

SECTION E: EXTERNAL ARRANGEMENTS

REGULATION 21: ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF DELIVERING SERVICES

- 21.1 Alternative methods of service delivery will be considered where they:
- are legally permissible;
 - have clear aims and objectives;
 - make a positive contribution to the achievement of the Council's corporate objectives;
 - do not put the Council at an inappropriate risk.
- 21.2 Before entering into an alternative method of service delivery appropriate legal and finance advice should be obtained and appropriate governance arrangements should have been considered.
- 21.3 The Statutory Officers are responsible for promoting and maintaining the same high standards of conduct and stewardship, in alternative methods of service delivery, as apply for the Council.

*Examples of what the **Statutory Chief Finance Officer** should consider are:*

- *Who is the accountable party for the funds and other assets of the enterprise?*
- *What set of Financial Regulations and Contract Procedure Rules are to be followed by the enterprise?*
- *Budget forecasting and funding mechanisms.*
- *Expenditure approval processes and limits.*
- *The financial accounting, monitoring, reporting and record keeping arrangements.*
- *Taxation implications*
- *Ownership and audit accessibility to records.*
- *Risk Management and Business Continuity Arrangements.*

*Examples of what the **Monitoring Officer** should consider are:*

- *Format and content of agreement between the parties involved.*
- *Membership, roles and responsibility and powers of each party.*
- *Management, meeting and reporting structures, including reporting arrangements to FBC members.*
- *Appropriate codes of conduct to be followed by members of the enterprise's "Board".*
- *Decision Making Processes.*
- *Processes to allow rules and agreements to be modified.*
- *Exit Strategy.*

SECTION E: EXTERNAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 21.4 **Approval:** All significant alternative methods of service delivery must be approved by the Executive or other appropriate Committee on receipt of a written report.

The Council's definition of a significant partnership is a partnership that:

- a. is a legal requirement or based on statutory guidance; or*
- b. it commissions or delivers activities at a borough wide or local level that contribute substantially towards the Corporate Strategy outcomes; and*
- c. there is a significant risk to the Council if there is under-performance in this area.*

The responsible director will determine whether a proposal meets these criteria in consultation with the Statutory Officers.

REGULATION 22: EXTERNAL FUNDING

- 22.1 **Funding Implications:** Directors must confirm with the Statutory Chief Finance Officer that the Council will be able to fulfil any significant financial obligations arising from external funding agreements before entering into them.
- 22.2 **Use of Funds:** The lead applicant must ensure that any external funds are claimed within the required timescale and are properly spent and recorded in accordance with the scheme.