

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in City Hall, (Committee Room 1) on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 5.30 p.m.

Membership

Cllrs Burrell, Crosby, Dunn, P.W.L. Gibson, Guy, S. Johnston, Mason-Gage (Chairman), McKeith (Vice-Chairman), Samuels, P. Smith, Thornton, and Tye

Co-opted Members – Mrs. A. Blakey

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	Part A – Cabinet Referrals and Responses	
	No Items	
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E. WAUGH,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance,
Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

22nd February 2023

Item 2

At a meeting of the CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CITY HALL on THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2023 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Mason-Gage in the Chair

Councillors Dunn, Crosby, Guy, S. Johnston, Samuels and Thornton.

Also in attendance:-

Mr Jim Diamond, Scrutiny Officer, Law and Governance, Smart Cities & Enabling Services.

Ms Lorraine Hughes, Public Health Consultant.

Ms Karen Lightfoot, Public Health Practitioner.

Mr. David Noon, Principal Governance Services Officer, Law and Governance, Smart Cities & Enabling Services Directorate.

Ms Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator, Law and Governance, Smart Cities & Enabling Services.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Cllrs Burrell, PWL Gibson, McKeith, P. Smith and Tye.

Minutes of the last meeting of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee held on 5th January 2023

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 5th January 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)

There were no declarations of interest made.

Wear Here 4 You – Prevention Bus

The Chairman advised that she wished to defer consideration of the report to a future meeting to allow for an invitation to be extended to representatives from partner organisations involved in the operation of the Bus and also to allow for a discussion in the context of wider youth provision.

2. RESOLVED that consideration of the report be deferred to a future meeting.

Childhood Obesity in Sunderland

Ms Lorraine Hughes, Public Health Consultant introduced a report of the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Communities (copy circulated), presented by Karen Lightfoot, which provided the Committee with an update on the National Child Measurement Programme and the whole systems approach to childhood obesity, through the 'maintaining a healthy weight' agenda in Sunderland.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

The Chair thanked Ms Lightfoot for her report and invited questions and comments from Members.

Councillor S. Johnston highlighted the 'alarming' finding that almost two thirds of Sunderland's school children had been bullied because of their weight and that a lot of this activity was being carried out on line. He asked if there was anything that could be done to proactively to counter this and promote body positivity. Ms Lightfoot replied that there were some really positive initiatives around mental health and wellbeing. This included carrying out anti-bullying work with schools via the Anti Bullying Charter Mark, the receipt of Trail Blazer funding for 'Healthy Heads' and the Kim Lawson work around 'What is Normal'.

Ms Hughes added that it was about feeding into mental health and wellbeing and supporting young people to feel good and positive about themselves. She acknowledged that this could be very challenging, because while it was often social media that was driving the issue, it had to be accepted that it was also what young people used to obtain information and communicate with each other. It boiled down to how could Public Health and TfC use these platforms to provide a more positive impact. Work was ongoing with NHS providers to use social media to signpost young people to online services with information about both mental and physical health. It also involved dispelling myths around unrealistic body expectations caused by social media and normalising different feelings young people may have. This included, normalising the fact that it was sometimes okay to be a little bit unhappy, and that you're not going to feel happy all of the time.

Councillor Johnston referred to the issue of sports pitches and expressed his disappointment that the priorities of Active Sunderland did not include team sports. He asked Ms Hughes and Ms Lightfoot if the priorities could be reassessed. Ms Hughes advised that Victoria French lead on the Active Sunderland programme and she would feedback Councillor Johnston's request. In addition, she informed the Committee of the Play Fund which could be used to target areas lacking in provision to develop sports pitches with the Community and which would be available to be booked by local groups. A local organisation would take on the management of the facility which would be seen as a community asset.

Councillor Crosby welcomed the taster sessions available with Everyone Active but recognised that it was a business and asked if there anything that the local authority could do to help families maintain their access to fitness and leisure facilities. Ms Hughes advised of initiatives such as the Access Fund and Change for Life. The city was also lucky given its number of parks and beaches. The Council's resources were finite however, and they needed to be targeted towards those who were most in need.

