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Chief Operating Officer
52 Derby Street
Ormskirk
West Lancashire
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Friday, 21 May 2021

CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEMBER UPDATE CORPORATE YEAR 2021/22

MAY 2021 - ISSUE 1

The content of this **CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEMBERS UPDATE** covers all the services.

If a Member wishes to receive further information on anything in the Update, please contact the officer named at the beginning of the article.

If a Member wants to place an item on the Committee agenda in connection with any article in the Update, please provide it to member.services@westlancs.gov.uk or telephone 01695 585207 by **12 Noon on Friday, 28 May 2021.**

Members Item/Councillor Call for Action

If a Member wants to place an item on the Corporate and Environmental O&S Committee Agenda, please complete the attached Member Item/Councillor Call for Action Pro Forma (Appendix B) and return it to member.services@westlancs.gov.uk by 12 Noon on Friday,28 May 2021.

The Press are asked to contact the Digital Communications Manager for further information on this Update.

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ACTIONS UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

We can provide this document, upon request, on audiotape, in large print, in Braille and in other languages.

For further information, please contact:-Chloe McNally on Or email chloe.mcnally@westlancs.gov.uk

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2.



'MEMBER UPDATE' REQUEST **CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

MEETING: 10 JUNE 2021

This form must be received by Member Services. 52 Derby Street. Ormskirk by:-

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CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA - MEETING: 10 JUNE 2021

This form must be received by Member Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, <u>before 12 noon on Friday 28 May 2021</u>.

Please advise Member Services on 01695 585065 if at any time you wish to withdraw this item following receipt of further information or e-mail member.services@westlancs.gov.uk

Councillor:	(Name of Member requesting the item)
Subject:	
1. What are your	reasons for requesting the item:
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2. What outcome	would you wish to see following discussion of the item?

3.	What have you already done to resolve this issue?

Potential means of pursuing an issue before resorting to a Member Item/CCfA:

- Raise Ward Issue as a 'Patch Problem'
- Discuss issue with an appropriate officer from the Council Service or Agency
- Discuss issue with an appropriate Cabinet member
- Raise the issue with partner agency, eg. Police, PCT, etc.
- Write formal letters on behalf of constituents
- Use official complaints procedure or other official route
- Put forward the issue as a topic for inclusion on an O&S work programme

The following are potential reasons why your Member Item/CCfA may not be considered further:

- The issue is an individual case
- You have not explored the issue fully and exhausted all avenues above
- A review into the general issue is included in an O&S work programme
- A petition is being submitted to the Council
- A complaint is being or has been submitted and the outcome is awaited
- A FOI request is being or has been made and the outcome is awaited
- Scrutiny of the issue is unlikely to result in improvements for local people
- The issue has been the subject of Executive Call In
- The issue has been the subject of a Council Motion / Question
- The issue is urgent and could be more speedily resolved by other means
- The issue is an 'excluded matter' (Constitution 18.3)

FOR MEMBER SERVICES USE ONLY

Received by:		Date of Committee:	
Date:	Time:	Chief Officer informed	
Head of Service informed		Chairman informed	
Contact Officer informed		Portfolio Holder informed	



CORPORATE & ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

MEMBERS UPDATE 2021/22 ISSUE: 1

Article of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Contact for further information: Miss C McNally (Extn 5207)

(E-mail: chloe.mcnally@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S HEALTH SCRUTINY

COMMITTEE

Wards offsets de Danswells wide

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To keep Members apprised of developments in relation to Health Overview and Scrutiny in Lancashire.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND CURRENT POSITION

- 2.1 The Health and Social Care Act (2001), subsequently superseded by the National Health Service Act 2006 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012, extended the powers of Overview and Scrutiny Committees of local authorities responsible for social services functions to include the power to review and scrutinise matters relating to the health service in their areas.
- 2.2 The Health Scrutiny Committee at Lancashire County Council exercises the statutory functions of a health overview and scrutiny committee. The Membership of the Committee includes twelve non-voting Co-opted District Council Members.
- 2.3 To ensure that Members receive regular updates on the work being undertaken by the Committee and to provide an opportunity to feed back any comments via the Council's representative, a copy of the County Council's Health Scrutiny Committee minutes are attached.

3.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this Article and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

4.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no significant financial or resource implications associated with this item, except the Officer time in compiling this Article.

