

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SPECIAL)

28th January 2013

PRESENT:-

Conservative Group

Councillor Wheeler (Chairman), Councillor Mrs. Watson (Vice-Chairman) and Councillors, Lemmon, Murray, Smith and Watson.

Labour Group

Councillors Frost, Rhind, Richards, Southerd and Taylor.

In Attendance

Councillors Atkin, Ford, Harrison and Mrs. Plenderleith (Conservative Group) and Councillor Bell (Labour Group).

Consultees

Chief Superintendent J. Atwal (Derbyshire Constabulary), Mrs. S. Churchill O.B.E. (The National Forest Company Limited) and Mrs. J. Smith (South Derbyshire CVS).

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from the Meeting were received from Councillor Jones (Conservative Group) and Councillor Wilkins (Labour Group).

MATTER DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

FM/81. **CONSULTATION ON THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET**

At its meeting on 17th January 2013, the Finance and Management Committee had considered the Council's budget proposals for 2013/14 and the Medium Term Financial Plan to 2018. A copy of the report had been provided to consultees ahead of the Meeting and this was accompanied by a presentation from the Head of Corporate Services. The report detailed the Council's overall financial position for the 2013/14 budget round and effectively built on the financial plan and strategy approved in October 2012, covering the following points:-

- The Council's provisional financial settlement from central government for 2013/14 and 2014/15 with estimated on-going implications for 2015/16 and beyond.
- The Council's current spending and proposed base budget position for 2013/14.
- The General Fund's 5-year financial projection including proposed spending by policy committees and associated

analysis to 2017/18, which formed the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

- The proposed Council Tax Base for 2013/14 and Collection Fund position, 2012/13.
- Options for Council Tax levels in 2013/14 and future assumptions.
- An overview of the Council's projected medium-term budget position with associated assumptions and risks which formulated a target level of budget savings required over the planning period to 2018.

It was agreed to suspend Financial Procedure Rule No. 10, to enable the consultees to submit questions without notice. Mrs. J. Smith of the South Derbyshire CVS thanked the Council for the increase in grant levels to the voluntary sector. Mrs. Churchill O.B.E. recognised the financial difficulties and commended the proactive approach being taken by the Council to address the budget projections. A response was provided to submitted questions on plant and equipment costs and consultees were also referred to a specific section of the report, which demonstrated the annual budget savings required. In response to a question from Chief Superintendent Atwal, it was confirmed that there were no plans to reduce the CCTV system or funding for the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership.

RESOLVED:-

That the feedback from consultees is noted and reported alongside other consultation responses to the Committee's meeting on 21st February 2013.

R. WHEELER

CHAIRMAN

The Meeting terminated at 6.30 p.m.