

Council – 24th January 2017
Recommendation from Cabinet
3rd January 2017

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Cabinet held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 3 January 2017

Present:

Members: Councillor G Duggins (Chair)
Councillor A Khan (Deputy Chair)
Councillor F Abbott
Councillor L Bigham
Councillor J Innes
Councillor J Mutton
Councillor J O'Boyle
Councillor E Ruane

Deputy Cabinet Members Councillor P Akhtar
Councillor R Lakha
Councillor P Seaman
Councillor C Thomas

Non-Voting Opposition Councillor J Blundell
Members: Councillor G Crookes

Other Members: Councillor N Akhtar
Councillor R Bailey
Councillor N Akhtar, R Bailey, D Gannon, R Lancaster,
J Lepoidevin, P Male, J McNicholas and S Walsh

Others (by invitation): David Burbage CBE DL (Chair, Coventry City of Culture
Trust)
Jonathon Neelands (Associate Dean Creativity at
Warwick Business School)

Employees (by Directorate):

Chief Executive's M Reeves (Chief Executive),
Place M Andrews, P Bowman, D Cockroft, C Mitchell,
D Nuttall, K Seager, A Walster
People G Quinton (Executive Director), A Baker,
P Fahy, S Lam,
Resources C West (Executive Director), P Jennings,
L Knight, J Newman,

Apologies: Councillors Ali, Caan, Maton, M Mutton, Welsh

RECOMMENDATIONS

83. External Auditor Appointment Process - 2018/19 Onwards

The Cabinet considered a report of the Executive Director of Resources, which set out the options for appointing the external auditor to the Council for 2018/19 accounts and beyond, as the current arrangements only cover up to and including 2017/18 audits.

The Cabinet noted that the Council's current auditors were Grant Thornton UK LLP working under a contract originally let by the Audit Commission and that the audit fees for 2016/17 were £189.158. Responsibility for this contract was transferred to the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) following the abolition of the Audit Commission.

The PSAA was inviting the Council to opt in, along with all other authorities, so that the PSAA could enter into a number of contracts with appropriately qualified audit firms and appoint a suitable firm to be the Council's auditor.

The report set out the three main options available to the Council, along with the key elements of each of the options. In summary these were to make a stand alone appointment (Option 1); establish a Joint Auditor Panel (Option 2); or to 'opt in' to the Sector Led Body (PSAA) (Option 3).

RESOLVED that the Cabinet recommend that Council approves Option 3, as described in the report, which is to accept Public Sector Audit Appointments' (PSAA) invitation to 'opt in' to the sector led option for the appointment of external auditors for the five financial years commencing 1st April 2018.