

**Record of Officer's Decision**

**The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012**

<b>Date of Decision:</b>	7 February 2025
<b>Decision Maker (Officer):</b>	Ian Davidson
<b>Authority for Delegated Decision (Cabinet/Committee Decision or Scheme of Delegation – provide reference):</b>	Resolution 4&5 of Minute 100 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 20 December 2024.
<b>Identify which Portfolio Holder(s)/Committee Chairman consulted?</b>	Leader/Portfolio Holder for Corporate Finance & Governance
<b>Ward Member(s) consulted?</b>	N/A
<b>Is it a Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Is it subject to call-in?</b>	No
<b>Decision Made:</b>	In accordance with the delegations provided by Cabinet to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Council's Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer, at its meeting on 20th December 2024, it is decided that the Council signs up to Essex County Council's Managed Service Solution framework for temporary workers for up to 3 years with effect from 10 February 2025.
<b>Reason for Decision (if a report was produced to support the Decision, refer to or attach it):</b>	Essex County Council (ECC) has implemented a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) to efficiently place job roles with external agency worker providers within predefined rate bands and percentage mark-ups. This system complies with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR15), allows new providers to join upon application, and ensures consistent and transparent rates and mark-ups.

	<p>With 250 agencies on its framework, ECC has secured reduced rates that would be unattainable without this arrangement. ECC collaborates with Matrix SCM, a private sector workforce management provider, to handle the engagement of temporary workers, including timesheet management, payroll, billing, and direct invoicing to the council.</p> <p>Joining the ECC Managed Service Solution framework for temporary workers guarantees compliance with procurement regulations, offers cost reduction opportunities, and ensures access to quality agency worker resources. Additionally, it streamlines oversight and control of spending through management information, reducing the council's resource requirements for engaging agency workers and managing contracts.</p>
<p><b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b></p>	<p><b>Risks:</b> The primary risks involve the organisation's capacity to manage the delivery of major capital schemes and projects. Utilizing this framework to secure specialist agency resources mitigates these risks.</p> <p><b>Best Value:</b> The General Duty: A best value authority must ensure continuous improvement in its functions, considering economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.</p> <p>Engaging a managed service for commissioning temporary staff is expected to enhance efficiencies in various areas, including agency staff engagement, invoicing, and payments.</p> <p>An independent review by the ECC Procurement Team concludes that the ECC agency framework is competitive and should result in savings compared to other procurement options.</p> <p>Additionally, the proposed use of the ECC Framework complies with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR15).</p>
<p><b>Details of any Alternative Options Considered and rejected (together with reasons):</b></p>	<p><b>Full Tender Process:</b> Initiating a full tender process for each service contract would be time-consuming, leading to service delivery gaps until a new contractor is appointed. Additionally, it is likely to incur higher costs compared to the proposed arrangement.</p> <p><b>Direct Employment:</b> While ideal, recruiting high-quality professionals for fixed-term positions in</p>

	<p>Tendring is challenging due to the existing salary structure.</p> <p><b>Alternative Compliant Frameworks:</b> Options like the East of England Local Government Association (EELGA) Talent Bank may be suitable for specific assignments requiring particular skill sets. However, they may not offer the comprehensive coverage for 'business as usual' roles that the ECC framework provides and may not be more cost-effective. Similar frameworks do not demonstrate the same value-for-money considerations.</p>																				
<p><b>Details of any declarations of interest (by Portfolio Holder/Committee Chairman who was consulted by the officer, which related to the decision). If relevant, a note of the dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer:</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>																				
<p><b>Reason Decision, or supporting Report, is not published:</b></p> <p><i>Tick one or more of the specific exemptions,</i></p> <p><b><u>and</u></b></p> <p><i>Give more information in the final box with regards to why the exemption applies and outweighs the public interest test (which is in favour of disclosure).</i></p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 981 635 1055">X</td> <td data-bbox="635 981 1382 1055">Not applicable – Decision [and report] to be published</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1055 635 1167"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1055 1382 1167">The report supporting the Decision contains confidential information.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1167 635 1279"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1167 1382 1279">The Report supporting the Decision falls within an exemption pursuant to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 Information:</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1279 635 1323"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1279 1382 1323"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relates to an individual;</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1323 635 1368"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1323 1382 1368"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likely to reveal the identity of an individual;</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1368 635 1480"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1368 1382 1480"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relating to financial or business affairs of a person or organisation;</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1480 635 1592"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1480 1382 1592"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relates to a claim for legal professional privilege in legal proceedings;</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1592 635 1816"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1592 1382 1816"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reveals that the Council proposes to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or to make an order or direction under any enactment;</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="584 1816 635 1962"></td> <td data-bbox="635 1816 1382 1962"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="584 1962 1382 2031"> <p><u>And</u> is exempt if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the</p> </td> </tr> </table>	X	Not applicable – Decision [and report] to be published		The report supporting the Decision contains confidential information.		The Report supporting the Decision falls within an exemption pursuant to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 Information:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relates to an individual;</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likely to reveal the identity of an individual;</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relating to financial or business affairs of a person or organisation;</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relates to a claim for legal professional privilege in legal proceedings;</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reveals that the Council proposes to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or to make an order or direction under any enactment;</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.</li> </ul>	<p><u>And</u> is exempt if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the</p>	
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	exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information  Reasons:
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**Officers**

Signed: (electronic)

Title: Chief Executive Officer

**In consultation with:**

Signed: (electronic)

Title: Monitoring Officer

Signed: (electronic)

Title: Section 151 Officer

**In consultation with:**

Signed: (electronic)

**Portfolio Holder Corporate Finance & Governance**

**Dated: 7 February 2025**