

## VERY URGENT DECISION NOTICE

Pursuant to Regulation 11 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, notice is hereby given that the Council is to make the following decision:

Decision	Decision maker	Date of decision
Gas Supply Contract 2013 for Council Offices and Premises (including Schools)  -To deliver a new gas supply contract as the current gas agreement will expire at the end of October 2013.	Councillor John Kent (Leader of the Council)	28 March 2013

The contract with Government Procurement Service (GPS) is an 'ever green' contract, in that as long as the Council gives sufficient notice the contract continues. Due to the volatility in the gas wholesale market it was considered advantageous to continue procuring gas in advance of the contract renewal date. In this case the notice period is 6 months and this six month buying window will allow gas to be procured at the low points of the wholesale gas market and also take advantage of the summer reduction in gas prices. Future energy contracts will be put before members 12 months before the next contract end date. If notice is not given by the end of March, GPS will start forward buying energy for the next contract and this would almost certainly be at a higher rate. Therefore, in order to lock in at the most favourable rate available, agreement is required by 31 March 2013.

The Chair of the Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Leader of the Council have given their agreement that the taking of the decision is very urgent and cannot be reasonably deferred.

**Graham Farrant, Chief Executive**

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