

ITEM 21b

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

3 FEBRUARY 2000

Minutes of the meeting of the ENVIRONMENT CONTRACTS SUB-COMMITTEE of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE held on TUESDAY 21 DECEMBER 1999 at 6.00pm

Present: Councillor Bristow (Chair)
Councillors Edwards, Hopkins, Mabbutt (substitute for Councillor Burke), Morsley, O'Sullivan and Pugh

Officers: J Best (Strategic Director Environment), M Jones (Head of Legal and Property Services), A Hudson (Head of Infrastructure), M Hood (Assistant Treasurer (Audit and Customer Support)), Steve Readyhough (Business Support Manager), C Smith (Contracts Manager) and J Shaw (Senior Committee Manager)

Also Present: Councillor Burke

EC13/00 MINUTES

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 1999, be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

EC14/00 AUTOMATIC PLASTIC SORTING EQUIPMENT

The Sub-Committee considered a report which sought approval to tender for the purchase of automatic plastic sorting equipment for the Materials Recycling Facility. The Sub-Committee noted that this was to be funded by the Environmental Body (MK) as a research project.

RESOLVED -

That officers be authorised to seek tenders for the purchase of automatic plastic sorting equipment for the Materials Recycling Facility.

EC15/00 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED -

That the public and press representatives be excluded from the meeting by virtue of Paragraph 9 (Contracts) and 12 (Legal Advice) of Part I of Schedule 12A of

the Local Government Act 1972, in order that the Sub-Committee may consider the following item:

Waste Management Contract

EC16/00

WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

The Sub-Committee considered a report on the tender evaluation of the Waste Management Contract, in order to formulate a recommendation to the Environment Committee.

Councillor Mabbutt moved the following motion, seconded by Councillor Pugh :

“That the Chief Executive be instructed to carry out a full enquiry into the tendering procedure of this contract”

On being put to the vote, the motion was declared lost.

RECOMMENDED –

1. That the Environment Committee re-tender the Waste Services Contract for the reasons stated by the District Auditor and the advice proffered by the QC.
2. That Milton Keynes Council re-tender all the services shown (in both groups) subject to any final decision on whether to accept the bid within the Group 2 section to be taken by the Strategic Director – Environment, in consultation with the Chair of the Environment Committee.
3. That officers approach, as soon as possible, in the first instance, the current contractors to seek short-term extensions to the existing contracts for a maximum period of up to 12 months, where appropriate.
4. That officers attempt to secure a reduction in current prices where possible during any extended period where practical to do so, in line with Best Value.
5. That in the event of the actions in 3 and 4 above seeming not to be possible, this be reported back to the special meeting of the Environment Committee to be held on 13 January 2000.
6. That in the event of difficulty, other possible sources of ensuring the service delivery currently enjoyed be identified, evaluated and discussed with the Chair, in order to ensure the seamless continuity of service from 1 April 2000, and these matters be reported back to the meeting of the Environment Committee on 13 January 2000.
7. That officers should not engage any further outside contractor help without consulting the Chair of the Environment Committee.
8. That Milton Keynes Council consider joint venture bids in any future tender process of the Waste Services Contracts, and this be determined at the meeting of the Environment Committee on 13 January 2000.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 7.29 PM