5.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

5.1 ThIS Article is for information only and makes no recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to the risk registeres as a result of this article.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The article does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Committee can be accessed via the link below:-

Minutes of Health Scrutiny Committees

23rd March 2021

Agenda Item 2a



CORPORATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS UPDATE 2021/22 ISSUE: 1

Article of: Corporate Director of Transformation

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Dowling

Contact for further information: Mrs J Ryan (Extn. 5017)

(E-mail: jill.ryan@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY CHEST GRANTS

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To inform Members of the mechanism for dealing with grant applications from the Community Chest and advise of the grants awarded in the last tranche of bids for the financial year 2020/21.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Applications for grants from the Community Chest are dealt with through the delegation procedures (see Constitution 4.3). The delegation in 2020/21 is to the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Community Safety and the Older Peoples Champion.
- 2.2 In reaching the decisions on Community Chest Applications the Portfolio Holder, in consultation with Councillors, the Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Directors, have considered the criteria set out on the application form to ensure the appropriate use of funding.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Applications were considered under delegated authority by the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Community Safety, Councillor Gareth Dowling.
- 3.2 The following grants were awarded from the General Fund.

St. James Church, Westhead	£500
West Lancs Counselling	£500

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no significant sustainability implications associated with this update and in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder. Applications received are from individuals and groups and the allocation of funding provide opportunities for culture, leisure and sport, including opportunities for education, training and life-long learning.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The total remaining balance in the financial year 2020/21 was £24,540.00
- 5.2 The total spent in 2020/21 so far is £4,750.00 this is partly due to COVID-19 and not receiving as many requests for funding especially from individuals.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 The actions referred to in this Article are covered by the Scheme of Delegation to Cabinet and Portfolio Holders and any necessary changes have been made in the relevant risk registers.

Background Documents

The following background documents (as defined in Section 100D (5) of the Local Government Act 1972) have been relied on to a material extent in preparing this Report.

Application forms from:

St. James Church Westhead 01/12/20 West Lancs Counselling 06/11/20

Equality Impact Assessment

There is a direct impact on members of the public, and stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal Equality Impact Assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been taken into account when undertaking the actions detailed within this Article.

Appendices

1. Equality Impact Assessment.

Equality Impact Assessment Form

Directorate: Legal and Democratic Services	Service: Member Services
Completed by: Jill Ryan	Date: July 2019
Subject Title: Community Chest grants	
I. DESCRIPTION	
ls a policy or strategy being produced or revised:	No
Is a service being designed, redesigned or cutback:	No
Is a commissioning plan or contract specification being developed:	No
Is a budget being set or funding allocated:	Yes
ls a programme or project being planned:	No
Are recommendations being presented to senior managers and/or Councillors:	No
Does the activity contribute to meeting our duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty (Eliminating unlawful discrimination/harassment, advancing equality of opportunity, fostering good relations):	Yes
Details of the matter under consideration:	Outcome of Community Chest Grant Applications
If you answered Yes to any of the above go straight to S	
If you answered No to all the above please complete Se	ction 2
2. RELEVANCE	
Does the work being carried out impact on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders):	
If Yes , provide details of how this impacts on service users, staff or Councillors (stakeholders): If you answered Yes go to Section 3	
If you answered No to both Sections 1 and 2 provide details of why there is no impact on these three groups: You do not need to complete the rest of this form.	
3. EVIDENCE COLLECTION	
Who does the work being carried out impact on, i.e. who is/are the stakeholder(s)?	Voluntary Organisations and Individuals under the age of 18.
If the work being carried out relates to a universal service, who needs or uses it most? (Is there any particular group affected more than others)?	Voluntary Organisations and Individuals under the age of 18.

Which of the protected characteristics are most relevant to the work being carried out?	
Age Gender Disability	Yes Yes Yes
Race and Culture Sexual Orientation Religion or Belief	Yes Yes Yes
Gender Reassignment Marriage and Civil Partnership Pregnancy and Maternity	Yes Yes Yes
4. DATA ANALYSIS	
In relation to the work being carried out, and the service/function in question, who is actually or currently using the service and why?	Residents who are recipients of a service provided by a voluntary/community organisation
What will the impact of the work being carried out be on usage/the stakeholders?	A grant will assist the voluntary/community organisation in its activities
What are people's views about the services? Are some customers more satisfied than others, and if so what are the reasons? Can these be affected by the proposals?	Not known
What sources of data including consultation results have you used to analyse the impact of the work being carried out on users/stakeholders with protected characteristics?	Sought data on the application forms submitted by the voluntary/community organisations
If any further data/consultation is needed and is to be gathered, please specify:	None
5. IMPACT OF DECISIONS	
In what way will the changes impact on people with particular protected characteristics (either positively or negatively or in terms of disproportionate impact)?	A grant to a voluntary/community group will assist it in undertaking its activities within the Borough
6. CONSIDERING THE IMPACT	
If there is a negative impact what action can be taken to mitigate it? (If it is not possible or desirable to take actions to reduce the impact, explain why this is the case (e.g. legislative or financial drivers etc.).	No
What actions do you plan to take to address any other issues above?	No actions
7. MONITORING AND REVIEWING	
When will this assessment be reviewed and who will review it?	

