

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD
ON TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY 2005 AT
4.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor M G Carver (Leader/Chairman).
Councillors H G S Banks, M R Alexander,
N Burdett, A P Jackson, T Milner, R L Parker,
N C Poulton.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors W Ashley, J Demonti,
Mrs M H Goldspink, Mrs D Hone,
M P A McMullen, D E Mayes, M J Tindale,
J P Warren.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Miranda Steward	- Executive Director
Simon Drinkwater	- Assistant Director (Law and Control)
Martyn Dutfield	- Head of Leisure
Declan Hoare	- Interim Assistant Director (Direct and Contract Services)
Martin Ibrahim	- Senior Democratic Services Officer
Mary Orton	- Assistant Director (Policy and Performance)
Bernard Perry	- Assistant Director (Human Resources)
Lois Prior	- Head of Communications
David Tweedie	- Assistant Director (Financial Services)

ALSO PRESENT:

Ian Barclay - Torkildsen Barclay

ACTION515 APOLOGY

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor D Clark.

516 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor J P Warren declared a personal interest in the matter referred to at Minutes 518 and 519 – Outcome of Market Testing of the Management for the Five Pools and Gyms, in that he was a governor of Ward Freman School.

517 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Executive passed a resolution pursuant to Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public during consideration of the business referred to in Minute 519 on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 8 and 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

RESOLVED ITEMS518 OUTCOME OF MARKET TESTING OF THE MANAGEMENT FOR THE FIVE POOLS AND GYMS (1)

The Executive Member for Environment submitted a report on the outcome of the market testing of the management provision at the five pools and gyms. He detailed the tender process and advised that two tenders had been received.

The Executive Member suggested that, despite various options being set out in the report now submitted, a decision be deferred, pending a further report from Officers on a number of outstanding issues. He stated that Officers, Members and the Council's consultants, Torkildsen Barclay, had examined the information available in great detail. Despite intensive investigation, it had been

ACTION

concluded that further information was needed on:

- central establishment charges;
- National Non-Domestic Rate relief;
- pensions;
- financial standing of the preferred bidder;
- contingency element;
- maintenance; and
- staffing issues.

The Executive Member also advised that a site visit and further meetings would be held during the following week. It was anticipated that a further report detailing the outstanding issues now identified, would be submitted to the Executive meeting on 15 February 2004.

In response to Members' questions relating to the preferred bidder, the Executive Member stated that further consideration of the proposed trust status would be given. It would also be necessary to balance the financial benefits against any risks.

The Executive agreed to receive the report on the two tenders submitted, and that a further report be submitted to the Executive on 15 February 2005, detailing the outstanding issues requiring clarification.

RESOLVED – that (A) the report be received; and

(B) a further report detailing the outstanding issues now identified be submitted to the Executive meeting on 15 February 2005.

ED(RO)

ACTION519 OUTCOME OF MARKET TESTING OF THE
MANAGEMENT FOR THE FIVE POOLS AND GYMS (2)

The Executive Member for Environment submitted a report detailing the identity of the two tenderers for the management provision at the five pools and gyms.

The Executive agreed that the report be received.

RESOLVED – that the report be received.

The meeting closed at 4.20 pm

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