



CORPORATE SELECT COMMITTEE

Meeting: Monday, 11 February 2019 at 6.30 pm in The Octagon Lounge - Pavilion Gardens, Buxton

Present: Councillor A Barrow (Chair)

Councillors J Douglas, A Fox, L Grooby, P Hardy, S Helliwell, D Kerr (substitute for G Claff), D Lomax, A McKeown, R McKeown, K Sizeland and G Wharmby

Councillors Ashton and Thrane were also in attendance.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors G Claff and J McCabe

19/36 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
(Agenda Item 4)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2018 be approved as a correct record.

19/37 THIRD QUARTER (PROVISIONAL OUTTURN) FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT & PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2018/19
(Agenda Item 5)

The Committee considered the Council's overall performance and financial position for the period ended 31 December ("Third Quarter 2018/19"). The key issues were outlined in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

Regarding fleet management, it was confirmed that maintenance of the fleet would be undertaken by AES. With reference to electrical works, it was confirmed that as the project did not start until mid year, the outstanding checks would be undertaken during 2019/20. Reference was made to the delivery of the channel shift programme and the development of a new IT strategy, where the potential for member involvement in the process was discussed.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive be recommended to note the Third Quarter 2018/19 financial, procurement and performance position as detailed in appendices A, B and C as summarised at paragraph 3.3 of the covering report.

19/38 2019/20 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2019/20 TO 2022/23
(Agenda Item 6)

The Committee considered the proposed 2019/20 Budget, the updated Medium Term Financial Plan (2019/20 – 2022/23), the 2019/20 Capital Strategy, the updated 30 year HRA Business Plan, proposed Fees and Charges for 2019/20 and the 2019/20 Procurement Forward Plan.

In introducing the report, the Executive Councillor (Finance and Operational Services) expressed her appreciation to officers for the amount of work undertaken in preparing the report. In addition, the Executive Councillor made reference to the positive work of the HRA Working Group over the last 4 years.

Reference was made to the housing revenue account and the predicted decrease in provision for irrecoverable debts in 20/21, which was queried in the light of concerns around universal credit and a potential increase in debt levels. The Committee were advised that universal credit was under review to establish the impact on rent levels and was an area of risk for review.

Reference was also made around funding for disabled adaptations, the proposed changes to garage and dwellings rents and the review of the CCTV system.

Clarification was sought around the meaning of an immigration housing certificate and whether the content management system was correctly attributed to capital rather than revenue.

RESOLVED:

That the Executive be requested to support the following recommendations to Council:

1. General Fund and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for 2019/20 as detailed in **Appendix A (section 8)**;
2. Revised Medium Term Financial Plan (2019/20 to 2022/23) as detailed in Appendix A, including the revised Capital Programme (attached at Annex A) for the General Fund and HRA;
3. Capital Strategy as detailed in **Appendix B**
4. Update HRA 30 Year Business Plan detailed in **Appendix C**
5. Fees and Charges for 2019/20 as detailed in **Appendix D**
6. Procurement Forward Plan for 2019/20, providing the authority to procure based on procurement activity detailed in **Appendix E**
7. A Band D Council Tax of £191.76 for 2019/20 (an increase of 2.9% from 2018/19)
8. HRA Charges as follows:

- a. Dwellings rents to reduce by an average of 1% (over 52 weeks) from £70,000 to £69.40 average per week (over 53 weeks)
 - b. Garage rents to be increased by 5% (over 53 weeks) from £6.47 to £6.79 average per week
 - c. Other charges including service charges to increase by a maximum of 5% for current tenants
 - d. Fuel charges at individual blocks have been reviewed and the 2019/20 charge is based on 2017/18 actual fuel usage / prices, charges on an individual scheme basis
9. Note that the Chief Finance Officer's View is that the level of reserves are adequate for the Council based on this budget and the circumstances in place at the time of preparing it (**Appendix A section 7**)

19/39 COUNCIL TAX RECOVERY WORKING GROUP
(Agenda Item 7)

The Committee considered the establishment of a working group to examine the Council's council tax collection procedures, which arose following a notice of motion put forward by Councillors A McKeown and Greenhalgh to the 12 December 2018 meeting of Council.

RESOLVED:

1. That Councillors Barrow, Douglas, Fox, Grooby, Lomax and A McKeown be appointed to the working group;
2. That the first meeting of the group take place on a date to be determined in mid-March / early April and receive a presentation from the Recovery Team around current procedure.

19/40 SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
(Agenda Item 8)

It was suggested that the first meeting of the Council Tax Recovery Working Group may replace the next scheduled meeting of Corporate Select Committee.

RESOLVED:

That the Select Committee Work Programmes be noted.

19/41 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC
(Agenda Item 10)

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business as there may be disclosure of exempt information as set out in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

19/42 EXEMPT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
(Agenda Item 11)

RESOLVED:

That the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2018 be approved as a correct record.

The meeting concluded at 7.20 pm

CHAIR