

Minutes of: THE CABINET

Date of Meeting: 10 July 2013

Present: Councillor M Connolly (in the Chair)
Councillors G Campbell, I Gartside,
J Lewis, T Pickstone R Shori and J Smith

Also in attendance: Councillors T Holt and S Southworth

Apologies: Councillor A Isherwood and S Walmsley

Public attendance: 8 members of the public were in attendance

CA.182 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Connolly declared a personal interest for the reason that his partner is employed by Adult Care Services.

CA.183 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A period of thirty minutes was allocated for members of the public present at the meeting to ask questions about the work or performance of the Council or Council services.

Topic: Libraries

Question: Why is there a proposal to close Radcliffe Library?

Response: There are no proposals to close any libraries in the Borough. At this meeting the Cabinet will consider a report on proposals for libraries.

CA.184 MINUTES

Delegated decision:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 April 2013 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

CA.185 PLAN FOR CHANGE REVIEW OF LIBRARIES – PROPOSALS FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

The Cabinet Member for Leisure Tourism and Culture submitted a report which outlined the next steps in the Library Review process and reflected on the consultation undertaken since the last report was submitted to Cabinet in April 2013.

The report set out how savings required as part of the Plan for Change could still be successfully achieved, but amended the original proposals to reflect the feedback received through the consultation process and significantly worsening of the level of budget cuts to be made over the next two years covering 2014-15 and 2015-16.

The revised proposal ensures that for now all the Borough's library services will be retained and located in their current premises.

The development of community hubs remains a priority but their future development has to recognise the further level of cuts to Government funding for local government as part of the 2015-16 Comprehensive spending Review (CSR).

Delegated decision:

That approval be given to the proposals as set out in the report submitted to achieve the required savings by exploiting efficiencies from the use of self service technology and a reduction in the staffing establishment.

Reason for the decision:

The proposal sets out a way forward that means for now all libraries will be retained in their current premises across the Borough.

Other option considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation and identify the £570,000 required saving from other budgets.

(Note Councillors Gartside and Pickstone voted against the recommendation)

CA.186 BURY BEHAVIOURS

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report updating Cabinet on the development of a Bury Behaviours framework.

Decision:

That the introduction of a revised 'Bury Behaviours' framework which has been drawn up having identified what skills and behaviours will be essential for the Council to meet its aims going forward be endorsed.

Reason for the decision:

To amend or reject the recommendation.

Other options considered and rejected:

The framework will be used in recruitment, employee reviews and to identify development needs.

CA.187 REVENUE AND HRA OUTTURN 2012/2013

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report providing details of:

- The revenue outturn figures in respect of the last financial year 2012/2013, detailing specific carry-forward requests and the proposed application of the carry-forward rules;
- Major variances between the revised estimate and the outturn;
- The level of school balances;
- Transfers to / from reserves;

- HRA outturn for the year;
- The minimum level of balances in the light of risk assessments.

The figures detailed in the report were consistent with the figures included within the Statement of Accounts which were both approved by the Responsible Finance Officer and presented to Audit Committee on 25 June 2013.

Delegated decisions:

That in view of the Council's financial situation and the budget pressures faced in 2013/14 and future years it is recommended that the normal cash ceiling rules governing the carry forward of over and underspendings should be suspended and that:

- a) The final revenue outturn and HRA outturn for 2012/13 be noted along with explanations for major variances;
- b) The two carry forward requests be approved;
- c) Requests to carry forward underspendings under the 1% rule be refused;
- d) Overspendings of the Children's Services Adult Care Services and Chief Executive's departments not be carried forward;
- e) Transfers to / from reserves be approved;
- f) The level of the General Fund balances be noted.

Reason for the decisions:

The presentation of an annual report on the Revenue and HRA Outturn is a requirement of the Council's Financial Regulations, as part of Council's Financial Procedure Rules

Other options considered and rejected:

- a) Note the final outturn for 2012/13, and explanations for major variances (Appendix A, B and C of the report submitted)
- b) Consider the earmarked carry forward requests in 2012/13 (Paragraph 3.3 of the report submitted);
- c) Consider the application of the 1% rule (Paragraph 3.3);
- d) Consider the transfers to / from reserves (Paragraph 5.2);
- e) Endorse the recommendations of the Assistant Director of Resources (Finance and Efficiency) for the minimum level of balances in light of the review of the corporate risk assessments and the newly completed departmental risk assessments (Paragraphs 5.3 & 6.9)

CA.188 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2012/2013

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report providing details of:

- The capital outturn figures in respect of the last financial year 2012/13;
- Major variances between the Revised Estimate and the Outturn;
- The financing of the Capital Programme in 2012/13;
- Reprofile of budgets/allocations and funding into 2013/14;
- Details of the capital receipts received during the year.

