

PART 1

Reason why decision is being called in:

The decision taken by the Leader of the Council on 5th September 2018 to approve the works to the public realm adjacent to the new railway station on Meridian Way was based on a completely inadequate report (Parts 1 and 2) by officers that did not provide sufficient background information on the procurement process, programme, specification, cost of the works or risks to the Council involved. The inadequacy of the report showed nothing short of contempt for elected members.

The procurement process

- Why wasn't background information provided in the report regarding the decision taken to carry out a formal procurement process by going out to remediation contractors via the framework which failed instead of civil engineering contractors capable of carrying out the highway works involved? This created major avoidable delays. No timeline was provided in the report regarding when the procurement process started, finished or when the waiver was applied for?

Programme

- The Council is now under extreme time pressure to carry out the works by May 2019 when the Station is due to open before substantial damages are levied by Network Rail. The procurement process should have been undertaken much earlier than it was in order to avoid this situation. Why wasn't this specific works scheme dealt with separately from the main negotiations with Barratt/PCPD in a timely manner rather than hanging on in the hope that the main negotiations would be resolved in the Council's favour?
- No assurances are provided in the report that the public realm works by Volkens Fitzpatrick can actually be completed by the May 2019 deadline.

(2) Outline of proposed alternative action:

Refer back to Cabinet Member for the decision to be reviewed.

(3) Do you believe the decision is outside the policy framework?

No

(4) If Yes, give reasons: n/a

FOR DST USE ONLY:

Checked by Proper Officer for validation –



Name of Proper Officer:

Date: