

Time began: 6.00 pm
Time ended: 6.30 pm

COUNCIL CABINET
5 August 2015

Present Councillor Banwait (Chair)
Councillors Afzal, Bolton, Hussain, Rawson, Repton Russell and
Shanker

In attendance Councillors Graves, M Holmes and Jones

44/15 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Eldret.

45/15 Late Items

No late items were received,

46/15 Receipt of Petitions

There were no petitions received.

47/15 Identification of Urgent Items to which Call In will not apply

There were no items.

48/15 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

49/15 Minutes of the meetings held on 15 July 2015

The minutes of the meetings held on 15 July 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Matters Referred

50/15 Recommendations from Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Recommendations from Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board. The Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board met and discussed items contained within the Council Cabinet Agenda. The report enabled the views and recommendations resulting from these discussions to be formally shared with Council Cabinet. These were submitted to Council Cabinet as Appendix 2, prior to commencement of the meeting.

Decision

To receive the report and accept all the recommendations from the Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board.

51/15 Review of Voter Turnout

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Review of Voter Turnout. In response to lower voter turnout at local elections in Derby compared to some of the neighbouring authorities, the Corporate Scrutiny and Governance Board conducted an in-depth review on voter turnout. This involved extensive consultations and engagement with a number of local groups including younger and older people as well as a public survey to look at why people vote or don't vote at elections. The Board also considered national and international voter experiences and made the recommendations below which, if implemented, could help to improve the turnout in the city:

- Council to explore ways of providing easier and more convenient access to voting
- More/better engagement with the electorate to build trust
- Target and engage young people early in the democratic process
- Consider lowering the voting age to 16
- Make greater use of social media
- Encourage employers to consider giving employees time off to vote at elections
- Support the change of the electoral cycle from election by thirds to all out four yearly elections

Decision

1. To receive the report and consider the recommendations.
2. To agree to report back to the Board with a response to the review recommendations and inform the Board that the Council Cabinet proposes to put the matter forward as a corporate project.

Budget and Policy Framework

52/15 Quarter 1 – Revenue Monitoring 2015/16

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Quarter 1 – Revenue Monitoring. The report provided details of the latest financial position and forecast outturn for the 2015/16 Revenue Budget as at quarter 1. This was in line with the agreed strategy of reporting revenue budget monitoring figures on a monthly basis to Chief Officer Group and on a quarterly basis to Council Cabinet for approval and action as necessary.

The latest forecast position showed an overspend of £2.082m (+0.94%) against the budget requirement of £221,791,594. The directorate pressures were being managed in order to minimise the year end outturn, and the position would be updated at quarter 2.

The current forecasting methodology required the earliest possible indication of possible savings, rather than waiting until the year end. As a result, these forecasts may change as further information becomes available and if demand for service rises above the latest forecast.

Delayed savings across a number of service areas may result in a call on the budget risk reserve, as indicated when the 2015/16 budget was set. The position would be refined by Quarter 2 and further consideration given before this was implemented.

Savings targets of £19,673,000 were included within the 2015/16 budget figures and the forecast achievement of these savings was included within the overall budget forecast above. Further details of current forecast savings delivery were included in section 6 of the report.

Decision

1. To note the financial monitoring position and the current progress of savings delivery as at quarter 1.
2. To approve the movement in reserves requested in section 5 of the report.

53/15 Quarter 1 – Capital Monitoring 2015/16 to 2017/18

The Council Cabinet considered a report on Quarter 1 – Capital Monitoring 2015/16 to 2017/18. The report provided details of the revised financial position for the 2015/16 Capital Budget for Quarter 1. This was in line with the agreed strategy of reporting capital monitoring figures on a monthly basis to Chief Officer Group and on a quarterly basis to Council Cabinet for approval and action as necessary.

The report highlighted a Capital programme of £89,379,460 for 2015/2016, after reflecting revisions to the Capital programme of £7,906,090 and accounting for the over programming necessary at the time of setting the budget. The changes required

were shown in table 1 of section 4 and detailed in Appendix 2 of the report. Significant changes over £200,000 were also detailed by strategy area and scheme in section 4 of the report.

A revised indicative programme for 2016/17 – 2017/18 was detailed in table 2 paragraph 4.15 of the report.

A revised funding position was shown in Table 2 section 5 of the report.

Details of additional S106 required to be added to the 2014/15 – 2016/17 capital programme were detailed in paragraph 5.3 of the report.

The report included an analysis and proposed allocation of the available funding from the outturn net scheme cost variations 2014/15.

Decision

1. To approve the changes and additions required to the 2015/16 capital programme as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.
2. To note the revised programme for 2015/16 in table 1 and the revised indicative programme for 2015/16-2016/17 as shown in table 2 of the report.
3. To note the changes to 2015/16 capital funding as detailed in Table 3 Section 5 of the report.
4. To approve the allocation of S106 funding as summarised in paragraph 5.3 table 4 of the report.
5. To approve the use of the surplus funds from the outturn net scheme cost variations reported at Council Cabinet in July 2015 for the schools 2016/17 capital programme (£528,000) and to create a corporate contingency of £1,100,000 funded from the single capital pot underspends and corporate borrowing underspends detailed in paragraph 6.2 table 5 of the report.

Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

54/15 Contract and Financial Procedure Matters

The Council Cabinet considered the Contract and Procedural Matters report. The report dealt with the following items that required reporting to and approval by Council Cabinet under Contract and Financial Procedure rules:

- Approval of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Reserves
- Approval to Tender and Award a Contract
- Use of Reserves

Decision

1. To approve the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant reserves as detailed in section 4 of the report.
2. To approve the tender and subsequent appointment of successful consultant in line with contract procedure rules as detailed in section 5 of the report.
3. To approve the use of £115,000 from the budget risk reserve to support processing of Housing Benefit claims and Council Tax changes and also increase quality checking resources to prevent lost subsidy.
4. To agree that the contract specifications for the Strategic Property Advisor Contract include a proven national influence and evidence of achieving outcomes in the development of large strategic sites.

MINUTES END