

EXECUTIVE
(HELD AS A VIRTUAL MEETING)

Tuesday 6 April 2021

Present:

Councillor Bialyk (Chair)
Councillors Sutton, Foale, Ghusain, Harvey, Morse, Pearson, Williams, Wood and Wright

In attendance

Councillor Leadbetter (as an opposition group Leader)
Councillor K. Mitchell (as an opposition group Leader)

Also present:

Deputy Chief Executive, Director Finance, Democratic Services Officer (MD) and Democratic Services Officer (HB)

38

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 were taken as read, and approved as correct to be signed by the Chair at the earliest possible convenience.

39

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were made.

40

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 19

No questions from members of the public were received.

41

LORD MAYORALTY

The Leader proposed, and the Portfolio Holder for City Development seconded, that Councillor Oliver be nominated as Lord Mayor Elect for the 2021/22 Municipal Council year, and Councillor Quance be nominated as the Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

RECOMMENDED to Council that Councillor Oliver be nominated as Lord Mayor Elect for the 2021/22 Municipal Year and that Councillor Quance be nominated as the Deputy Lord Mayor Elect for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

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OVERVIEW OF GENERAL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21 – QUARTER 3

The Executive received the report on the overall financial position of the General Fund Revenue Budgets for the 2020/21 financial year after nine months.

The Director Finance made particular reference to the Emergency Budget set by the Council in July 2020 in response to the Covid-19 Pandemic and to the Government's Sales Fees and Charges Compensation Scheme. He referred to the supplementary budgets sought as set out in the report and it was noted that the Council was projected to end the financial year in a slightly better position than anticipated at the Emergency Budget.

RECOMMENDED that Council notes and approves (where applicable):-

- (1) the General Fund forecast financial position for the 2020/21 year;
- (2) the supplementary budgets as detailed in paragraph 8.12 of the report presented to the meeting;
- (3) the outstanding Sundry Debt position as at December 2020; and
- (4) the creditors' payments performance.

43 **2020/21 GENERAL FUND CAPITAL MONITORING STATEMENT – QUARTER 3**

The Executive received the report on the current position of the Council's revised annual capital programme, which advised Members of the anticipated level of deferred expenditure into future years. The report also sought approval to amend the annual capital programme in order to reflect the reported variations.

The Director Finance made particular reference to the following:-

- the revised capital programme for the current financial year was £71.190 million and that during the first nine months the Council had spent nearly £23 million on the programme;
- an additional budget request of £250,000 following the receipt of tenders for Fire Risk Assessment Works; and
- an additional budget request of £661,500 to upgrade the Council's Building Management System in order to manage consumption and emissions across key assets to assist the Council in delivering its Net Zero ambition. The project would be entirely funded as a result of a successful bid to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund. Fifteen properties would be covered initially with scope to expand the programme, with significant savings to the Council.

RECOMMENDED that Council notes and approves (where applicable):-

- (1) the revision of the annual capital programme to reflect the reported variations detailed in 8.1 of the report and Appendix 1; and
- (2) the additional budgets detailed in 8.6 of the report.

44 **2020/21 HRA BUDGET MONITORING REPORT – QUARTER 3**

The Executive received the report on the overall financial position of the HRA Revenue and Capital Budgets for the 2020/21 financial year after nine months. Members' attention was given to the highlighted areas of risk, shown in the report, which identified budgets which were vulnerable to factors beyond the control of the Council, which could result in potential deviations from budget, and which were being monitored by officers.

The Director Finance advised that it was anticipated that there would be a surplus in the HRA working balance due to borrowing at lower interest rates and that no contributions would be made to the capital budget.

RECOMMENDED that Council notes and approves (where applicable):-

- (1) the HRA forecast financial position for 2020/21 financial year; and

- (2) the revision of the HRA Capital Programme to reflect the reported variations detailed in Appendix 4 of the report.

(The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 5.48 pm)

Chair

The decisions indicated will normally come into force 5 working days after publication of the Statement of Decisions unless called in by a Scrutiny Committee. Where the matter in question is urgent, the decision will come into force immediately. Decisions regarding the policy framework or corporate objectives or otherwise outside the remit of the Executive will be considered by Council.