Councillor Samuels stated that Southwick was an area that had benefitted from this type of targeted approach via the work carried out through the Sara Project. She asked if there was comparative data available in respect of childhood obesity in Sunderland on a ward by ward basis. Ms Lightfoot confirmed that there was and that she would circulate it following the meeting.

In addition, Councillor Samuels asked if there was one single thing that could be done to address the issue what would it be? Ms Hughes replied that she wished there was a golden bullet. In contrast to other factors impacting on public health such as alcohol and smoking, people needed to eat to live. Unfortunately, the cheapest food often tended to be least nutritious. The most effective solution was starting a preventative approach at the earliest possible stage. The sad fact was that if a child was overweight at 13 years of age, there was a 67% chance that they would remain obese throughout their adult life. There was no easy or simple answer.

Councillor Guy welcomed 'The Bread and Butter Thing' initiative and looked forward to seeing how it developed as the hubs opened up across the City. He appreciated it was still in the early stages but asked if there was any initial feel regarding how the hub was operating currently and if they would provide data in the future?

Ms Lightfoot advised that people needed to register for the scheme so there would be a certain level of data collection including the number of times the scheme was accessed. She would check and report back on the type of data that could be made available. One of the positive aspects of the scheme was that in paying for food through 'the Bread and Butter Thing' applicants retained a sense of dignity while at the same time receiving more food for their money. The initial feedback from the first of the Hubs to open had been very positive.

There being no further questions for Ms Lightfoot and Ms Hughes, the Chairman thanked her for her attendance and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the report and presentation be received and noted

Annual Work Programme 2022/23

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Coordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) which briefed members on the developed of the Committee's work programme for the municipal year 2022/23 and appended a copy of the programme for Members' consideration.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr Diamond, Scrutiny Officer presented the report and briefed the Committee on the current position regarding those items already scheduled on the work programme and those waiting to be programmed in on a suitable date.

It was anticipated that the next meeting would include items on TfC's Meaningful Measures, a Schools update from Simon Marshall, the deep dive on Cared for Children and potentially the Prevention Bus.

4. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

Notice of Key Decisions

The Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions for the 28 day period from the 4th January, 2023.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

The Committee was advised that if Members had any issues to raise or required further detail on any of the items included in the notice, (that were within the purview of the Committee), they should contact Mr Diamond, Scrutiny Officer for initial assistance.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor Crosby, Mr Diamond advised that he would check if there was further detail available in respect of item 221101/750 – 'To consider the outcome of the review of the governance and contract arrangements for Together for Children Sunderland Limited and approve the recommended next steps'.

5. RESOLVED that the Notice of Key Decisions be received and noted.

There being no further items of business, the Chairman closed the meeting having thanked members and officers for their attendance and contributions.

(Signed) K. MASON-GAGE,
Chairman.

2 March 2023

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

OVERALL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE DATA FOR THE 2021/22 ACADEMIC YEAR

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 To update members of the Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee on the verified overall school performance data for the academic year 2021 – 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council has a statutory responsibility under the Education Act 1996 to promote high standards in schools and to raise attainment. There is a strong commitment to achieving the best outcomes for children and young people across a full range of measures which includes raising standards of achievement across all key stages.
- 2.2 This report presents an overview across the range of academic outcomes and the key priorities for the school improvement service.
- 2.3 The DfE has made it clear that, *'performance data for 2022 should not be directly compared with 2019 and earlier, nor should comparisons be made between schools'*. This is because schools may have been affected differently by COVID-19.'
- 2.4 Unlike previous Ofsted inspection frameworks, where a school's results were the major contributor to the overall effectiveness judgement; the current school inspection handbook states that Ofsted inspectors will "gather evidence of the impact of the quality of education from various sources. This includes nationally generated performance information about pupils' progress and attainment. This can only provide a starting point. However, Inspectors will want to see first-hand the quality of education as experienced by pupils and understand how well leaders know what it is like to be a pupil at the school".

3. Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

- 3.1 Overall, 63.7% of children achieved a "good level of development", compared to a national average 65.2.%. The regional figure was 64.1%.
- 3.2 Actions taken by the School Improvement Service to secure improvements at EYFS include:
- Review continuing professional development provided by the team.
 - Provide free provision for Level 3 SEND qualification for all EY providers and Childminder settings.
 - Provide strong support and guidance to early years settings through the provision of stronger practice hubs, and experts and mentors.

4. Phonics

- 4.1 All children in Year 1 of a primary school undertake a phonics screening check. The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in phonics in 2022 was 74.6% compared to a national figure of 75.5%. The regional figure was 75.0%.

5. Key Stage 1

5.1 KS1 Reading

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard for reading in Sunderland in 2022 was 66.7%. The 2022 national figure was 66.8%. The regional figure was 65.7%.

The percentage of children achieving greater depth for reading was 15.9% the national figure was 18.0%. The regional figure was 16.5%.

5.2 KS1 Writing

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard for writing was 58.5%. The national figure was 57.6%. The regional figure was 57.8%.

The percentage of children achieving the greater depth standard for writing was 7.9%. The national figure was 8.0%. The regional figure was 8.0%.

5.3 KS1 Mathematics

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in mathematics was 68.8% The national figure for 2022 was 67.6%. The regional figure was 67.4%

The percentage of children achieving the higher standard in mathematics in 2022 was 13.1%. The national figure in 2022 was 15.1%. The regional figure was 13.8%.

6. Key Stage 2

6.1 KS2 Reading, Writing & Mathematics Combined

The percentage of Key Stage 2 pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing (Teacher Assessment) and mathematics in 2022 was 56.3%. The national figure was 58.7%. The regional figure was 58.5%.

The percentage of children achieving the higher standard was 6.3%. The national figure was 7.2%. The regional figure was 6.7%.

6.2 KS2 Reading

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard for reading in Sunderland in 2022 was 75.8%. The 2022 national figure was 74.5%. The regional figure was 74.8%.

The percentage of children achieving greater depth for reading was 26.4% the national figure was 27.8%. The regional figure was 27.0%.

6.3 KS2 Writing

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard for writing was 67.7%. The national figure was 69.5%. The regional figure was 68.8%.

The percentage of children achieving the greater depth standard for writing was 12.2%. The national figure was 12.9%. The regional figure was 12.7%.

6.4 KS2 Mathematics

The percentage of children achieving the expected standard in mathematics was 71.9% The national figure for 2022 was 71.4%. The regional figure was 71.8%.

The percentage of children achieving the higher standard in mathematics in 2022 was 19.4%. The national figure in 2022 was 22.5%. The regional figure was 20.2%.

6.5 Actions taken by the School Improvement Service to secure improvements at a Primary level include:

The following actions have been taken / facilitated by the School Improvement Service:

- Development of the NCETM (*National Centre for Excellent in the Teaching of Mathematics*), Great North Maths Hub and Together for Children Partnership.
- Enhance partnership practice development with Westgarth English Hub to improve progress in phonics and reading, develop pupils' understanding and use of spoken language and to develop pupils' love of reading.
- Partnership work with Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) to deliver two key programmes. *Making a Difference for Disadvantaged children. Making Effective Use of Teaching Assistants.*
- TfC chose to work with Autism Education Trust (AET) as they are supported by the Department for Education. The AET promotes and supports partnerships throughout the education system to improve educational access, experience, and outcomes for autistic children and young people.
- Revised TfC structure of English as an Additional Language (EAL) to support schools.

7. GCSE Results

7.1 In 2017 a revised method of grading both GCSE English and mathematics was introduced, replacing conventional A*-G with grades 9-1. In 2022, nationally 49.6% of children, achieved grades 9-5, (with grades 9-5 seen as an equivalent grade A*-C). Within Sunderland, 42.5% achieved this measure and regionally this figure was 45.9%.

