

**BUDGET AND
PERFORMANCE PANEL**

6.30 P.M.

26TH JANUARY 2021

PRESENT:- Councillors Adrian Duggan (Chair), Tim Dant (Vice-Chair), Roger Dennison, Joan Jackson, Debbie Jenkins, Mandy King, Jack O'Dwyer-Henry, Jason Wood and Joanna Young

Officers in attendance:

Kieran Keane	Chief Executive
Mark Davies	Director for Communities and the Environment
Sarah Davies	Director of Corporate Services
Jason Syers	Director for Economic Growth and Regeneration
Paul Thompson	Chief Financial Officer (Head of Finance & Section 151 Officer)
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer

28 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Dennison and seconded by Councillor Duggan that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

It was noted that the minutes would be signed by the Chair when the minute book was available.

29 CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed Councillor Joan Jackson to her first meeting of the Panel.

30 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR

There were no items of urgent business.

31 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made at this point.

32 BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Councillor Anne Whitehead, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Finance and Resources, presented the City Council's Budget and Policy Framework Proposals 2021/22.

Councillor Whitehead's presentation gave an update on the Council's response to the Covid-19 emergency, to:

- Protect our most vulnerable people
- Support businesses
- Continue to deliver our most vital services

Councillor Whitehead then advised of other achievements regarding housing and economic development and regeneration.

Detail regarding Recovery and Build Back Better, Outcomes, Savings, Additional Resources, Council Tax, Funding Assumptions, Fees and Charges, General Fund Revenue Budget and Future Strategy was also provided.

The Chair advised that he would accept requests from non-Members to speak at the meeting of the Panel in accordance with Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15.

Councillor Whitehead then responded to questions from members. The City Council's officers also assisted with responses to queries.

Issues raised by the Panel were:

- Budget proposals – Walney Substation Extension.
- Income from business rates/council tax.
- Clarification regarding PWLB rules.
- Investment Strategy and Capital Programme.
- Budget Proposals, as set out in Appendix B to the report.
- Level of areas;
- Commercial property;
- Non-Reserve Growth Items – DM Planning applications – Service continuity and restructure.

The Chair thanked Councillor Whitehead for her thorough and comprehensive presentation. The Chair also thanked the Chief Executive and officers for their ongoing work during the current pandemic.

Resolved:

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That Councillor Whitehead be thanked for her thorough and comprehensive presentation.

Chair

(The meeting ended at 8.15 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact
Stephen Metcalfe, Democratic Services - email sjmetcalfe@lancaster.gov.uk**