

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF URGENT ITEM

Access to Information Procedure Rule 15 – General Exception

Award of Contract for the Council's Postal Services

To the Chairman of the Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee

The County Council's Constitution provides that if a matter which is likely to be a key decision has not been included on the Council's Forward Plan for the requisite period, the decision may still be taken if an urgency procedure is followed.

Under Access to Information Procedure Rule 15:

15.1 If the publication of the intention to make a key decision is impracticable and a matter which is likely to be a key decision has not been included in the forward plan for the requisite period as set out in Rule 13.2, then subject to Rule 16 (special urgency), the decision may still be taken if:

- (a) the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) has informed the Chairman of a relevant overview and scrutiny committee, or if there is no such person, each member of that committee by notice in writing, of the matter about which the decision is to be made;
- (b) the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) has made copies of that notice available to the public at the offices of the Council and on the Council's website; and
- (c) at least five clear days have elapsed following the day on which the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) complied with (a) and (b).

15.2 As soon as reasonably practicable after the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) has complied with (a) to (c) above, s/he must make available at the Council's offices a notice setting out the reasons why compliance with Rule 13.2 is impracticable and publish that notice on the Council's website.

It is anticipated that on 15 July 2021, the Assistant Chief Executive - Business Support will consider a report seeking approval to enter into a new contract for the provision of postal services (procurement process led by Kirklees Council). The intention to make this key decision has been published on the Forward Plan but not for the full, requisite 28 clear day period.

This matter requires a decision by Assistant Chief Executive - Business Support on 15 July 2021 and cannot reasonably be deferred, to enable the timely consideration and progress of this matter and meet project deadlines and achieve best value for the Council, which means that not all of the usual access to information timescales can be met. Any delay in awarding the contract would seriously prejudice the Council's interest.

In accordance with the General Exception provisions in Access to Information Procedure Rule 15, I am, therefore, informing you as the Chairman of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee that it is intended that this matter be considered by Assistant Chief Executive - Business Support on 15 July 2021.

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

Dated: 7 July 2021