

THE EXECUTIVE

Tuesday, 12 April 2005
(7:00 - 7:20 pm)

Present: Councillor C J Fairbrass (Chair), Councillor J L Alexander, Councillor H J Collins, Councillor S Kallar, Councillor M A McCarthy, Councillor M E McKenzie and Councillor T G W Wade

Also Present: Councillor Mrs V M Rush

Apologies: Councillor C Geddes, Councillor G J Bramley and Councillor L A Smith

373. Minutes (29 March 2005)

Agreed.

374. Chartered Institute of Housing Conference and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Conference 2004 and Attendance at 2005 Events

Received a report providing feedback on the Chartered Institute of Housing Conference and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Conference in 2004. The report also sought approval for attendance at these conferences in 2005 in accordance with the Council's Conference, Visits and Hospitality Rules.

Agreed the attendance by three representatives at both conferences in 2005 with costs, set out in the report, being met from the Housing and Health Departmental Budget.

375. Internet and Electronic Mail Code of Practice

Deferred.

376. Efficiency Programme and Annual Efficiency Statement

Received a report seeking approval for a programme of efficiency reviews drawn up by the Corporate Management Team (CMT) Efficiency Sub-Group, and approval of the Annual Efficiency Statement (AES) for submission to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) by 15 April 2005.

Agreed, in order to improve all aspects of the Council's business and meet the ODPM's deadline of 15 April 2005, to:

1. The programme of efficiencies to be managed by the CMT Efficiency Sub-Group, as set out in Appendix A to the report and subject to the following minor amendments:
 1. Removing reference to Legal Services from the list of Service Reviews in section A (iv); and

2. Amending the wording of section D (iii) - Leisure Trusts, to note that moves to reform the Council's Leisure Services into a Leisure Trust is currently a preferred option and that no formal agreement on this has been made.

2. The forward looking AES for 2005 / 2006 to be submitted to the ODPM, as set out in Appendix B.

377. Private Business

Agreed to exclude the public and press for the remainder of the meeting, as the business was confidential.

378. Packaging of the Translating and Interpreting Services Contract

Received a report outlining details of the existing Translation and Interpreting Services contract, which is due to expire at the end of July 2005. The report also outlines proposals to tender the contract to test the market for the best possible price and service combination for the Council.

Agreed, in order to ensure that best value Translating and Interpreting Services are secured for the Council, to:

1. The potential overall cost to the Council in consultation with the Director of Finance; and
2. Competitively tender the Translating and Interpreting Services for the Council.

379. Renewal of Domestic Central Heating - Appointment of Construction Partners

Further to Minute 143 (12 October 2004), received a report seeking approval for the appointment of Constructor Partners for the pre-construction stage of the central heating programme.

Agreed, in order to install / upgrade gas fire central heating and hot water systems within Barking and Dagenham low rise housing stock and assist in the delivery of the Decent Home Standard as set by Central Government, to:

1. The appointment of EPS Projects Ltd (EPS) and United House Ltd (UHL) as the two Constructor Partners for the pre-construction phase of the projects/programme for the following fee tender sums:

EPS	£55,517
UHL	£14,373

2. Delegate authority to the Director of Housing and Health to enter into contracts for the construction phase, subject to successful conclusion of the pre-construction phase, and subject to provisions detailed in the report;
3. Note that the pre-construction phase of the project may involve some element of negotiation, and to approve such negotiation as required by item 9.2 of the Contracts Rules; and

4. The expenditure of up to £120k (£60k per contract) from the approved budget for pilot works which will be carried out during the pre-construction period. This expenditure is in addition to the pre-construction fees.

380. Technical Analysis Work - Budget Process

Received a report seeking approval to the use of the City of Westminster to undertake specialised technical work around the 2006 / 2007 grant settlement.

Agreed, to enable the Council to complete the necessary financial analysis of the grant settlement to support the 2006 / 2007 budget process, to waive section 4.1 (e) of the Council's Contract Rules, and appoint the City of Westminster to undertake the necessary specialised technical work around the 2006 / 2007 grant settlement as detailed in paragraph's 2.1 to 2.3 of the report.