

Minutes of the meeting of the CABINET held on TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 6.30 pm

**Present:** Councillor Marland (Chair)  
Councillors Gifford, Gowans, Legg, Long, Middleton, Nolan and O'Neill

**Officers:** M Bracey (Corporate Director - People), D Sharkey (Corporate Director - Place), S Bridglalsingh (Service Director [Legal and Democratic Services]), S Richardson (Service Director [Finance and Resources]), M Kelleher (Service Director [Housing and Community]), M Moore (Senior Planning Officer), P Gosal (Head of Economy and Culture), S Rooney (Head of Highways) and D Imbimbo (Committee Manager).

**Also Present:** Councillors Bald, Bint, R Bradburn, Dransfield, Geaney, D Hopkins, Hosking, McDonald, McLean, Walker and C Williams and 16 members of the public.

**C36 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) announced that, with reference the introduction of the Flexible Housing Allowance it had come to the Cabinet's attention that it would result in a funding deficit to the Council of £1m p.a. for the next two years. He stated that Councillor Long would be writing to the Chair of the Budget Scrutiny Committee to set out the detail. At the request of Councillor C Williams Councillor Marland undertook to write to all Councillors to make them aware of the impacts

**C37 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED -**

That the minutes of the meeting of the 12 July 2017 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**C38 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Councillor Long disclosed a non-prejudicial interest in Item 10 in respect of Tickford Park Primary School.

Councillor Marland declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 18, as the lead member for the LGSS resources Board.

**C39**

**DEPUTATIONS – WESTCROFT RESERVE SITE 3C**

The Cabinet received Deputation from residents of Westcroft with reference to the Westcroft Reserve Site 3C which was presented by Councillor Bald.

The Cabinet received a written response from Councillor Marland which stated that there was no intention to develop the site for modular housing.

The Cabinet also heard from Mr J Riley who read a letter from Mr. P Stevens.

It was also noted that a letter had been received from Shenley Brook End and Tattenhoe Parish Council.

The Cabinet considered a Councillors' Item from Councillor Bald who sought clarity from the Cabinet as to what was proposed for the site.

On this matter Councillor Bald thanked Councillor Marland for the clarity provided by his written response, and further urged that the Cabinet send a strong message to Milton Keynes Development Partnership to bring forward a Development Brief on proposals for the site that will secure its future.

Councillor C Williams told the Cabinet that he had noted the comments made by Mr Riley on behalf of Mr Stevens and despite being a member of Shenley Brook End and Tattenhoe Parish Council, which had also objected to the proposal to develop Modular housing, he wished to divorce himself from any statement that inferred or directly suggested that homeless persons were responsible for Anti-Social Behaviour.

**C40**

**PETITIONS – NIGHTINGALE CRESCENT, BRADVILLE**

The Cabinet received a Petition from Councillor Walker on behalf of Residents of Nightingale Crescent, Bradville with reference to overgrown hedges and bushes.

The Cabinet received a written response from Councillor Gowans, the Cabinet member for Public Realm that explained that The Head of Environment & Waste had engaged with the Parish Council and has received additional information relating to littering in Nightingale Crescent these matters would now be addressed through Environmental Services contract.

The Cabinet also considered a Councillors' Item from Councillor Walker.

On this matter the Cabinet also heard from Councillor A Francis, Chair **Parish Councillor** at New Bradwell Parish Council, who confirmed that the trees in question were not within the Stantonbury Ward but rather Wolverton Ward and within the Parish of New Bradwell. The Cabinet heard that the Parish Council had not been approached in respect of the concerns expressed by the petitioners.

Councillor Gowans, the Cabinet member for Public Realm referred to his written response.

**C41**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Question from Ms C Hall to Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council).

Mrs Hall referring to the Decision by Cabinet in respect of 5 The Green, Woughton-on-the-Green at its April meeting which was to request that Officers prepare a report for consideration at the July meeting of the Cabinet and that this had not happened and the report was not being considered at this meeting. When would this urgent matter be considered?

In response Councillor Marland indicated that this involved a legal process which was ongoing, but that he would respond in full in writing.

**C42**

**COUNCILLORS' ITEMS**

- (a) Item submitted by Councillor Walker - Nightingale Crescent, Bradville

The Cabinet noted that this matter had been considered when it had received the petition on the same issue.

