

**NOTICE OF DELEGATION OF DECISION TO CABINET MEMBER BY STRONG LEADER**

Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

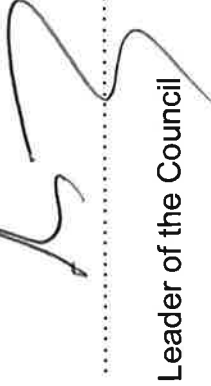
I, Cllr Marcus Hart, as Strong Leader, delegate the decision to delegate authority to the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to enter into an agreement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to appoint a contractor to provide an EU funded enterprise support and development programme to the Cabinet Member detailed below:

Cabinet Member for Planning and Economic Regeneration

Dated:

22.11.16

Signed:



Leader of the Council

**FORM 2**

**NOTICE OF DECISION OF CABINET MEMBER**

Pursuant Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by section 63 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

In accordance with the authority delegated to me I have made the following decision:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Reason for decision</b>	<b>Date for Decision to be taken</b>
EU Funded Enterprise and Support Programme Partnership agreement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	To delegate authority to the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to enter into an agreement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to appoint a contractor to provide an EU funded enterprise support and development programme	The Contract Procedure Rules state that the approval of Cabinet/Strong Leader is required to award a contract over the value of £160,000. This rule applies where the Council is entering a collaborative procurement or partnership as in this instance.	22/11/2016

**I confirm that the appropriate statutory officer consultation has taken place with regard to this decision.**

Dated: 22/11/2016  
Signed: 

Councillor: Ian Hardiman  
Cabinet Member

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**CABINET DECISION FOR STRONG LEADER APPROVAL**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**

**EU FUNDED ENTERPRISE AND SUPPORT PROGRAMME**  
**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH**  
**SOLIHULL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**To:** Leader of the Council

**From:** Director of Economic Prosperity and Place

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

In order to comply with the requirements of the Contract Procedure Rules to seek the authority of the Strong Leader for the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to enter into an agreement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) for SMBC to undertake a procurement exercise, and appoint a contractor to provide an EU funded enterprise support and development programme.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Leader is asked to DECIDE:**

**2.1 To grant delegated authority to the Director of Economic Prosperity and Place to enter into an agreement with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) for SMBC to appoint a contractor to provide an EU funded enterprise support and development programme.**

### **3.0 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) is leading on the delivery of an EU funded programme of business support for pre start, start up and post start up businesses which is to be delivered across much of the Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership area, including North Worcestershire.
- 3.2 Wyre Forest District Council, as host authority for the North Worcestershire Economic Development and Regeneration (NWEDR) Shared Service Agreement, has been asked to approve the programme's associated Partnership Agreement which details the relevant terms and conditions of support including the coordination and monitoring of the EU grant funding in accordance with the main Funding Agreement between SMBC and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

- 3.3 SMBC has completed the procurement process, in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, to appoint the delivery contractor who will provide the programme's business support.
- 3.4 However, in order to satisfy the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, the approval of Cabinet/Strong Leader is required to award a contract over the value of £160,000 where the Council is entering a collaborative procurement or partnership.

#### **4.0 KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 NWEDR has allocated a budget totalling £176,409 which is to be spread over the three years of the programme between 2016 and 2019 and which is drawn from a mixture of "in kind" funding and existing budgets. This will be used as partnership funding to draw down a further £1,105,711 of EU funds out of a total programme value of £2,133,004.
- 4.2 As a delivery partner to the whole programme, NWEDR's role is to raise awareness, publicise, promote and help to generate referrals in addition to supporting and contributing to SMBC's procurement and evaluation process, delivery methods and project outputs.
- 4.3 In addition, NWEDR is a member of the relevant steering group and will participate in local performance and other relevant meetings.
- 4.4 The appointed delivery organisation, which is made up of suitably qualified individuals following a robust and transparent procurement process, will be targeted alone to deliver the following annual outcomes (pro rata as required) during the course of the programme:
- 3,960 enquiries to the project via the Growth Hub
  - 1,980 enrolments for pre start and post start advice, one to one advice and guidance, workshops and networking
  - 990 potential entrepreneurs assisted to become Enterprise ready
  - 486 enterprises receiving information, diagnostic and brokerage support
  - 290 new enterprise supported
  - 145 new jobs created
- 4.5 None of these targets will be passed on to NWEDR. It will be for SBMC to manage the delivery contract, in consultation with NWEDR and ensure the contracting organisation provides appropriate activity and reports accordingly.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Council's contribution to the partnership scheme is set out in paragraph 4.1. There are no additional financial implications to the Council's budgets as the required funding already exists within allocated Earmarked Reserves.

## **6.0 LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The Contract Procedure Rules state that the approval of Cabinet/Strong Leader is required to award a contract over the value of £160,000. This rule also applies where the Council is entering a collaborative procurement or partnership as in this case. The terms of the partnership agreement have been reviewed by Legal Services. The Procurement conducted by SMBC has complied with the requirements of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- 6.2 The EU funded programme accords with NWEDR's business support objectives.

## **7.0 RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 NWEDR will work closely with SMBC and the appointed contractor to ensure that the work is delivered in accordance with the aims of the Programme.

## **8.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 8.1 This report relates to the procurement of a contractor to undertake the business support and to enter into the related Funding Agreement. The fundamental principles of no discrimination and transparency relate to all procurement exercises; there is no requirement for an Equality Impact Assessment.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

- 9.1 Entering into the agreement and supporting the EU funded Programme will enable NWEDR to offer appropriate business support to the target audience in accordance with its agreed priorities.

## **10. CONSULTEES**

Legal Services  
Finance Manager

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

There are no background papers relating to this report