

ECONOMY REGENERATION & HOUSING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 26 January 2023

42 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

The Chair opened the meeting and reminded everyone that the meeting was being webcast and a copy is retained on the Council's website for two years.

43 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ian Lewis

44 **MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Jean Robinson disclosed a personal interest in respect to her position on Wirral Growth Company in respect of agenda item 48 Budget Setting 23/24. She indicated that she would remain in the chamber during the discussion and voting of the agenda item

45 **MINUTES**

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2022 be approved as a correct record

46 **PUBLIC AND MEMBER QUESTIONS**

No questions, statements or petitions from the public or Councillors had been received.

47 **UTILISATION OF PROCURE PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORK**

The Head of Regeneration Delivery presented the report of the Director of Regeneration and Place.

This report sought members' approval to authorise the Director of Regeneration and Place to utilise the Procure Partnerships Framework to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced main contractor to develop the design and carry out the construction works in relation to two major schemes.

These were the highways, public realm and active travel schemes across the Birkenhead Waterfront Programme and in Birkenhead Town Centre via the Conway Street / Europa Boulevard and Grange Road / Charing Cross / Grange Road West Movement Projects.

The project's aim was to create an environment that is safe and attractive for both pedestrians and cyclists in order to support modal shift and address the environment and climate emergency. These infrastructure improvements would be a critical pump priming element to the ongoing regeneration plans for Birkenhead and contribute significantly to creating a platform for further investment.

Members queried the Procure Partnerships scoring in regards to social and environmental considerations and if consideration was given to local suppliers. The Head of Regeneration Delivery responded to confirm that there is a standard weighting in the procurement process of 10% in respect of social value waiting as well as consideration of environmental credentials. Members were also informed that the Council put emphasis on 'meet the supplier' days with a focus on employment and educations days. The Head of Regeneration Delivery agreed to circulate to members the relevant criteria.

Resolved - that Director of Regeneration and Place be authorised to

(1) commence a procurement exercise by way of a mini tendering process via the Procure Partnerships Framework for the appointment of a main contractor to develop the design and carry out the construction works in relation to the highways, public realm and active travel schemes across the Birkenhead Waterfront Programme and in Birkenhead Town Centre via the Conway Street / Europa Boulevard and Grange Road / Charing Cross / Grange Road West Movement Projects; and

(2) appoint of a main contractor under a pre-construction services agreement following completion of a tender submission.

48 **BUDGET SETTING 2023/24**

The Director of Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee introduced the report which enabled the Committee to consider feedback and outcomes from the Budget Workshops which had been held in recent months to facilitate discussion on the proposed budget options. The report also provided an update on the 2023/24 budget setting process with details on the most recent budget options, which were developed in response to the previously outlined budget position.

Members queried the Merseytravel Levy and asked if any representation was being made by the Council to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

(LCRCA) regarding reduced train services. Officers assured Members that the budget setting process or the Merseytravel Levy was undertaken by the LCRCA and that representation was made by all 5 constituent Local Authorities.

Resolved – That

(1) the Budget Workshop feedback and outcomes, as detailed appendices 2 and 3, be reported to Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

(2) the latest budget information provided to Policy and Resources Committee in January 2023 be noted.

49 **WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE**

The Lead Principal Lawyer introduced the report which reminded members that the Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee was responsible for proposing and delivering an annual committee work programme. This work programme was to align with the corporate priorities of the Council, in particular the delivery of the key decisions which were within the remit of the Committee.

Resolved - that the content of the Economy, Regeneration and Housing Committee work programme for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year be noted

50 **EXEMPT INFORMATION - EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Minutes:

Resolved – That, under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business on the grounds it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to that Act. The Public Interest test has been applied and favours exclusion.

51 **BUDGET SETTING - WORKSHOP APPENDICES**

Resolved – That the exempt appendix be noted.

52 **ACQUISITION OF NATIONAL GRID LAND, NORTHSIDE**

The Head of Regeneration Delivery introduced the report.

Resolved – That the recommendations as detailed in the report be approved.

53 **HIND STREET REGENERATION – PROCUREMENT OF GRANT FUNDING
ENABLEMENT WORKS**

The Head of Regeneration Delivery introduced the report.

Resolved – That the recommendations as detailed in the report be approved.