

Cabinet Member Decision Record (Part 1)

PART A	
Cabinet Member (s)	Cabinet Member for Safer Stronger Communities
Report Title	Approval to commence an Open Procurement Process for Mortuary Services
Key Decision	Yes
If Yes, Listed in the Forward Plan?	Yes
Ref No	SSC3_18.19
Call-in - Officer Contact	Suzannah Hill, 033022 22551
Queries - Officer Contact	Suzannah Hill, 033022 22551
Electoral Divisions	All
Date Decision Made	03 May 2018
Any interest declared by the member(s) making the decision	None
Any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member making the decision	None
In respect of any declared conflict of interest, any dispensation granted by the relevant local authority's Head of Paid Service	None

Summary of Decision	<p>The County Council provides mortuary services throughout the county for the bodies of those who die in West Sussex where the death is referred to the Coroner. Current contracts are due to expire on 23 January 2019. This report concerns a proposal to enter into an open procurement process in order to explore long-term solutions for mortuary provision for West Sussex.</p> <p>The current arrangements, whilst adequate, are vulnerable as there is a short notice period under the current contracts and experience has shown that to put in place alternative provision is extremely challenging when the market is very small. It is felt that longer term, more robust provision would minimise the risk to the Council and provide residents with a more efficient service. As the service plans and any budget implications are dependent upon the market response to the formal procurement process it is proposed that a further decision will be required to confirm the preferred procurement solution.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>1) That the Cabinet Member agrees to the commencement of an open procurement process for contract arrangements to provide future mortuary services and facility provision for Coroner's bodies in West Sussex.</p> <p>2) That a further report is prepared to identify the preferred service proposal once the procurement process has been completed.</p>
Report (attach)	Link to report
Background Papers	None