- (b) Item submitted by Councillor Bald - Westcroft Reserve Site 3

The Cabinet noted that this matter had been considered when it had received the deputation on the same issue.

- (c) Item submitted by Councillor Bald on behalf of Tattenhoe Ward Councillors - Westcroft Library

In response to an item submitted by Councillor Bald, with reference to the scheduled closure for refurbishment of Westcroft Library on 30 September 2017, Councillor Gifford, Cabinet member for Place) referring to her written response indicated that it was planned that the library would relocate to the large sports hall at Tattenhoe Sports or the duration of the new build. An all-inclusive rental agreement had been negotiated with Hertsmere which involved Hertsmere Leisure relocating / compensating current users. The temporary library was scheduled to open at Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion mid to late October 2017 and the new build at Westcroft District Centre was scheduled to be completed in Autumn 2018

Councillor Gifford clarified that the Head of Service would work with the Libraries Manager and the Council's Communications team to make sure residents were fully communicated with.

Councillor Gifford also detailed the risks and how these would be managed and the relocation arrangements being put in place for displaced users at Tattenhoe Sports Pavilion.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillor Geaney and two Members of the Public during consideration of this Item.

- (d) Item submitted by Councillors Hosking and McLean with reference to Emberton Country Park.

Councillors Hosking and McLean requested that an options appraisal of future investment for Emberton Country Park be undertaken with input from the stakeholders that had been previously involved with the now defunct Park Liaison User Group and that this should be prominently advertised around Emberton Country Park in local print and broadcast media, on the Council's website and social media.

Councillors Hosking and McLean told the Cabinet that they believed the Park was a heritage asset that should be retained and nurtured, and suggested that it might be best suited to be run by a not-for-profit organisation.

Councillor Gowans, the Cabinet Member for Public Realm referred to his written response, and indicated that he fully supported the proposal to secure the future of the park..

#### C43

#### COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

- (a) Question from Councillor D Hopkins to Councillor Gowans (Cabinet member for Public Realm).

Councillor Hopkins asked Councillor Gowans what the situation was in respect of the provision of a 20mph speed limit on Walton Road outside Wavendon Children's Nursery and Primary School.

Councillor Gowans indicated that a Delegated Decision was scheduled to be taken on 10 October 2017 in respect of the matter.

- (b) Question from Councillor Bald to Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation).

Councillor Bald asked Councillor Middleton why the usual Item in respect of Revenue Monitoring Reports, which had previously featured on all Cabinet meeting agendas was missing from this agenda, Councillor Bald indicated that it was her understanding that that this would now be reported quarterly which she felt was not adequate and asked that the matter be reconsidered.

Councillor Middleton replied that it was intended that in future the report would be presented to Cabinet on a quarterly basis; this was in line with the practice in most other large unitary authorities and on the advice of the Interim Corporate Director – Resources. Councillor Middleton also indicated that monthly monitoring by the Corporate Leadership Team would continue and also Cabinet Members would receive a monthly

briefing in respect their respective portfolios. The next monitoring report would be considered by Cabinet on 3 October 2017.

Councillor Middleton further reminded Councillor Bald, that as the shadow Cabinet member for Resources she was welcome to meet with him at any time for a briefing should she require it.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) further commented that the Budget Scrutiny Committee could also ask for a report at any time should it have any concerns.

**C44**

**REFERRAL FROM DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE 29 JUNE 2017 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL FOR AN INCREASE IN PLANNING FEES**

The Cabinet received a referral from the Development Control Committee meeting on 29 June 2017 requesting that the Development Management Service benefitted from any increase in revenue from planning fees which was presented by Councillor Legg, in his capacity as Vice Chair of Development Control Committee.

Councillor Legg, the responsible Cabinet member for Customer Services indicated that he had discussed the matter with Councillor Middleton (Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation) and it was recognised that as at this time the approval had not been given from Central Government for the fee increase, it was therefore appropriate to deal with the request as part of the forthcoming budget setting process if the Government had agreed the fee increase at the time.

**RESOLVED:**

That the recommendation be noted, and a response be sent to the Development Control Committee.

