

Commercial and Investment Committee Decision Statement

Meeting: Friday 18 December 2020

Published: Monday 21 December 2020

Decision Review deadline: Thursday 24 December 2020

Implementation of Decisions not called in: Tuesday 29 December 2020

Each decision set out below will come into force, and may then be implemented at 9.30am on the fourth full working day after the publication date, unless it is subject of a decision review by nine members of the General Purposes Committee [see note on decision review below].

1. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies presented on behalf of Councillors Bates and McDonald.

Councillor Goldsack declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4, and advised he would abstain from voting on that item.

2. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 16 October 2020 and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 October were agreed as a correct record.

The Committee noted its Action Log.

3. Petitions and Public Questions

There were no petitions or public questions considered under this item.

4. Development Budget for Fordham Renewable Energy Network Demonstrator Project

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the high level assessment for a 21.3MWp (DC) solar farm to be sited at Glebe Farm, part of the Rural Estate, adjacent to Landwade Road in Fordham;
- b) Approve entering into a call off contract with Bouygues to commence on the development of an Investment Grade Proposal (IGP);

- c) provide support for a total budget of £635,000 as set out in in Table 3 to fund the development costs for an IGP, with inclusion of £550,000 capital budget into the Council's 2021-22 Business Plan to be agreed by Council in February 2021;
- d) agree the project will progress through the development phases as described in Diagram 1, with stage gate reviews as described in paragraph 2.24-2.29 in consultation with the Energy Investment Programme Member Working Group **and the Commercial and Investment Committee;**
- e) agree that at the conclusion of the IGP development, should the business case remain feasible, to seeking an investment decision from Commercial and Investment Committee seeking approval for an investment decision.

5. North Angle Solar Farm Investment Decision

It was resolved to:

- a) approve the investment case for the North Angle Solar Farm project as set out in section 2 of the report, **subject to Section 151 Officer agreement that it was appropriate to use a capital cost of 1.25%;**
- b) approve the proposed delegation arrangements set out in section 6 of the report, to enter into a construction contract with Bouygues E&S Solutions on agreement of the final price; **and it is proposed the decision to sign a contract with Bouygues is delegated to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chair of Commercial and Investment Committee and the Executive Director Place and Economy;**
- c) To scope options for private wire connections to the North Angle Solar Farm Project and in particular the detailed proposal for Swaffham Prior Community Heat Project.

6. Procurement of technical consultancy to support revenue optimisation

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the initiation of the procurement process for Optimisation/ Aggregator Services for the Energy Investment Programme portfolio;
- b) Note the timescales of the procurement process; and
- c) Delegate authority to Executive Director, Place and Economy in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Committee to approve going out to market with an Invitation to Tender for services;
- d) **Agree that the Decision to appoint at the end of process is presented to the Commercial & Investment Committee, in exempt session.**

7. Commercial and Investment Committee Review of Draft Revenue and Capital Business Planning Proposals for 2021-2026

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the progress made to date and next steps required to develop the business plan for 2021-2026;
- b) Note the impact of COVID-19 on the Council's financial planning;
- c) Endorse the budget and savings proposals that are within the remit of the Committee as part of consideration of the Council's overall Business Plan;
- d) Endorse the changes to the capital programme that are within the remit of the Committee as part of consideration of the Council's overall Business Plan.

8. Milton Road Library, Ascham Road, Cambridge CB4 2BD – Variation to Lease

It was resolved to:

Approve the completion of the Deed of Variation based on option 3 (as set out in paragraph 2.3) with completion of the Deed of Variation being subject to the receipt of the premium payment from the landlord developer.

9. Finance and Performance Report – October 2020

It was resolved to:

Note the report

10. Committee Agenda Plan and Appointments to Outside Bodies

It was resolved to:

review the agenda plan.

For more information contact:

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