



This is an open report

10c(ii)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee No. 3 - Tendering

3 November 2008

Present at the meeting

Councillor Mrs M J Whiteside (Chairman)
Councillor G Wilkes
Reverend Deacon R Moore (Co-opted Member)

.1 Apologies for absence: Councillors Mrs B Bourne, H L Cadman, B J Fagan and G W Fairhurst.

.2 Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of this Select Committee held on 6 October 2008.
The Select Committee agreed to hold a meeting on 1 December 2008.

Resolved: The Select Committee:

- Approves the minutes as an accurate record.
- Agrees to decide future meeting dates at the meeting on the 1 December.

.3 Presentation by Internal Audit: Representatives from Internal Audit outlined the role of internal audit in relation to the Council's tendering process. The ensuing discussion covered the topics of:

- the stages at which Internal Audit become involved;
- savings made for the Council as a result of intervention;
- protection against cartels;
- the importance of good contract management;
- managing variations and extras;
- the extent of departmental policing;
- difficulties with filling in tender documents and the possibility of filling them in online;
- providing support to suppliers through the application process; and
- the possibility of controlled auctions.

Resolved: The Select Committee:

- thanks Internal Audit for the presentation and offer to provide more information if necessary;
- asks to see the summary for December relating to the agreement of contracts requiring less than three quoted sums.

.4 Private Finance Initiatives: The Policy Officer presented a briefing note requested by the Select Committee on the Council's commitments relating to Public Finance Initiatives (PFI).

Resolved: The Select Committee:

- agrees that although PFI is outside the scope of its remit, it should be considered as one of the future financial vehicles for Council contracts.
- agrees to include PFI in its final report.

.5 Work Plan: The Select Committee considered the work plan drawn up by the Policy Officer.

Resolved: The Select Committee agrees to read and prepare comments on the work plan for discussion at the next meeting.

.6 Date and time of next meeting: The next meeting of Select Committee No.3 will be held on the 10 November 2008 at 6pm.

Chairman