**C45**

**REFERRAL FROM BUDGET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 18 JULY 2017 - HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

The Cabinet considered recommendations from the meeting of the Budget Scrutiny Committee held on 18 July 2017 regarding Home to School Transport which were presented by the Chair of the Budget Scrutiny Committee, Councillor R Bradburn.

The Cabinet heard that the Budget Scrutiny Committee had raised concerns in respect of the number of children who had been required to change schools when their families were placed outside the Borough following being made homeless, due to funding of home to school transport not being made available

Councillor Nolan, the responsible Cabinet member for Children and Families indicated that a written response had been prepared but assured the Cabinet that there was provision for home and transport

to take account of special needs and those who might be at a critical stage of their education such as about to take examinations.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors Geaney and C Williams during consideration of the item.

**RESOLVED:**

That the referral and response be noted.

**C46**

**REFERRAL FROM BUDGET SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 18 JULY 2017 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2018/19 – 2021/22)**

The Cabinet considered recommendations from the meeting of the Budget Scrutiny Committee held on 18 July 2017 with reference to the Financial Sustainability Plan and Medium Term suggestion that the Council could borrow from the General Fund to build properties that could be sold once they were no longer needed, which were presented by the Chair of Budget Scrutiny Committee Councillor R Bradburn.

Councillor Long, the responsible Cabinet member for Adult Care and Housing, indicated that he welcomed the referral as an additional initiative to those being progressed by the Cabinet.

Councillor Long also referred to the temporary accommodation budget indicating that the projected shortfall was a result of as a result of changing to the financing arrangements from Government.

Councillor Long also indicated his willingness to meet with the local Members of Parliament to discuss how affordable housing could be provided.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillor Bald during consideration of the referral.

Councillor Marland (Leader of the Council) stated that it was not necessary to borrow only from the General Fund as the Council was already working with YourMK on a number of initiatives. Also it would be unwise to restrict the borrowing to only one source.

**C47**

**REFERRAL FROM COUNCIL 19 JULY 2017 – PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF LOUGHTON WITH REFERENCE TO CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE IN LOUGHTON VILLAGE**

The Cabinet received a petition from residents of Loughton about the Controlled Parking Zone In Loughton Village, the introduction of Parking Charges and Resident Parking Permits which was referred from the Council meeting held on 19 July 2017.

Councillor Dransfield told the Cabinet that he endorsed the concerns and frustrations of residents who due to the displaced parking from the chargeable area within Central Milton Keynes were now faced with having to pay a fee for parking within their estate, and asked that the Cabinet remove the fee for resident parking permits.



Councillor Gifford, the responsible Cabinet Member for Place Realm indicated that a written response had been prepared and commented that as enforcement was required to ensure that commuters' vehicles were not parked within the estate there was a need to make a charge to pay for the enforcement.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors Bradburn and Bint during consideration of the referral.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the Petition and responsible Cabinet member response be noted.
2. That the written response be forwarded to the Petitioner.

**C48**

**CAPITAL PROGRAMME REVISIONS AND SPEND APPROVALS**

The Cabinet considered the Capital Programme Revisions and Spend Approvals Report which was introduced by Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation.

It was reported that the changes outlined in this report resulted in a revised Capital Programme for 2017/18 of £304.57m. Spend approvals at £231.77m had been given to enable individual projects in the programme to commence or continue.

It was also reported that the Council was responsible for the management of the Milton Keynes Tariff, which was a mechanism to forward fund infrastructure in the expansion areas. Should the recommendations included in the report be approved, the impact would be a revised Tariff Programme for 2017/18 of £40.77m; with the total spend approval for these contributions at £16.48m.

Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation, indicated that the Cabinet was continuing to invest in a variety of schemes across the borough, and highlighted the following projects:

- Upgrading Heating and Domestic Water supplies in Primary Schools throughout Milton Keynes.
- The provision of a new Secondary School on the Whitehouse estate.
- The provision of Health facilities of Whitehouse and Brooklands
- The purchase of Council Housing for the Housing Revenue Account.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillor Bint during consideration of the item.

