

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2017**

COUNCILLORS: Derek Levy (Chair), Guney Dogan, Ertan Hurer, Jansev
PRESENT Jemal, Nneka Keazor and Glynis Vince,

STATUTORY 1 *vacancy (Church of England diocese representative), Mr*
CO-OPTees *Simon Goulden (other faiths/denominations*
representative), Mr Tony Murphy (Catholic diocese
representative), Alicia Meniru & 1 vacancy (Parent
Governor representative) – Italics Denotes absence

OFFICERS: Madeleine Forster (Interim AD Council Housing &
Regulatory Services), Ken Hopkins (Head of Capital
Programme, Council Housing), Susan O'Connell (Scrutiny
Officer), Elaine Huckell (Scrutiny Secretary)

Also present: Councillor Ahmet Oykenar (Cabinet member for Housing
and Housing Regeneration)

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WELCOME & APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Abdullahi and from Councillor Rye.

It was noted that Councillor Vince was substituting for Councillor Rye and Councillor Hurer was substituting for Councillor Smith. Councillor Jemal was substituting for Councillor Abdullahi.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

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**CALL-IN - POST TENDER REPORT FOR BRIMSDOWN AVENUE- MAJOR
WORKS BATHROOM REPLACEMENT, KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT AND
EXTERNAL ENVELOPING**

The Committee received a report from the Chief Executive outlining details of a call-in received on the Portfolio decision by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration (taken on 23/10/17): Post Tender Report for

Brimsdown Avenue – Major Works Bathroom Replacement, Kitchen Refurbishment and External Enveloping.

NOTED that this report was considered in conjunction with the information in the part 2 agenda.

All the discussion on this item took part in the part 2 section of the meeting.

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EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

Resolved in accordance with the principles of Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of the Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

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PART 2 AGENDA CALL-IN RE: POST TENDER REPORT FOR BRIMSDOWN AVENUE- MAJOR WORKS BATHROOM REPLACEMENT, KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT AND EXTERNAL ENVELOPING

The Committee received the information provided on the Post Tender Report for Brimsdown Avenue – Major Works Bathroom Replacement, Kitchen Refurbishment and External Enveloping which had been included in the part 2 section of the agenda.

NOTED

The information was considered in conjunction with the report on the part 1 agenda.

Councillor Smith set out the reasons for calling in the decision and spoke of the following:

- Concerns regarding the exact number of properties involved. The Quantity Surveyor post tender report refers to 73 properties while the council report refers to 84 properties.
- Concerns regarding the financial stability and viability of the contractor to be awarded the contract, - given the low tender amount which can be an indication of financial difficulty.

Councillor Oyken, Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration responded, and highlighted the following:

- The contractor was engaged as a Framework contractor and a due tender process undertaken. Due Diligence which included financial checks was carried out.

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- There was no legitimate reason why the contract could not be awarded to the contractor.

Other issues highlighted included:

- The project includes works to 84 properties in total. Works to all 84 include new kitchens, window renewals, external doors fascia/soffit boards rain water goods and general repairs. From those 84, 73 properties would also be receiving a bathroom extension replacement.
- The departments' experience with the contractor, on contracts from 2014 are good. They have had positive outcomes and good resident satisfaction.
- Confirmation that there were no 'up front' costs involved – payment is made by invoice. If there are any reasons for concern in future it would be possible to work directly with the sub- contractor.
- There was discussion about the formula the Council uses for awarding contracts of price to customer satisfaction and some members would have liked to see the weighting higher for customer satisfaction. Councillor Oykenner agreed to review the formula being used.

Following the discussion, the Committee took a vote on whether the decision should be confirmed. Having considered the information provided, the committee voted to confirm the Portfolio decision.

Councillors Levy, Keazor, Dogan, Hurer and Jemal voted in favour of the decision. Councillor Vince voted against.

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DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Business meeting – 18 January 2018

Councillor Levy thanked everyone for attending the meeting.