



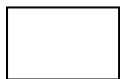
Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Environment and Neighbourhoods)

Date: 19th April 2010

Subject: Procurement of the Grounds Maintenance Contract for 2011 – Formal Response to the Scrutiny Board’s Interim Statement

Electoral Wards Affected: All



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 At the beginning of the municipal year, the Board agreed to establish a working group to oversee the procurement process for the new grounds maintenance contract for 2011, ensuring that the recommendations arising from the 2005 Scrutiny Inquiry had been taken forward and that lessons learned from the existing contract were also being reflected in the new specification.
- 1.2 In January 2010, the Scrutiny Board produced an interim Statement setting out its initial findings and recommendations relating to the procurement of the new contract for the attention of the Executive Board and the Grounds Maintenance Programme Board at this particular stage of the procurement process. This is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.3 It is the normal practice to request a formal response from the relevant Directorate(s) to the Board’s recommendations, once a Statement has been published.
- 1.4 On 10th March 2010, the proposed response to the recommendations was submitted by the Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods to the Council’s Executive Board, who accepted the actions detailed in the response. This report is attached as Appendix 2 for the Board’s consideration.
- 1.5 In line with recommendation 6ii of the Scrutiny Board’s Statement, a report detailing the analysis conducted by the Grounds Maintenance Project Board in relation to the benefits and limitations of having an output specification for the new grounds maintenance contract is also provided for the Board’s consideration (see Appendix 3).

- 1.6 Members are asked to consider the responses provided and to decide whether any further scrutiny involvement is required.
- 1.7 Any recommendations which have not yet been completed will be included in future quarterly recommendation tracking reports to enable the Board to continue to monitor progress.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Members are asked to consider the responses provided and to decide whether further scrutiny involvement is required.

Background Papers

None.