

**A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND ORGANISATION BOARD WAS HELD
ON 14 MARCH 2012**

The Mayor (Councillor Carter, CR) (ex-officio); Councillors Beavis (P), Burgess (P), Chegwyn (P), Hook (Chairman) (P), Lane (P), Langdon (P), Philpott (P), Ronayne (P), Smith (P) and Wright (P).

43. APOLOGIES

An apology for inability to attend the meeting was submitted on behalf of the Mayor.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Councillor Philpott declared a Personal interest in exempt agenda item 11 (Risky Based Verification)

**45. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD HELD ON 31
JANUARY 2012**

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Board meeting held on 31 January 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

46. DEPUTATIONS

No deputations were received.

47. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no public questions.

PART II

48. BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager on the above matter. The report made recommendations on the future of the council's banking services for which the current contract expired on 31 March 2013. The report outlined the steps that had been taken to secure the most cost effective option for the council. It was found that the proposed tariffs offered by the National Westminster Bank were the most cost effective option for the council and the report therefore recommended their acceptance.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) pursuant to Contract Procedure Rule 3 approval be given to waiving Contract Procedure Rule 8.1 for the reasons set out at paragraph 2.9 of the Manager's report; and
- b) the Council enters into a 3 year contract with the National

Westminster Bank plc for the supply of banking services from 1 April 2012.

**49. CROSS REFERENCE FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(26 JANUARY 2012)
TOURISM STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Board considered a cross reference from the Economic Development Board on the above matter.

At its meeting on 26 January 2012, the Council's Economic Development Board had considered the findings of a review consequent on the current Service Level Agreement with Tourism South East expiring on 31 March 2012; and, as a result, the Board had approved the recommendation that the Gosport tourism marketing service be provided solely in-house with effect from 1 April 2012. In approving this recommendation, the Board had also confirmed its support for the proposal to establish a permanent Tourism Officer post within the Economic Prosperity, Tourism & Culture team, to ensure that staff resource is available to deliver the tourism marketing service from 1 April 2012.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the creation of a full time Tourism Officer post, effective from 1 April 2012.

50. PROCUREMENT OF THE DIAL-A-RIDE SERVICE

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Services Manager on the procurement of the Dial-a-Ride service in Gosport.

The Manager's report considered the proposals for the procurement of the Dial-a-Ride service from 1 February 2013. It was proposed, as in the previous tendering exercise, that Hampshire County Council would act as the lead authority with this Council being asked to sign a Memorandum of Agreement for joint funding of the service. The report also detailed the scrutiny of the Gosport Dial-a-Ride Service undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from June 2010.

An addition was moved and subsequently approved to the recommendations as outlined in paragraph 2.6 (iv) of the Manager's report. It was outlined that this was not aimed at reducing the service but improving the service through value for money. It was appreciated that the right kind of publicity had to be applied to the service to increase usage of it such as through Gosport's Older Persons' Forum. Members also expressed their thanks of the hard work put in by the three members of the Dial-a-Ride Working Group and were fully supportive of their role as outlined in recommendation (iii) of the report.

RESOLVED: That:

- a) the proposed 'Memorandum of Agreement for joint funding of the Gosport Dial-a-Ride service contracted through Hampshire County Council' as detailed in Appendix A of the Manager's report be approved;

- b) the findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny of the Dial-a-Ride service undertaken by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (14 November 2011) as outlined in paragraphs 2.5 and 2.6 of the Manager's report be supported;
- c) the Dial-a-Ride Working Group be requested to meet with representatives of Hampshire County Council to take forward the tendering process and evaluation for the provision of the Gosport Dial-a-Ride service from 1 February 2013; and
- d) a performance clause should be present in the next contract. Should the performance of the Dial-a-Ride scheme not improve, then there should be the ability to reduce the service.

51. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in relation to the following items the public be excluded from the meeting, as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraphs 1, 3 and 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the reports.

52. RISKED BASED VERIFICATION

Councillor Philpott declared a Personal Interest in this item and remained in the meeting room.

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Financial Services Manager.

The report was exempt as the information related to the actions to be taken in order to prevent and investigate fraudulent claims. Disclosure of this information could prejudice such prevention and investigation of crimes and therefore the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That this report and its contents be noted and approval be given to the Risked Based Verification Policy as outlined in Appendix A of the Manager's report.

53. EARLY RETIREMENT

Consideration was given to an exempt report of the Chief Executive.

The report was exempt as it identified a specific individual and information regarding their personal financial affairs. The public interest in the Council's overall

affairs could be met in other ways without releasing such personal information and therefore the public interest in maintaining the privacy of personal information outweighed the public interest in the Council's financial affairs.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to the early retirement of the post holder for Post No. CE15 with effect from 31 October 2012.

The meeting ended at 6.15pm.

CHAIRMAN