**RESOLVED –**

1. That the additions to resource allocation and spend approval for the 2017/18 capital programme be approved.

2. That the amendments to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 capital programme be approved.
3. That the amendments to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 capital programme approved by Delegated Decision on 11 July 2017 be noted.
4. That the overall funding position for the 2017/18 capital programme be noted.
5. That the amendments to resource allocation and spend approvals for the 2017/18 tariff programme be approved.
6. That the current position of the 2017/18 tariff programme be noted

**C49**

**ROUGH SLEEPING REDUCTION STRATEGY 2017/2020**

The Cabinet considered the Rough Sleeping Strategy 2017 -2020 which had been developed in response to the Council's priority of tackling homelessness reported in the Council Plan 2016-2020.

It was reported that the Strategy intended to utilise resources to ensure an evidence driven, professionally-led and co-ordinated partnership approach to preventing homelessness where possible, making sure support was available to those in need and ensuring that people had a pathway to long-term stability. The Council's Homelessness Strategy which by the Cabinet on 4 April (Minute C153refers) focussed on the Council's statutory responsibilities and the need to tackle wider homelessness issues such as rough sleeping and homelessness prevention.

This Rough Sleeping Reduction Strategy 2017-2020 aimed to pull various work streams and revised statutory responsibilities together from April 2018 to progress current partnership working and deliver a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach to significantly reduce the number of rough sleepers in Milton Keynes by 2020.

Councillor Long, the Cabinet member for Adult Care and Housing indicated that the success of the Strategy would rely on a strong ethos of partnership working and that the paper was a good starting point, and now had the backing of recent legislation.

It was further commented that the Strategy sought to assist those genuinely homeless and sleeping rough rather than those who chose to live in that way and beg.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors Bald, Bint, McLean, C Williams and Walker during consideration of the item.

**RESOLVED –**

1. That the draft Rough Sleeping Reduction Strategy 2017-2020 be agreed for a 12 week consultation with stakeholders including members of the Homelessness Partnership.





2. Following the consultation, the final Strategy be presented to Cabinet for approval.

C50

## **REVIEW OF MILTON KEYNES HOMELESSNESS PARTNERSHIP**

The Cabinet considered a Review of the Milton Keynes Homelessness Partnership.

It was reported that in September 2016, the Council established a Homelessness Partnership with the voluntary sector to review the provision of homelessness support in Milton Keynes. The Partnership was working to seek to develop a means of working across agencies to develop a strategic plan for homelessness and a sustainable model that provides a pathway to support, recognising the need for external funding in light of reduced Council resources. A key aim for the Partnership was to establish a 'one-stop shop' style service to assist all those at risk of homelessness and support those in crisis. Further objectives included exploring additional emergency short-term shelter for those in crisis and requiring immediate support, and the provision of emergency support for those without accommodation including sanitary facilities and an outreach assessment service.

At its meeting on 11 July 2017 (Minute C26 refers), the Cabinet agreed that the Council would review the terms of reference and operation of the MK Homelessness Partnership to ensure that it works effectively and that any changes be recommended to the next meeting of the Cabinet.

Councillor Long, the Cabinet member for Adult Care and Housing indicated that the Partnership would provide the focus and enable direct actions that would be carried through with clear direction and leadership.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillor C Williams during consideration of the item.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. That a Partnership Steering Group be formalised to meet monthly to progress the objectives of the Partnership.
2. That Council be recommended to support the work of the Partnership Steering Group.
3. That the full Partnership meetings take place on a quarterly basis.
4. That the Partnership Steering Group conducts the agreed annual review of the terms of reference before submission to the full Partnership meeting in October 2017. A further update can then be provided to Cabinet.
5. That formal Partnership arrangements be put in place.

C51

**EASTERN EXPANSION AREA - CITY STREETS AND SURROUNDING NETWORK REVIEW: PROGRESS REPORT**

The Cabinet considered the Eastern Expansion Area, City Street and surrounding Network Review Quarterly progress report.

Councillor Gowans, Cabinet member for Public Realm, introduced the progress report, which set out details of the progress made in respect of speed management on Countess Way, reconfiguration of the Fen Street/Newport Road Junction, Fen Street Construction Works, Pedestrian Connectivity and the declassification of the A5130 Newport Road.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors Bint during consideration of the matter.

RESOLVED -

That the progress to date on improvements to the Eastern Expansion Area – City Street and surrounding network be noted.