7.2. GCSE English

The percentage of children achieving grades 5 – 9 in English at GCSE level in Sunderland was 59.9%. The national figure was 65.2% and the regional figure was 63.1%.

7.3 GCSE Mathematics

The percentage of children achieving grades 5 – 9 in English at GCSE level in Sunderland was 46.5%. The national figure was 54.6% and the regional figure was 50.3%.

7.4 English Baccalaureate

The EBacc entry measure reports the percentage of pupils entered for the EBacc. To enter the EBacc, pupils must take up to eight GCSEs across five subject pillars. EBacc APS measures pupils' point scores across the five pillars of the EBacc. This ensures the attainment of all pupils is recognised, not just those at particular grade boundaries, encouraging schools to enter pupils of all abilities and support them to achieve their full potential. For English results to be included in the EBacc APS calculation, pupils must have entries for both English language and English literature. The better grade counts towards EBacc APS

The percentage of children who were entered for the EBacc in Sunderland was 41.3%. The national figure was 38.7% and the regional figure was 34%.

The APS for children who were entered for the EBacc in Sunderland was 3.97%. The national figure was 4.27% and the regional figure was 4.02%.

7.5 Progress 8

Progress 8 was introduced as a performance measure during the 2015-16 academic year. This measure tells us how well pupils at this school have progressed between the end of primary school (Key Stage 2) and the end of secondary school (Key Stage 4), compared to pupils in other schools who got similar results at the end of primary school. This measure is based on results in up to 8 qualifications, which include English, maths, 3 qualifications including sciences, computer science, history, geography and languages, and 3 other additional approved qualifications.

The Progress 8 figure for Sunderland in 2022 was -0.44, nationally this figure was -0.03, regional was -0.27

7.6 Attainment 8

Attainment 8 was introduced as a performance measure during the 2015-16 academic year. Attainment 8 measures a student's average grade across eight subjects – the same subjects that count for Progress 8. This measure is designed to encourage schools to offer a broad, well-balanced curriculum.

The Attainment 8 figure in 2022 for Sunderland was 45.9 and nationally this figure was 48.7. The regional figure 46.8.

7.7. Actions taken by the School Improvement Service to secure improvements at a Secondary level include:

The following actions were taken / facilitated by the School Improvement Service

- Termly meetings with representatives of DfE / Regional Schools Commissioner responsible for the performance of academies. All secondary schools within in the city are now part of Multi academy trusts. The development of larger trusts has created more opportunity to develop practice through internal partnerships than was the case when many academies were still stand-alone schools.
- Work with headteachers to review alternative provision to secure better outcomes for pupils.
- Continue to utilise the monthly Secondary Headteacher meeting with an agenda focus of sharing of good practice, with reference to attainment in Year 11.
- Development of the NCETM (*National Centre for Excellent in the Teaching of Mathematics*), Great North Maths Hub and Together for Children Partnership.

8. Post 16

The 2021/22 academic year saw the return of the summer exam series, after they had been cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, where alternative processes were set up to award grades. As part of the transition back to the summer exam series adaptations were made to the exams (including advance information) and the approach to grading for 2022 exams broadly reflected a midpoint between results in 2019 and 2021.

8.1 Average A level results

This measure is for all students at the end of 16-18 study who entered an A level or AS level.

The Average A level result for Sunderland in 2022 was C+, nationally this figure was B, regional was B-.

8.2 Average Applied General Result

This measure is for all students at the end of 16-18 study who entered an applied general qualification. These broad vocational qualifications are generally studied alongside A-levels in support of 16–18 Study Programmes and are supported by universities. The qualification structure also enables effective curriculum planning and delivery – a combination of mandatory and optional units underpinned by compensatory internally assessment.

