

# BUSINESS SUPPORT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 OCTOBER 2007

## CALL-IN: FURNITURE FOR NEW CIVIC HQ

Report from: Neil Davies, Chief Executive

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### 1 Purpose of item

- 1.1 In accordance with chapter 4, part 5, paragraph 16.3 of the constitution with regard to decisions, the Cabinet decision 157/2007 has been called in to this Committee by six Members of the Liberal Democrat Group.

On the call in request the reason for call in was stated as being:

“With no audit of existing furniture, or of future furniture requirement, or even of new furniture acquired in recent years, there is no means of establishing if the proposed replacement of all the Council's furniture represents the most sensible option, or the best use of public money”.

The Cabinet decision and report are set out as appendix A to this report.

### 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider decision 157/2007 made by Cabinet on 4 September 2007 as outlined in paragraph 3.2 below.

### 3 Cabinet decision

- 3.1 On 4 September 2007 the Cabinet considered a report relating to *issue*.
- 3.2 The Cabinet made the following decision:

#### Decision

**Number:**      **Decision:**

152/2007      The Cabinet approved the selection of Senator International Limited as the preferred bidder for the provision and installation of office furniture for the new Civic Headquarters building.

## **Reasons:**

Senator International Limited submitted a bid that represented the most economically advantageous offer to the Council. New office furniture is required for the new Civic Headquarters and this bid presented the best value solution.

## **4 Director's Comments**

- 4.1 The decision by the Council to centralise its office accommodation into a new Civic HQ has necessitated the procurement of new furniture to replace old unsuitable furniture and to allow maximum occupation of the building. Much of the existing furniture is old and non-modular, which will not allow the layouts to give equitable space allocations and maximum occupancy. Where there have been fairly recent purchases of new furniture such as the Contact Centre, this will be used at the New Civic HQ.
- 4.2 Any furniture not required at the new Civic HQ will be disposed of to maximise income potential. This will be by the most appropriate means such as general tender, allowing staff and Members the opportunity to purchase, selling any specialist or antique furniture by auction, etc. To date the most appropriate method has not been agreed and will be dependent on what is left for disposal.

## **5 Financial implications**

- 5.1 The cost of procurement of office furniture will be contained within the approved capital budget.

## **6 Legal implications**

- 6.1 The furniture procurement complies with OJEU regulations (Official Journal of the European Union) and is within the budgetary framework agreed by full Council. This procurement has been undertaken in full compliance with the Council's procurement rules.

## **7 Background papers**

Report to Cabinet – 4 September 2007

## **Contact for further details:**

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