

**BUDGET AND
PERFORMANCE PANEL**

6.10 P.M.

11TH SEPTEMBER 2018

PRESENT:- Councillors Dave Brookes (Chairman), Tracy Brown, Kevin Frea,
Susan Sykes, Peter Williamson and Peter Yates

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillors John Reynolds and David Whitaker

Officers in attendance:-

Andrew Clarke	Financial Services Manager
Paul Thompson	Accountancy Manager
Jez Bebbington	Executive Assistant, Office of the Chief Executive
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer

1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman requested nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Dave Brookes and seconded by Councillor Susan Sykes:-

“That Councillor Peter Yates be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Budget and Performance Panel for the Municipal Year 2018/19.”

Resolved: -

That Councillor Peter Yates be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Budget and Performance Panel for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2018 were signed as a correct record.

3 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman advised Members that this was the last meeting of the Panel before Andrew Clarke, Financial Services Manager, left the City Council.

The Panel thanked Andrew for all of his hard work for the Panel and wished him well for the future.

4 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There were no items of urgent business.

5 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

6 CORPORATE FINANCIAL MONITORING 2018/19 - QUARTER 1

The Financial Services Manager introduced a report a summary of the Corporate Financial Monitoring for Quarter 1 of 2018/19 was attached for Members' consideration.

Members were advised of the headline projections as follows: -

- A current General Fund net overspending of £25k, but this could increase to £307k by the year end depending on various factors. A number of actions were proposed to help avoid such a situation arising.
- The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) was currently underspent by £30k, and this was expected to increase to £86k by the year end. The key message related to the significant improvement of void property turnaround times, which had led to forecast additional rental income of £100k.

Appended to the report was an update on Salt Ayre, progress against the savings measures approved as part of the 2019/20 budget and the latest Treasury Management update report.

Members asked a number of questions regarding: overspends, staff turnover, queries regarding interims and temporary staff, budget support reserve, Salt Ayre, car parks and various questions relating to the tables contained in the report.

Resolved: -

- (1) That the report be noted.

7 PERFORMANCE MONITORING: QUARTER 1 2018-19

The Panel received a report on the key indicators for April to June 2018 (Quarter 1). A breakdown of performance against key corporate indicators for the period was contained in the Appendix to the report.

It was reported that, following adoption of Ambitions: Our Council Plan for 2018-22, performance indicators would be further align with the new Ambitions. Future performance monitoring reports would gradually introduce new indicators as these were developed.

Members asked several questions of the officers present regarding the performance indicators outlined in the report including Salt Ayre, fly tipping, percentage of household waste recycled, homelessness, rough sleepers and garden waste.

The Panel made the following requests: -

- The percentage of household waste recycled - that the garden waste element be separated out from the overall percentage.
- The number of properties where category 1 hazards have been eliminated - that this would be better represented as a proportion or a response rather than a number.

Members noted the improvements to the trend style of the report.

Resolved: -

(1) That the report be noted.

(2) The Panel requests: -

- The percentage of household waste recycled - that the garden waste element be separated out from the overall percentage.
- The number of properties where category 1 hazards have been eliminated - that this would be better represented as a proportion or a response rather than a number.

8 WORK PROGRAMME REPORT

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

It was noted that at the last meeting of the Panel Members were advised that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered the process for considering scrutiny Work Programme topics and agenda items, with priority given to topics that are closely linked to the Council Plan. The Panel was requested to consider whether some items of scrutiny, currently included on the Work Programme, were still required and, if so, provide clarity on the purpose for scrutiny. Notes had been provided where there was, or could be, duplication with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Panel noted that the Repairs and Maintenance Service (RMS) item had been re-scheduled for the 13th November 2018 meeting.

The Panel made the following decisions.

Resolved: -

(1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the following items be removed from the Panel's Work Programme: -

- Economic Growth Strategy (issues relating to budget and performance).
- Morecambe Area Action Plan (issues relating to budget and performance).

- (3) That regarding the Canal Quarter, for Budget and Treasury Management issues, information be included in future quarterly Corporate Financial Monitoring reports.

Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.41 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Stephen Metcalfe, Democratic Services**