In accordance with regulations, the item was advertised as a key decision. However, as a result of the lowest tender coming in at c.£40k over budget, a decision must now be made by the Executive instead of by an officer under delegated authority as originally planned.

The Council is now toward the end of a procurement process for its insurance services, since the despatch of the agenda, the assessment of the contract price has been completed and the cost of the service will be £40k more than the approved budget. The cover period commences 1 November 2014 and it is necessary to make a decision as a matter of urgency to ensure the new policy can be put in place in time.