**DECISIONS DELEGATED TO OFFICERS**

**Complete this form to record details of all decisions made by officers acting under delegated powers. Send the completed form to** **forwardplan@oxford.gov.uk**

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| --- | --- |
| **Decision title:**  | Appointment of Consultants to undertake a high level feasibility study to look at potential future refurbishment and use of options for Oxford Town Hall and St Aldates Chambers.  |
| **Decision date:** | 20th July 2021 |
| **Source of delegation:** State how the decision was delegated. Was it an express delegation made at a meeting or a general delegation under the Council’s Constitution?  | All executive functions except the ones in Part 4.5 and 4.7 are delegated to the officers in the senior management structure (Council Constitution). |
| **What decision was made?** Explain briefly – include financial details of any income or expenditure relating directly to this decision. Please indicate whether information is exempt / confidential. | The basis of the tendered sum plus contingency (10%), £37,750 (excluding VAT). |
| **Purpose:** What does the decision deliver or achieve? | To instruct an architect-led team to undertake a high level feasibility study to explore the potential of utilising Oxford Town Hall more intensively for Council business requirements, in order to rationalise use of the existing Council estate. The project will also identify options for the potential future refurbishment and use of St Aldates Chambers (SAC), which is the main OCC office and home to the customer service centre. This work will be used to inform the development of a business case for any change and a future Council investment decision.  |
| **Reasons:** Please provide the reasons for the decision. | This work is necessary to evidence any future business case of investment and to realise future savings and efficiencies within the Council’s Medium Term Financial Plan.  |
| **Decision made by:** Name and title of officer within the senior management structure | Tom Bridgman, Director of Development in consultation with Cabinet Member for Finance & Asset Management. |
| **Other options considered:** List any alternatives that were available to the decision taker and why they were rejected | The alternative option was not to appoint specialist advice. This was rejected as it could result in the Council not having the appropriate information necessary to make an informed investment decision towards achieving important financial savings and efficiencies. . |
| **Documents considered:**Please attach any new documents relevant to the decision and state if they are exempt | None |
| **Key or Not Key:** (see notes below): | Not key |
| **Wards significantly affected:** If 2+ wards are significantly affected this will need to be treated as a key decision (see notes below) | Carfax |
| **Declared conflict of interest:** Please record any declared conflict of interest by any Cabinet Member consulted on the decision which relates to the decision. | None |
| **This form was completed by:****Name & title:****Date:** | Steven Clews, Regeneration Manager, Regeneration & Economy |

**Approval checklist**

Delegations made at meetings and the Council’s Finance Rules and Contract Rules (Parts 18 and 19 of the Constitution) stipulate who the decision maker must consult with before taking a decision. The table below should be used to record their approval. The relevant Cabinet Member(s) must be consulted on all decisions taken by officers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Approver*** | ***Name and job title*** | ***Date***  |
| **Senior officer(s)** e.g. the relevant service manager / head of service where the decision maker is the Chief Executive or an Executive Director. | Tom Bridgman, Director of Development | 20th July 2021 |
| **Head of Financial Services** if required by the delegation / Constitution | Nigel Kennedy, Head of Financial Services | 20th July 2021 |
| **Head of Law and Governance** if required by the delegation / Constitution | Susan Sale, Head of Law and Governance | 23rd July 2021 |
| **Cabinet Member(s)** approval isrequired for all decisions | Cllr Edward Turner | 20th July 2021 |
| **Ward Member(s)** – Ward Members should be told in advance about anything which particularly affects their ward and which is potentially controversial but please note that Cabinet Members must be consulted first. |  |  |

This form must be completed and sent to Committee and Member Services **as soon as reasonably practicable** after the decision is made. Prompt notification is particularly important for **key decisions** which are subject to call-in, as the call-in deadline is 2 working days from the decision notice being published. Before completing the form please refer to the notes below

**NOTES**

The law[[1]](#footnote-1) requires the Council to record executive and non-executive decisions taken by officers under delegated powers and to publish them on the Council’s website.

These requirements **apply**to decisions that would have been taken by Council or the Cabinet if delegated powers had not been given to an officer:

* under an express delegation granted at a meeting of Cabinet, Council or a Committee.
* under a general delegation (where responsibility is delegated in the Constitution) and the effect of the decision is to:
	+ grant a permission or licence;
	+ affect the rights of an individual;
	+ award a contract or incur expenditure with a value in excess of £10,000;
	+ award a contract with a value in excess of £10,000 but less than £1,000,000;
	+ acquire or dispose of freeholds or leaseholds with a consideration or premium in excess of £10,000 but less than £500,000;
	+ grant to new tenants or dispose of leases with a rental value in excess of £10,000 but less than £125,000 (this excludes assignments, holding over and rent reviews);
	+ grant ‘project approval’ for projects in excess of £10,000 but less than £500,000;
	+ make a regulatory order which affects a number of people, for example a Public Space Protection Order or a Parking Place Order;

These requirements **do not** apply to:

* planning and licencing matters where there are established arrangements for recording decisions: or
* decisions which are purely administrative or operational in nature

Officers making such decisions must complete a written statement containing details of the decision taken**.** A copy of this decision notice must be retained by the relevant service for at least 6 years and any background papers for 4 years.

**Exempt or Confidential information**

Information relating to a delegated officer decision does not have to be made public if it is exempt or confidential. Summary information from this decision sheet (excluding all exempt or confidential information) will be published on the Council’s website.

**Key or Non Key Decision**

A key decision is an executive decision likely to have a significant effect on people living or working in at least two wards; or to incur spending or savings of £500,000 or more.

A key decision can only be taken and recorded here if notice of it has been published in the Forward Plan for at least 28 clear days. Key decisions taken by officers may be “called in” by any four councillors or the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee within two days of the notice of decision being published.

1. the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012/2089 (Regulation 13(4)) and The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014/2095 (Regulation 7) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)