

The Executive – 4 September 2019

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **4 September 2019** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr M J Steptoe
Vice Chairman: Cllr Mrs C E Roe

Cllr D S Efde
Cllr S P Smith
Cllr M J Webb

Cllr A L Williams
Cllr S E Wootton

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr I H Ward.

OFFICERS PRESENT

S Scrutton	-	Managing Director
A Hutchings	-	Strategic Director
M Harwood-White	-	Assistant Director, Assets & Commercial
M Hotten	-	Assistant Director, Place & Environment
A Law	-	Assistant Director, Legal & Democratic
N Lucas	-	Assistant Director, Resources
M Power	-	Democratic Services Officer

Cllr Simon Wootton was welcomed to his first meeting of the Executive following his appointment as Portfolio Holder for Enterprise.

169 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2019 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

170 QUARTER 1 2019/20 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Executive considered the report of the Assistant Director, Resources providing the Quarter 1 2019/20 revenue budget and capital position and the latest position on the Council's key performance indicators.

The Assistant Director, Resources advised that the latest revenue budget was just over £10 million, with a projected underspend by the end of the financial year of £176,000, which equated to 2% of the overall net revenue budget. The projected saving of £200,000 in the salaries budget for the year had been increased to £300,000, due to additional staff vacancies; this accounted for £100,000 of the overall underspend. There was additional income from car parks and ongoing savings against the homelessness budget.

There was a variance in the capital playgrounds programme from the forecast of £3.2 million against an actual spend of £2.3 million. This was due to the re-

profiling of the playgrounds programme investment from being taken entirely from the current year's budget to being spread over three years. The Portfolio Holder for Finance added that reprofiling the playgrounds investment enabled effective planning and access to grant money on a regular basis, which would bring more income to the project and enable more refurbishment.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance stated that the projected revenue budget surplus was due to effective administration by the Council. He proposed that this surplus be reallocated to develop small projects that would enhance the quality of life of the District's residents; for example, projects that would tidy and improve the presentation of the District. Subject to confirmation in Quarter 2 of an ongoing surplus in the revenue budget, proposals for small schemes (with no ongoing revenue implication) could be considered for implementation in the current financial year.

Resolved

- (1) That the Quarter 1 2019/20 revenue budget and capital position set out in sections 3 and 4 of the report and detailed in appendices 1 to 4 be noted.
- (2) That the latest position on the Council's key performance indicators, as shows in appendix 5 of the report be noted.

171 FUTURE LEISURE SERVICE PROVISION

The Executive considered the report of the Assistant Director, Assets & Commercial on arrangements around the procurement of a leisure contractor to deliver the Council's leisure facility provision from 1 April 2022 when the current contract ends.

The Portfolio Holder for Community emphasised that planning for the new leisure provision had started early to ensure the best possible outcome for residents. The soft market testing undertaken had given a good early guide as to what a new contract should deliver.

In response to a question, it was confirmed that potential bidders would be made aware of the need to consider opportunities for leisure activities in the District's open spaces.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance believed that the contract model would be the most effective way forward and that a contract length of ten years, with an opportunity for extension, would provide for a level of commitment from the successful bidder. The Council had learned from the operation of the current contract, where the contract had changed hands several times, and the detail in the contract must allow for flexibility to protect the Council should this situation arise again. Because leisure is a constantly evolving area, it is important to have flexibility in the contract to enable the operator to keep pace with current trends.

Resolved

- (1) That a leisure contractor be procured to deliver the Council's leisure facility provision from 1 April 2022, when the current contract ends.
- (2) That an external technical advisor be procured to assist in the procurement of the new leisure contract to ensure best value for money is obtained and service objectives are delivered.

172 CONTRACT MONITORING 2018/19

The Executive considered the report of the Assistant Director, Legal & Democratic on contract monitoring for 2018/19.

The Portfolio Holder for Finance stressed that the report to the Executive provided a strategic overview of how the Council's contracts were performing; each individual contract is monitored on a very regular basis.

In response to a question in respect of the Waste Management Services contract, Members were advised that contamination of bins is a measure within the contract management process and monitored on a regular basis. Detailed information on the contamination of bins is available.

It was noted that the Council had been ranked as second nationally and first regionally for its waste collection service.

Resolved

That the contents of the report be noted.

The meeting closed at 7.52 pm.

Chairman

Date

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