

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

9th February 2022

PRESENT: -

Labour Group

Councillor Bambrick (Chair) and Councillor Stuart (Vice-Chair),
Councillor Gee

Conservative Group

Councillors Atkin, Hewlett and Patten

Non-Grouped

Councillor Wheelton

OS/25 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor Roberts.

OS/26 **MINUTES**

The Open Minutes of Meetings held on 1st September 2021 and 13th October 2021 were noted and approved as true record and signed by the Chair.

OS/27 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

The Committee was informed that no Declarations of Interest had been received.

OS/28 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from members of the Public had been received.

OS/29 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**OS/30 BUDGET SCRUTINY 2022-23**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee which included the Base Budget report 2022/23, MTFP to 2027 with detailed analysis, together with the Housing Revenue Account, Reserves and the proposed rent increase 2022/23.

Councillor Patten sought clarification regarding agency costs associated with the Land Charges Service. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) advised that the volume of work had increased and that it was a specialised role. The Committee was informed that the Land Charges function was transitioning to merge with the Land Registry but that a completion date was not known at that point in time. The Chair advised that he would attend the Finance and Management Committee Meeting on the 10th February 2022 and to raise concerns.

Councillor Hewlett raised a query regarding the legal limit of reserves. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) advised the Committee if reserves dropped below the recommended minimum, then a letter would be sent by the External Auditor, and that would have to be addressed at Full Council.

RESOLVED:-

- 1.1 That the Committee considered the proposed budgets of the Council for 2022/23 and provided feedback to Finance and Management Committee.***
- 1.2 That the Committee considered the medium-term financial plans of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Accounts and did not make any recommendations to Finance and Management Committee to support budget and policy development.***

OS/31 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT 2000 (RIPA) – REPORT ON USAGE

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee on behalf of the Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED:-

To note the internal report on the Council's use of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000

OS/32 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the Work Programme to the Committee.

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

OS/33 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:-

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

OS/34 **EXEMPT QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

The Meeting terminated at 19:00

COUNCILLOR S BAMBRICK

CHAIR