



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor D Cook (Chair), Councillors R Pritchard (Vice-Chair), J Chesworth, M Cook, S Doyle and J Oates

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Chief Executive), Rob Barnes (Executive Director Communities), Stefan Garner (Executive Director Finance), Lynne Pugh (Assistant Director Finance), Joanne Sands (Assistant Director Partnerships), Michael Buckland (Head of Revenues), Jo Hutchison (Democratic Services, Scrutiny and Elections Officer), Jodie Small (Legal, Democratic and Corporate Support Assistant) and Adam Deakin (Technical Infrastructure Engineer)

No apologies received.

75 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of Cabinet held on 17th December 2020 were approved as a correct record

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor M Cook)

76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

77 QUESTION TIME:

None

78 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE CABINET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PROCEDURE RULES

None

79 DRAFT BUDGET & MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2021/22

The Leader of the Council's report seeks to gain approval for the draft package of budget proposals (attached at Appendix A of agenda) to consult with the Joint

Scrutiny Committee (Budget) on 27th January 2021 and receive their feedback on the:

- General Fund Revenue (GF) Budget and Council Tax for 2021/22;
- Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for 2021/22;
- Capital Programme – General Fund & HRA;
- Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

RESOLVED That,

Cabinet approved the draft package of budget proposals including the proposed policy changes (as detailed at Appendix B); and

As required by the Constitution of the Council, the Joint Scrutiny Committee (Budget) on 27th January 2021 are requested to consider the budget proposals contained within this report.

(Moved by Councillor D Cook and seconded by Councillor R Pritchard)

80 BUSINESS RATES INCOME FORECAST 2021/22

The Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance presented the report and seeks endorsement from Members on the Business Rates income forecast for 2021/22

RESOLVED That,

- 1 Members approved the Business Rates income forecast for 2021/22 and subsequent NNDR1 form for submission to MHCLG by 31 January 2021, in line with the scheme of delegation
- 2 Should material amendments be required to the forecast NNDR1, Cabinet authorised the Executive Director Finance, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make such required amendments as necessary; and
- 3 Members noted discretionary relief granted to qualifying bodies in line with the existing policy.

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor D Cook)

81 LOCAL RESTRICTIONS GRANT POLICY

The Portfolio Holder for Assets and Finance and Heritage & Regeneration seeks Cabinet approval for the Local Restrictions Grant Policy and to obtain delegated authority to amend this policy to reflect any future changes in guidance

- RESOLVED** That;
- 1 The policy was endorsed and adopted
 - 2 The policy to be reviewed at a minimum on a quarterly basis, with delegated authority to the Executive Director Finance in consultation with the Portfolio Holders for Assets & Finance & Heritage & Regeneration to make any changes, including the remaining ARG funds for the development of Localised Business Support
 - 3 Members noted the progress made to date in respect of the various grants schemes

(Moved by Councillor R Pritchard and seconded by Councillor J Oates)

82 UPDATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME POLICY

The Portfolio Holder for Regulatory and Community Safety seeks agreement for increase to early payment option on the fixed penalty for fly tipping and review Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy

- RESOLVED** That Members,
- Approved the early payment option for the fine payment for fly tipping is increased from £120 to £200 (recommended minimum level fine) to ensure that the use of fixed penalties for fly tipping remains an effective deterrent.
- Endorsed revision of the Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy

(Moved by Councillor S Doyle and seconded by Councillor R Pritchard)

Leader