

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CHANGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT THE
COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON WEDNESDAY, 26 JULY 2017
COMMENCING AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor M H Charlesworth (Chair)

COUNCILLORS

Mrs L M Broadley
M L Darr
B Dave
K J Loydall JP

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

M W L Hall (Chief Executive)
M Hone (Interim Chief Finance Officer / Section 151 Officer)
Ms S Lane (Democratic Services Officer / Compliance Officer)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

B Couth (Technical Director, SLR Consulting Ltd – Presenter)

1. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTES

None.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors E R Barr, J Kaufman and Mrs S B Morris.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 05 APRIL 2017

The Committee requested that under 'One Public Estate Programme' (OPEP), paragraph 3 (at min. ref. 27) (LCC) in brackets be corrected to read (DCLG).

The Committee was advised that the Council was on target to achieve all indicators when the Investors in People (IiP) reassessment was to take place in December 2017 and that a joint-response was outstanding from Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council in respect of the OPEP.

RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting of the previous Committee held on 5 April 2017 be taken as read, confirmed and signed (as amended).

5. ACTION LIST ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 05 APRIL 2017

The Committee commended the IiP summary document that had been produced.

RESOLVED THAT:

The Action List be noted by Members.

6. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

None.

7. ACTION PLAN: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE

The Committee gave consideration to the report and attachment (at pages 10 – 29) as delivered by the Interim Chief Financial Officer / Section 151 Officer which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

A debate thereon was had whereby it was agreed by Members that in delivering any programme of modernisation, the Council ought to widely assess all its existing assets and not too-narrowly focus of efficiency-saving exclusively. The Committee heard that these projects were to be jointly-led by the incoming Director of Finance and Transformation and the Head of Customer Service and Business Transformation.

In particular, and although it was generally acknowledged that at the present time there were numerous problems with existing IT arrangements and infrastructure, Members expressed reservations that any investment and improvements thereto as the primary means to drive-up efficiency should not necessarily nor inevitably result in a reduction of staff. The suggestion of hot-desking and home-working raised further concerns and implications in terms of local access to necessary resources.

The Committee also acknowledged that, although Bushloe House was not presently ideal for modern-working, the Council needed to explore a long-term solution(s) to provide improved working environments, for example, optimising its existing layout and, or, considering development onsite at Station Road but in any case retaining Bushloe House for another function(s). Members were also agreeable to consider other potential uses for which the Depot could be used for in the future.

The Committee requested that the Senior Management Team (SMT) ascertain the memberships of the two panels established to review the SMT structure and role of the Chief Executive and to review the award of grants for discretionary services, respectively, with the possible inclusion of a representative from the County Council.

RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report, the actions taken to date and agreed next steps as set out in the report be noted by Members.

8. REVIEW OF REFUSE, RECYCLING AND GREEN WASTE SERVICES: BUDGET OPTIONS 2018/19 AND 2019/20

The Committee gave consideration to the report (at pages 30 - 32) as delivered by the Interim Chief Financial Officer / Section 151 Officer which should be read together with these minutes as a composite document.

A presentation was delivered by Mr B Couth, Technical Director at SLR Consulting Ltd (SLR), a paper copy of which was tabled at the meeting. Mr Couth stated that SLR had previously worked with Harborough District Council. He advised that this Council's current

recycling rate was 50% which is above the national average. He gave examples of other Councils that had undergone a consultation process with SLR, the changes that they had adopted and the savings that they were now achieving. He also advised Members that 25% of waste was food waste, and if this collection was adopted, that it could be collected at the same time as green waste. He advised that the average take up for green waste collection was 35-40%. The present trend was said to now not outsource waste collections.

A debate thereon was had whereby the Committee agreed that a full debate was needed once the preferred appointed consultancy had undertaken the project and the full facts were known. All examples given by SLR, who had all moved away from weekly collections, raised concerns for Members in addition to the prospect of outsourcing. Members were not, however, against fortnightly recycling or green waste collections or the charging for green waste collections. It was requested that the consultancy project be undertaken rigorously and that all available options should be considered. The Committee were also advised that the recycling fleet was now approximately 10 years old and the project would assist in knowing what vehicles to purchase using existing capital funds when they came to their end of life. The Committee also said that the outcome of what the County Council would be doing with recycled waste needed to be known and included in the project data.

The Committee agreed that SMT would undertake an initial piece of work to identify the Borough's needs and draft appropriate terms of reference for the consultancy project after which a procurement process to appoint consultants under the ESPO framework would take place. It was said that the appointed consultants would be broadly expected to make up a base case and provide the Council with an array of options for which a Members' workshop session would be held to assess the same.

It was moved by the Chair, seconded by Councillor Mrs L M Broadley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the report and agree to the appointment of suitably qualified consultants to assist in the review of refuse, recycling and green waste services.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.48 PM



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Chair
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Wednesday, 25 October 2017
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