

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside

## KIRKLEES COUNCIL

### CABINET

**Tuesday 21st November 2017**

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (Chair)  
Councillor Peter McBride  
Councillor Naheed Mather  
Councillor Musarrat Khan  
Councillor Erin Hill  
Councillor Masood Ahmed  
Councillor Graham Turner

Apologies: Councillor David Sheard (Chair)  
Councillor Viv Kendrick  
Councillor Cathy Scott

**354 Membership of the Committee**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Sheard, Scott and Kendrick.

**355 Minutes of previous meeting**

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

**356 Interests**

Councillor G Turner declared an 'other' interest in Agenda Item 9 on the grounds that he is a Trustee of Denby Dale Community Library and a Member of the Friends of Skelmanthorpe Library.

**357 Admission of the Public**

It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.

**358 Deputations/Petitions**

Cabinet received a deputation, and petition, from Sarah Goldsmith/Fatimah Bint-Hanif in regards to the future of Crow Nest Park Adventure Playground, Dewsbury.

**359 Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

**360 Member Question Time**

(1) Councillor Armer asked questions arising from the response to Question 6 as submitted to the meeting of Council on 15 November 2017.

(It was noted that the questions would be referred to Councillor Scott)

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(2) Councillor Patrick asked questions arising from the response to Question 12 as submitted to the meeting of Council on 15 November 2017.

(A response was provided by Councillor Khan)

**361 A Partnership Approach - School Swimming and Kirklees Active Leisure**  
Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to engage with regards to a potential partnership between the Council, Kirklees Active Leisure and Schools for the provision of swimming.

The report advised that the Council provided a service for primary schools across the district that enabled pupils to have access to swimming and water safety instruction, in line with the key stage 2 national curriculum. It sought approval to engage in order to further develop the partnership whereby the organisation and management of school swimming would be delivered directly between Kirklees Active Leisure and schools from September 2018, with a TUPE transfer at approximately the end of July 2018. Details relating to the TUPE transfer were provided at Appendix 1 of the considered report.

Cabinet noted that the consultation and engagement exercise would take place with schools, staff, and other interested parties in the second half of the autumn term, continuing through to January 2018, and that the feedback received would be used to determine the next steps.

### **RESOLVED -**

(1) That the Director of Children's Services (or nominee/s) be authorised to commence engagement, in partnership with colleagues from Kirklees Active Leisure, (for 8 weeks until 19 January 2018) with schools and Council staff who would be affected by the proposal, in order to seek views regarding swimming instruction services being delivered by Kirklees Active Leisure.

(2) That, subject to consideration of (i) the outcome of the engagement, which would have regard to para 6.1 of the considered report and (ii) Kirklees Active Leisure Board of Trustees approval to a TUPE business transfer, authority be delegated to the Director of Children's Services to conclude negotiations and finalise arrangements for the TUPE transfer; and for the Service Director – Legal, Governance and Commissioning, to enter into and/seal in the Council's behalf any legal and other documentation necessary to give effect to the arrangements.

**362 Kirklees Libraries Consultation Plan**  
(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received representations from Councillors Dodds and J Taylor).

Cabinet received a report which sought approval for the proposed methodology and timeline for the Kirklees libraries consultation plan. The report reflected that the way in which residents use libraries is changing, and that the service needed to be modernised in order to respond to this. It advised that the library service had delivered over £1.8m of savings within the last two years and was aiming to redesign its services within a budget of £2.238m.

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A copy of the consultation questionnaire, which had been designed by Qa Research Consultants, was attached at Appendix B of the report. Councillor J Taylor addressed the meeting to request that consideration be given to the re-wording of Question 4 within the Libraries Consultation Survey.

It was noted that the consultation was proposed to commence in January and that a final report from Qa Research would be available week commencing 23 April 2018, at which time, the library service would produce a service review report for consideration. It was proposed that a further report would be submitted to Cabinet in July 2018.

### **RESOLVED -**

(1) That approval be given to the content of the consultation questionnaire as attached at Appendix B to the considered report, subject to the consideration of re-wording of Question 4 within the Libraries Consultation Survey.

(2) That the timeline for consultation and subsequent report to Cabinet be agreed as set out in para. 2.1.2 of the considered report.

(3) That authority be delegated to the Service Director – Policy, Intelligence and Public Health, to finalise the questionnaire and make any drafting/minor amendments as required.

### **363 Half yearly monitoring report on Treasury Management Activities 2017-18**

Cabinet received a report which set out details of half yearly treasury activity monitoring, covering the period 1 April to 30 September 2017.

The report provided assurance that the Council's treasury management function was being managed prudently and pro-actively. It advised that external investments averaged £41.3m during the period at an average rate of 0.20% and that investments ranged from a peak of £59.8m to a low of £23.2m.