Agenda Item 2b



CORPORATE & ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS UPDATE 2021/22

Issue: 1

Article of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor lan Moran

Contact for further information: Mrs G. Kinloch (Extn. 2601)

(E-mail: gillian.kinloch@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION TO CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES - MAINTENANCE OF FAN COIL UNITS (FCUs) AT WEST LANCASHIRE INVESTMENT CENTRE

Wards affected: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To advise of an exemption from the Contracts Procedure Rules granted by the Chief Operating Officer to remove and replace filters and frames on approximately 120 fan coil units (FCUs) of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system at the West Lancashire Investment Centre.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 West Lancashire Investment Centre provides accommodation for approximately 31 small and medium sized businesses in a two storey office building across c.47,000 sq ft.. The Centre also provides conferencing facilities and an on-site café open to the public.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Forming part of the air conditioning system at the Investment Centre there are 120 FCUs with air filter socks and frames. These are across both the ground and first floors in tenant suites, conference rooms and common areas.
- 3.2 Advice of consulting engineers/manufacturers is that filter socks are replaced on each unit every 12 months for maximum efficiency in terms of airflow quality and throughput as well as energy consumption.
- 3.3 Replacing the FCU filters will help to ensure the efficiency and reliability of the air conditioning system, ultimately leading to a reduction in repair costs and an increase in the life expectancy of the plant.

- 3.4 Dirty filters allow less air to pass through the FCUs, causing fans to work harder, thereby increasing energy consumption while also slowly damaging the system. This further leads to reduced air quality in the building.
- 3.5 Given COVID-19 considerations in particular it is imperative that maximum air flow is ensured throughout the Centre. The optimal operation of the air conditioning system is essential especially bearing in mind that tenant suites have no opening windows.

4.0 CONTRACT EXEMPTION RATIONALE

- 4.1 The specialist contractor, The James Mercer Group, has extensive knowledge of the Centre's heating, cooling and ventilation system gained through previous plant replacement and repair works awarded under an earlier contract.
- 4.2 The complex nature of the work and access logistics would not be immediately apparent to an alternative contractor and a full site survey, with additional cost, would be required, current COVID-19 circumstances also causing additional difficulties with this.
- 4.3 The contractor has been proven to successfully deliver previous commissions, on time and within budget, further supported by an excellent aftercare service.
- 4.4 COVID-19 concerns have resulted in a hesitancy among engineers to work on air filters and there is particular confidence in using a trusted, experienced contractor with knowledge of the site.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 New clean filters will help towards reducing energy consumption in the building as the demands on the fans to allow air to pass through will be less.
- 5.2 There is no significant impact on crime and disorder.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are financial implications of some £23,300 arising from this Article in respect of the replacement of the FCU filters. The sum of the expenditure is able to be met from existing resources from the Investment Centre's ring fenced account.

7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

7.1 The actions referred to in this Article are covered by the scheme of delegation to officers and any necessary changes have been made in the relevant risk registers.

8.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Article will help towards ensuring the general wellbeing of tenants and visitors to the Investment Centre by serving to provide air of a good quality throughout as well as a comfortable ambient working environment.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Article.

Equality Impact Assessment

This article is for information only and does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/ or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

None.

Agenda Item 2c



CORPORATE & ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS UPDATE 2021/22

Issue: 1

Article of: Corporate Director of Place and Community

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor David Evans.

Contact for further information: Helen Hatch (Tel: 01695 585171)

(E-mail: helen.hatch@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: Exemption from contract procedure rules: Exacom software

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To brief Members on a request for exemption from contract procedure rules, granted by the Chief Operating Officer, in relation to 'Exacom' CIL/S106 Administration software.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council manage two types of developer contributions the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 Agreements (S106). Since 2014, the Council have managed the administration of these developer contributions, and the variety of projects funded from the receipts, through the 'Exacom' administration software. Exacom supports the processing of complex administration requirements, liability calculations, receipts, expenditure, appeals and enforcement.
- 2.2 Exacom was purchased by the Council in 2014, when CIL was adopted, following contractual and tendering rules at that time. However, due to the rolling contract arrangement and annual maintenance costs, the contract has now exceeded the £50,000 internal threshold for contract costs in relation to the requirement to tender.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

3.1 Exacom is a 'niche' product, and there are very few, if any, other suppliers providing this type of software with the same depth of functionality which is required to manage developer contributions. For the original contract (2014), officers obtained software demonstrations and quotations from several different companies, including Exacom, IDOX and Civica. Only Exacom had the breadth of

functionality that was required to administrate CIL and had an established set of local authority users that provided positive feedback of the software and company. Since then, Exacom has become the lead provider of planning obligation software and has few, if any, market competitors. It is therefore not practicable to obtain three written quotations on the basis that i) officers are happy with the software and support provided by Exacom which is now very much established and ii) there are an insufficient number of alternative companies to approach which could offer the same functionality in software.