C52

**CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DRAFT LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION**

The Cabinet considered a response to the Central Bedfordshire Council Draft Local Plan Consultation

It was reported that as public consultation for this plan closed on 29 August 2017 and as there was no Cabinet meeting in August to consider the plan, officer colleagues had submitted initial comments on the draft Plan, incorporating initial feedback from Councillors to Central Bedfordshire Council as an interim response. Following discussions with Central Bedfordshire Council any additional comments made by the Cabinet will be forwarded to Central Bedfordshire Council for its consideration.

The Cabinet noted that the Central Bedfordshire Council Draft Local Plan included land for development on the periphery of Milton Keynes; therefore this Council needed to work with Central Bedfordshire Council to assess the impacts of the proposals on Milton Keynes including the road network. If Central Bedfordshire Council prepared Development Frameworks for these sites then this Council should be involved in their preparation. The report details the infrastructure requirements generated by peripheral development that should ideally be met on site or elsewhere in Central Bedfordshire. If infrastructure was needed to be provided within Milton Keynes, financial contributions should be sought for its provision.

It is also reported that in undertaking joint working with Central Bedfordshire Council, Milton Keynes Council should be guided by Core Strategy Policy CS6 which set out this Council's principles for achieving high quality well-designed development in other local authority areas. Additionally, it was suggested that both Central Bedfordshire Council and Milton Keynes Council should approach Highways England about expediting work on the proposed Oxford to

Cambridge Expressway in both local authority areas so that a route can be identified as early as possible. Finally, if a new strategic employment area was developed at Brogborough, the feasibility of this site being linked to the rail network should be investigated.

Councillor Gifford, the responsible Cabinet member for Place indicated that she would welcome any further comment for inclusion in the additional response to Central Bedfordshire Council.

The Cabinet also heard from Councillors Bint, D Hopkins and McLean and one member of the public during consideration of the matter.

The following comments were received from those councillors addressing the Cabinet and Councillor Gifford undertook to include reference to them;

- That as the East West Expressway shown in the Plan had no formal proposed route it should be labelled as a corridor or similar.
- That Central Bedfordshire Council be requested to consider supporting the Milton Keynes – Bedford Waterway as part of the Plan.
- That the impact on the infrastructure within Milton Keynes, particularly rural roads to the east of the borough, be addressed as part of the Plan and the Members of Parliament be lobbied about sub-regional options.
- That consideration be given to setting up a joint Development Committee with Central Bedfordshire Council.
- That discussions be carried out with Central Bedfordshire Council on the impact of the Plan on Milton Keynes' schools, hospitals and transport infrastructure at a strategic level.

**RESOLVED -**

That the following responses be made to the Central Bedfordshire draft Local Plan consultation:

- (a) Central Bedfordshire Council be thanked for the opportunity to comment on its draft Local Plan;
- (b) should Central Bedfordshire Council allocate land for development on the periphery of Milton Keynes in locations such as the Aspley Guise triangle, Milton Keynes Council would wish to work with Central Bedfordshire Council to assess the impact of that development and how any adverse impacts would be mitigated;
- (c) that, this Council expects any need for infrastructure and facilities arising from new peripheral development within Central Bedfordshire to be met on site or elsewhere within Central Bedfordshire. Infrastructure provided within the proposal should not only be sufficient to cater for the needs

generated by this development but be future-proofed so if future residential development occurs, infrastructure and facilities could be expanded to cope with increased demand. If infrastructure and facilities needs cannot be provided on site and provision needs to be made within this Borough, then this Council would seek financial contributions for the provision or improvement of necessary infrastructure and facilities;

- (d) that no allocations of land in Central Bedfordshire should prejudice the implementation of the East-West rail scheme or the proposed Expressway between Oxford and Cambridge;
- (e) that, due to the uncertainties over the route of the Expressway through both Central Bedfordshire and Milton Keynes, a meeting with Highways England be requested by both local authorities to request that work be expedited on the alignment for this section of the Expressway;
- (f) that if Central Bedfordshire Council prepares Development Frameworks for sites on the periphery of Milton Keynes then the Local Plan should reference the need for neighbouring authorities to be included in the preparation of those Development Frameworks;
- (g) that should a new strategic employment area be developed at Brogborough near junction 13 of the **M1**, the feasibility of linking that site to the rail network be investigated;
- (h) that as the East West Expressway shown in the Plan has no formal proposed route it should be labelled as a corridor or similar;
- (i) that Central Bedfordshire Council be requested to consider supporting the Milton Keynes – Bedford Waterway as part of the Plan;
- (j) that the impact on the infrastructure within Milton Keynes, particularly rural roads to the east of the borough, be addressed as part of the Plan and the Members of Parliament be lobbied about sub-regional options;
- (k) that consideration be given to setting up a joint Development Committee with Central Bedfordshire Council; and
- (l) that discussions be carried out with Central Bedfordshire Council on the impact of the Plan on Milton Keynes' schools, hospitals and transport infrastructure at a strategic level.