The Average Applied General result for Sunderland in 2022 was Distinction -, nationally this figure Distinction -, regional was Distinction-

8.3 Average Technical Level Result

This is for all students at the of their 16 – 18 study who entered a technical level qualification.

The Average technical result for Sunderland in 2022 was Merit+, nationally this figure was Distinction-, regionally the figure was Distinction-.

8.4 Actions taken by the School Improvement Service to secure improvements at a Post 16 level include:

The following actions were taken / facilitated by the School Improvement Service:

- Termly meetings with representatives of DfE / Regional Schools Commissioner responsible for the performance of academies. All secondary schools within the city are now part of Multi academy trusts. The development of larger trusts has created more opportunity to develop practice through internal partnerships than was the case when many academies were still stand-alone schools. Sunderland College is now part of Education Partnership Northeast.
- Development of the NCETM (*National Centre for Excellent in the Teaching of Mathematics*), Great North Maths Hub and Together for Children Partnership.

9. Recommendation

The Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee are recommended to consider and comment on the information provided regarding school performance data.

Item 6

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2 MARCH 2023

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2022-2023

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT COORDINATOR

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The report sets out for members' consideration the work programme of the Committee for the 2022/23 municipal year.

2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is designed to set out the key issues to be addressed by the Committee during the year and provide it with a timetable of work. The Committee itself is responsible for setting its own work programme, subject to the coordinating role of the Scrutiny Coordinating Committee.
- 2.2 The work programme is intended to be a working document which Committee can develop throughout the year, allowing it to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.
- 2.3 In order to ensure that the Committee is able to undertake all of its business and respond to emerging issues, there will be scope for additional meetings or visits not detailed in the work programme.
- 2.4 In delivering its work programme the Committee will support the Council in achieving its corporate outcomes.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The work programme is intended to be a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2022-23.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme.

Contact: Gillian Robinson, Scrutiny and Members' Support Co-ordinator

REASON FOR INCLUSION	9 JUNE 22 (INFORMAL MEETING)	7 JULY 22	8 SEPT 22	6 OCT 22	3 NOV 22	1 DEC 22	5 JAN 23	2 FEB 23	2 MARCH 23	30 MARCH 23
Policy Framework/ Cabinet Referrals and Responses										Scrutiny Annual Report – 22/23
Scrutiny Business	Work Programme 2022/23	Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community	Corporate Parenting (Majella McCarthy) SEND – Areas for Deep Dive (Pamela Robertson) Performance Report (Jill Colbert)	SEND – Areas for Deep Dive (Pamela Robertson) Consultation with LGBTQ+ Community - Feedback on Visit (Members)	Asylum Seekers - support available for children and their families (Tracy Jeffs/Sharon Willis/Karen Dunn) Mental Health Charter Mark Award (Catherine Barnett)	Speech Disorder and Language Disorder in Early Years (Kimm Lawson) Holiday and Activities Food Programme (Jane Wheeler) Ofsted Fostering Inspection – Feedback (Tracy Jelfs)	Early Help Annual Report for 2021/22 and update on Family Hubs.(Karen Davison) YOS Review – Outcome (Karen Davison/Linda Mason)	Child Obesity – (Lorraine Hughes) Prevention Bus – Feedback (Jane Wheeler) - Deferred	Schools Update (Simon Marshall)	Training and Apprenticeship Access for Care Experienced Young People (Sharon Willis) The measures to reduce the number of young people not in education or training (Simon Marshall/Jane Wheeler)
Performance / Service Improvement		TfC Self – Evaluation (Jill Colbert) Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)		TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report – Areas Deep Dive (Jill Colbert/Stacey Hodgkinson)		Children Services Customer Feedback (Stacey Hodgkinson)			TfC Meaningful Measures Performance Report (Stacey Hodgkinson)	
Consultation / Awareness Raising		Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	Notice of Key Decisions Work Programme	

Items to Programme:

