

STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET DECISIONS

TUESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2018

PRESENT: Councillor S E Ralphs MBE (Chair)

Councillors A Forrester, T Hall, D Ogden, S Scalise and E Wain

APOLOGIES: Councillor M Bowen

23 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 were approved.

24 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY**

There were no declarations made.

25 **JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

DECISION:

That the Minutes of the Local Joint Employees Consultative Committee held on 20 November 2018 be received and the recommendations contained therein adopted.

26 **FORWARD PLAN**

DECISION:

That the Forward Plan for the period November 2018 to January 2019 be approved for publication.

27 **SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE, FINANCE & PROCUREMENT REVIEW 2018/19**

The purpose of the report was to inform members of the Council's overall performance and financial position for the period ended 30th September 2018 ("Second Quarter 2018/19") The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 28 November 2018. The position was summarised as follows:

| Subject | Headline | Reference |
|----------------|--|------------------|
| Finance | <p>The Finance headlines for the Second Quarter were:</p> <p><i>Performance against Budget</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The General Fund budget for 2018/19 was forecast to be £66,790 underspent at the Quarter Two stage. <p><i>Efficiency Programme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">To date, £299,630 had been achieved against the 2018/19 | Appendix A |

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| Subject | Headline | Reference |
|-------------|--|------------|
| | <p>efficiency target of £830,000. At this stage the target was expected to be met with the impacts of any delays in any of the programmed projects offset by other efficiency savings e.g. staff vacancies</p> <p><i>Capital Programme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revised Capital Programme budget for 2018/19 was £5.8 million including the carry forward of capital underspends from 2017/18. The projected outturn for the year was £4.8million – with £1.1million of Asset Management Projects expected to be reprofiled into future years . <p><i>Treasury Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash investments held at 30 September 2018 totalled £7.6 million. The Ascent loan and debenture currently stood at £14 million. • Council borrowing at 30 September 2018 totalled £12 million (relates to the Ascent loan) • The Council's net interest receipts budget target was projected to be on target <p><i>Revenue Collection</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56.7% of Council Tax was collected by 30 September 2018, compared to 56.7% for the same period last year. • 56.8% of Business Rates was collected by 30 June 2018 compared with 57.0% for the same period last year. • At the end of Quarter Two the value of sundry debt that was over 60 days old was £99,980 which compares with £103,240 at 30th September 2017 | |
| Procurement | <p>The Procurement headlines for the Second Quarter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 procurement activities were completed • The Procurement forward plan included 63 procurement activities for 2018/19 (either SMDC only or joint) • At the 30th September 2018, 56% of procurement activity undertaken was on the forward plan and the Council paid 96% of its invoices within 30 days during the year | Appendix B |
| Performance | <p>The Performance headlines for the Second Quarter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of the key performance indicators were on track • Of the 25 Priority Actions within the Corporate Plan, two were still to commence, one was rated amber awaiting a decision, the remainder being classified as 'Green'; and • The Council received 57 complaints, 102 comments and 40 | Appendix C |

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| Subject | Headline | Reference |
|---------|---|-----------|
| | compliments in the Second Quarter. Repeat complaints and response times both on track | |

Options considered:

Detailed Analysis was contained within the main body of the Report.

DECISION:

That the Second Quarter 2018/19 financial, procurement and performance position detailed in Appendices A, B and C and summarised at 3.3 of the covering report be noted.

28 **UPDATED MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20 TO 2022/23**

The Council's updated Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) presented the Council's priorities in the context of the likely resources available and provided a financial context to future decision-making. The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 28 November 2018.

Options considered:

There are no options to consider at this stage. Options would be need to be developed in order to close the financial deficits highlighted in this updated plan.

DECISION:

That the updated Medium Term Financial Plan be approved and be recommended to Council for endorsement.

29 **GROWTH STRATEGY - CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

The purpose of the report was to update the Cabinet on the response to consultation regarding the Draft Growth Strategy for Staffordshire Moorlands, developed jointly in partnership between SMDC and SCC. The report was considered by the Service Delivery Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 21 November 2018.

Options considered:

Option 1: Do not agree approval for adoption. Under this option, the Council would not adopt the Growth Strategy as a material planning document. This would mean that there was no agreed delivery strategy to support key developments identified in the Local Plan. Not having a delivery mechanism in the form of the Growth Strategy in place would result in fewer opportunities to attract inward investment in the district and could risk the Council losing out on wider community benefits. Not recommended

Option 2: Agree adoption of the Growth Strategy. Having an implementation plan in place would help demonstrate the Council's commitment to delivering the Local Plan. This would support appropriate development to come forward in identified locations and maximise community benefits from such development. It would also provide context to prospective investors and funders and attract inward investment in

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the District. It would also help the public and private sector partners in preparing and assessing business cases for funding bids and investment propositions.

Recommended

DECISION:

1. That the response to the draft growth strategy consultation be noted.
2. That the Growth Strategy for Staffordshire Moorlands as the Council's policy for regeneration be adopted.

30 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED - That, pursuant to Section 100A(2) and (4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings whereby it is likely that confidential information as defined in Section 100A (3) of the Act would be disclosed to the public in breach of the obligation of confidence or exempt information as defined in Section 100 I (1) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act would be disclosed to the public by virtue of the Paragraphs indicated.

31 **LEEK RAIL PROJECT UPDATE**

The Cabinet approved a report that provided an update on the progress on the reinstatement of the heritage rail link from Leekbrook to Leek (Cornhill).

32 **ALLIANCE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (AES) - PHASE 3 - TRANSFER OF SERVICES - STREET CLEANSING & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

The Cabinet approved a report that considered the service specification for the services to be transferred to Alliance Environmental Service (AES) in the third phase, ensuring that future service delivery met the requirements of the Council.

33 **LEISURE CENTRES - CONTRACT ARRANGEMENTS**

The Cabinet approved a report which agreed a way forward for the establishment of the future arrangements for the management of the Council's leisure centres post March 2019.

The meeting closed at 2.56 pm

Chairman