

EXECUTIVE MEETING (BUDGET MEETING)

20TH FEBRUARY 2013

PRESENT:

Leader of the Council (Councillor M. Colledge) (in the Chair),
Executive Member for Adult Social Care (Councillor M. Young)
Executive Member for Community Health & Wellbeing (Councillor Dr. K. Barclay),
Executive Member for Education (Councillor M. Cornes),
Executive Member for Finance (Councillor S. Anstee),
Executive Member for Highways and Environment (Councillor A. Mitchell),
Executive Member for Safe & Strong Communities (Councillor J. Coupe),
Executive Member for Supporting Children and Families (Councillor Miss L. Blackburn),
Executive Member for Transformation and Resources (Councillor A. Williams).

Also present: Councillors Baugh, Bennett, Bowker, Boyes, Brotherton, Butt, Cordingley, Mrs. Dixon, Duffield, Fishwick, Freeman, Lloyd, Myers, O' Sullivan (part only), Procter, Ross, S.Taylor, A. Western and Mrs. Young.

In attendance:

Chief Executive (Ms. T. Grant),
Corporate Director, Children & Young People's Service (Ms. D. Brownlee),
Corporate Director, Economic Growth & Prosperity (Ms. H. Jones),
Corporate Director, Transformation & Resources (Mrs. W. Marston),
Corporate Director, Environment, Transport & Operations (Mr. P. Molyneux),
Director of Finance (Mr. I. Duncan),
Acting Director of Legal & Democratic Services (Ms. J. Le Fevre),
Head of Financial Management (Mr. I. Kershaw),
Senior Democratic Services Officer (Mr. J.M.J. Maloney).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from the Executive Member for Economic Growth and Prosperity (Councillor M. Hyman).

82. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made by Executive Members.

83. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2013 be approved as a correct record.

84. EXECUTIVE'S REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2013/14, INDICATIVE REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2014/15 AND PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/16

The Executive Member for Finance and Director of Finance submitted a report seeking the Executive's authority to recommend to the subsequent Budget Council Meeting revenue and capital budget proposals for 2013/14 and beyond. It was noted in discussion that the Director of Finance had presented, in an annexe to the report, his assessment of the robustness of the budget estimates and adequacy of the General Reserve.

RESOLVED -

(1) That it be recommended that the Council approve: -

- That the net Revenue Budget for 2013/14 is £158.947m, a decrease of £(11.063)m, or (6.5)%, when compared to an adjusted 2012/13 base budget of £170.010m;
- That the minimum level of General Reserve for 2013/14 be set at £6m, the same as in 2012/13 (Annex M to the report);
- That there is no increase in the proposed Council Tax level for Trafford related services in 2013/14 (the valuation bands are as detailed in Annex A to the report);
- That the fees and charges be set per the booklet available alongside this report on the Council's website, including specifically:
 - an increase in the weekly charge for Allotment fees in 2014/15 (12 month notice period is required);
 - cease contributions to Mersey Valley and Bollin Valley Partnerships in 2014/15 (12 month notice period required);

the financial impact of which are all included in the budget proposals in the report;

- That the overall Capital Investment Programme level of £77.0m be approved (Annex L to the report).
- That the Prudential Borrowing Indicators be approved (see also Appendix 1, page 14, of the Treasury Management Strategy report presented as item 4b on this agenda).

(2) That, in recommending the above to Council, the Executive also present:

- The objective assessment by the Director of Finance of the robustness of budget estimates and adequacy of the General Reserve (Annex M to the report).

(3) That, in relation to the Treasury Management Strategy 2013/14 – 2015/16, it be recommended that the Council approve the three key elements set out in the report:

- policy on debt strategy for 2013/14 to 2015/16 as set out in section 3 of the report,
- investment strategy for 2013/14 to 2015/16 as set out in section 5 of the report,
- Prudential Indicators and limits including the Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary as required by section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003, Minimum Revenue Provision Statement and Investment criteria as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

85. CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME MONITORING 2012/13, 3RD QUARTER (APRIL – DECEMBER)

The Executive Member for Finance and Director of Finance introduced a report which summarised the key features of the Capital Programme monitoring for the period ending 31st December 2012.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the amendments to the 2012/13 Capital Investment Programme be approved.
- (2) That the monitoring report be noted.

86. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2012/13 – PERIOD 9 (APRIL - DECEMBER 2012)

The Executive Member for Finance and Director of Finance submitted a report which informed Members of the current position regarding the monitoring of the revenue budget.

RESOLVED: That the latest forecast and planned actions be noted and agreed.

The meeting commenced at 6.30 p.m. and finished at 6.23 p.m.