

Cabinet  
6 June 2023

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL CABINET held on Tuesday 6 June 2023 at 6.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, The Campus, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL8 6AE.

PRESENT: Councillors P.Zukowskyj (Leader)  
S.Bonfante  
J.Broach  
M.Holloway  
D.Jones  
J.Quinton

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97. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lynn Chesterman.

98. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2023 were approved as a correct record.

99. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND PETITIONS

There were no questions from members of the public.

100. ACTIONS STATUS REPORT

The Actions Status Report was noted.

101. NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER ITEM 10

There were no items of urgent business to consider.

102. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS

Councillor Zukowskyj declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Member of Hertfordshire County Council.

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103. ITEMS REQUIRING KEY DECISION

The following items were considered for decision in the current Forward Plan:

103.1. Gas Maintenance Contracts (Forward Plan Reference FP1176)

Gas Maintenance Contracts (Forward Plan Reference FP1176)

The report requests the extension of gas maintenance contracts for two years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024

Under this item, Councillor Kingsbury asked for confirmation that the Cabinet were content to extend the gas maintenance contract for PH Jones as a number of residents had raised concerns around their service during the winter. The Leader of Council confirmed that the key performance indicators and compliance was being delivered effectively by PH Jones. It was noted that concerns raised were being addressed by PH Jones which the Council would continue to monitor.

**ACTION:** Additional details of the key performance indicators for the two gas services to be shared with Councillor Kingsbury following discussions with the relevant Cabinet Member.

1) The Decision Taken

RESOLVED:

**(unanimous)**

Cabinet agreed to extend the following contracts for two years with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024:

1. Gas Maintenance (North) – Aaron Services Limited
2. Gas Maintenance (South) - British Gas Social Housing Limited (trading as PH Jones)
3. Third Party Gas Audit Contract - Gas Advisory Services Limited (trading as Phoenix Compliancy Management)

2) Reasons for the Decision

On 8th January 2019 Cabinet agreed to award gas related contracts to Aaron Services, British Gas Social Housing Limited and Gas Advisory Services for an initial period of 5 years, with the option to extend for a period of up to 4 years in a minimum of 12 months increments. The contracts have generally performed well, and it was considered that it is in the best interests of the council to extend these contracts.

103.2. Recovered Newsprint Contract (Forward Plan Reference FP1177)

Recovered Newsprint Contract (Forward Plan Reference FP1177)

The report requested an extension to the contract with Palm Recycling Limited.

1) The Decision Taken

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RESOLVED:

**(unanimous)**

Cabinet agreed to extend the contract with Palm Recycling Limited for one year for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024.

2) Reasons for the Decision

In January 2021, Cabinet agreed to award a contract to Palm Recycling Limited for the processing of recovered newsprint. This Council is the Lead Authority for the Herts paper consortium, and its members include:

- Broxbourne Borough Council
- Chelmsford City Council
- East Herts District Council
- Hertsmere Borough Council
- North Herts District Council
- Stevenage Borough Council
- Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

Members of the consortium collect paper from residents and then sells this material for reprocessing. The majority of the consortium members collect paper separated (known as News and Pams), whilst Broxbourne and Stevenage (and a very small amount from this council from banks) collect mixed paper and card. There is different pricing for these types of paper as the separation process is more onerous.

The pricing is based on the paper indices, with an additional uplift per tonne and a minimum price. Welwyn Hatfield BC hold the contract with Palm Recycling Limited and have an SLA with the other members of the consortium, enabling them to call off the contract.

All members of the consortium are happy with the performance of the Contractor and are receiving good levels of income.

104. APPOINTMENT OF CABINET PANELS, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS 2023-24

The Cabinet received the report of the Assistant Director (Legal and Governance)

RESOLVED:

The Cabinet agreed the appointments to Cabinet Panels, Committees and Boards for 2023-24.

105. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON EXECUTIVE OUTSIDE BODIES 2023/24

The Cabinet received the nominations to representatives to the executive outside bodies for 2022/23.

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RESOLVED:

The Cabinet agreed the appointments of representatives to executive outside bodies for 2022/23.

106. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN, IS OF SUFFICIENT URGENCY TO WARRANT IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

There were no items considered under this item.

Meeting ended at 6.40pm