

Cabinet

9 December 2025

Amendment to Cabinet Decision for the Procurement of the Highways Term Service Contract (HTSC) For Decision

Cabinet Member:

Cllr J Andrews, Place Services

Local Councillor(s):

Senior Leadership Team:

J Britton, Executive Director for Place Services

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Statutory Authority:

Report status: Public (the exemption paragraph is N/A)

Executive summary (maximum of 500 words)

1. The report requests an amendment to Cabinet's decision of 20 May 2025 as the previous decision could have the unintended effect of disapplying the Officer Scheme of Delegation for Dorset Council. The amendment is needed due to a drafting error in the original report.
2. **Recommendation(s)**
 - 2.1 That the decision in minute 7 (c) of Cabinet of 20 May 2025 be replaced by the decision that: decisions to award contracts and works orders made under the HTSC up to the value of £500k, and the approval of associated terms and conditions be made by Officers in accordance with the Officer Scheme of Delegation.
3. **Reason for the recommendation(s)**
 - 3.1 To not disapply the Officer Scheme of Delegation for Dorset Council.

4. **The report**

- 4.1 At its meeting on TUESDAY 20 MAY 2025 the Cabinet Member for Place presented a report seeking Cabinet's approval to commence the procurement of a new Dorset Council Highways Term Service Contract (HTSC) to be implemented from April 2027.

The decisions minuted were:

a) That the recommendations of Business Justification Case to secure a strategic partner for Dorset Council's Highways Services, be approved; to assist in delivering the service's capital works programme, contributing to the Council's corporate aim of growing Dorset economy, as well as the Place Plan aimed to protect the natural environment, climate and ecology.

(b) That the approval of the terms and conditions of the Highways Term Service (HTSC) Contract, and the decision to award the HTSC be delegated to the Executive Director for Place Services following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place

(c) That the decision to award contracts and works orders made under the HTSC up to the value of £500k, and the approval of associated terms and conditions be delegated to the Executive Director for Place following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place Services.

(d) That any decision to award a contract or works order under the HTSC over the value of £500k be made by the Executive Director for Place Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place and the Executive Director for Corporate Development (S151 Officer).

The decision as recorded under paragraph (c) means that **all** the decisions to award contracts and works orders under the value of £500k must be made by the Executive Director for Place following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Place Services.

The effect of this decision is to unintentionally disapply the Officer Scheme of Delegation for Dorset Council, Appendix 2 Conditions and Limitations of Delegations, 2. Part 2 - Financial Powers Expenditure, which provides for Council Officers to approve and authorise expenditure up to £500k.

5. **Alternative options considered**

- 5.1 Not amending the recommendation would mean that the Cabinet Member for Place would be required to agree all minor spend within the contract. As an example, this level of detail would require Member approval for individual potholes to be filled under the contract.

6. Legal considerations

6.1 None

7. Financial implications

7.1 None

8. Natural environment, climate & ecology implications

8.1 None

8. Well-being and health implications

8.1 None

9. Other implications

9.1 None

10. Risk implications

10.1 HAVING CONSIDERED: the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

11. Equalities

11.1 No identified impact

12. Appendices

12.1 None

13. Background papers

11.1 [Minutes](#) of the Cabinet meeting 20 May 2025

12 Report sign-off

11.1 This report has been through the internal report clearance process and has been signed off by the Director for Legal and Democratic (Monitoring Officer), the Executive Director for Corporate Development (Section 151 Officer) and the appropriate Portfolio Holder(s)