**C53**

**MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL - COUNCIL PLAN 2016/2020**

It was reported that at its meeting on 13 July 2016 the Council had approved the Milton Keynes Council Plan Delivery Plan, which set out the detailed activities and milestones that would deliver the aspirations in the Council Plan from now until 2020. The Delivery

Plan contained three overall headline aims for Milton Keynes: to be a place of opportunity; an affordable place; and a healthy place. To support these over-arching objectives there were sixteen priority themes, each with a number of specific actions.

The Cabinet considered the fourth quarterly update on how the Council was progressing against the commitments outlined within the Delivery Plan.

Councillor Marland, Leader of the Council, indicated that PlanMK was progressing well and would be submitted for consultation in the near future. It was further confirmed that the review of the Milton Keynes Development Partnership had been undertaken and had been agreed by way of Delegated Decision, a framework was now being developed in respect of the delivery of affordable housing.

It was also commented that work had been ongoing to ensure that Safeguarding arrangements were of the highest possible standard, Councillor Marland told the Cabinet that Nicky Rayner, Service Director Children and Families, would be retiring in the near future and that he would like to formally record the Council's thanks to her for the work she had done to improve Children's Services within Milton Keynes.

It was further noted that the Health and Wellbeing Board was progressing well.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the progress on the implementation of the Council Plan Delivery Plan be noted.
2. That noting that the Service Director (Children and Families) would be retiring shortly she be thanked for her contribution to Milton Keynes' Children Services

**C54**

**PROCUREMENT AND COMMISSIONING**

**RESOLVED -**

That the Minutes of the meeting of Procurement and Commissioning held on 15 June 2017 be received.

**C55**

**EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**


That the public and press representatives be excluded from the remainder of the meeting by virtue of Paragraph 3 (Information Relating to the Financial or Business Affairs of the Authority) under Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, in order that the meeting consider the Annexes to the Milton Keynes Council Insurance Premium Procurement report.

**C56**

**MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL INSURANCE PREMIUM  
PROCUREMENT**

The Cabinet considered the procurement of the Council's Insurance contracts.

12 September 2017

Chair's Signature ..........3 October 2017

It was reported that the existing contracts of insurance held by the Council were due to expire on 30 September 2017 and Procurement and Commissioning on 7 February 2017 (Minute PC 69 refers), had approved the commencement of a tender process to procure contracts of insurance to replace the existing arrangements. The process had been carried out with the Local Government Shared Services (LGSS) Partnership in conjunction with Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire County Councils, Northampton Borough Council and Northampton Partnership Homes Limited.

It was also reported that the Council was legally obliged to insure only Fidelity Guarantee (employee theft) and certain Motor risks and was exempt from the provisions of the Employers Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Regulations. However as a matter of financial prudence, given the value of the assets held by the organisation and the risks it faced in its everyday operations, the Cabinet was advised that the Council continued to carry significant insurance protection.

It was further reported that the Council purchased insurance for building risks associated with dwellings purchased under the Right to Buy legislation. Under the terms of Section 20 of the Housing Act 2004 the Council was obliged to consult with leaseholders and interested parties in respect of the purchase of the insurance for leasehold dwellings and this was being undertaken by colleagues in Housing with support from LGSS.

Councillor Middleton, the responsible Cabinet member for Resources and Innovation, indicated that the identity of the winning tender in each lot should remain confidential until the end of the stand still period. The stand still period was a period of ten days following notification of the contract award decision in which unsuccessful bidders could challenge the tender process.

**RESOLVED -**

1. That the letting of insurance contracts be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the Corporate Director (Resources) to give effect to the recommendation above, including authority to agree any minor changes to the contracts before signature.

**THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 8.50 PM**

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*with AMENDMENTS AS HIGHLIGHTED*  
*by*