Reasons for Call in of Minute 287 PACSPE Invitation to Tender/Project Scope

- 1. The report contains substantial exclusions to the original proposals.
- 2. There is no costing of these exclusions.
- 3. There is no reason given for these exclusions.
- 4. There is no clear indication of what is now included in the potential contract.
- 5. There is no revised figure given for the new contract value.
- 6. There is no indication of any revised figure for potential savings.
- 7. There is no information on the potential impact on staff or staff organisation.
- 8. It is impossible for members to ascertain from this report whether or not, on the revised contract value, the outsourcing will provide the Council with value for money.
- 9. The report states that "the proposed exclusions from the scope of this procurement exercise outlined in 3.3 and form of contract in 4.0 will be used to inform the formal OJEU advertisement and Pre-Qualification Questionnaire to commence shortly". If this happens before members are provided with a further report giving them the full information necessary on which to take a decision to move to tender, they will be put in the position of placing a tender before they even know the value of the contract to be advertised.
- 10. The lack of any precise knowledge of the in house value of the services to be tendered, or of any detailed breakdown of the individual services, and the lack of any work done on an in house bid which was precluded by Cabinet, means there will be no accurate yardstick against which to gauge any subsequent tenders and make decisions on whether the outsourcing will deliver savings or provide value for money.
- 11. If savings are minimal it will be important to factor in the lack of future financial flexibility created by the letting of a long term contract.
- 12. No opportunity has been given to staff to see if they can meet in house any new savings targets while retaining flexibility for the Council.
- 13. At the call in held in July, the Director of Technical Services stated that any major changes to the procurement exercise would mean that the exercise itself would be subject to further review.
- 14. Reducing the value of the contract by what looks to be almost half must qualify as a major change.
- 15. No review has been instigated.