

**Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee  
(Calling – In)**

**15 April 2013**

Report of the Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

**Called-in Item: Street Lighting Maintenance Procurement**

**Summary**

1. This report sets out the reasons for the call-in of the decisions made by the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services on 21 March 2013 in relation to the procurement of a new street lighting maintenance contract. The report to the meeting outlined the options available for the procurement of a new contract following the expiration of the existing street lighting term maintenance contract which expired on 31 March 2013.

This cover report sets out the powers and role of the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee in relation to dealing with the call-in.

**Background**

2. The Decision Sheet issued after the Cabinet Member made his decision is attached as Annex A to this report. This sets out the decisions taken by Cabinet Member on the called-in item. The original report to the Cabinet Member on the called-in item is attached as Annex B to this report.
3. The Cabinet Members decision has been called in by Cllrs Reid, Runciman and Orrell for review by the Corporate and Scrutiny Management Committee (CSMC) (Calling-In), in accordance with the constitutional requirements for call-in. The following are the reasons given for the call-in:
  - i) It is a serious concern that the Council will stop routine checking (scouting) for faulty street lighting.

- ii) The report does not refer to the experience the City had 15 years ago when it stopped scouting and found that, while some neighbourhoods were very good at reporting faults, in other areas lights were often not reported and therefore not working for weeks or months.
- iii) A lack of public consultation to determine whether the capacity exists for resident reporting to work this time.
- iv) No proper analysis of the quality of the service provided by the existing contractor or the service levels expected to be achieved by the Council.
- v) No business case for bringing the service in-house or examination of the capacity and expertise the Council has.
- vi) No apparent measures in place in the event skilled staff can not be TUPE'd across and the Council needs to recruit and train staff.

## **Consultation**

- 4. In accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, the calling-in Members have been invited to attend and/or speak at the Call-In meeting, as appropriate.

## **Options**

- 5. The following options are available to CSMC (Calling-In) Members in relation to dealing with this call-in, in accordance with the constitutional and legal requirements under the Local Government Act 2000:
  - a. To decide that there are no grounds to make specific recommendations to the Cabinet Member in respect of the report. If this option is chosen, the original decisions taken on the item by the Cabinet Member on 21 March 2013 will be confirmed and will take effect from the date of the CSMC (Calling-In) meeting; or
  - b. To make specific recommendations to the Cabinet Member on the report, in light of the reasons given for the call-in. If this option is chosen, the matter will be reconsidered by Cabinet at a meeting of Cabinet (Calling-In) to be held on 16 April 2013.

## **Analysis**

6. Members need to consider the reasons for call-in and the report to the Cabinet Member and form a view on whether there is a basis to make specific recommendations to the Cabinet Member in respect of the report.

## **Council Plan**

7. There are no direct implications for this call-in in relation to the delivery of the Council Plan and its priorities for 2011-15.

## **Implications**

8. There are no known Financial, HR, Legal, Property, Equalities, or Crime and Disorder implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members; namely, to determine and handle the call-in.

## **Risk Management**

9. There are no risk management implications associated with the call in of this matter.

## **Recommendations:**

10. Members are asked to consider the call-in and reasons for it and decide whether they wish to confirm the decisions made by the Cabinet Member or refer the matter back for reconsideration and make specific recommendations on the report to Cabinet.

**Reason:** To enable the called-in matter to be dealt with efficiently and in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

## **Contact details:**

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### **Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

Andrew Docherty  
Assistant Director, Governance and ICT

**Report  
Approved**



**Date**

5 April 2013

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None

**Wards Affected:**

**All**



**For further information please contact the author of the report**

### **Annexes**

Annex A – Copy of the Decision Sheet produced following the Cabinet Member's decision on the called- in item.

Annex B – Report of the Assistant Director (Highways, Waste and Fleet) to the Cabinet Member on 21 March 2013.

### **Background Papers**

None