

**PUBLIC INTEREST TEST – CHECKLIST**  
**Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972**

**Name of Report:** Approval for an Exception to Contractual Standing Orders to award contracts for projects within the Skills and Work Programme.

**Committee:** Procurement Board on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

**Category of exemption applied: Category 3** Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information)

**Public Interest Test Questionnaire**

This is not a definitive list. However, it does provide a series of questions that you should ask yourself when recommending confidentiality.

| FACTORS WHICH SUPPORT DISCLOSING INFORMATION   |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Will disclosure help people to understand and participate in public debate about current issues?</b>  | no  |
| Will disclosure help people to understand why the Council has taken certain decisions?   | yes |
| <b>Will disclosure give the public information about the personal probity (or otherwise) of elected members or council staff?</b>  | no  |
| Will disclosure encourage greater competition and better value for money for council taxpayers?  | no  |
| <b>Will disclosure allow individuals and companies to understand decisions made by the Council that have affected their lives?</b>   | yes |
| Is the information about factors that affect public health and public safety? (NB you should be careful if considering the release of information which might adversely affect public health and safety) | no  |
| <b>Will disclosure reveal incompetent, illegal or unethical decision-making or examples of malpractice?</b>  | no  |
| Will disclosure reveal that such maladministration has not in fact occurred?   | no  |

| FACTORS WHICH SUPPORT WITHHOLDING INFORMATION   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Will disclosure damage the Council's interests without giving the public any useful information?</b>               | Yes |
| Will disclosure damage another organisation or person's interests, without giving the public any useful information?  | Yes |
| <b>Will disclosure give an unfair, prejudicial or inaccurate view of a situation?</b>                                 | Yes |
| Will disclosure prevent the effective delivery of services without giving the public useful information?              | No  |
| <b>Will disclosure put the health and safety of any group or individuals at risk?</b>                                 | No  |
| Is there a clear and coherent reason why the community in general would benefit more from information being withheld? | No  |

**Justification of decision**  
**(Please provide explicit reasoning)**

The report contains information on the future of a number of current contracts. Any decision will be subject to the confirmation of final budgets for 2020/21, which will need to be agreed before the results are published and providers notified.

Other documents attached? No

Name and Title: Alison Burnett, Head of Skills and Work

Date: 11.02.20