure the council is able to obtain best value for money on any new contract and to meet its procurement obligations.

**Proper Officer:**

Date: 07/05/2013

Mark Wall, Head of Democratic Services

**Signed:**



**CALL-IN FOR SCRUTINY**

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