

AT A MEETING of the EFFICIENCY PANEL of the HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on Tuesday, 2 February 2010.

**PRESENT:**

Chairman:  
p C. Davidovitz

a Dr. R.J.Ellis  
p M. Snaith-Tempia

p Felicity Hindson, MBE

**8 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor Dr. R J Ellis who was engaged on other County Council business. In accordance with paragraph 2.1 of Part 3C of the Hampshire County Council Constitution, the Leader of the Council deputed Councillor M. Snaith-Tempia to attend the meeting on behalf of Councillor Dr. R J Ellis.

**9 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were mindful that, where they believed they had a personal or personal prejudicial interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting, they should, normally at the time of debate, declare their interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in paragraphs 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the County Council's Code of Conduct, consider whether to leave the meeting whilst the matter was discussed save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Code. The declaration to be made at the time of the relevant debate. No such declarations were made.

**10 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

**11 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements on this occasion.

**12. REPORT OF THE EFFICIENCY PANEL WORKSHOP**

The Panel considered and approved a report of the Chief Executive (item 5 in the minute book) which summarised the discussions of the Panel at its workshop session on 25 November 2009. The Decision Record is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

13. **PROCUREMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (LESS EXEMPT APPENDIX)**

The Panel considered and approved a report of the Director of Property, Business and Regulatory Services (item 6 in the minute book) on the procurement improvement programme and the arrangements made to contribute to the County Council's overall efficiency savings. The Director summarised the programme portfolio and structure as detailed in appendices 1 and 2 of the report. This had highlighted the training needs for staff involved in procurement activity, which were being addressed, and which linked into the overall improvement programme. The Decision Record is attached to these minutes as Appendix 2.

14. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED:

That in relation to the following items the public be excluded from the meeting, as it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information within Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, and further that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons set out in the reports.

15. **PROCUREMENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME (EXEMPT APPENDICES)**

The Panel considered and noted the exempt appendices (item 8 in the minute book) to the report of the Director of Property, Business and Regulatory Services.

16. **REDUCING WORKFORCE COSTS – UPDATE ON PROGRESS**

The Panel considered and approved an exempt report of the Director of Human Resources (item 9 in the minute book) on progress in relation to key workstreams of the reducing workforce costs project. During the discussion it was noted that negotiations were underway with the Trade Unions on proposals to reduce the business mileage rates in line with HMRC rates and that in relation to the NJC pay award for 2010/11 the employers side had indicated a 0% increase (detail in exempt minute). The Decision Record is attached to these minutes as Appendix 3.

17. **TARGET EFFICIENCY SAVINGS**

The Panel considered and approved an exempt report of the County Treasurer (item 10 in the minute book) on targeted efficiency savings. During the discussion it was noted that the target corporate efficiency savings were £15m for 2011/12 and a further £15m for 2012/13, and that

£10m of the savings would be found through improved procurement. Other savings were being sought and banked in advance during 2010/11 to underwrite the targets for the later years and to try and over achieve producing more flexibility for the future. These include for example further savings against the contingency cost for the waste contract, subject to Cabinet's agreement. Work was underway to identify other potential efficiency savings (detail in exempt minute). The Decision Record is attached to these minutes as Appendix 4.

**18. REVENUE INCOME OPTIMISATION**

The Panel considered and approved an exempt report of the County Treasurer (item 11 in the minute book) regarding progress on revenue income optimisation (detail in exempt minute). The Decision Record is attached to these minutes as Appendix 5.