- Safeguarding of Children (To consider the implications the National Safeguarding Review Panel Review of Child Protection (Jill Colbert)
- School Place Sufficiency (Alan Rowan)
- Visit to Sunnigdale School (tbc)
- Cared for Children – Deep Dive (Social Care)

CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF KEY DECISIONS

REPORT OF THE SCRUTINY AND MEMBERS' SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider the items on the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Notice of Key Decisions) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions is included on the agenda of this Committee. The Notice of Key Decisions is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 In considering the Notice of Key Decisions, Members are asked to consider only those issues where the Scrutiny Committee or relevant Scrutiny Panel could make a contribution which would add value prior to the decision being taken.
- 3.2 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Notice of Key Decisions at the Scrutiny Committee meeting.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Agenda
-

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
220621/720	To approve funding options in respect of development at Nile and Villiers Street Sunnyside.	Cabinet	Y	23 February 2023 (published on the Notice dated 25 January 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230124/755	Proposals for the acquisition, preparation and disposal of development land adjacent to the Northern Spire Bridge.	Cabinet	Y	23 February 2023 (published on the Notice dated 25 January 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230125/757	To seek approval for appointment of a preferred developer in relation to a proposed residential development at Murton Lane, Easington Lane	Cabinet	Y	23 February 2023 (published on the Notice dated 25 January 2023).	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
210709/612	To authorise the Executive Director of City Development to deliver the Washington F-Pit Museum Heritage Visitor Centre and Albany Park Improvement project, including the procurement of consultants and contractors.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220207/690	To approve the sale of the former Alex Smiles site and to undertake required remedial works.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220207/691	To approve the acquisition of strategic sites in the Commercial Road Area.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220524/714	To agree to the grant of an option to sell property at Richmond Street, Sheepfolds, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220712/722	To seek agreement to the proposed development strategy of the Council's Self and Custom Build Sites.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter*	Address to obtain further information
220719/723	To seek approval for the acquisition of Property at Crowtree Road and to grant a lease of the former Crowtree Leisure Centre	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
220725/725	To approve the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221121/734	To provide an update and to seek approval for the change in delivery approach in respect of the Sunderland Heat Network.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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220822/736	To update Cabinet on progress of the New Wear Footbridge ("the Scheme") and seek approval to award the main works contract for the Scheme.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221018/747	To consider a disposal of land at Silksworth Road, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221101/750	To consider the outcome of the review of the governance and contract arrangements for Together for Children Sunderland Limited and approve the recommended next steps.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221110/753	To seek approval for the Disposal of an Industrial Property in Washington.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221123/754	To seek approval to procure a contractor and negotiate and enter into a build contract for the delivery of 13 one bed apartments at James William Street.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221130/756	To seek approval to procure a contractor and, negotiate and enter into a build contract in the delivery of 55 nos. bungalows and apartments for over 55s at land at St Luke Road.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221216/767	To seek approval to acquire St. Cuthbert's Methodist Church and associated land to enable the build of 6 specialist supported bungalows and approval to procure a contractor and enter into a build contract for the delivery of the bungalows.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221216/768	To seek approval to acquire the former Halfway House Public House and, negotiate and enter into a build contract with Bright Ideas in the delivery of 8nos. 1-bed apartments for supported accommodation.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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221220/769	To approve the 2023 Siglion Business Plan	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221220/770	To approve the carrying out of a procurement exercise in order to establish a framework for ground investigation works and geotechnical services. To delegate authority to the Executive Director of City Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to conclude the contractual arrangements.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230117/772	Changing Places Toilets Programme – Approval of Grant Agreement to Everyone Active to enable funding and installation of CPTs in key leisure venues across the city.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230123/773	To approve The Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy – Updates and Amendments	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230123/774	To update Cabinet on progress on the Riverside Infrastructure Project (“the Scheme”) and seek approval to commit funds to a programme of projects under this Scheme.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230125/775	To receive a progress update in relation to the Housing Innovation and Construction Skills Academy and approve the proposed next steps	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230127/776	To approve a Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023 – 2028.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230130/777	To approve the Housing Delivery Investment Plan future strategic approach.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230130/778	To approve the Financial and Lease Agreement details for the New Sunderland Eye Infirmary on Riverside.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230201/779	To Seek approval for the acquisition of a Property on John Street, Sunniside, Sunderland.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230207/780	To consider an update and proposed next steps in relation to the Regional Adoption Agency.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230207/781	To approve the Highway Maintenance (Including Bridges) and Integrated Transport Capital Programme 2023-2024.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230208/782	To apply uplift to Public Health contracts where staff are employed on NHS Agenda for Change terms and conditions, in line with Public Health Grant conditions for 2022/23.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230213/783	To make a decision relating to an exchange of land to facilitate to rebuild of St Patrick's RC Primary School (Ryhope)	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
230213/784	To approve the disposal of land at Farrington Row, Sunderland for a proposed residential scheme.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230215/786	To seek approval for the realignment of property interests at Keel Square.	Cabinet	Y	16 March 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk
221006/744	To approve in principle the establishment of a new police led Road Safety Partnership (Northumbria Road Safety Partnership) embracing the Northumbria Force Area.	Cabinet	Y	16 March to 30 June 2023	N	Not applicable.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

