

CORPORATE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING Monday, 13 January 2020

PRESENT: Councillor Holly (Chair); Councillors Bamford, Boriss, O'Neill, Rana, Williams and Wraighte

OFFICERS: Julie Murphy – Chief Finance Officer, Rosemary Barker (Head of Workforce and Organisational Development), Caroline Wolfenden (Head of Corporate Policy and Performance)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor Joinson, Councillor Mir and Councillor Robinson

131 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Nolan and Joinson.

132 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declaration of interests.

133 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

134 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes held on the 28th October 2019 be approved as a correct record.

135 CAPITAL REPORT

The Chief Finance Officer presented to the Committee a report, which updated Members on the Council's proposed Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2022/23.

It was reported that the proposed Capital Programme 2021/22 to 2022/23 contains details of schemes for the following years, in 2020/21 budget of £80.723m, 2021/22 budget of £48.480m and 2022/23 budget of £25.232m.

The Capital Programme was funded from a combination of Capital Receipts, Prudential Borrowing, Invest to Save, Government Grants and Contributions, and Revenue Contributions to Capital Outlay.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

136 FINANCE UPDATE REPORT 2019/20

The Chief Finance Officer presented to the Committee a report, which updated Members on the Council's financial position as at the end of September 2019. It was noted that the report had been approved by the Cabinet at its meeting in December 2019.

The report provided Members with details on;

- The forecast Revenue position, was an overspend of £5.942m which is net of an expected refund from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. The refund will be used to offset any in year overspend, and it is intended that any unused amount will be transferred to the Equalisation Reserve.
- A pressure of £6.700m relating to the Pooled Fund is requested to be funded from an additional contribution from the Equalisation Reserve.
- An update of the Savings target of £0.135m, as part of the Revenue budget 2019/20.
- Forecast Capital spend of £121.322m after net re-phasing of £7.210m.
- The Treasury Management Update in appendix G.

Members were reminded that a number of departments were predicting to overspend their budgets, in particular Adults and Children's Services. It was noted that the Chair had agreed to have a detailed presentation at the next meeting of the Committee to better understand how these services were planning to reduce its predicted overspend.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

137 COLLECTION FUND 2019/20

The Committee received a report from the Chief Finance Officer who updated Members on the Council's Collection Fund outturn position for 2019/2020. The Committee were advised that this report would be submitted to the Council's Cabinet, on 2nd December 2019 where the recommendations contained therein would be requested to be approved.

It was reported that the Collection Fund Position for 2019/20 was a forecast as a surplus of £1.383m, comprising: £0.597m surplus relating to Business Rates; and £0.786m surplus relating to Council Tax. The Council's share of the forecast 2018/19 Collection Fund outturn surplus was £1.260m.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

138 ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2019

The Head of HR provided Members with an up to date plan for Corporate Organisational Development (OD) to support the organisation to achieve its aims and objectives. It was reported that key strands for the plan included supporting Culture change; Leadership Development; Staff engagement; Health and Wellbeing and Learning and Development.

It was reported that through the OD plan the Corporate OD team look to bring together the key themes of OD activity into a high level summary which give clear visual image of the key objectives, outcomes and programmes and activities for each of the main themes of the programme.

Members held a discussion with Officer around training budgets and the Councils new learning platform. Members considered reporting mechanisms on how successful the Council in terms of its OD and how this could be reported to Scrutiny. It was noted that this was something the Chair and Vice-Chair would consider further with Officers.

RESOLVED

That Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorse the Organisational Development Plan 2019.

139 WORKFORCE WELLBEING UPDATE 2019

The Head of HR provided Members with an update on the workforce wellbeing strategy for the Council and CCG. Members were informed that through a staff survey and engagement with a range of stakeholders (including newly appointed wellbeing champions from across the organisations) key priorities had been identified with a supporting action plan, overseen by a cross organisational steering group.

Members noted the new priorities and implementation plan which were attached to the report. Members were please report, noting that Workforce Wellbeing was a key enabler for the success of any organisation in terms of increased employee engagement, productivity and reduced absenteeism.

RESOLVED

- 1) That the report and implementation plan be noted.
- 2) That the work programme for the wellbeing strategy be circulated to Committee Members.

**140 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC
RESOLVED**

That the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business, in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

141 INSURANCE CLAIMS REPORT 2018/19

The Council's Risk Manager provided Members with a report on data and trends in relation to the Council's insurance claims, and was presented to the Committee for information.

The report informed Members of the impact on potential costs from the work of the Insurance Team and to increase awareness of trends in claims over recent years.

RESOLVED

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That changes to the Council's Insurance Premiums and how much the Council Paid for its insurance be email to all Committee Members.