



**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (REGULATORY,  
COMPLIANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES)**

**MEETING HELD AT THE BIRKDALE ROOM, TOWN HALL,  
SOUTHPORT  
ON TUESDAY 6TH MARCH, 2018**

PRESENT: Councillor Bradshaw (in the Chair)  
Councillor Byrom (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors Booth, Linda Cluskey, Grace,  
Daniel Lewis and McKinley

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Paulette Lappin

**51. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jamieson, McCann and Owens.

**52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**53. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018 be confirmed as a correct record.

**54. THE ARVATO CONTRACT**

The Committee received a presentation from Stephan Van Arendsen, Head of Corporate Resources on the arvato contract.

Mr. Van Arendsen:-

- Set out the context and that the current 10 year contract expired on 30 September 2018 and had an annual value £15.4m; that services included transactional finance, HR and ICT; that the Council decision was to bring 5 of the 6 services back in house; and that a new ICT provider would be procured
- Updated on the governance exit plan arrangements that included a Steering Board established for with arvato
- Updated on the exit plan associated with the following workstreams Legal, Financial & Commercial; HR & Payroll; ICT; Operational Services; and Schools
- The Council aims and objectives that included that Service delivery was maintained between now and exit and that the Council could meet the requirements operationally and financially from PSR9 - ICT and Digital

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- Current key issues associated with the exit plan relating to contracts; engagement; timing and quality of information provision; understanding how these services work; adherence to the exit plan; Key Performance Indicators; risk management, and the current status of arvato
- The ICT procurement exercise undertaken and that this was different to anything the Council had done before, namely utilising an invitation to participate in dialogue; that 6 submissions were received by the deadline date and that it was considered that 2 could progress to the next stage; and that the contract would commence on 1 October 2018
- Concluded that this was a major project that was highly complex, was taking a vast amount of resources and was very sensitive; that the risks associated with the project reflected this and required careful management as did the current provider; that the largest amount of information would be received during April – July 2018; that the external provider market for ICT had changed significantly in recent years; that procurement was ongoing and any successful bidder would need to meet the Council's needs; that Cabinet and the Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services would continue to be engaged; and suggested that a further update be provided to this Committee at the next meeting

Members of the Committee asked questions/commented on the following issues:-

- The consultations and communication undertaken with staff regarding the contract
- The numbers of staff at risk

RESOLVED: That

- (1) Stephan Van Arendsen be thanked for his informative presentation; and
- (2) it be noted that the Head of Corporate Resources will submit a further update to the next meeting of the Committee.

## **55. EMERGENCY PLANNING**

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Corporate Resources on the ongoing review of the Council's emergency planning arrangements; and which highlighted the key strands of work, expected outcomes and progress made.

The report indicated that the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 delivered a single framework for civil protection in the UK; that Part 1 of the Act established a clear set of roles and responsibilities for those involved in emergency preparation and response at the local level; that Local

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Authorities were identified as Category 1 responders, at the core of the response to most emergencies; that the Council maintained a small, dedicated Emergency Planning team in order to meet these requirements; and that the team was an intrinsic part of the Merseyside Resilience Forum (MRF), working with external partners who would also be involved in the response to local emergencies.

The report also indicated that following terror attacks in Manchester on 22 May 2017 and the Grenfell Tower fire on 15 September 2017 these factors had brought emergency preparedness into sharp focus, and the profile of emergency planning and the need to have robust plans in place had never been higher. This had led to a comprehensive review of the arrangements in place in Sefton.

The report detailed the seven areas of focus of the review and the progress made relating to command and control; training; human aspects and community resilience; logistics; communications; emergency plans; and business continuity; and concluded by advising that regular updates on the progress of the project were being provided to senior management and to the Audit and Governance Committee; that it was anticipated that the project would conclude by summer 2018; and that the revised arrangements would be monitored on an ongoing basis so as to ensure continued effectiveness.

Attached as an appendix to the report was the Emergency Planning Review Project Plan.

Members of the Committee asked questions/commented on the following issues:-

- The implications and lessons to be learned by Sefton and other local authorities arising from the findings of the Kerslake Arena Review into the Manchester Arena Terrorist Attack and the Hackitt Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety following the Grenfell fire
- The potential for the Liverpool City Region Mayor to take the lead role for emergency planning on a Merseyside/Halton basis
- How an incident in Sefton would be responded to and the individual responsibilities of key staff such as Gold Command, Emergency Duty rota staff and volunteers
- The lessons learned by the emergency services, especially the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, following the Liverpool Echo Arena car park fire

RESOLVED:

That the report on the ongoing review of Sefton's emergency planning arrangements be noted.

## **56. AREA COMMITTEES WORKING GROUP FINAL REPORT**

Further to Minute No. 34 of the meeting held on 21 November 2017 the Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance setting out progress made in respect of the recommendations formulated by the Area Committees Working Group and approved by Cabinet.

The Committee also considered an action plan produced by the Head of Communities.

Members of the Committee asked questions/commented on the following issues:-

- The contradiction between the information in the appendix to the report and the Action Plan regarding the venues for Forum meetings. Councillor Lappin, Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services indicated that it would be at the discretion of each Forum whether the meeting was held in a Council or non-Council venue
- Who had been consulted on the contents of the Action Plan
- The “market place” layout of the proposed meetings
- The potential for Cabinet Members and senior officers to attend Forum meetings
- How Ward funds would be managed by the Forum meetings
- A concern that the management of Ward Funds would not be in the public domain
- After the Year of the Volunteer theme the selection of other themes for consideration at Forum meetings

RESOLVED:

That the report setting out progress made against the recommendations formulated by the Area Committees Working Group and approved by Cabinet be noted.

## **57. WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18, SCRUTINY REVIEW TOPICS AND KEY DECISION FORWARD PLAN – MARCH 2018**

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance that updated on the Work Programme for 2017/18; topics for scrutiny reviews to be undertaken by Working Group appointed by the Committee; and seeking the identification of any items for pre-scrutiny from the Key Decision Forward Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme for 2017/18 as set out in Appendix 1 to the

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report be approved.

**58. CABINET MEMBER REPORT – JANUARY 2018 TO FEBRUARY  
2018**

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Regulation and Compliance that included the most recent report from the Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services.

Councillor Lappin, Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services was in attendance to answer any questions regarding her report.

A Member of the Committee asked commented on the following issue:-

- The progress made regarding work across the Council for the development of the World War 1 Commemoration (1918- 2018) activity plan

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the update report from the Cabinet Member – Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services be noted; and
- (2) Councillor Lappin be thanked for her attendance at the meeting.