

# STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS DISTRICT COUNCIL

## CABINET DECISIONS

**TUESDAY, 4 AUGUST 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor S E Ralphs MBE (Chair)

Councillors M Bowen, M A Deaville, T Hall, J Porter, S Scalise and E Wain

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors J Aberley, G Bentley, S Coleman, E Fallows, K Hoptroff, K Jackson, L Malyon, L Swindlehurst, R Ward and N Yates

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

**DECISION** – That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 16 June 2020 be **APPROVED** as a correct record.

62 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY**

The following declarations were made:

Agenda Item	Member Declaring Interest	Nature of Interest
Agenda Item 12 – Disposal of Plots 12 – 15 Victoria Business Park	Cllr. T Hall	Other Interest – Son-in-Law is Director of MF Tyler
	Cllr. S. Scalise	Lobbied – No response given

63 **FORWARD PLAN**

**DECISION:**

That the Forward Plan be **APPROVED** for publication.

64 **FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT & PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

The purpose of the report was to inform members of the Council's overall performance and financial position for the period ended 31 March 2020 (Fourth Quarter 2019/20). The report was considered by the Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 15 July 2020. The position was summarised as follows:

Subject	Headline
Finance	Headlines for the Fourth quarter were: <i>Performance against Budget</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At the fourth quarter stage the General Fund provisional outturn for 2019/20 was an underspend of £1,322,792.</li></ul> <i>Efficiency Programme</i>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2019/20 general fund efficiency target of £842,000 had been exceeded with £1,025,000 of savings achieved.</li> </ul> <p><i>Capital Programme</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The revised Capital Programme budget for 2019/20 was £3.3 million. The outturn for the year was £2.7 million; a variance of £0.607 million – mostly in respect of underspend on Disabled Facilities Grant works.</li> </ul> <p><i>Treasury Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cash investments held at 31 March 2020 totalled £9.7 million. The Ascent loan and debenture currently stood at £14 million.</li> <li>• Council borrowing at 31 March 2020 totalled £10 million (related to the Ascent loan)</li> <li>• The Council’s net interest income receipts were £73,110 surplus above budget.</li> </ul> <p><i>Revenue Collection</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 98.55% of Council Tax was collected by 31 March 2020 compared to 98.66% for the same period last year.</li> <li>• 99.30% of Business Rates was collected by 31 March 2020 compared with 99.13% for the same period last year.</li> </ul> <p><i>Variances in payments plans are contributing to the above year-on-year difference</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the end of the Fourth Quarter debt that was over 60 days old was £70,729 which compared with £70,434 at 31 March 2020.</li> </ul>
Procurement	<p>Headlines for the Fourth Quarter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 procurement activities were completed</li> <li>• The Procurement forward plan included 56 procurement activities for completion in 2020/21 (either SMDC only or joint)</li> <li>• At the 31 March 2020, 67% of procurement activity undertaken was on the forward plan and the Council paid 97% of its invoices within 30 days during the year</li> </ul>
Performance	<p>The headlines for the Fourth Quarter were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 67% of the key performance indicators met target (43% of which were better than last year)</li> <li>• The Council received 63 complaints and 65 compliments in the Fourth Quarter.</li> <li>• 12 projects on track, 1 completed, 1 Red Rated and 6 Grey.</li> </ul>

Members commented that the positive report reflected a tremendous effort on the part of all involved.

**DECIDED:**

1. That the Fourth Quarter 2019/20 financial, procurement and performance position detailed in Appendices A, B and C and summarised in the report be **NOTED**.
2. That the allocation of the surplus on the General Fund Revenue Account to reserves as explained in Appendix A (paragraph 2.10) be **APPROVED**.
3. That the proposal to carry forward unspent revenue budget as described in Appendix A (paragraph 2.12) be **APPROVED**.

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4. That the proposals to carry forward unspent capital budget as set out in Appendix A (paragraph 5.6) be **APPROVED**.

### 65 **FINANCIAL PLANNING PROCESS**

The purpose of the report was to present the proposed financial planning process in order to review the longer term impact the Coronavirus pandemic had had on the financial position of the Authority.

A summary version of the updated MTFP – focusing on specific significant areas of change, would be presented to Members once the process had been completed.

#### **DECIDED:**

That the proposed process be **NOTED**.

### 66 **OUTDOOR SPORTS & RECREATION CAPITAL FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF LEEK TOWN FC 3G PITCH CONVERSION PROJECT**

The purpose of the report was to seek approval for capital funds to support Leek Town FC in converting their current natural grass pitch to a 3G all-weather pitch.

Subject to approval, the timeline of the funding process would be to submit the bid to the Football Foundation, receipt of an offer in January 2021 and opening of the newly installed facility in September 2021.

#### **DECISION:**

That the allocation of £100,000 capital funding to Leek Town FC providing match funding towards converting their current natural grass pitch to a 3G all-weather pitch be **APPROVED**.

### 67 **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.

### 68 **ICT MANAGED SERVICE PROCUREMENT**

The report outlined to Members the future options in relation to the Council's ICT managed service contract.

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69 **DISPOSAL OF PLOT 12-15 VICTORIA BUSINESS PARK**

*Councillor Hall had declared a Other Interest and left the meeting prior to the commencement of this item. Councillor Scalise had declared a lobbying interest.*

The report updated the Cabinet regarding the disposal of the last remaining plot at Victoria Business Park and requested authority to dispose of the asset in order to maximise the value of the land and realise a capital receipt.

The meeting closed at 3.00 pm

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Chairman