

LEISURE, CULTURE AND LIBRARIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

29 OCTOBER 2014

PART I

58/14

CONTRACT AWARD FOR OPERATION OF LEISURE CENTRES (PART I)

Having considered the Part II elements of the report, The Chairman returned the meeting to part I to allow members of the public and press to hear the Panel's recommendations.

The Chairman noted that the pension discussions were ongoing however the Berkshire Pension Fund was a favourable plan with Parkwood Leisure being an admitted body. She was keen that staff members were not disadvantaged in the process.

It was the Panel's preference for Parkwood to apply for admitted body status to the Berkshire Pension Fund.

Councillor Grey noted that he was impressed with the process. He believed a thoroughly good job had been done scrutinising the project and he was impressed with the services retained and the additional services the changes would bring. He noted that RBWM had safeguarded service and quality. He also highlighted the ability to renegotiate and breaks in the contract. He was also happy with the protection of staff and their wellbeing. Furthermore, all risk lay with Parkwood and not RBWM.

The Chairman stated that the project improved both the financial arrangements for the Council and services for residents. She thanked officers for all their work. She also noted that the questions raised by the public speaker, Mr David Anthony, should be submitted in writing to RBWM and that they be answered by the appropriate people at the appropriate time. It was not appropriate for the Leisure Culture and Libraries Overview and Scrutiny Panel to deal with this. Mrs Shawcross noted that the procurement process was still ongoing and some questions could not be answered until after the process was complete.

Councillor Quick thanked the Overview and Scrutiny Panel on behalf of Cabinet Members for their thorough scrutiny work, Parkwood Leisure for their presentation and officers for their hard work and excellent service. She regretted that Members of the Opposition had not attended the meeting to help scrutinize the report.

RESOLVED: That the Leisure Culture and Libraries Overview and Scrutiny Panel make the following comments to Cabinet regarding the report 'Contract Award for Operation of Leisure Centres':

It was the Panel's preference for Parkwood to apply for admitted body status to the Berkshire Pension Fund.

RESOLVED: That the Leisure Culture and Libraries Overview and Scrutiny Panel agree to endorse the following recommendations to Cabinet in the report ‘Contract Award for Operation of Leisure Centres’:

Approve the award of a concession contract to operate leisure centres in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead to Parkwood Leisure for 10 plus at mutual agreement a further 10 years.

Approve the issue of a sub contract from Parkwood Leisure to Legacy Leisure Trust under a Service Agreement for operation of the contract.

Delegate authority to the Leader of the Council, the Lead Member for Leisure & Libraries, the Deputy Lead Member for Leisure and Libraries and the Lead Member for Finance, and Strategic Director of Adult & Community Services to agree the final terms and conditions of the contract.

Approve the issue of a press release.

Five Councillors voted in favour of the motion to agree the recommendations (Cllrs Bullock, Grey, Mills and Stretton). One Councillor left the Chamber and did not take part in the vote (Cllr Jenner).

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DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Panel noted the following future meetings:

6.30pm - 20 November 2014 Desb 2/3 Maidenhead Town Hall

6.30pm - 5 February 2015 Desb 2/3 Maidenhead Town Hall

6.30pm - 19 March 2015 Desb 2/3 Maidenhead Town Hall

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting whilst discussion takes place on an additional item on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.