

**MINUTES of the meeting of the General Services Committee held on 28 January 2013 at 7.00 p.m.**

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**Present:** Councillors John Kent (Chair), Val Morris-Cook (Vice Chair), Phil Anderson, Diana Hale, Barry Palmer and Andy Smith.

**Apologies:** Councillor Mark Coxshall

**In attendance:** Barbara Brownlee – Director of Housing  
Kathryn Adedeji – Client Contract Manager  
Steve Jones – Democratic Services Manager

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**17. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the General Services Committee, held on 11 October 2012, were approved as a correct record.

**18. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair informed the Committee that he had not agreed to the consideration of any items of urgent business.

**19. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No interests were declared.

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

**RESOLVED:**

**That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business, on the grounds that they could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Schedule 12A of that Act.**

**21. HOUSING REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT - APPROVAL OF PENSION ARRANGEMENTS AND TUPE**

The Director of Housing introduced a report, which sought agreement for the Council, as the Transferor Scheme Employer, to enter into an agreement with Essex County Council Pension Fund, as Administering Authority, and Mears

Ltd, as Transferee Admission body, to enter into an admitted body agreement within the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

In the course of introducing the report, Members were provided with some background information as to the circumstances that had led to the requirement to enter into a new admitted body agreement to cover this contract.

Members were informed that the report presented the results of the pension risk assessment, following the award of an interim contract for housing day-to-day responsive repairs and voids.

In addition, the Committee were informed that the report also set out the pension implications associated with the admission agreement within the LGPS and that the risk assessment determined the level of shared risk agreed by the Council and the Contractor in conjunction with commercial factors.

The Director of Housing, together with the Client Contract Manager, responded to questions posed by Members in respect of liabilities and the transfer of risks, including a bond to cover the key risks to both the Council, as the scheme employer, and to Essex County Council, as the administering authority of the scheme.

It was proposed by the Chair, with the agreement of all Members:

“That the recommendations contained within the report be approved.”

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To endorse that the Council as the Transferor Scheme Employer enter into an agreement with Essex County Council Pension Fund as Administering Authority and Mears Ltd as Transferee Admission body to enter into a admitted body agreement within the Local Government Pension Scheme**
- 2. That the Admitted Body agreement shared risk be monitored by the Housing Services Client Manager during the term of the interim Contract, together with the pension scheme actuaries, and the Pension Fund Administrators, Essex County Council.**

**The meeting finished at 7.18 p.m.**

Approved as a true and correct record

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATE**

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
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