3.2 Exacom have agreed to offer a fixed annual maintenance charge of £7350, plus VAT, for the next five years. There is more long-term value for money in gaining a fixed year deal for five years given the inflation costs of recent years, so this will ensure best value for money. The annual software maintenance cost for Exacom is relatively minimal, and is covered by the 5% administration provided by the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) so that, effectively, the cost is borne by the developer contributions. To the best of knowledge, there are no alternative providers offering the same quality or functionality of obligations management software.

4.0 ACTION BEING TAKEN

4.1 The purpose of this update is to notify Members that a request for exemption from contract procedure rules has been sought, and granted, from the Chief Operating Officer for the reasons set out above.

5.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this report and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

6.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There is a financial implication arising from this article as it relates to the ongoing purchase of software to administrate developer contributions. However, the costs for the software are funded from CIL revenue, as 5% of CIL monies collected by the Council must be used to cover its administration costs which includes software. Therefore, the cost of the software is included within the Strategic Planning and Implementation budget. The software will continue to reduce the resource impacts of CIL by providing an efficient administration process.

7.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

7.1 This Article is for information only and makes no recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to risk registers.

9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no health and wellbeing implications arising from this report.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Article.

Equality Impact Assessment

This article is for information only and does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/ or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

None.

Agenda Item 2d



CORPORATE & ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

MEMBERS UPDATE 2021/2022

Issue: 1

Article of: Corporate Director of Transformation & Resources

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Yvonne Gagen

Contact for further information: Ms S Lewis (Extn. 5027)

(E-mail: sharon.lewis@westlancs.gov.uk)

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION FROM CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES - STONEFISH RECRUITMENT AND APPLICANT MONITORING SOFTWARE SYSTEM

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE

1.1 To inform members that the Chief Operating Officer granted an exemption from Contract Procedure Rule 6, in respect of the procurement of the Stonefish recruitment and applicant monitoring software system.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Contract procedure rule 6 states the following: Where the estimated value or amount of a proposed contract will exceed £10,000 but will not exceed £50,000 the appropriate Senior Officer shall obtain not less than three written quotations and accordingly, these Rules shall have no application in relation to such contracts insofar as they relate to the invitation, submission, custody, acceptance or opening of tenders.
- 2.2 The current contract with Stonefish, was engaged following a 3 quotes process, in line with contract procedure rule 6 noted above. The current contract expires at the 9 May 2021.
- 2.3 It was anticipated that a full tender exercise was to be conducted to enable a longer term contract for this service, with a value in excess of £50,000 over the life of the whole contract. However, due to resource implications, that it has not been possible to undertake in time to enable the tender exercise to be completed before the current contract expiry.

2.4 The original contract was secured after a 3 Quotes analysis was undertaken. The prices obtained by Stonefish were at that time, and remain below market competitors based on the initial 3 quotes assessment. The continuation of this contract would enable the Council's HR team to only pay a revised annual fee without the need to add on additional implementations costs that would be required with any new provider.

3.0 CURRENT POSITION

3.1 The exemption of contract procedure rule 6, w has enabled the HR Team to engaging the provider in a further 2 year contract, maintaining the total contract value below the £50,000 threshold for the full 5 year contract duration.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no significant sustainability impacts associated with this article and, in particular, no significant impact on crime and disorder.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are some financial/ resource implications arising from this article in respect of the annual fee associated with the contract, however these have been met from existing resources.

6.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 This Article is for information only and makes no recommendations. It therefore does not require a formal risk assessment and no changes have been made to risk registers.

7.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Article will impact on the following themes.
 - Promote good health and wellbeing and enable people to flourish
 - Increase people's independence throughout their life course and ability to lead full active lives.

The impact will be felt in a positive way by enabling people to apply and take par in the Council's recruitment processes and enter into the workforce, in a positive and streamlined way.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Article.

Equality Impact Assessment

This article is for information only and does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/ or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices None.

Agenda Item 3a

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted