



**DEMOCRATIC SUPPORT
SECTION ONLY**

Decision No: GE10
Publication Date: 13/03/23

General Exception

Pursuant to the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Notice of Key Decision

A: Decision to be taken and by whom

Councillor Derek Murphy, Portfolio Holder for Social Housing, Port Health, Skills and Education

To award a 12-month contract (with the provision to extend for further 2 x 12-month periods) to Hall Mark Meat Hygiene Ltd for the provision of six Port Health Official Veterinarians (OVs).

This is a Key Decision which has not been included within the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions, but which must be taken by such a date that it is impracticable to defer the decision until 28 days after the next Notice is published.

B: Reasons why this Key Decision was not included in the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions and why it would not be practicable to defer the decision

Due to an oversight this decision was not included in the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions. It cannot be deferred as bio-security checks have commenced at the border and official veterinarian provision is essential for the successful delivery of this project.

There is an expectation by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) which is funding the posts that six Port Health Official Veterinarians will be recruited by 1 April 2023. This figure is in addition to the 34 staff that have been retained by Port Health.

C: List of documents submitted to the decision-maker

Cabinet-style report.

D: Part of the Constitution authorising the decision

Rule 15 (General Exception Procedure) of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (Part 4 – Rules of Procedure).

- Notice must be given in the first instance to the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee
- The General Exception procedure allows a Key Decision which has been omitted from the Notice of Forthcoming Key Decisions to be taken, provided 5 clear days has elapsed between informing the Chairman of the relevant Scrutiny Committee and making a copy of this notice

available to the public (on the website and displayed in the Council Chamber lobby), and the decision being taken.

- Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of, or extracts from, documents submitted to the decision-maker in relation to the decision may be requested from the address given below. In addition, the public may submit other documents relevant to the decision to the same address.

Democratic Services Section
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White Cliffs Business Park
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