

RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

Tuesday, 20 February 2018

Decision No: (CAB 17/18 20232)

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET
PORTFOLIO AREA:	ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT
SUBJECT:	PROPOSED SHARED PROVISION OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESILIENCE AND RESPONSE SERVICES WITH PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL
AUTHOR:	Ian Collins

THE DECISION

- (i) That the Service Director: Transactions and Universal Services be delegated authority to enter into a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Portsmouth City Council for the provision of a joint emergency preparedness, resilience and response function with effect from 1st April 2018 at the latest for an initial period of 5 years upon such terms and conditions as the Service Director: Transactions and Universal Services considers appropriate.
- (ii) That the Service Director: Transactions and Universal Services be delegated authority to employ such staff as are reasonably required to undertake the services under the SLA.
- (iii) That following the signing of the SLA and on commencement of the arrangements that the affected Portsmouth City Council staff be transferred under TUPE Regulations to Southampton City Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. In December 2016 the Southampton City Council Service Lead for Emergency Planning & Business Continuity assumed responsibility for managing the equivalent Portsmouth City Council team at the request of Portsmouth City Council. This 'shared manager' arrangement has been successful and has resulted in cost savings and service improvements for both authorities.
2. The workload of the Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council teams is steadily increasing as more income streams are achieved, incidents occur and national and local expectations increase. Consolidation and restructure will build on the excellent work of the teams (recognised at a national level) and further improve both authorities' ability to effectively respond to emergencies in a timely and positive way.
3. A shared team will be more resilient to disruption, better able to sustain emergency response for protracted periods and more readily scalable to accommodate increased income generation opportunities.

4. Though generally positive, the current 'shared manager' arrangement has its limitations. It necessitates the management of two distinct teams and budgets using two sets of distinct systems. This creates inefficiencies; a pooled budget, able to be scrutinised easily by both organisations, will be more transparent, simpler to administer and more responsive to service demands.

DETAILS OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The alternative to the proposal is not to enter into a service level agreement with Portsmouth City Council but this has been rejected on the basis that the proposed arrangement offers good value for money, economies of scale, resilience, potential savings and increased income for both authorities.

OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS CONCERNING THE DECISION

None

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE RECORD

We certify that the decision this document records was made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 and is a true and accurate record of that decision.

Date: 20 February 2018

Decision Maker:
The Cabinet

Proper Officer:
Pat Wood

SCRUTINY

Note: This decision will come in to force at the expiry of 5 working days from the date of publication subject to any review under the Council's Scrutiny "Call-In" provisions.

Call-In Period expires on

Date of Call-in <i>(if applicable) (this suspends implementation)</i>
Call-in Procedure completed <i>(if applicable)</i>
Call-in heard by <i>(if applicable)</i>
Results of Call-in <i>(if applicable)</i>