Cabinet noted that the treasury management budget was forecast to marginally underspend by £100k in 2017/2018 against an annual budget provision of £22.2m.

The report explained that a new regulatory update was to be effective from 3 January 2018 which meant that the Council would be required to formally apply to renew its status as a 'professional client' for the purposes of continuing to invest with or borrow from regulated financial services firms, such as money market funds, and the report therefore recommended that the Council formally applies on this basis.

The report also advised that CIPFA were currently consulting on a number of changes to the current Treasury Management and Prudential Codes of practice, to be implemented from April 2018 onwards, and Cabinet noted the summary of the key proposals and implications.

It was also noted that the report recommended the formal adoption of a proactive cashflow management approach between the Council and Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing as an integral to an effective treasury management strategy.

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Section 2 of the considered report provided an overview of economic context, investment performance, borrowing performance, prudential indicators and risk and compliance issues.

### **RESOLVED -**

(1) That the half yearly treasury management performance in 2017/2018 be noted.

(2) That the CIPFA consultation on the current treasury management and prudential codes be noted, and that any revisions be incorporated into the forthcoming Treasury Management Strategy 2018/2019.

(3) That the report be submitted to Council on 13 December 2017 with a recommendation that;

(a) approval be given to the Council's 'opt up' application to professional client status as part of the 'Markets in Financial Instruments Directive' in order for the Council to continue to be able to access the widest range of instruments in line with approved strategy, from January 2018.

(b) approval be given to the changes, as set out within Appendix 6 of the considered report, regarding current Treasury Management Practices wording and the substitution of Director of Resources with Chief Finance Officer

(c) approval be given to the 'liquidity risk' management strategy and approach in relation to the Council and Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing.

**364**

### **Corporate Financial Monitoring Report - Quarter 2 for 2017-18**

(Under the provision of Council Procedure Rule 36(1), Cabinet received a representation from Councillor J Taylor).

Cabinet received a report which provided information on financial monitoring on General Fund Revenue, Housing Revenue Account and Capital Plan as at Quarter 2, 2017-2018.

The report advised that the General Fund controllable (net) revenue budget for 2017-2018 was set at £294.7m, which included planned (net) revenue savings of £54m in 2017-2018. Additionally, a further £10.3m 'temporary resources' has been added to the budget in-year, reflecting planned drawdown from 'one-off' earmarked reserves to fund a number of one-off deferred expenditure commitments, which resulted in a revised budget of £305.0m at Quarter 2.

The report explained that there was a forecast underspend of £1.0m against the £305.0m revised budget at Quarter 2, equivalent to minus 0.3% variance against the revised budget, and that the forecast underspend indicated the extent to which the Council was likely to achieve its forecast savings against planned budgets in 2017-2018. Quarter 2 monitoring reflected that the Council was on track to manage its resources within its planned budget requirement which included £54m planned savings target in-year. The forecast revenue outturn was summarised at para. 1.5 of the considered report.

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Cabinet noted that the Council's revised capital budget for 2017-2018 was £110.0m and that revised capital budget proposals as set out in the 2016-2017 financial outturn and rollover report for the allocation of 2016-2017 capital rollover to current 2018-2018 approved budgets, and the re-profiling of the existing approved plan over the 2017-2022 period. The forecast capital outturn at Quarter 2 was £76.0m, resulting in an underspend of £34.0m, equating to 30.9% and was summarised at para. 1.23 of the considered report.

### **RESOLVED -**

(1) That approval be given to the proposed use of additional Better Care Funding monies in 2017-2018, as detailed within the considered report.

(2) That, pursuant to (1) above, the Quarter 2 forecast £1.0m revenue monitoring underspend be noted.

(3) That the forecast reduction in general fund reserves in-year at £21.5m and year end position at £68.6m.

(4) That the favourable in-year financial performance on the Collection Fund be noted.

(5) That the Quarter 2 forecast HRA surplus at £206k and forecast reserves position at year end at £49.7m be noted.

(6) That proposals to incorporate key intelligence from Quarter 2 monitoring, as appropriate, into the forthcoming updated 2018-2022 budget plan proposals, as appropriate, be noted.

### **365 Highways Capital Plan 2017/18**

Cabinet received a report which set out the Highways Capital Plan 2017/2018, which was a detailed programme of work to be implemented over the next two years. The report reflected the changes and additional grants that had been made since Cabinet had considered the 2017/18 to 2021/22 Capital Investment Plan on 30 May 2017.

Cabinet noted that developer funded schemes had been added to the Capital Plan and that there had been some adjustments to grants, as well as the addition of new grants that had been awarded. The report indicated that the combined effect increased the Capital Plan total to £18,283,000.

The detailed Capital Plan attached at Appendix 1 of the considered report.

**RESOLVED –** That approval be given to the Highways Capital Plan, as attached at Appendix 1 to the considered report.