

USE OF CONTRACTORS WORKING PARTY

North West Leicestershire



Senior Scrutiny Officer: Keith Gordon (01530 454538)

Overview and Scrutiny
Committed to Improvement

Next meeting: 6.30 p.m. on 13 JULY 2010

Venue: Council Chamber, Council Offices, Coalville

The Monitoring Officer would like to remind members that when they are considering whether the following items are exempt information under the relevant paragraph under part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 they must have regard to the public interest test. This means that members must consider, for each item, whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption from disclosure outweighs the public interest in making the item available to the public.

AGENDA

Item	Page
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	-
2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	-
Members are reminded that under the Code of Conduct, in declaring an interest, you should make clear the nature of that interest and whether it is 'personal' or 'prejudicial'.	
3. MINUTES	
To confirm minutes of meeting held on 18 May 2010	3
4. PROCUREMENT	-
The Procurement and Partnership Manager will respond to questions and provide clarification for Members.	
5. USE OF CONTRACTORS	-
To consider evidence, conclusions and recommendations.	

Circulation:
Councillor P Purver (Chairman)
Councillor V Richichi

Councillor A Saffell

USE OF CONTRACTORS WORKING PARTY MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 18 May 2010 – 6.30 p.m.
Council Chamber

Attendees

Councillors

P Purver (Chairman)
V Richichi, and A Saffell

In attendance R Woodward

Officers

Keith Gordon, Senior Scrutiny Officer

1. Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor P Purver declared a personal and prejudicial interest as the employee of a company that undertakes a small amount of irregular contract work for the Council.

3. Minutes

The meeting noted the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2010 as a correct record.

4. Use of Contractors

The Senior Scrutiny Officer presented a summary of the evidence received by the working party.

During discussion Members expressed concerns relating to;

- The basis of the percentage of work undertaken by the Direct Labour Organisation (DLO) and ensuring that use of the contractor is only to fulfil the demand that the DLO cannot.
- Consideration of the environmental implications on awarding contracts to distant contractors
- Possible reduced prices to obtain contracts, that were later increased
- Ensuring that the Council was not too 'risk adverse' and followed closely and did not go beyond the legal requirements when letting contracts

Members felt that it was necessary to extend the original timetable for the examination to fulfil the remit of the working party and requested that the Procurement and Partnership Manager be invited to a future meeting of the Working Party to assist Members and respond to some of the matters discussed. Members

also requested further information relating to the identification of contractors used by service and the length of each contract detailed.

During discussion, Members referred to several matters relating to the housing repairs contract that were without the scope of the working party. Members were advised that some of these matters could be drawn more appropriately to the attention of the forthcoming Housing Repairs Working Party.

The meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.