

**BUDGET AND
PERFORMANCE PANEL**

6.10 P.M.

6TH FEBRUARY 2018

PRESENT:- Councillors Susan Sykes (Chairman), Tim Hamilton-Cox (Vice-Chairman), Nathan Burns, Jean Parr, Robert Redfern and Peter Williamson

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillors Kevin Frea and John Reynolds

Officers in attendance:-

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| Mark Davies | Chief Officer (Environment) |
| Suzanne Lodge | Chief Officer (Health and Housing) |
| Nadine Muschamp | Chief Officer (Resources) and Section 151 Officer |
| Andrew Clarke | Financial Services Manager |
| Stephen Metcalfe | Principal Democratic Support Officer |

Also in attendance:-

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| Richard Dunlop | Director of Link Asset Services |
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43 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd January 2018 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

44 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

45 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

46 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2018/19

Richard Dunlop, Director of Link Asset Services and the City Council's Treasury Management Advisor, gave a presentation on Treasury Management covering: Member involvement; the regulatory structures of treasury management; an overview of the treasury strategy including borrowing; the current economic background and investment considerations.

The Financial Services Manager introduced a report of the Chief Officer (Resources) that sought the Panel's views regarding the proposed treasury management framework for 2018/19.

The report outlined that each year the City Council must review and approve its treasury management framework for the forthcoming year. Budget proposals were to be considered by Cabinet and then ultimately approved at full Council, however the Panel

had explicit responsibility for scrutiny of the treasury management function, including a review of the proposed annual strategy.

Members asked a number of questions regarding: the judgement on what is proportionate; CLG draft guidance and the evolving agenda; General Fund; Canal Corridor; financing schemes using borrowing and borrowing costs.

Resolved:

(1) That the report be noted.

47 PERFORMANCE MONITORING 2017 - 2018 - QUARTER 3

The Chief Officer (Environment) introduced a report regarding the overall performance of key indicators, as at 31st December 2017, as the third quarter of the 2017-2018 financial year.

Appended to the report was a performance monitoring report, which provided a summary of the Quarter 3 progress and performance of key indicators towards the achievement of the corporate priorities and outcomes.

Members asked a number of questions regarding: rough sleeping figures being provided annually and not quarterly; the time to re-let council houses; impact of Universal Credit; council housing tenancy agreements and referrals to the home improvement agency.

Resolved:

(1) That the report be noted.

48 CORPORATE FINANCIAL MONITORING 2017 - 2018 QUARTER 3

The Financial Services Manager introduced a report of the Chief Officer (Resources) to provide an overview of the Council's financial position for Quarter 3 of the 2017/18 monitoring cycle, and the supporting actions underway. A summary of the Corporate Financial Monitoring for Quarter 3 of 2017/18 was attached for Members' consideration.

Members were advised of the headline projections as follows:

- When compared with the General Fund revised net revenue budget to be considered by Council on 31st January 2018 (which provided for a net overspending of £222K), the quarter 3 position showed a net improvement of £48K, forecast to increase to £79K by the year end. If secured, this would bring the overall net overspending for the year down from £222K to £143K.
- The Housing Revenue Account was currently in line with the forecast net overspending of £221K for the year.
- In terms of the General Fund projected net underspending for the year, the key variances related to employee savings of £50K and additional income of £29K from car parking and Planning fees. The latter were increased by 20% by the Government in January 2018.

Members asked a number of questions regarding: Salt Ayre Leisure Centre and capital financing costs; sale of St. Leonards House; appeals figures and various questions relating to the tables contained in the report.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be noted.

49 MUSEUMS

The Panel considered a report of the Chief Officer (Regeneration and Planning) to update the Budget and Performance Panel on recent developments and early progress in relation to the City Council's Museums Service.

The Panel requested that the report submitted for consideration at this meeting, together with an update be provided at the 10th July 2018 meeting.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report submitted for consideration at this meeting, together with an update be provided at the 10th July 2018 meeting.

50 WORK PROGRAMME REPORT

The Principal Democratic Support Officer requested Members to consider the Panel's Work Programme.

The Panel was advised that the Repairs and Maintenance Service (RMS), previously on the Work Programme as the APSE report, would be reported to the Panel at its September 2018 meeting.

Members requested that an update on the Peer Challenge Review be added to the Panel's Work Programme. It was noted, however, that this item was contained on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's Work Programme. It was agreed that, in order to avoid duplication, that when this item was considered that Members of the Panel be invited to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

The Panel also requested that a report on the budget and treasury management issues of the Canal Corridor be submitted for consideration.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the Repairs and Maintenance Service (RMS), previously on the Work Programme as the APSE report, be reported to the Panel at its September 2018 meeting.
- (3) That the Panel requests to be invited to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, when considering any updates on the Peer Challenge Review.

- (4) That a report on the budget and treasury management issues of the Canal Corridor be submitted to the Panel for consideration.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 8.10 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
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