

**CABINET – 10TH AUGUST 2023**  
**Report of the Scrutiny Commission**

PROCUREMENT OF A VOID REPAIRS CONTRACTOR

Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission in relation to the procurement of a Void Repairs Contractor.

Recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission

That the Cabinet be informed that the Commission welcomes and supports the recommendations set out in the report of the Director of Housing and Wellbeing.

Reason

The Commission, having carefully considered and asked questions on the report, felt the Cabinet should approve the recommendations set out.

Meeting Discussion

- i. The Council intended to undertake the procurement via framework, which would likely result in a faster procurement process. The Council would be able to select a contractor from the framework to undertake a mini-competition, knowing that checks on integrity, quality and ability to do the work had been done. Additional checks would be undertaken to provide further information on the financial stability of a contractor.
- ii. It was recommended to Cabinet that the HRA revenue budgets were increased by £858.1k on an ongoing basis. This included the value of the contract (£700k maximum) and staffing costs (£158.1k). The finances were requested on an ongoing basis, but for a finite amount of time, until the voids backlog had been addressed.
- iii. Following the selection of a contractor, it was expected that there would be a measurable increase in completed voids work by quarter 4.
- iv. Once a suitable contractor had been identified, the work undertaken would be monitored by new KPIs and a regular update report on the number of jobs complete. At this stage, it would be possible to estimate how long it would take for the Council to clear the backlog. The Director of Housing and Wellbeing agreed to share this information with Scrutiny Commission when it was available.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Scrutiny Commission Procedure Rule 11.12 sets out the procedure by which a report of a Scrutiny Committee should be considered by Cabinet.

### Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The information on this in the Cabinet report is not affected by the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

### Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

#### *Financial Implications*

There are no further financial implications associated with the recommendation of the Scrutiny Commission.

#### *Risk Management*

There are no specific risks associated with the recommendations of the Scrutiny Commission.

Key Decision:	Yes
Background Paper:	Scrutiny Commission Minute 23 2023/24, 7th August 2023.
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