

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Audit and Procurement Committee held at 2.30 pm
on Monday, 27 February 2023

Present:

Members: Councillor R Lakha (Chair)
Councillor B Singh (Deputy Chair)
Councillor S Agboola
Councillor J Blundell
Councillor T Sawdon

Employees (by Service):

Finance P Jennings, K Tyler

Law and Governance M Salmon

Streetscene and Regulatory Services A Walster (Director of Streetscene and Regulatory Services)

Apologies: Councillor M Ali
Councillor R Auluck
Councillor R Brown (Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources) – Invited Member

Public Business

52. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

53. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that the Cabinet agrees to exclude the press and public under Sections 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the private report in Minute 4 below headed ‘Consideration of Approval of Severance Packages’ on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as it contains information relating to the financial affairs of a particular person (including the authority holding that information) and in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

(Note: Councillor J Blundell and Councillor T Sawdon voted against the Exclusion of the Press and Public and asked that this be recorded.)

54. Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

There were no other items of public business.

Private Business

55. Consideration of Approval of Severance Packages

The Audit and Procurement Committee considered a report of the Director of Streetscene and Regulatory Services that sought approval of severance packages for employees of the Council which each exceeded £100,000.

Functions of Streetscene and Regulatory Services had been reviewed to ensure that the services provided to the residents remained fit for purpose and supported the delivery of the One Coventry Plan, resulting in the deletion of posts. Appendices provided details of existing and proposed structures for the reviews and the supporting Business Case for the organisational change.

Part 21, paragraph 8.5, of the Council's constitution required that any severance package for an employee of the Council of £100,000 or over should be determined by the Audit and Procurement Committee. The calculation of the value of an exit package included the costs to the Authority, as well as payments / benefits to the employee.

RESOLVED that the Audit and Procurement Committee:

- 1) Approves the severance payments on early retirements as calculated.**
- 2) Requests that future severance package reports include details of consultations undertaken with Cabinet Member(s) whose portfolios are affected by proposals for organisational change.**

56. Any other items of private business which the Chair decides to take as a matter of urgency because of the special circumstances involved.

There were no other items of private business.

(Meeting closed at 3.30 pm)