

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**DATE:** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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**WARD(S):** All

### **PART I** **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

#### **REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S INSURANCE FUNCTION**

1. **Purpose of Report**

This report has been produced to provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) with guidance on the current provisions for the Council's insurance function.

This has been requested in the context of the Cabinet's recent decision to create a Local Authority Controlled Company to provide Environmental Services.

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Committee is requested to note the report.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

Slough Borough Council (SBC)'s provision of Environmental Services is a key element in its commitment to the quality of local housing.

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The proposals in this document, and the plans for Environmental Services, are also support the following Five Year Plan outcomes:

- Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and visit.
- Our residents will have access to good quality homes.

#### 4. **Other Implications**

##### (a) Financial

The staffing costs, levels of liability and premiums to be paid under the insurance scheme are detailed in Appendix A.

##### (b) Risk Management

The risk management calculations used in the compilation of the insurance scheme are detailed in Appendix A.

##### (c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

The insurance scheme has been designed in line with SBC's legal obligations to staff under its employment.

##### (d) Equalities Impact Assessment

No Equalities Impact Assessment has been required by the production of this scheme.

#### 5. **Supporting Information**

- 5.1 At its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017, the Committee discussed the progress made on the insourcing of Environmental Services. As part of the discussion, members raised the issue of SBC's liability to staff who would be under its employment. OSC sought assurances that the liability scheme was sufficiently robust to ensure that such employees would be in receipt of appropriate cover.
- 5.2 The Head of Financial Reporting has therefore provided the guidance on the insurance scheme and SBC's liability. This outlines a series of matters, including:
- The insurance market
  - SBC's staff working on insurance
  - The procurement and renewal of SBC's insurance scheme
  - The costs of the insurance scheme
  - Excesses
- 5.3 The Committee is asked to review this information, and provide comment on it at the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Whilst the request was made in relation to the insourcing of Environmental Services, members may wish to review other employees and their relationship with this policy.

#### 6. **Comments of Other Committees**

This report was commissioned by Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017. No other Committee of the Council has discussed this report.

#### 7. **Conclusion**

The Committee is requested to comment on the provision made under this insurance scheme.

8. **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Review of insurance function

9. **Background Papers**

'1' - Agenda papers and minutes, OSC 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017