

EXECUTIVE – 08 February 2024

Minutes of the meeting of **The Executive** held on **08 February 2024** when there were present:-

Chairman: Cllr J R F Mason

Cllr A H Eves
Cllr Mrs J R Gooding
Cllr M Hoy
Cllr J E Newport

Cllr L J Newport
Cllr C M Stanley
Cllr A L Williams
Cllr Mrs V A Wilson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J E Cripps

OFFICERS PRESENT

E Yule	- Strategic Director
S Summers	- Strategic Director
P Barnes	- Director Assets and Investments
T Willis	- Interim Director Resources
C Cox	- Corporate Manager, Finance and Accountancy
M Stickley	- Interim Democratic Services Manager
M Aldous	- Senior Leisure and Cultural Services Officer
V Meanwell	- Democratic Services Officer

NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING

There were none.

Please note that the full livestream of this meeting can be viewed at:

[The Executive - YouTube](#)

50 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2024 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

51 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

52 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS

There were none.

53 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE AND REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were none.

54 2024/25 BUDGET AND 2024-29 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY REPORT

The Executive considered the report of the Executive Lead Member Resources, Climate Change and Economy, Cllr M Hoy, setting out the proposed Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for the period 2023/24 to 2025/26, including the 2023/24 Budget and Council Tax level.

Cllr M Hoy informed the Executive that the Government issued its Final Local Government Financial Settlement on 5th February. The impact on Rochford's 2024/25 Budget, as compared to the Provisional Settlement built into the report, is to grant an additional £114,000 to the district.

Cllr M Hoy proposed that £25,000 be earmarked to enable consultation with residents and consultancy, in respect of regeneration in Rochford regarding the options for South Street and The Freight House.

Cllr M Hoy further proposed that the balance of £89,000 be added to capital funding, which will help bridge the 2024/25 funding gap outlined in the report on page 9.12.

Cllr M Hoy proposed that the Executive recommend to Council the 5 recommendations on pages 7.1-7.2 of the report, seconded by Cllr AH Eves.

This was approved unanimously.

Resolved

R1 That the 2024/25 Budget and 2024-29 Medium Term Financial Strategy for both Revenue and Capital are approved.

R2 That the Section 151 Officer be authorised to adjust capital project budgets in 2024/25 after the 2023/24 accounts are closed and the amounts of slippage and budget carry forward required are confirmed.

R3 That the increase in Rochford District Council Tax of £7.55 for a Band D property (2.99%) for 2024/25 is approved by recorded vote.

R4 That the proposed Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes (excluding Parish & Town Councils and Precepts) for 2024/25 is £8.583m is noted.

R5 That the statement on the robustness of the estimates and reserves at Section 14 is noted. (DR)

55 Q3 – BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2024

The Executive considered the report of Executive Lead Member Resources, Climate Change and Economy, Cllr M Hoy, setting out the forecast revenue and capital budget positions as at end of Quarter 3 2023/24.

This report was noted.

56 JOINT LEISURE PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

The Executive considered the report of Executive Lead Member for Leisure, Tourism and Wellbeing, Cllr Mrs J R Gooding, setting out the Council's approach to the procurement process.

After a full discussion Cllr Mrs J R Gooding proposed that the two recommendations on page 9.2 of the report be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs V A Wilson.

This was approved unanimously.

Resolved

R1 Rochford District Council procures a joint leisure operator with Brentwood Borough Council.

R2 To agree the Leisure Working Group Procurement Strategy as per Appendix 1. (DAI)

57 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND 2024/25

The Executive considered the report of Executive Lead Member Resources, Climate Change and Economy, Cllr M Hoy setting out a recommended approach to distributing the Council's 2024-25 allocation from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, in accordance with its agreed investment plan.

After a full discussion Cllr M Hoy proposed that the 3 recommendations on page 10.1 of the report be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs J R Gooding.

This was approved unanimously.

Resolved

R1 That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director, in consultation with the Lead Member for Resources, Climate Change and Economy, to operate a community grant programme funded by an allocation of up to £250,000 of the Council's 2024-25 UKSPF allocation.

R2 That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director, in consultation with the Lead Member for Resources, Climate Change and Economy, to spend the remaining proportion of the Council's 2024-25 UKSPF allocation, in broad alignment with the provisions of Appendix B.

R3 That the Strategic Director be asked to provide quarterly updates to the Executive concerning the latest position on UKSPF expenditure plans and to invite the Executive to advise should any significant change of circumstances arise. (SD)

The meeting closed at 20.22 hours.

Chairman

Date

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