

ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

4th January 2022

OPEN

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor Dunn (Vice-Chair)
Councillors, Rhind, Shepherd and Singh.

Conservative Group

Councillors Brown, Corbin, Haines, Redfern and Smith.

Independent Group

Councillors MacPherson.

Non-Grouped

Councillor Wheelton

In Attendance

Councillor Wheelton

EDS/160 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor Taylor, Councillor Heath and Councillor Southerd (Labour Group).

EDS/161 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Committee was informed that no declarations of interest had been received.

EDS/162 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 10**

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

EDS/163 **QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

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

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE**EDS/164 SERVICE BASED BUDGETS 2022/23**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report and referred to the reduction of New Homes Bonus and changes to the waste collection base budget and explained how future increases in the cost of fuel would require the budget for diesel to be reviewed.

The earmarked reserves for the asset replacement fund were highlighted along with the Environmental Education Programme that was reliant on external funding that meant there may be a draw on reserves when required. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) informed the Committee of a new risk in relation to the Transport Operating License due to the increase of vehicles. The Land Charges risk was also noted.

Members raised queries regarding the New Homes bonus rate of inflation, the household waste collection depreciation charge and if the depreciation was the same for the housing stock.

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) informed the Committee that the Government's target for the rate of inflation was 2 to 3%, it was explained that in relation to household waste collection, the depreciation was based on the age of vehicles and that in relation to the housing stock it must be demonstrated that spend on repairs was greater than the depreciation charge.

Members requested a future update regarding Land Charges.

Councillor Dunn raised a query regarding the £7k reduction for the Tourist Information Centre. The Head of Economic Development and Growth clarified that it was a block grant that had previously been paid to Sharpe's Pottery Museum when it was delivering the service.

RESOLVED:

- 1.1 That the proposed income and expenditure revenue budget for the Committee's services for 2022/23 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report was considered and recommended to the Finance and Management Committee for approval.***
- 1.2 That the proposed fees and charges for 2022/23 as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report were considered and approved by the Committee***

EDS/165 HEART OF THE FOREST DRAFT MASTERPLAN VISION

The Head of Economic Development and Growth presented the report to the Committee outlining the National Forest Company's Draft Masterplan Vision which looked how the current 10 square miles of National Forest could be developed over the next 25 years and that it focused on 3 key themes: Place; Experience and Enterprise whilst transforming woodland landscapes. It was further noted that the next phase of developments aimed to mitigate the effects of climate change. The Committee was asked to consider and approve the Council's consultation.

Councillor Pegg raised concerns about Rosliston Forestry Centre being left behind. The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) informed the Committee that in August 2021 the Committee approved the engagement with Forestry England regarding the future of the Forestry Centre and a long term lease, that Members would be updated of the outcome in due course.

Members welcomed the report and suggested additional points to be added to the Council's response that included multi use trails, bus links, the environmental education offer, involvement with local businesses and contact with neighbouring land owners.

In addition, Members requested that a representative from the National Forest Company be invited to give a presentation to Members. The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) agreed that arrangements would be made to invite John Everett, the Chief Executive of National Forest Company to come and give a presentation

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved that the proposed answers to questions, as set out in Appendix A of the report, be forwarded to the National Forest Company as the Council's response to the Heart of the Forest Draft Masterplan Vision.

EDS/166 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Service Delivery) presented the report to Members.

RESOLVED:

The Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

EDS/167 **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.

EDS/168 **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 18:55 hours.

COUNCILLOR DUNN

VICE-CHAIR