

Record of Cabinet portfolio member decision

PROCUREMENT SERVICES

DATE OF PUBLICATION – 21 FEBRUARY 2014

- NB: The Head of Legal and Democratic Services must receive a request to call-in this decision by 4.30pm on Friday 28 February 2014.
- Subject to the call-in mechanism (which permits call-in by the chairman or any five members of the scrutiny committee, or any ten councillors'), this decision will be implemented on expiry of the call-in period.
- The council's cabinet portfolio holder has taken the executive decision outlined below. This decision is published in accordance with the council's procedure rules.

DECISION TAKER	DETAILS OF DECISION
Mrs E A Ducker	To enter into an agreement with Oxford City Council for the provision of procurement services
	<p>Background</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An outcome of the Fit for the Future programme was an agreement to adopt a new approach to the procurement function. The council commissioned a report from an expert consultant who recommended extending our existing relationship with Oxford City Council (this council currently pays £10,000 per year for a more limited service). • Oxford City Council has a team of four professionally qualified procurement experts, all members of the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. Shared use of this team offers us more resilience than maintaining our own small in-house resource. • The use of the city council team offers further opportunities for collaboration, with improved procurement savings possible when working across multiple councils. • With the disbanding of the performance and projects team, a net cost saving is made by the council.
	<p>Alternative option considered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of in-house procurement resource would require recruitment and is considered too complicated as the council is already using the services of the city council's procurement team. Moving all the work to the city council team offers simplification of processes. • Commercial outsourcing of the procurement function is not attractive to suppliers for the relatively short duration of any contract (to July 2016). There is an opportunity to include procurement in a new central services contract to succeed the current Capita contract.

If you have any queries regarding this decision please contact the decision taker above or Andrew Down, Head of HR, IT and Customer Services,
Email: andrew.down@southandvale.gov.uk, Phone: 01491 823939

A copy of the report considered by the Cabinet member is available from Kathy Fiander, Democratic Services Officer, Legal & Democratic Services, 01491 823649, kathy.fiander@southandvale.gov.uk

ⁱ The procedures for call-in are set out in the Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules and the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules in part 4 of the council's Constitution. Democratic Services (contact details above) can provide further guidance.