CABINET 23RD JULY 2013

PROVISIONAL REVENUE, CAPITAL AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN 2012/2013

(Cabinet Member with Special Responsibility Councillor Bryning)

Cabinet received a report from the Chief Officer (Resources) which provided summary information regarding the provisional outturn for 2012/13. It set out information regarding the carry forward of revenue budgets and capital slippage for Members' consideration. It also incorporated the treasury management outturn report and related matters.

The options, options analysis, including risk assessment and officer preferred option, were set out in the report as follows:

OPTIONS AND OPTIONS ANALYSIS

The City Council had a legal requirement to ensure that its expenditure was fully funded and to produce a Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper accounting practice. In addition, the Prudential Indicators were a statutory requirement linked to the budgetary framework. For these aspects, therefore, there were no alternative options for Cabinet to consider. Members were being asked to endorse certain actions taken by the Chief Officer (Resources), and Cabinet should consider whether it had sufficient information to do so or whether it required any further justification.

The report requested Cabinet to consider a number of revenue budget carry forward matters and capital slippage. The framework for considering these was set out in the report but basically Cabinet might:

- Approve any number of the items / requests, in full or part.
- Refuse any number of the requests and if commitments had already been incurred, require alternative funding options to be identified. Cabinet should note, however, that this might impact on other areas of service delivery.
- Request further information regarding them, if appropriate. Cabinet was asked to bear in mind any work required against the value of the individual bids.

OFFICER PREFERRED OPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

On the assumption that the Council continued to support its previously approved spending plans then the Officer preferred options were to approve the revenue budget carry forward requests as well as capital slippage (Appendices F and H), but to require no carry forward of the overspendings (Appendix E).

CABINET 23RD JULY 2013

Although the Council's General Fund budget and the associated Government funding reduced significantly in 2012/13, it managed these reductions well, and had again improved its financial standing as at 31 March 2013. Balances for both General Fund and the HRA were higher than forecast, and the Council had other substantial earmarked further reserves to help respond to the tough financial challenges expected over the coming years, in shaping and delivering against future corporate priorities.

Councillor Bryning proposed, seconded by Councillor Leytham:-

"That recommendations 1 to 5, as set out in the report, be approved."

Councillors then voted:-

Resolved unanimously:

- (1) That the provisional outturn for 2012/13 be noted, including the transfers to provisions and reserves actioned by the Chief Officer (Resources).
- (2) That Cabinet approve that no overspendings be carried forward, as reflected in Appendix E.
- (3) That Cabinet approve the requests to carry forward underspent revenue budgets as set out in Appendix F, for referral on to Council where appropriate.
- (4) That Cabinet approve the requests for capital slippage as set out at Appendix H.
- (5) That the Annual Treasury Management report and Prudential Indicators as set out at Appendix J be noted, and referred on to Council.

The press and public were excluded from the meeting at this point when it became necessary to refer to information in the exempt Appendix and in order for consideration to be given to recommendation (6).

It was moved by Councillor Barry and seconded by Councillor Hamilton-Cox:

Resolved unanimously:

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

In relation to the exempt Appendix, the Chief Officer (Resources) outlined the intention that future decisions on this matter would be taken under existing officer delegations, following consultation with the portfolio holder, unless Cabinet indicated otherwise.

Following consideration of the exempt Appendix, Councillor Bryning proposed and Councillor Hanson seconded:

"That recommendation (6), as set out in the report, be approved."

Resolved unanimously:

CABINET 23RD JULY 2013

(6) That Cabinet endorse the actions of the Chief Officer (Resources), as set out in the exempt appendix to the report (Appendix K).

Officer responsible for effecting the decision:

Chief Officer (Resources)

Reasons for making the decision:

The Outturn and Statement of Accounts report on all the financial resources generated and/or used by the Council in providing services or undertaking other activities under the Policy Framework. The decision enabled Members to endorse certain actions taken by the Chief Officer (Resources) and with regard to reserves contributions there would be opportunities for these to be amended during the current financial year, as part of the usual arrangements.



(The meeting ended at 10.50 a.m.)

Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - telephone (01524) 582047 or email ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk

MINUTES PUBLISHED ON THURSDAY 25 JULY, 2013.

EFFECTIVE DATE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS CONTAINED IN THESE MINUTES: FRIDAY 2 AUGUST, 2013.