Delegated decisions:

1. That the final capital outturn for 2012/2013, and explanations for major variances (as detailed in Appendix A and in the report submitted) be noted.
2. That the financing of the Capital Programme in 2012/2013 (Paragraph 3.5 of the report submitted) be noted.
3. That approval be given to the reprofile/slippage requests and associated funding into 2013/2014 (Appendix B of the report submitted)
4. That the level of Capital Receipts realised in the year be noted.

Reason for the decisions:

The presentation of an annual report on the Capital Outturn is a requirement of the Council's Financial Regulations, as part of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules.

Other options considered and rejected:

To amend or reject the recommendations.

CA.189 2012/2013 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report presenting a review of Treasury Management Activities that have taken place during 2012/2013.

The Cabinet was informed that Mike Owen (Executive Director of Resources) had been appointed as the National Vice-President of the Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) (2013/2014). Members congratulated Mike Owen on this achievement.

The Cabinet also thanked the officers involved in Treasury Management work in view of the very efficient way they have continued to manage the Council's finances.

Delegated decision:

That the 2012/2013 Treasury Management Annual report be noted.

Reason for the decision:

The Annual Treasury Management is submitted in accordance with the Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice.

Other options considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation.

CA.190 RISK MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs submitted a report which gave details of the risk management activity that

had taken place over the past twelve months. The report outlined the risk management policies and practices in place and the key issues that will be addressed during the coming financial year.

Delegated decisions:

1. That the progress made throughout 2012/2013 and the actions planned for 2013/2014 be noted.
2. That the Council's approach to Risk Management be reaffirmed.

Reason for the decision:

The Council's Risk Management Policy forms an integral part of strategic planning in the Council, ensuring early intervention and management of uncertainty in delivering key strategic priorities.

Other options considered and rejected:

To amend or reject the recommendation.

CA.191 PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT OF RADCLIFFE MARKET HALL

The Leader of the Council submitted a report outlining a proposal to undertake a major refurbishment of Radcliffe Market Hall, to provide a fit for purpose Market Hall for Radcliffe which supports the Radcliffe Town Centre Regeneration Programme.

Delegated decisions:

1. That approval be given to the refurbishment of the Market Hall (as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report submitted) which would include the following essential works:
 - Basic repairs to the main structure;
 - A new roof and associated rainwater goods;
 - Repair and where required replacement of existing windows and doors;
 - Painting of the internal floor;
 - Complete rewire to current standards;
 - New stalls.
2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Resources and the Head of Asset Management, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Affairs, to seek, consider and accept tenders for the refurbishment contract.
3. That the Executive Director of Resources and the Head of Property and Asset Management be instructed to advise Cabinet Members, for information purposes, of the outcome of the tender process.

Reason for the decision:

The refurbishment of Radcliffe Market Hall is a key element in delivering the regeneration in Radcliffe town centre.

Other options considered and rejected:

To amend or reject the recommendation.

CA.192 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Delegated decision:

That in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of information as detailed in the conditions of category 3.

**CA.193 CAPITAL PROJECT STAGE 2 APPROVAL – RADCLIFFE MARKET
E REFURBISHMENT**

The Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Corporate Affairs submitted a report outlining a proposal to undertake a major refurbishment of both the interior and exterior of Radcliffe Market Hall to both provide a fit for purpose market hall for Radcliffe but as a key element of the Radcliffe Town Centre Regeneration Programme.

Delegated decision:

That approval be given to the financial details as set out in the report submitted.

Reason for the decision:

The decision will enable the project to progress.

Other option considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation.

**CA.194 CAPITAL PROJECT STAGE 2 APPROVAL
E**

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources and Corporate Affairs submitted a report seeking approval for Six Town Housing to procure and install a replacement IT system.

Delegated decision:

That approval be given to the proposals as set out in the report submitted.

Reasons for the decision:

The replacement of the current system will offer savings and greater functionality for tenants and staff.

Other option considered and rejected:

To reject the recommendation.

**CA.195 18 HAYMARKET STREET, BURY
E**

The Leader of the Council submitted a report regarding the Council's lease of 18 Haymarket Street, Bury.

Delegated decisions:

1. That approval be given for the Council to enter into negotiations for the purchase of the building at 18 Haymarket Street, Bury on the most advantageous terms for the Council.
2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director of Resources and the Head of Property and Asset Management, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to conclude these negotiations and instruct the Council Solicitor to complete the purchase of the building.
3. That Cabinet members be informed of the terms of the acquisition.

Reasons for the decision:

The purchase of the building presents significant savings to the Council.

Other option considered and rejected:

1. To negotiate a renewal of the lease of the building.
2. To relocate those services currently situated in 18 Haymarket Street, Bury into Athenaeum House and not market the latter for sale or lease.

COUNCILLOR M CONNOLLY
Chair

(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7:10 pm)

