



## **CABINET**

**MEETING** : Wednesday, 3rd April 2019

**PRESENT** : Cllrs. James (Chair), Watkins, Cook, Noakes and H. Norman

**Others in Attendance**

Managing Director

Corporate Director

Corporate Director

Head of Place

Democratic Services and Elections Officer

**APOLOGIES** : Cllr. Organ

**105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**106. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**107. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

There were no public questions.

**108. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS (15 MINUTES)**

There were no petitions or deputations.

**109. LEADER AND CABINET MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME (15 MINUTES)**

There were no questions to the Leader of the Council or Cabinet.

## **110. DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENTS**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought approval for a Discretionary Housing Payments policy to take into account relevant changes in the Department for Work and Pension's Discretionary Housing Payment guidance with consideration to the Council's key objectives.

The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources summarised the key features of the report. She drew Members' attention to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019 described in Appendix C and endorsed recommendations 1, 2, 4, and 5. Concerning recommendation 3 'to consider disregarding War Pensions in their entirety for the purposes of calculating income for Housing Benefit' the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources advised Members that this would be better addressed outside of the policy. She further stated that officers would conduct a review into the matter and bring proposals to Members should they be beneficial.

**RESOLVED** that:

(1) the Discretionary Housing Payments policy at Appendix B of the report is the approved policy for Gloucester City Council subject to the following recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019

- War Pensions to be disregarded in their entirety for the purposes of calculating income for DHPs
- to clarify the appeals process in the policy
- if on first application it is apparent that the individual's circumstances are not likely to change within the 13 week period, a longer period will be awarded subject to an annual review

(2) the Discretionary Housing Payment policy is effective 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

## **111. PROPOSED EXTENSION TO CIVICA ITO CONTRACT**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources that sought approval to extend the Civica UK Limited Information Technology Outsourcing (ITO) contract for a period of 11 months to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

The Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources outlined the background to and implications of an extension to the contract and summarised the discussion of the proposal at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**RESOLVED** that Civica UK Limited ITO contract be extended for a period of 11 months until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

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**112. ANNUAL REPORT FOR ENERGY COSTS AND ENERGY REDUCTION PROJECTS**

Cabinet considered the report of the Cabinet Member for Environment that informed Members of the Council's energy costs and projects to reduce energy usage.

The Cabinet Member for Environment highlighted the key achievements and plans to further reduce energy use. The Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Economy welcomed the report in the context of wider budget savings.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) to note progress in the reduction of energy usage and consumption in the year 2018-19.
- (2) to support continued implementation of projects to save energy in the councils main buildings as set out in section 4 of the report.

**Time of commencement: 6.00 pm  
Time of conclusion: 6.10 pm**

**Chair**