

## Delegated Decision Notice

This form is the written record of a key, significant operational or administrative decision taken by an officer.

<b>Decision type</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Operational Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Decision
<b>Approximate value</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Below £500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £500,000 to £1,000,000 <input type="checkbox"/> over £1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/> below £25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £25,000 to £100,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> £100,000 to £500,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Over £500,000	<input type="checkbox"/> below £25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> £25,000 to £100,000
<b>Director<sup>1</sup></b>	Chief Officer, Financial Services		
<b>Contact person:</b>	Robin Thornton	Telephone number: 0113 37 89394	
<b>Subject<sup>2</sup>:</b>	Variation of the Council's Banking Services contract with NatWest Bank Plc		
<b>Decision details<sup>3</sup>:</b>	<p>What decision has been taken? (Set out all necessary decisions to be taken by the decision taker including decisions in relation to exempt information, exemption from call in etc.)</p> <p>The Chief Officer, Financial Services gave approval to use Regulation 72 (1) (b) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 to vary the current banking services contract with NatWest plc by a contract value of £240,000 under the same terms and conditions, but with an increase in rates, for a period of 24 months, to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.</p> <p>A brief statement of the reasons for the decision (Include any significant financial, procurement, legal or equalities implications, having consulted with Finance, PACS, Legal, HR and Equality colleagues as appropriate)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's contract for the provision of banking services was extended for 24 months and is due to expire on 31st March 2024 with no further provision to extend the contract. There have been delays to the implementation of the North East Procurement Organisation (NEPO) framework contract for banking services which have caused delays to the Council's banking services procurement as it is our intention to utilise this procurement route.</li> <li>• A change of provider would require significant amendments to this system and many other council financial systems. Currently, finance and IDS officer resources are deployed to the forthcoming implementation of a new financial system and given the financial challenges faced by the Council the scope for availability of further resources is severely constrained. There are a number of interdependences between the banking services provision and</li> </ul>		

<sup>1</sup> Give title of Director with delegated responsibility for function to which decision relates.

<sup>2</sup> If the decision is key and has appeared on the list of forthcoming key decisions, the title of the decision should be the same as that used in the list

<sup>3</sup> Simply refer to supporting report where used as these matters have been set out in detail.

	<p>the new financial ledger which still require fully specifying and testing. To change provider at this stage, simultaneously with the implementation of the new financial ledger, would be uneconomical and technically unviable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The cost of extending the contract for a further 24 month period is circa £240,000 which equates to 17% of the original contract value which was c£1.4M. This includes an uplift in the current rates which increases the costs by an estimated £19,976 at current volumes over the two years.</li> </ul>
	<p>Brief details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the decision maker at the time of making the decision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To do nothing is not an option as the Council will not be able to meet its financial commitments. Varying that contract by a further 24 months will enable appropriate resources to be committed to the procurement. It is also anticipated that the NEPO framework contract for banking services would be in place within this timescale and would provide a value for money, efficient and effective procurement route.</li> </ul>
<b>Affected wards:</b>	N/A
<b>Details of consultation undertaken<sup>4</sup>:</b>	Executive Member None
	Ward Councillors None
	Chief Digital and Information Officer <sup>5</sup> None
	Chief Asset Management and Regeneration Officer <sup>6</sup> None
	Others None
<b>Implementation</b>	Officer accountable, and proposed timescales for implementation Robin Thornton, 01/04/2024
<b>List of</b>	Date Added to List:-

<sup>4</sup> Include details of any interest disclosed by an elected Member on consultation and the date of any relevant dispensation given.

<sup>5</sup> See Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) CDIO must be consulted in relation to all matters relating to the Council's use of digital technology

<sup>6</sup> See Officer Delegation Scheme (Executive Functions) CAMRO must be consulted in relation to all matters relating to the Council's land and buildings.

<b>Forthcoming Key Decisions</b> <sup>7</sup>	<b>If Special Urgency or General Exception</b> a brief statement of the reason why it is impracticable to delay the decision	
	<b>If Special Urgency</b> Relevant Scrutiny Chair(s) approval Signature _____ Date _____	
<b>Publication of report</b> <sup>8</sup>	If not published for 5 clear working days prior to decision being taken the reason why not possible:	
	If published late relevant Executive member's approval Signature _____ Date _____	
<b>Call In</b>	Is the decision available <sup>9</sup> for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>If exempt from call-in</b> , the reason why call-in would prejudice the interests of the council or the public:	
<b>Approval of Decision</b>	Authorised decision maker <sup>10</sup> <b>VICTORIA BRADSHAW</b> Chief Officer Financial Services	
	Signature V. f. Bradshaw	Date 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2024

<sup>7</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 2.4 - 2.6. Complete this section for key decisions only

<sup>8</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 3.1. Complete this section for key decisions only

<sup>9</sup> See Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 5.1. Significant operational decisions taken by officers are never available for call in. Key decisions are always available for call in unless they have been exempted from call in under rule 5.1.3.

<sup>10</sup> Give the post title and name of the officer with appropriate delegated authority to take the decision.