

Appendix 1

Record of Executive Decision made by individual member

Decision made by	Councillor Richard Wearmouth - Cabinet member for Governance and Deputy Leader of the Council
Decision Title	Commissioning an Independent External Review of Corporate Governance
Date of decision (same as date form signed)	Monday 7 February 2022
Key Decision	No - QC advice noted that this is a Cabinet function and not a Key Decision
Special Urgency Key Decision (where key decision requirements above have not been possible)	Not applicable - see above
Decision	Accept the tender from SOLACE
Reason/s for Decision	Please see the tender evaluation matrix attached. Following consultation with Group Leaders and Statutory Officers I was satisfied that Max Caller CBE and his team were best placed to provide these services.
Alternative options considered and rejected	Not holding the review was unwise in light of External Auditor's correspondence. Three bids were received, evaluated and scored. SOLACE were preferred.
Legal implications	QC advice sets out the legal power and delegation to me. Any recommendations of the review will be made in public to the full council and the cabinet.

Financial implications	Chief Finance Officer has confirmed funding for the review from contingency
Other implications	The Leader's notice of delegation dated 14 January instructed me to procure this review
Background papers considered	Invitation to tender, responses received, evaluation matrix, QC advice, views from group leaders and officers received.
Declarations/conflict of interest	None
Consultation	Informal consultation with external auditor, Group Leaders and Statutory Officers was invited, two Statutory Officers and two Group Leaders responded.
Exempt Decision?	No
Officer/Executive members who participated in the decision as consultees.	Cath McEvoy-Carr - Deputy Chief Executive Jan Willis - Interim Exec Director of Finance Suki Binjal - Interim Director of Governance Cllr Reid, Cllr Morphet



richard.wearmouth (Feb 9, 2022 15:17 GMT)

Signed by Cllr Richard Wearmouth

Dated: 9 February (date notice given)

Date of decision 7 February 2022

The purpose of the review is to highlight areas for improvement, it is not designed to 'blame' or criticise anyone in particular. We expect that there will be learning for everyone, and an opportunity for the council to adapt and change the way in which we do business to ensure that there is clarity, accountability, and transparency in what we do, why decisions are taken and who is taking the decision.

The terms of reference for the resulting report will include:

1. the operation, culture and structure of the organisation;
2. the effectiveness of political and organisational leadership;
3. the capacity and/or capability to provide the organisation with clear and effective strategic direction;
4. use of resources and the impact of governance on the organisation's ability to deliver best value;
5. the impact of corporate governance on service delivery;
6. the culture of openness, transparency and trust within and between the officers and members;
7. openness to challenge;
8. effective engagement with external partners.