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230215/785	To approve the payment of financial assistance to a company locating in Sunderland in relation to the company's own investment plans.	Cabinet	Y	16 March to 30 June 2023	Y	The report is one which relates to an item during the consideration of which by Cabinet the public are likely to be excluded under Paragraphs 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, as the report will contain information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining this exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.	Cabinet report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Note; Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, or by email to committees@sunderland.gov.uk

***Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker and requests for details of these documents should be submitted to Governance Services at the address given above.**

Who will decide;

Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Claire Rowntree – Deputy Leader & Clean Green City; Councillor Paul Stewart - Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Kevin Johnston – Dynamic City.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

15 February 2023

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
230208/783	To undertake procurement and proposed award of call-off contract(s) for the supply of ICT hardware	Director of Smart Cities and Enabling Services	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Note; Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

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***Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker and requests for details of these documents should be submitted to Governance Services at the address given above.**

Who will decide;

Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Claire Rowntree – Deputy Leader & Clean Green City; Councillor Paul Stewart - Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Kevin Johnston – Dynamic City.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

15 February 2023

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF ICT HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

February 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SMART CITIES AND ENABLING SERVICES

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the proposed purchase of ICT hardware requirements across the Council.

2. Background and Proposal

- 2.1 Currently, the ICT Service has a range of hardware requirements which must be refreshed across the estate. The scope of these items are as follows:

- Laptops
- Smart Mobile Handsets
- Network Switches
- Desktop Uninterrupted Power Supplies
- Cables
- Wi-Fi Access Points

The delivery of the above items must be made to one or more Council sites within the next 12 months.

- 2.2 There are no current contracts in place for the supply of hardware, as these are often one-off purchases.
- 2.3 It is intended that the forthcoming procurement exercise will be undertaken by the Crown Commercial Service (CCS) who are running a national further competition process, in which multiple public sector organisations can aggregate their hardware requirements. By participating in this process, it is anticipated the Council can increase our buying power to achieve savings that would not be possible through individual buying.
- 2.4 The CCS intends to share the proposed outcome of the national further competition process in mid-March. At that time, the Council will confirm whether we wish to proceed to order any or part of the hardware requirements based on the prices submitted.
- 2.5 The budget for all requirements is approximately £1.7m.

3. Reasons for the Decision

A hardware refresh is undertaken every four years to ensure the Council's infrastructure and end user devices are fully supported, have improved performance and increased security, which will ensure the risk of disruption to the workforce and Council services is minimised.

4. Alternative Decisions

The alternative option is not to proceed with the purchase the hardware requirements. However, this option is not recommended as the existing hardware must be refreshed, in order to continue supporting the infrastructure and staff across the Council.

5. Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that the Chief Executive approves our participation in the procurement process for the purchase of replacement hardware.

Notice is given of the following proposed Key Decisions (whether proposed to be taken in public or in private) and of Executive Decisions including key decisions) intended to be considered in a private meeting:-

Item no.	Matter in respect of which a decision is to be made	Decision-maker (if individual, name and title, if body, its name and see below for list of members)	Key Decision Y/N	Anticipated date of decision/ period in which the decision is to be taken	Private meeting Y/N	Reasons for the meeting to be held in private	Documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the matter	Address to obtain further information
230208/784	To extend the Council's Water Retail Services Contract with Anglian Water Business (National) Limited for 24 months, in accordance with the terms of the original contract	Director of Finance	Y	16 March 2023	N	Not applicable.	Report	Governance Services City Hall Plater Way Sunderland SR1 3AA committees@sunderland.gov.uk

Note; Some of the documents listed may not be available if they are subject to an exemption, prohibition or restriction on disclosure.

Further documents relevant to the matters to be decided can be submitted to the decision-maker. If you wish to request details of those documents (if any) as they become available, or to submit representations about a proposal to hold a meeting in private, you should contact Governance Services at the address below.

Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of documents submitted to the decision-maker can also be obtained from the Governance Services team City Hall, Plater Way, Sunderland, or by email to committees@sunderland.gov.uk

***Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker and requests for details of these documents should be submitted to Governance Services at the address given above.**

Who will decide;

Councillor Graeme Miller – Leader; Councillor Claire Rowntree – Deputy Leader & Clean Green City; Councillor Paul Stewart - Cabinet Secretary; Councillor Louise Farthing – Children, Learning and Skills; Councillor Kelly Chequer – Healthy City; Councillor Linda Williams – Vibrant City; Councillor Kevin Johnston – Dynamic City.

This is the membership of Cabinet as at the date of this notice. Any changes will be specified on a supplementary notice.

Elaine Waugh,
Assistant Director of Law and Governance

15 February 2023 35

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR WATER RETAIL (SUPPLY) SERVICES

February 2023

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ASSURANCE AND PROPERTY SERVICES

1. Purpose of the Report

To seek approval to extend the Council's current Water Retail Services contract with Anglian Water Business (National) Limited, for a further 2-year period.

2. Background and Proposal

- 2.1 The Council's current utilities contract for Water Retail Services was awarded for an initial period of 2 years on 1 April 2021, following a call off from the NEPO Water Retail Services framework.
- 2.2 NEPO have subsequently extended its Water Retail Services framework for a further 2 years, and there is now the opportunity for the Council to also extend its contract for an equivalent 2-year period.
- 2.3 The cost of the extension is anticipated to be in the region of £1,200,000 per annum. However, this is a demand driven utilities service contract and the cost can vary over the duration of the contract depending on demand/usage.
- 2.4 Provision exists within the Council's revenue budget for this cost. The total cost of the variation is expected to be in the region of £2,400,000.

3. Reasons for the Decision

- 3.1 This is a key utilities contract which underpins the day-to-day workings of the Council, and which provides for water supply to all Council facilities. Extending the current contract will help ensure continuation of a key utility supply, required to enable the day-to-day workings of the Council.
- 3.2 The Council's current contract with Anglian Water Business (National) Limited commenced on 1 April 2021, and contains provision for the contract to be extended for a further 2 year period. To date, the service has been provided in accordance with the Council's requirements, and continues to represent value for money.
- 3.3 Extending the current contract will help minimise any risk of disruption to the workforce and Council services that may arise following a change of provider.

4. Alternative Decisions

The alternative option is not to extend the existing contract. This option is not recommended as it means the Council would need to separately procure its own standalone contract for Water Retail Services, and would not benefit from the collective bargaining power (and any favourable rates and savings) secured by NEPO when it established the regional Water Retail Services framework.

5. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Director of Finance approves the extension of the Council's existing contract for Water Retail Services for a period of 24 months, from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2025.